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A Jewish Voice & Herald special supplement . See pages 17-24



The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

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Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

March 18, 2005

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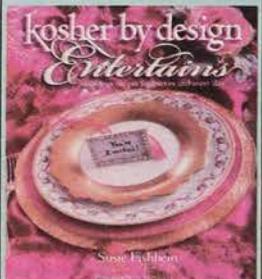
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Hamentashen crown for Purim. See page 2



Susie Fishbein's new cookbook. See page 27.



Simchas. See page 31.

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Hadassah rallies for stem-cell research

By Mary Korr

PROVIDENCE — On March 2, the local chapter of Hadassah held a rally at the Rhode Island Statehouse in support of stem-cell research, as did 29 other chapters across the nation. By this May, every state but North Dakota will have been visited by a Hadassah contingent.

The local group lent support to a bill pending in the Senate. Sen. Rhoda E. Perry (D-Dist.3) has submitted legislation that would specifically permit stem-cell research in the state.

"The personal stories of Michael J. Fox, a Parkinson's patient, and the late Christopher Reeve make clear how desperate the need is for stem-cell research. We know that stem cells have the potential to mitigate and even cure disease," said Lorraine Webber, head of the local chapter.

She said the Hadassah See HADASSAH, page 3



Photo by Mary Korr

STEM-CELL DAY — Hadassah members Lorraine Webber and Diane Ducoff speak with Rep. Edith Ajello, at left, at the statehouse during a rally organized by the group to support stem-cell research.



Photo courtesy of Hadassah

PROFESSOR BENJAMIN REUBINOFF, director of the Hadassah Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research Center, does test studies at the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem.

Israel hands Jericho to PA

(JTA) — Israel finalized a deal to hand over the first of five West Bank cities to the Palestinian Authority.

The new handover schedule was set in overnight negotiations Monday, following several disputes over the scope of Israeli troop withdrawals. Jericho is to go first, on Wednesday, followed by Tulkarm and Qalqilya next week.

No date has yet been set for the Palestinian Authority to resume control of the last two cities on the roster, Ramallah and Bethlehem. Israeli authorities said Jericho would be a test of Palestinian security forces' ability to stop terrorism in the West Bank.

The handovers are part of a goodwill package which accompanied the ceasefire declared by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas last month.

A farewell to 'Duffy'

Page retiring from BJE's Israel desk

By Jonathan Rubin

PROVIDENCE — Ruth Page is someone who doesn't let go easily — of history, of friends, and, as anyone who has ever seen her workspace knows, of *techochkes* as well. Kindhearted, funny and known universally as "Duffy," her office is saturated with pamphlets, manuscripts and other pieces of local Jewish history that are old enough to have gained "artifact status."

"Every paper tells a story," she says, surveying the pedagogic



Photo by Jonathan Rubin

See DUFFY, page 9

Ruth "Duffy" Page at her desk at the Bureau of Jewish Education.

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CANDLE LIGHTING For greater Rhode Island

March 18 5:35

March 25 5:44

April 1 5:49

April 8 6:58

April 15 7:06



Arts

Kids can join Purim parade in a Hamantashen crown



Charlotte Sheer

"Be happy. It's Adar!" On the 14th of Adar, corresponding this year to the secular date of March 25, Purim is celebrated with noisy, joyous festivities and merrymaking. Public reading of the megillah (scroll) of Esther sets the mood for a carnival atmosphere of singing, play-acting, costume parades, and giving tzedakah (money to help those in need).

The holiday recalls the story of how Mordecai, Queen Esther's cousin, begged her to speak with King Ahasuerus about the wicked chief minister, Haman, who was plotting to kill all the Jews in the village of Shushan. Esther's loyalty to the Jewish people gave her the courage to speak with her husband, the King, who was not a Jew himself. She is credited with saving the Persian Jews from destruction.

As with most Jewish celebrations, there is a special food associated with Purim. The triangular shaped hamantashen, named for the infamous villain of the Purim story, are pastries containing tasty fillings such as prune, apricot, strawberry, lemon, apple, blueberry or even chocolate chips.

Children who plan to dress up as a king, queen, prince, or princess in the Purim parade will have fun making this hamantashen crown to top off their costumes.



Jessica Zenack models Hamantashen crown.

Photo by Charli Sheer

Level: Intermediate (ages 6 and up)

What you'll need:

cardboard
aluminum foil or metallic decorative/wrapping paper
compass to measure or circle shape 3 inches in diameter
colored construction paper
tacky glue
scissors
pieces of colored tissue paper (approx. 2" by 2")
several springy clothespins/binder clips
2 paper clips
shapes (optional)
Imitation jewels (optional)

What you'll do:

Cut a headband from the cardboard, about 1-1/2 inches wide and long enough to fit the circumference of the child's head, and add an extra inch for proper

fitting.

Cover band completely with foil or metallic paper. Glue into place.

Set headband aside.

To make the hamantashen crown "points," cut out 4-6 circles from construction paper.

In the center of each circle, glue a loosely wadded piece of tissue paper.

To form "hamantashen triangles," imagine that each circle has three straight outside edges and fold these in towards the tissue paper center.

The tissue paper (hamantashen "filling") should be visible through the center opening that is formed by the folding.

Put a few drops of glue on the inside of each edge and pinch consecutive edge seams together lightly. Use clothespins or binder clips to hold seams together for a few minutes until the glue sets.

Arrange the triangles on the band and glue into place.

Use clothespins/binder clips to hold in place while glue sets.

Optional: Add Funfoam®/Wonderfoam® shapes or imitation jewels for the finishing touches.

When completely dry, use paper clips to connect the ends of the headband together.

Correction

In the financial planning insert of the March 4th issue, Judy Robbins was misidentified as Barbara Lavine. We regret the error.

Shelley Katsch was inadvertently left out of a mentioning of the musical directors of the Providence Hebrew Day School's "Prize is Right," fundraiser.

The Passover wine sale at Temple Torat Israel is taking place on Sundays, and not Saturdays. It was incorrectly listed by the newspaper in the last issue.

Community Calendar

FRI., MARCH 18

Temple Sinai Seniors

11:30 a.m. Yehuda Lev will speak on "Israel's midlife crisis." Bring a brown-bag lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. For information, call Fran Sadler, 942-7796.

Irish Shabbat dinner at Torat Yisrael

6 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Family Shabbat service led by Cantor Scott Bresler, followed by a corned beef & cabbage dinner. Adults \$15, \$7 for children 10 and under. RSVP to Temple office at 401-785-1800 by March 14.

SAT., MARCH 19

Temple Shalom musical evening

7 p.m. reception, concert at 8 p.m. Temple Shalom, 223 Valley Rd., Middletown. Cantor Fredric Scheff, Kathryn Jennings, Gannon McHale, and pianist Dr. Matthew Larson. Concert \$30, plus \$10 for the reception (optional), payable to Temple Shalom. For more info, call (401) 885-6073.

SUN., MARCH 20

Monthly collaborative brunch

10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Jewish Collaborative Center, 375 Kingstown Rd., Narragansett. Keith W. Stokes, executive director of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce will discuss "Faith, Family & Freedom in Colonial Jewish Newport." All are welcome. For more information, check www.jewishcollaborative.org. General information: info@jewishcollaborative.org.

USY Purim carnival at Am David

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick. Cranston-Warwick USY Purim carnival, open to the community. Games, mask-making and arts and crafts. Children and adults are encouraged to wear costumes. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Refreshments available. For information, call 463-7944. See Community.

USY Purim carnival at Emanu-El

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Goldberg Center at Temple Emanu-El. Annual Purim carnival sponsored by United Synagogue Youth (USY). Games, prizes, a moonbounce, clowns, jugglers, barbecue, with

See CALENDAR, page 25



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Community

HADASSAH

From page 1

Medical Center in Jerusalem has made significant strides in Parkinson's research, with partial funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

A research team headed by Prof. Benjamin Reubinoff, director of Hadassah's Center for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research at the Goldyne Savad Institute of Gene Therapy, was able to use human stem cells to mitigate the signs of Parkinson's in an animal study.

Human embryonic stem cells can reproduce in a lab culture and mature into any type of cell in the body, with the potential to serve as a source of cells for transplantation. They hold the promise of improving the functioning of people suffering from a wide range of disorders.

Stem-cell research is a non-partisan issue which all the Jewish movements support, said Joy Pollock, a Hadassah national

vice president, who attended the R.I. rally. She said individual state initiatives are the future of stem-cell research, ever since President Bush's 2001 executive order which limited federal funding to stem lines that existed at the time — today, it is estimated only about 15 of those lines are available to researchers.

Pollock said California and New Jersey have passed stem-cell legislation, with Connecticut and Massachusetts on the horizon.

Californian voters passed Prop. 71 in 2004, which calls for the state to borrow \$3 billion in the next decade to finance embryonic stem-cell research in the state's hospitals, medical schools and universities.

The New Jersey law sanctions the creation of new embryonic stem cell lines for the purpose of research. The state has pledged \$9.5 million for the formation of the Stem Cell Institute of New Jersey.

Both states, however, ban the use of embryonic stem cells for reproductive cloning.

Sen. Perry, who does not support reproductive cloning with stem cells, said allowing stem-cell research would open up opportunities for Rhode Island researchers. "We need to take a common-sense approach and provide these trailblazing researchers with the resources they need to develop this promising new area."

Her bill calls for allowing stem-cell research with "full consideration of the ethical and medical implications..."

The bill also calls for an institutional review board and for doctors and clinicians giving fertility treatments to make their patients aware of the "appropriate information to allow an individual to make an informed and voluntary choice regarding the disposition of any human embryos remaining following the fertility treatment."

Pollock said five states have banned embryonic stem-cell research: Michigan, Iowa, Arkansas, North and South Dakota.



Photo by Yedidya Levin

Students at the Rabbinical College check their photographs before the banquet at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island.

NE Rabbinical College celebrates 20 years

By Jonathan Rubin

PROVIDENCE — The community gave a big "Yasher Koach" (May you have strength) to the New England Rabbinical College on Feb. 20, when more than 210 people honored the yeshiva (Orthodox Jewish college) on its 20th birthday. Alumni from the college, which is located on Blackstone Boulevard in Providence, came from all over the country to the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island for the dinner event, which was prepared by the school's Ladies Auxiliary.

Ieshula Ishakis, '92, a lawyer and CPA, remarked, "What's special about the yeshiva in Providence is that it planted in the hearts of each student what it means to be a mensch, a Torah personality, a father, a husband, what it means to have a relationship with God, [and] what it means to have passion and vision."

The evening's honorees, David and Esta Yavner of Providence, noted in the event booklet as "two people who accomplish more by 9 a.m. than most people

do all day," were thanked for their tireless assistance to the yeshiva and its students, of which the school has more than 50.

David Yavner became affiliated with the college during a father-son program there, and soon he and his son were attending services regularly.

"The yeshiva, in encouraging us to grow as Jews in our learning and actions, is saving us as a community, and as individuals, from stagnation and decline," he said.

Other featured speakers included Rabbi Yitzchok Sanders, class of '85, assistant principal at the Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy in Rockville, Maryland; Moshe Feuer, '92, a businessman, and Rabbi Yehoshua Kohl '93, education director and rabbi of Aish HaTorah of Philadelphia.

The yeshiva's dean, Rabbi Eliezer Gibbor, remarked, "Thank you to everyone for being with us for the first 20, and I hope that we join hands together for many years to come in the building and strengthening of Torah in our community."



Photo by Mary Korr

LORRAINE WEBBER addresses legislators Rep. Edith Ajello, at left, and Sen. Rhoda Perry on Perry's impending stem cell research bill. At far right is Joy Pollock, Hadassah national vice president.

Hadassah gets Nobel nod

NEW YORK, N.Y. — The Hadassah Medical Organization in Jerusalem, which has achieved international acclaim for promoting peace in the Middle East region by providing equal treatment to Palestinians and Israelis, has been nominated for the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize.

Although the Norwegian Nobel Committee does not release the names of nominees, professors and members of legislatures from four different countries recently told Hadassah officials that they had extended formal nominations on behalf of the medical organization, according to June Walker, national president of Hadassah.

The group is the founder and benefactor of the medical organization.

The nominations cited three areas in which Hadassah Medical Organization has excelled in promoting peace in the region:

1. Equal treatment for all patients, despite treating more terror victims than any other medical center.
2. The model of cooperation and coexistence set by the staff of people of all faiths.
3. Ongoing initiatives in creating bridges for peace.

The winner of \$1.6 million prize will be announced in the fall.

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A MAJORITY OF ONE War and peace

Now that it appears Israel will withdraw from the Gaza Strip and areas of the West Bank, we hear the despairing cry so often raised during past negotiations.

"How come Israel always wins the wars and loses the peace?"



Yehuda Lev

The grammar could use some work but the sentiment is clear. Once again (fill in Israel's enemy of your choice) has conspired to cheat the Jewish state out of its just rewards for surviving yet another onslaught against it. It is a comforting way of dealing with the problems of war and peace in the Holy Land since it doesn't require much thought or knowledge. Just foist the blame on the other guy and your conscience may rest.

Unfortunately the other guy is doing exactly the same in reverse, which doesn't make for intelligent discussion of the issues or provide a framework for

negotiation and compromise.

What we have here is a classic example of drawing a false deduction from an inaccurate premise. Put bluntly, Israel has not won a war against anyone. It has won some battles (and lost a few, most noticeably the Lebanon disaster) but win a war? No way. Not in 1948 or 1956 or 1967 or 1970 or 1973 or 1982 or either of the two intifadim. (Intifadot? Where are the Hebrew grammarians when you need them?)

Perhaps we had better define the phrase "win the war."

Today, nations win wars by crushing their enemies to the point when they can no longer resume the conflict at a time and under circumstances of their choosing. Examples in American history include the Civil War and World War II. World War I, on the contrary, had no such ending. The Kaiser went into exile, the German army marched home in good order, and 21 years later German troops invaded Poland and the next round was underway.

Israel gained control over the territories in 1967 in as complete a military victory as one could hope for. Yet

only six years later there came the Yom Kippur War. Even Israel's victories at the end of that round did not win a war; did not destroy its enemies, did not ruin their economies, did not decimate their armies, did not level their cities, did not even result in the overthrow of their governments.

Successive Israeli governments have realized this by refusing to annex any of the territories except for areas around Jerusalem. Even the extension of Israeli law to the Golan Heights, which can be viewed as a form of annexation, has not been taken too seriously in Jerusalem; witness the offer to return the heights to Syria in return for peace, which foundered on the issue of Syrian access to the Kinneret. The offer was made and seriously discussed long after 1967 and after thousands of Israelis had already settled there.

It is time that we recognized the fact that by trading off the bulk of the territories in return for peace and recognition, Israel is not making a huge sacrifice in the name of morality and justice, but is acting in its own best interests. It is in Israel's interest to rid itself of the respon-

sibilities for meeting the essential needs of millions of Palestinians, for easing its budgetary problems, for releasing talents and energies now consumed by the ongoing conflict so that they can be utilized instead in the service of the Israeli population. All this, of course, to be done in the context of an agreement which requires each side to honor the commitments made in a negotiated, compromise treaty.

Which brings up a final question. Can Israel trust its enemies to keep their commitments? The answer, in two words, certainly not. Trust is wonderful for lovers, essential for business partners, and necessary for human relationships of all sorts. But it is not for politics. For that, one requires a means of monitoring the behavior of the other side and of enforcing the agreement that ends the conflict.

I never voted for Ronald Reagan but he did make one statement that bears remembering.

Trust, but verify.

Yehuda Lev is a retired journalist who has worked in Israel, Europe and the United States. He lives in Providence.

ALISON ON ALIYAH

"Peace" and indifference

In the past month I have received countless emails from friends and family asking me what's happening here regarding the "new peace plan" and how I feel about it. Most express a great deal of hope, exclaiming things like, "Maybe this is really it!" or "It's finally happening!" They all want to know how Israelis are reacting to it and what the atmosphere is like over here. My responses have been apologetically bleak and uninformative. The truth is, I have found myself saying too often, no one seems to be paying much attention at all.

Of course, there are plenty of news reports, abounding with quotation marks: "peace process," "road map," "cease-fire," "unilateral cooperation." One can almost hear the sarcasm dripping from each phrase, and every expression of possibility is followed by a sentiment of wariness and uncertainty. Indeed, it is difficult to place any kind of trust in an agreement made by the "talking heads" of both sides, with no cooperation from any of the parties actually responsible for the violence.

Just today, on the website of one of Israel's major newspapers, Ha'aretz, the following was written: "Abbas and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon declared an end to militant and military violence in last month's Sharm el-Sheikh summit, but militant Palestinian groups have not formally joined the truce." What kind of a cease-fire can there be, if no one agrees to it except the people who have no control over the real actors in the battle?

I have to admit that, despite all of

this, even I got excited the first time I heard about Arafat's dubious replacement and his willingness to negotiate. The first few days after the announcement (through American media, not Israeli), I kept expecting to walk outside my apartment and feel the difference. I thought I might hear people talking about it or see more smiles on people's

change, that Palestinians don't really want peace, that compromise will never be enough for either side. The phrase, "They just want to run us all into the sea," is a common one around Jerusalem, and a tough one with which to argue. As I sit in my class on Arab-Jewish co-existence each week, I try to empathize with the other side, to understand their pain

Indeed, Israelis of today have lived through so many wars, and multiple intifadas, and more promises of peace and better things to come than they can bear.

faces. What I didn't fully realize until recently is that this is nothing new for Israelis.

Indeed, Israelis of today have lived through so many wars, and multiple Intifadas, and more promises of peace and better things to come than they can bear. When it comes to political issues, many with whom I have talked just seem so bitter and jaded, with hope being clearly a risk they aren't willing to take. The other day I asked a friend of mine about the new negotiations, and his response was an acidic chuckle. "But maybe this time it will work?" I pushed, hoping to find a glimmer of hope. "Do husbands who beat their wives ever stop?" he asked in return.

There are simply too many of us here who believe that nothing will ever really

and the trauma they have experienced at the hands of Israelis. But part of me isn't willing to compromise, and part of me just wishes they would simply go away. It seems clear, most weeks, that many of them feel the same way.

And then, two weeks ago, another bombing. A big one, with many casualties caused particularly by the nails and shrapnel packed into the explosives. This was the first bombing inside of Israel in nearly six months, and while I wouldn't characterize the country's reac-

tion as shock, a deep air of disappointment seemed to permeate the air. I suppose this is a testament to the nugget of hope that had indeed begun to plant itself somewhere within us.

So here we are again, more or less back to "square one." It's hard to believe anyone really buys into it at all, and I consistently get an "I'll believe it when I see it," attitude when I ask people about it. It's a sad state of affairs when a country has lost its hope of a peaceful existence. I'm not sure anymore which side has less faith in this vision. We continue to talk about it, and we continue to watch the news reports about all the summits and all the hand-shaking and all the fake smiles. But as for the general atmosphere over here, I'm sorry to report that the "peace plan" has produced a great deal of hollow indifference.

Alison Stern Golub was born and grew up in Seattle, Washington and is a graduate of Brown University. You can email her at Alison_Golub@hotmail.com, and read more about her adventures on her website at www.alisonsterngolub.com.



Alison Golub

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions must be signed and include city of residence and telephone number. Letters should be limited to 250 words, and viewpoint pieces to 700 words. Submissions may be edited for length. Send submissions to: Jewish Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906, or E-mail to: voiceherald@jfri.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Community day school would strengthen us

As a relatively new member of the Jewish community of Rhode Island, I was delighted to read about the plans for a Jewish community day school. Although I don't have a child to contribute to this endeavor, I applaud the concept and what sounds like solid preparation and planning. A product of the Workmen's Circle Yiddish Schools of New York City, I myself would fit into the category of "cultural Jew," an often unrecognized group. For that reason, among others, the thought of a community school that brings together Jews

of varying backgrounds and practices is very welcome.

World Jewry was decimated by the Holocaust and further diminished by assimilation and sectarianism. There are too few of us left to map a future based on our differences. Why not build on our commonalities, on what makes us all members of what will surely become an even more vibrant Jewish community with the advent of a community day school?

Hannah Goldberg
Providence

The hidden 'curse' of Jewish education

Jewish education for our youth in our community as well as almost every American community has been a dismal failure. It has resulted in rampant assimilation and intermarriage and almost complete disappearance of both Jewish families and Jewish communities.

Wherever Jews watered down "classical" Jewish education (disciplined and rigorous study) they repeatedly assimilated and almost disappeared. Some examples from history include Greek Hellenism, pre-inquisition Spain and pre-1930s Germany.

Contrast our community with three outstanding vibrant and growing Jewish communities, namely, Baltimore, Md.; Monsey, N.Y., and Cleveland, Ohio, where classical Jewish education is emphasized. These outstanding communities demonstrate that only traditional and classical Jewish education works. It turns kids on. It gives their lives special meaning. It gives them a purpose in life.

After vigorous opposition by many Rhode Island Jewish community leaders, the Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS) got started in 1948. It has been not only an outstanding success in Jewish education but has also taught our many youths the fundamentals of classical Judaism and helped develop a love and understanding and commitment to our great Jewish heritage and ethical ideals. It has produced many children

who go to shul and yeshivas and Ivy League colleges as well.

In 1978, about 27 years ago, the Alperin Schechter Day School was founded in the hope of emulating and surpassing the PHDS, but it has not.

The Jewish educational systems in Rhode Island will only be successful if they sincerely try to matriculate students into more serious education such as the Providence Hebrew Day School and its high school division, New England Academy of Torah, and/or traditional yeshivas.

Otherwise, as we have seen previously, these institutions will be a "curse" and mislead parents and children into the path of rapid assimilation. It will fool our youth that they are getting an adequate and authentic Jewish education. It won't work. It never has worked.

Providence is unique in New England — it has its own rabbinical college and a Kollel. It has a boys' high school, a girls' high school and a top-notch Providence Hebrew Day School. We have all the tools in place to build a great and historic and meaningful Jewish community which could be the pride of American civilization.

Thomas W. Pearlman
Providence

Thomas Pearlman is one of the founders of the Providence Hebrew Day School and the New England Rabbinical College.

Love Tema's 'State of the Union' address

Each week I look forward eagerly to Tema Gouse's sage remarks. Your "State of the Union Address" published in the Feb. 18th edition is almost a word-for-word repetition of so many significant statements that I often express most adamantly.

As an 87-year-old resident in a retirement assisted living facility, frequently, with my peers, I have discussions concerning our too-lengthy survival — 20-30 years beyond our parents; the bottles, vials and salves of often mysterious contents; the physicians who are harassed, over-worked and over-booked.

realizing that friends in the "outside" world cannot, and many times, won't remember to help lift the veil of loneliness or sadness that descends on the souls who are looking for solace.

Tema, (may I?) in our youth, life presented challenges, great political problems and choices, and both good and evil leaders; but, with all of that, so many decades later, whether healthy or ailing, the quest for age-old answers remains.

I seriously doubt that, magically, we will see those answers on the horizon.

Sylvia Tippe
Warwick

Then there is the sad acceptance of



VIEWPOINT

Menachem Begin remembered

By Morris Gastfreund

I was in Israel the year that Menachem Begin passed away on March 9th. Although he had withdrawn from political life several years earlier, the shock was immense for ordinary Israelis; admirers and political adversaries alike. The entire nation mourned Begin. Some 75,000 joined the funeral march to the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. "Never before has Jerusalem seen a funeral like this," were the headlines of the newspapers.

Most of all, Begin was a proud Jew and a man of the people, a folksy non-establishment figure of modest means who didn't even own a flat of his own. I met Begin twice in pre-war Poland at the Zionist

Anwar Sadat, the Nobel Peace Prize for his part in the Camp David Agreement with Egypt. The writer Sydney Zion noted in 1983, "Menachem Begin was run out of Poland by the Nazis, imprisoned by the Soviets, haunted by the British and nearly murdered by the Jews. To have survived would have been impressive enough." Begin led the first Hebrew revolution in 2,000 years; that he signed the first peace treaty in Israeli history ranks as something of a miracle. Ben Gurion, Golda Meir and Moshe Dayan were known not only in the West but also in countries whose relationship with Israel was marginal. But it seems that no Israeli leader captured the world's imagination more dramatically than did Menachem Begin.

As Israel's longest-serving prime minister after David ben-Gurion, Begin practiced an abrasive brand of leadership.

Betar organization gatherings. Everyone admired him and looked up to him as a leader. He was called a junior Zeev Jabotinsky (the great Zionist leader,) because of his dynamic oratory. He devoted all his life to one goal: securing a free state for the Jewish people where they could live in peace as other nations.

Begin's life was, from the outset, characterized by struggle and haunted by violence. He fought anti-Semitism in his native Poland, lost his family in the Holocaust, and endured torture in the Russian gulag. As a disciple of Jabotinsky, he dedicated his life from early-on to the ideal of Eretz Yisrael. He led the Irgun revolt against British rule in Palestine, and, after the founding of the Jewish state in 1948, was the leader of the Opposition in the Knesset.

He had to wait 30 years for power. Once he acquired it, however, he used it vigorously. As Israel's longest-serving prime minister after David ben-Gurion, Begin practiced an abrasive brand of leadership. The contradictions became ever more acute: in 1978 Begin won, with

Nor did the image of a statesman ever undergo so profound a transformation.

Begin will be remembered as a peacemaker. But had he done nothing more than lead the Irgun Zvri Leumi (IZL) underground against the British occupation, he would have secured his place as a major figure in Israeli history. The British departure from Palestine was dictated by many considerations, but the IZL under Begin played a major, perhaps a decisive role, which was confirmed in the British Parliament by Deputy Prime Minister Herbert Morrison. That a leader of a savage underground war should have become the first Israeli to make peace with an Arab country is a commentary on the nature of Israel's struggle for independence and survival.

It is worth remembering the world's uproar and condemnation of Israel for bombing and destroying the Osirak nuclear reactor in June, 1981. As punishment for destroying Iraq's nuclear reactor, the then U. S. Secretary of Defense, Caspar Weinberger, slapped a

Federation

FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

'Welcoming' lessons from the Russian Jewish community



Janet Engelhart

came to my office to interview me for their upcoming issue. First, she wanted to know about my ancestral roots. Where did my parents and grandparents come

from? Did I have a Russian background?

I was much more inspired by Eugenia's story of immigration to the U.S. than I imagine she was by mine. Our conversation reminded me, yet again, of my strongest professional motivator — our connection and the responsibility that we assume, one for another, as a Jewish people. Our brethren who have been compelled to leave family, friends, home and culture behind to begin new lives as freely practicing

Jews can be so inspiring, and I mourn those who were unable to relocate and perished simply because they were Jews.

A century after the large emigration from Russia and Eastern Europe to the U.S. and 50 years after the founding of the State of Israel as a Jewish homeland, I am proud that through our Federation's Annual Community Campaign, our community still rescues and resettles those in greatest need.

Eugenia came to this community just six years ago from Moscow. She related two chilling stories of anti-Semitism experienced by her family during her final years in Russia that motivated her to join cousins in Rhode Island. One night, the country home that had been a happy refuge for several generations was burnt to the ground by thugs, with no police investiga-

tion of the event. Then, shortly later, an auto struck Eugenia's mother-in-law on a Moscow street. The family was stunned by stalled rescue attempts by police and medical professionals, ultimately resulting in the death of this well-respected and outspoken professional. The family had had enough, and left forever.

After arriving in Rhode Island, they found that our community is one that is ready for new families — they received social services from Jewish Family Service. New Americans in our community receive English language lessons and job training. Youngsters are welcomed to our Jewish Day Schools and Camp JORI. Older adults gather for lunch at the Jewish Community Center.

And this story is repeated every day in Israel. Israel is still welcoming émigrés from the

former Soviet Union, and now from Argentina, Ethiopia and even France, thanks to our global commitment.

Next week, at the festive holiday of Purim, we recall our ancient perseverance against tyrants and are required to have a drink — or two or three — while we listen to the annual reading of the Megillah. At next month's Seder we recall our redemption from slavery to freedom. This year during both holidays, please take a moment with your family and friends to lift your glasses of wine. *L'Chaim*, we say, "To Life."

Recognize the upheaval many of our brethren are still facing and affirm our support for new lives of freedom and Jewish connection for them. Our collective support ensures life and strength and our worldwide communal future. *L'Chaim!*

The Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island would like to say...

THANK YOU!



HATS, HATS, HATS — knitted by volunteers from around R.I.

Throughout the months of January and February, women from around R.I. knitted over 166 scarves, 97 hats, 11 pairs of mittens and 4 sweaters. The items will be delivered to Jewish children in need in R.I.'s Partnership 2000 sister city of Afula in Israel. Partnership 2000 is a program of the Jewish Agency for Israel, funded by the Jewish Federations of North America.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this mitzvah project.

Special thanks to



for donating a large portion of yarn.

Jewish Federation of Rhode Island
Live generously. It does a world of good.

'Seder of Hope' April 3

The AIDS Task Force announces the 11th Interfaith Passover "Seder of Hope" offering love and support for all those in our community touched by HIV/AIDS. The event, sponsored by the AIDS Task Force of the Community Relations

Council of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, will be held at Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence on April 3 at 5 p.m.

The "Seder of Hope" will consist of a pre-Passover seder

meal, with the traditional telling of Jewish redemption from suffering and slavery in Egypt. To this story we will add a new layer of meaning, by also telling the story of the immense suffering that AIDS has brought to men, women, and children the world over, and offer our prayers that for redemption from this insidious virus.

For information and reservations call 401-421-4111 ext. 172 or emailrraz@jfri.org

Cost is \$15 per person.

The Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

presents

Daniel Seidemann

speaking on

The Fence & Seam Line in Jerusalem

Thursday, April 7 — 7:00 p.m.

JCC Senior Adult Lounge

Daniel Seidemann is a practicing attorney in Jerusalem and a partner in a firm specializing in commercial law.

He co-founded Ir Shalem, dedicated to the development of Jerusalem for the benefit of all of its residents, Jewish and Palestinian. He has worked in and understands all phases of this very delicate municipal situation.

Mr. Seidemann has served in an informal advisory capacity to participants in the final status negotiations and was a member of a committee of experts commissioned by PM Ehud Barak's office to generate sustainable arrangements geared to implement the emerging political understandings with the Palestinians.

Born in Syracuse, NY, he made aliyah in 1973 and has resided in Jerusalem ever since.

Joan Nathan to give cooking demo

Author, television personality and noted cook Joan Nathan will be appearing at Eastside Marketplace March 31 at 3:30 p.m. Nathan, a Providence native and well-known Jewish cook, will be giving a cooking demonstration followed by a book signing. Her book, *The Foods of Israel Today*, contains more than 300 recipes, and gives a culinary glimpse into Israeli life from past through present.

Nathan earned a master's degree from the University of Michigan. She lived in Israel for three years where she worked for Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem. She is a frequent contributor of food related articles to the *New York Times*, *Food and Gourmet*, and *Hadassah Magazine*.

Eastside Marketplace is located at 165 Pitman Street, Providence.

Community



Photos by Mary Korr

JEANNETTE BORNSTEIN speaks to students from the Rhode Island College School of Social Work recently about her escape from the Nazis and ultimate flight to freedom. The program was held at the Rhode Island Holocaust Museum.

Over the Pyrenees, to freedom

Survivor tells harrowing tale during museum program for students

By Mary Korr

PROVIDENCE — Marie and Jeannette, two young Jewish sisters from Belgium, eluded the Nazis on a harrowing flight to freedom over the wintry Pyrenees mountains into Spain. More than 60 years later, Jeannette Bornstein's story doesn't get any easier to tell.

"I speak to you about the evils of the Holocaust...and I want you to know most of us owe our lives to someone who would not and could not agree that death was our destiny," she told students from the Rhode Island College School of Social Work recently.

Bornstein is one of a handful of survivors who speak to students through a program at the Rhode Island Holocaust Museum.

"How long did it take to cross the mountains?" asked Chloe Wyman. "Were there places to hide in during the day?"

"I don't know how long it took. If the men knew a farmhouse was safe, we slept in the barn. We didn't have the proper clothes or shoes. I had frostbite. My sister and I remember one night when I couldn't walk any more, and they washed my feet with wine and then re-wrapped them in newspapers."

"Did you understand? Did you know what was going on?" Bornstein was asked.

"No, I was too young."

The beginning of the end

Her family had to flee Belgium suddenly.

"I asked my father where we were going and why," she related.

His answer made no sense to her. "We can't go home," he said. Because they were Jews.

"As we ran for the train, my sister kept on dropping her violin and stopping to pick it up. My father finally made her leave it."

The family made it to France, where a French family hid them. But it wasn't long before the "Gestapo squads" showed up. Bornstein, her sister and mother were trucked to an internment camp called Rivesaltes in Perpignan, southern France.

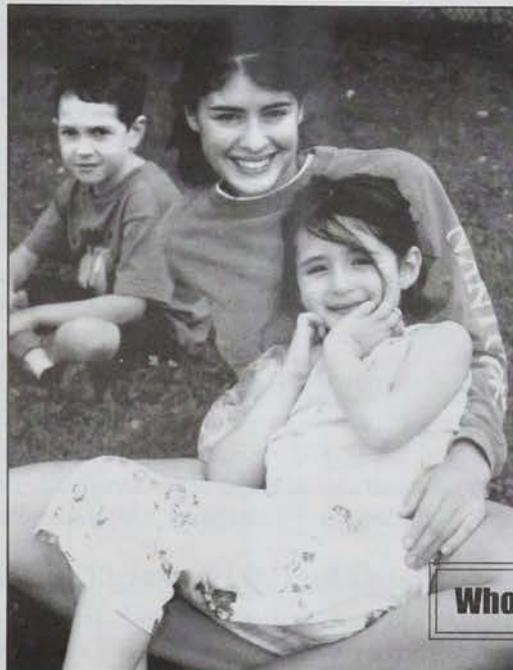
The camp was a "real hell," she said. "We lived in overcrowded barracks with mice, fleas and rats. We slept on the ground which was covered with hay. There was no room to stretch out. We had one meal a day — a bowl of watery soup and a piece of bread."

Rivesaltes was their home for the next nine months. Then news came from the underground that children were being smuggled out. And one night, "my mother took us outside and handed us over. We were taken to a Catholic school in Nice."

The nuns took many Jewish children in. She recalls playing outdoors in the daylight, without having to hide. "We had been in the dark for so long," she said.

See FREEDOM, page 35

Federation and the JCCRI are partners?



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Be an important partner in the *power of community*. Give generously to the 2005 JFRI campaign and invest in our future. You can give directly and immediately through a gift to the campaign, or you can ensure that you continue to build a strong community after you are gone through an annual campaign endowment that funds your annual campaign pledge in perpetuity.



Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

Live Generously It Makes a World of Difference

To volunteer or learn about community programs, visit our website at www.jfri.org or call 401.421.4111.

The Community Relations Council at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island
is joining with the
Save Darfur Coalition in calling for
100 Hours of Conscience – Voices to End the Violence in Darfur
March 17 - 20

The emergency in Sudan's northwestern region of Darfur presents the starkest challenge to the world since the Rwanda genocide in 1994. Government-backed Arab militias, known as the Janjaweed, have been engaging in campaigns to displace and wipe out entire communities of African farmers. Villages have been razed, women and girls are systematically raped and branded,

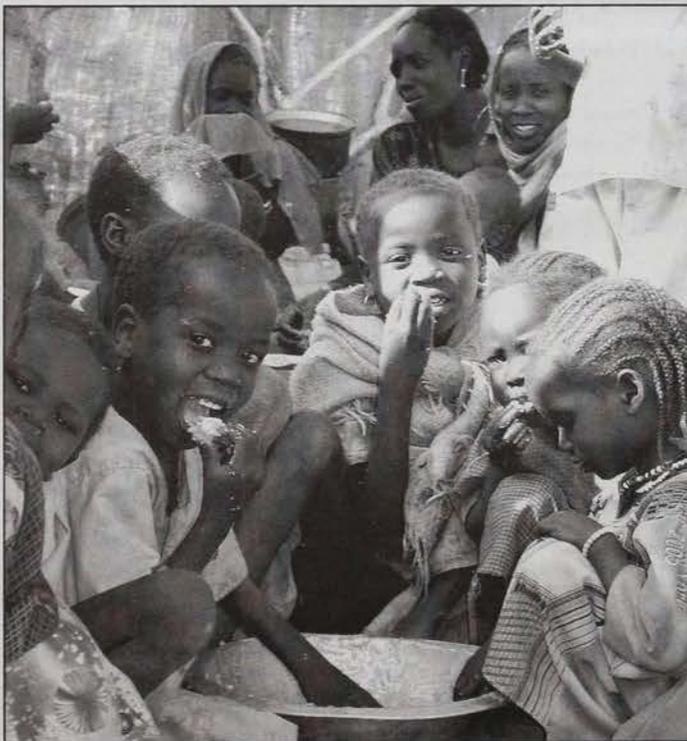
men and boys murdered, and food and water supplies specifically targeted and destroyed. The U.S. Administration and Congress have termed the crisis in Sudan "genocide." For the first time in its history, the Committee on Conscience of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has declared a "genocide emergency" in the Sudan.

Immediate Action Requested

- Urge your Senators to cosponsor the Darfur Accountability Act introduced in the Senate by Senators Corzine (D-NJ) and Brownback (R-KS) on March 2. This bipartisan bill, which would hold the Sudanese government accountable for its actions, currently has 10 cosponsors (Coburn, DeWine, Dodd, Durbin, Feingold, Kerry, Lautenberg, Lieberman, Murray, and Talent).

Action Requested Re 100 Hours of Conscience

- Write letters to President George W. Bush, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and members of Congress expressing dismay at the atrocities that continue to take place in Darfur and outrage at the inaction of the international community. Members of Congress, who unanimously adopted resolutions calling Darfur a genocide, should be pressed to maintain focus on this issue and to urge the administration to provide the necessary leadership, to take immediate and decisive measures to stop

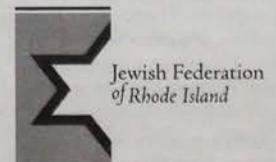


the killing, the rape, and the destruction of villages; to ensure that humanitarian relief reaches all those in need; to hold accountable those responsible for these crimes against humanity; and to ensure the safe, voluntary, and dignified return of the displaced to their homes. *The Coalition's goal is for 100 letters to be mailed to each of the 435 members of the House of Representatives and 100 members of the Senate during these four days.* We are hopeful that Congressional offices will receive many more than that number. You may find the name and address of your representatives on www.house.gov/writerep/ and senators on www.senate.gov/. You may find a sample letter to President Bush on www.savedarfur.org/misc/SampleLetterToBush.doc.

- Convey the same concerns referred to above to the ambassadors to the United Nations, the ambassadors in Washington, DC and consuls general from members of the UN Security Council, particularly the other permanent members – Russia, China, France and Great Britain. You may find contact information for Security Council members on www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_members.html.
- The Save Darfur Coalition website provides many additional materials and action ideas, including a project called Hotel Darfur that involves distribution of leaflets outside theaters showing the movie Hotel Rwanda (www.savedarfur.org/go.php?q=/HotelDarfur/HotelDarfurCampaign.html).



The Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island interprets concerns of the organized Jewish community to the broader Jewish community, the general community, government officials and the media, builds coalitions for effective action and opportunities for community involvement, and educates, assists and enables the Jewish community to pursue social justice.



Jewish Federation
of Rhode Island

Live generously. It does a world of good.

DUFFY:

From page 1

mess, "although maybe I don't need 10 copies of each one."

The volume is not surprising. It has been accumulating for 25 years since she settled into her position as head of the Israel Desk of the Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE). So it's with understandable reluctance that she is bidding goodbye. In June, Page will be retiring from what she calls "the best job in the Jewish community."

At a special farewell fundraiser at the Jane Pickens Theater in Newport March 5, more than 200 friends, family and colleagues joined together to pay tribute to her and her achievements in turning a young person's dream of visiting or studying in Israel into a reality. Her longtime friend, Dr. Carol Ingall, the Dr. Bernard Heller Professor of Jewish Education at The Jewish Theological Seminary, gave the d'var Torah.

This was followed by remarks by friends and colleagues, the showing of a video made at the Bureau which featured photos from Duffy's past, and comments by her friends and grandchildren. A special part of the video was footage from a 1982 Today Show broadcast in which Page was a featured speaker on the subject of ethical wills. Overseas colleagues as well as local ones sent their thanks to be read at the evening's festivities.

"It is almost impossible to imagine the BJE without Duffy," said Roberta Bell-Kligler, Director of Project Oren, at the Oranim Academic College of Education in Israel.

Bureau bids farewell to 'Duffy'

Page gave an impressive speech which reflected her years of devotion to her work.

"Your presence here tonight honors me; but more, your presence here honors Jewish education, and what we at the Bureau, professional and volunteer alike, have long striven to accomplish: to assure that Jewish education is a primary value in the life of every Jew... and to assure that an Israel experience, with its potential to affect behavior and effect change, (i.e., the power to transform) is an integral part of each student's — and each teacher's — Jewish education."

The evening's festivities were rounded off with refreshments and an auction to benefit Israel scholarships.

Generations of trips

Page would say that it's never too early, or too late, to plan a trip to Israel. Over the years she's sent 1,500 students ages 15 to 25 on high school semesters, summer programs and even year-long study periods. She directs young parents to the Bnei Tzedek program, which creates matching funds that will eventually allow a child to visit the Jewish homeland. ("Here's a savings account for when your 3rd grader is in 10th grade," she says.)

Older students get visits with Page and a flood of brochures about Israel trips. Many of those who have planned their travel via Page were there to say "thanks," including Josh Beraha, of Providence, who attended Tel Aviv University, and Amir Haron, of Kingston, who hopes to study

there in August (Editor's note: Duffy also sent me to Israel. And my sister. And my brother).

In recent years, Page has been able to connect adults to Israel as well through the Rhode Island's "sister" city of Afula-Gilboa in northern Israel. When she hears someone is going to Israel (and she always seems to know), she recommends a bed and breakfast or a host family. "The thing that keeps people coming back is the person-to-person connection," she says.

Page sees more and more challenges to the "Israel experience" for youngsters. Today's children, as part of the "post-Zionist" generation, often don't see Israel as a "core part of their Jewish identity." Sadly, the number of available trips and the families that sign up for them have declined since the outbreaks of violence over the past years, something that greatly pains her. "The intifada has done a number on parents," she said. "Those who have had an Israel experience, want their kids to have one. Those that haven't, don't."

R.I. roots

Page was born in Providence, and has barely ever left, except for over 20 trips to Israel. She went to the Summit Avenue School, Classical High School and the Temple Emanu-El Religious School. She attended Tufts Uni-



RUTH PAGE, center, receives an engraved glove as a thank-you presentation from BJE Director Minna Ellison, right, and BJE President Linn Freedman. Photo by Marika Gazsi

versity for dental hygiene, where she met her husband, Larry. She earned an undergraduate degree at the University of Rhode Island and a Master's in History from Brown. At the request of then BJE-director Carol Ingall, she began teaching adult education classes as a way of meeting requirements for a trip to Israel. "That was the beginning. 'The Israel piece really captured me.' Later, the Israel Desk position was created, and Page fit right in.

Besides her love for Israel, Page is also famous for preparing large portions of soup, sometimes quadruple batches, for sick friends in need.

Post-retirement plans

When Page vacates the Israel Desk position, the BJE may have to "reconfigure" itself, rather than search for a replacement for Page, according to BJE director Minna Ellison.

Page is currently director of Temple Emanu-El's museum, and would like to devote more time to "getting it into the 21st century."

However, as anyone who has ever met her knows, being a grandmother is her favorite role.

Marika Gazsi contributed to this story.

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UK Jews get meat OK'd

By Daniella Peled

LONDON (JTA) — Jewish groups are welcoming the British government's decision to reject a recommendation to ban kosher slaughter as a victory for their unified campaign.

The threat to ritual slaughter, known as *shechitah*, was raised after a June 2003 report from the government-sponsored Farm Animal Welfare Council advised that the practice should be outlawed.

The council had argued that *shechitah* and the Muslim method of *halal* slaughter — both of which demand the animal be fully conscious when its throat is cut — contravened British laws against animal cruelty, which mandate that all animals butchered in Britain must be electrically stunned before they are killed.

But a specially formed Jewish coalition, Shechita UK, fought the recommendation by emphasizing scientific evidence that *shechitah* — which involves cutting an animal's throat with a surgically sharp blade, leading to rapid loss of consciousness — is a humane method of slaughter.

The British authorities initially appeared inclined to accept the council's assertions, the result of a four-year investigation, that "animals (especially cattle) slaughtered without pre-stunning are likely to experience very

significant pain and distress."

But in its final statement, issued last week, the government emphasized that it was "committed to respect for the rights of religious groups."

Describing the council report as "inaccurate and biased," Henry Grunwald, the chairman of Shechita UK, said, "The government's response means that the Jewish community can continue freely to practice the Jewish religious humane method of animal slaughter for food in this country."

"We are pleased that the government has recognized and understood our concerns," he added.

Jewish leaders say the campaign not only has served to preserve the right of British Jews to produce and eat kosher meat, but also highlighted a rare example of community unity.

"It's been a real example of cooperation," said Shechita UK's campaign director, Shimon Cohen. "The Orthodox community from left to right pulled together in a major way and had the full support of the progressive community."

European animal rights laws demand that livestock must be stunned before slaughter, but most countries — except Sweden and Switzerland — make exceptions on the grounds of religious liberty.

Hamas puts Israel in quandary after group agrees to join in elections

By Dan Baron

JERUSALEM (JTA) — It seems oxymoronic: a terrorist group sworn to Israel's destruction, joining a Palestinian Authority now engaged in political negotiation with the Jewish state.

But this apparently will be the case come July, when Hamas takes part in Palestinian parliamentary elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — and puts Ariel Sharon's government in a diplomatic bind.

The radical Islamic group has boycotted elections conducted by the Palestinian Authority, which was formed under the Oslo peace accords of 1993 envisaging peaceful coexistence with Israel.

But on Saturday, Hamas official Mohammed Razal announced that the group had decided to run for seats in the Palestinian Legislative Council "for the sake of the people and to rectify political failings."

The "road map" peace plan calls for the Palestinian Authority to dismantle and disarm Hamas and other terrorist groups in the West Bank and Gaza.

But Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas has made it clear that he has no intention of implementing this clause to the letter. He prefers to talk

rival factions into laying down their arms.

Abbas predicted that these talks would bear fruit at a conference in Cairo this week, when he predicted that 13 Palestinian groups, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad, would agree to his cease-fire with Israel.

And Israel, apparently pleased at Abbas' success in calming down Gaza before it quits the coastal territory this summer, has not been protesting too much.

"Against the background of cries for liquidating the infrastructure of terror, the Palestinian leadership realizes, and Israel also understands, that there is no other choice than to cooperate with these organizations, which hold a violent right of veto over the peace process," said Ha'aretz commentator Zvi Barel.

Privately, some Israeli officials accept that Hamas may have made a strategic turnaround.

"No one expects the group to change its charter," said one government official on condition of anonymity, referring to a document that calls for Israel's destruction. "The question is how ready it is to act on this. An end to violence and terrorism is always a good thing, even if its motives are cynical."

Before and even during the last four and a half years of fighting, senior Hamas leaders hinted that they could "accept" rather than recognize Israel's existence if Palestinians get statehood in the West Bank and Gaza. Under this doctrine, the group would "suspend" indefinitely its quest to wipe out Israel.

Many believe that in Hamas' scheme of things, the well-being of the Palestinians comes well

ahead of the jihad against the Jewish state.

Unlike Islamic Jihad, a group whose activities are devoted exclusively to terrorism and that already has announced that it will boycott the July elections, Hamas has a network of charities in the West Bank and Gaza. Its politicians are considered to be honest, in comparison with the corruption that has tainted many Palestinian Authority officials.

"With Hamas, you know who you are dealing with," the Israeli government official said.

"If they call off the jihad, that is the way it will be. And who knows — maybe the very act of getting into politics, of dealing with the day-to-day of nation-building the West Bank and Gaza, will in itself mellow the group."

But Jerusalem is still a long way off from having to deal with a Hamas successor to Abbas. Razal said his group has no intention of seeking seats in the Palestinian Authority's Cabinet for now.

There is also the prospect of Palestinian infighting.

Fatah, the dominant Palestinian Authority faction, has been watching with concern the popularity Hamas has garnered in local polls, and it is redoubling its efforts to win hearts in the West Bank and Gaza. It's not just a matter of political jockeying: Fatah represents a more moderate Palestinian, who is unhappy with the idea of Hamas ushering in a Muslim theocracy.

An example of this infighting happened last week. In the run-up to campus elections in Hebron University, activists from the rival factions faced off with fists and rocks.

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Directions from North: Rt. 95 South to exit #30. turn right at 2nd traffic light onto Central Ave. (Central Ave. becomes Cross St.) Follow to the end. Turn left onto Pine St., then 1st right onto #225 Conant St.

Community

'Patriarch' cantor returns to Warwick after 18 years in the sun



MURIEL AND IVAN PERLMAN enjoy the snow in Warwick

By Jonathan Rubin

WARWICK — Cantor Ivan Perlman doesn't mind snowfall in March — it beats hurricanes any day.

Ivan, 79, Cantor Emeritus of Temple Emanu-El in Providence, was also cantor at Temple Am David in Warwick. But for the last 18 years he has continued his 57-year Cantorial streak as cantor and spiritual leader at Temple Beth Kodesh in Boynton Beach. It's an unfortunate congregation, because it lay in the path of one of the many major hurricanes that battered the region in August of 2004.

"The wind tore the roof off the building... My congregation is meeting in a clubhouse. We don't have weather like that in Rhode Island."

He and his wife Muriel are coming home to Warwick to roost this April. Once their parents passed away, it seemed like a good time to move back with their children.

The couple said they've been getting calls from Rhode Island rabbis welcoming them home.

"Rhode Island Jews take care of Rhode Island Jews... I don't know of any other state that we have been in like that," they said.

"Eldercare here in Rhode Island is second to none," the couple added. "The programming for seniors is better here."

Family business

A few things run deeply in the Perlman family — the first is humor.

"I have a memory like an elephant — that's why I look like one," Ivan said.

His son Richard laughs. "Yes, Dad still has the voice when he was, what, 75?"

"No, just kidding, 40."

"I try and bring people laughter," Ivan said, "there's enough crying in the world."

The other thing that Perlman's have is a good set of pipes — all four of his sons are cantors, including Cantor Richard Perlman, spiritual leader in Temple Am David in Warwick.

Cantor Richard Perlman and his three brothers have joined with their father a few times in the past under the name "The Cantor's Five," and performed to large audiences in Warwick and elsewhere.

Richard says that it's wonderful to walk in his father's footsteps. "Whenever anyone comes to Am David I'll hear someone say, 'Your father circumcised my son.' Now, these people are grown, and I'm naming their babies!"

What now?

The couple will be moving to their "new" home on April 1, a stone's throw from Am David. Ivan will be joining his son on the second Passover Seder at Temple Am David on April 24 at 6 p.m.

Does having Ivan around mean that now there will be a regular "bonus cantor" at Am David?

"I won't force my father to do anything," Richard said, "but my mother has to cook."

He said he'd consider being involved in adult education, and would continue to honor his long-standing commitment to the Jewish War Veterans. He served as a marine in World War II, and has served as the first national cantor of the Jewish war veterans and as the national associate chaplain.

"One of the first places I will go is the cemetery. I have a lot of friends there," he said.



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RFP Notice

The Women's Alliance Endowment Fund of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island is entertaining proposals for funding. Priorities will be given to programs that impact women and children.

Funding will be given to 501c3 organizations only. Requests should be sent to: JFRI, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906, by March 31, 2005.

CONTACT THE WOMEN'S ALLIANCE FOR THE FULL RFP DETAILS.

The Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island The 5765 Rosh Hodesh Series

Women of Valor: How do they relate to our lives?

April 12
3 Nissan

Date: Tuesday, April 12, 2005 Cost: \$14.00 (lunch included)
Time: 12:00 - 1:30 pm Speaker: Maud Mandel, Assistant Professor,
Location: Congregation B'nai Israel Department of History, Brown
224 Prospect Street University
Woonsocket Program: "Bella Abzug"

RSVP by mailing check and the form below to:

Jewish Federation of Rhode Island • 130 Sessions St., Providence, R.I. • 02906-3497

NAME(S): _____
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April 12 - "Bella Abzug" - (Noon) \$14.00 fee, lunch included

Enclosed is my check payable to the JFRI for \$ _____ for the cost of the sessions.

Community

Jewish Family Service plans Gutterman memorial lecture

SEEKONK — "How Can I Forgive You? A Radical Approach to Healing Intimate Wounds" will be the topic addressed at the sixth annual Julie Claire Gutterman Memorial Lecture on April 15, at the Johnson and Wales Inn in Seekonk.

This lecture is presented by Janis Abrahms Spring, Ph.D., ABPP, a nationally acclaimed expert on issues of trust, intimacy, and forgiveness. Spring has written two books, the first entitled *After the Affair: Healing the Pain and Rebuilding Trust When a Partner Has Been Unfaithful* and her most recent work, *How Can I Forgive You?*

The Courage to Forgive, the Freedom Not To which is a finalist for "Best Psychology Book," Books for Better Life Award.

This lecture is held annually as a tribute to Julie Claire Gutterman who served as Director

of Professional Service at Jewish Family service for six years until her untimely death.

For more information about the lecture, or to register for it, call Jewish Family Service at 331-1244.

USY holding Purim carnival

PROVIDENCE — The annual Purim carnival sponsored by United Synagogue Youth (USY) will be held on Sunday, March 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Goldberg Center at Temple Emanu-El.

There will be games, prizes, a moon-bounce, clowns, jugglers and a barbecue, with vegetarian options available. There will also be a *Mishloach Manot* booth where participants can put together packages of food to distribute to elderly Jews in Rhode Island.

The carnival is run by Jewish teens and will continue its tradition of inviting children from the Camp Street Ministries to partake in the festivities.

For more information, call co-chairs Olivia Lichaa at 245-6144

Shabbat services for children at Beth David

NARRAGANSETT — Shabbat services for children of all ages are planned for Saturdays, March 26 and April 30, from 10 to 11:15 a.m. at Congregation Beth David.

Exposure to prayers, the ability to participate in a Hebrew service, and familiarity with the narratives and values of the lessons from the weekly Torah reading will provide moments of reflection on Jewish values and teachings. The Jr. congregation will provide a warm nurturing environment where children will gain the skills necessary to participate in Jewish services and become comfortable and familiar with the synagogue setting, affording them the opportunity to put into practice what they learn in the classroom.

For more information, call 617-852-4545.

Touro Fraternal open house

CRANSTON — Touro Fraternal Association will hold its annual open house at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 23, at its headquarters at 45 Rolfe Square.

Andrew Lamchick, chairman of the membership committee, said "these open meetings are designed to show prospective members a little about Touro. We'll conduct a regular meeting, enjoy a meal and then be entertained." Presenter this evening will be Michael J. Petit, known nationally as the "Man of a Thousand Voices."

Space is limited and reservations are required and may be made by calling 785-0066. Further information is available at www.tourofraternal.org.

Agudas Achim plans Purim fest, hosts guest speaker

ATTLEBORO — Festivities to celebrate Purim are scheduled for Sunday and Thursday at Congregation Agudas Achim, 901 North Main St.

The celebrations begin on Sunday with a Purim carnival from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with food, games, and crafts for all ages, family photos, and prizes. Raffle baskets will be on display and the youth group will sponsor a bake sale.

The festivities continue on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. with a service and costume parade for adults and children. The service, led by Rabbi Elyse Wechterman, will include the reading of the Megillah.

The Agudas Achim choir will perform as well as a Klezmer band, and the Hebrew school students will perform skits. Following the Jewish tradition of *Matanot L'Evyonim* (gifts to the poor), a monetary collection will be conducted during the service to benefit local charities.

All are welcome. For more information, contact the temple at (508) 222-2243.

Guest speaker

On Saturday, March 26 at 9:30 a.m., Rabbi Shawn Zevit, director of Outreach for the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, will be the guest speaker at Shabbat services. Rabbi Zevit will share some of the new traditions of the Reconstructionist movement and discuss the emerging religious practices of Reconstructionists.

All are welcome to join for prayer, experimentation and learning. Musical instruments will be part of the service.

Call 508-222-2243 for more information.

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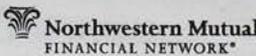
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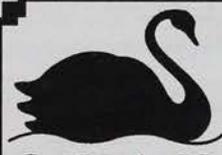
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Community

NCJW hears speaker from Israel

Levine receives 'Enduring Pioneer' award at convention

By Mary Korr

PROVIDENCE — At the March 8th meeting of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) held at Temple Beth-El, Shari Eshet, director of Israel Operations, was passionate about the work the group does to advocate for equal opportunities in education, health, social services, housing and employment for minorities in that country.

"Twenty-two percent of Israel's population is non-Jewish," she said. "We are fighting for the civil rights of Arab, Bedouin, Moslem, Christian and Druze. Israel cannot continue to hold the moral high ground if it does not take care of its minorities," she said.

She added that the gap between the "haves and have-nots" is widening.

She also spoke on other areas the NCJW is involved with in Israel; among them are:

- **Hot lunch** — The group has launched a campaign directed at the Knesset to pass legislation for a hot-meal program for Israeli schoolchildren. "Twenty percent of Israeli children go to sleep hungry," Eshet said.

- **Domestic violence** — The group has set up a hotline at Tel Aviv University and worked on student activism. It supports several shelters for runaways and victims of domestic violence. It also funds a rape crisis center and programs to educate mothers.

- **Literacy programs** — Another grant program, *Yad B'Yad* (Hand in Hand), helps at-risk children and families by supporting grassroots organizations with amounts from \$2500 to \$10,000. The program has provided multi-lingual books, computer equipment, and other educational materials.

Through a literacy grant, another volunteer group helping Russian immigrants is able to buy schoolbooks for children, with priority given to victims of terror.

The NCJW has also funded a library at a Bedouin school, where Eshet takes visitors. "The children were fascinated to see 43 American Jewish women getting off a bus to visit them," she said. "They wondered why these women wanted to help them."

- **Women's studies degree program** — One of the group's proudest accomplishments is funding an endowment for a women's studies degree program at Tel Aviv University. "This is a



SHARI ESHET, at left, director of Israel Operations for the National Council of Jewish Women, spoke at the group's meeting held at Temple Beth-El last week. Afterwards, she met members Judy Robbins and Tess Hassenfeld.

first for the Middle East," Eshet said. Non-degree programs have been in place at other universities. She said the word gender was not in the Hebrew vocabulary before this program.

National convention

The group also heard from members who attended the recent NCJW Convention held in New York City March 2 to 5.

At the event, local member Nan Levine was presented with the 2005 Enduring Pioneer Award for her 40-plus years of service and achievements in the organization. She was instrumental in developing and steering the R.I. section forward to accomplish the goals of the national organization.

Lana Israel reported on the convention's keynote speakers. Opening day was marked by Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who named March 3 National Council of Jewish Women Day in New York City. "For over a hundred years, NCJW has championed the needs of women, children and families," said Bloomberg. "Your work nationwide has been at the forefront of progressive social change."

Also that day, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (Dem.-N.Y.) addressed convention attendees. In a speech citing NCJW's Campaign to save Roe, Clinton said, "What NCJW stands for is the very best of not only our nation and of volunteerism, but you really represent the extraordinary contributions of over 350 years of Jews in America."

On March 4, members and supporters rallied at the United Nations to urge greater U.N. action against the scourge of global trafficking in humans.

R.I. member Carol Brook-

lyn, also a participant at the convention, reminded everyone about using the NCJW website (ncjw.org) to send letters and petitions to the United Nations in order to individually protest human trafficking.

She also spoke of other issues taken up at the convention, e.g., the travails of the Agunot in Israel, who are unable to get a divorce; the Social Security issue in the U.S., and President Bush's judicial nominees. She encouraged members to review and act on the latter through the organization's BenchMark website at www.benchmarkcampaign.org.

With reports from NCJW.

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Photo by Temple Torat Yisrael

'Spreading' Good News

Starting in February, children and adults at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston began getting together to make sandwiches to donate to Crossroads in Providence.

Camp JORI expands programs

Theater grants, swim team, sports tourneys will greet campers

WAKEFIELD — Camp JORI has announced several programming expansions for the coming season.

Camp JORI has applied for and received The Spielberg Theater Fellowship, a program of the Foundation for Jewish Camping supported, in part, by the Righteous Persons Foundation.

This fellowship ensures the presence of two theater professionals at the camp this summer to continue development of the program. In addition, JORI is the recipient of a fund established by the family of the late Broadway director, Jonathan Scharer.

The swimming and boating programs are also receiving attention. Camp JORI announced the appointment of a new boating director, Howie Labbit, who comes with much experience teaching boating and sailing on craft of every size. He is skillful at paddling kayaks and canoes, and a great fisherman, who even smokes his own salmon. The program will include boating sessions for all, and time for extra activity on the water for those campers who desire it.

JORI has hired a pool director who has a long history at the camp. Beth Brier was a camper, counselor, and lifeguard at JORI before graduating from college. She is able to bring her back-

ground along with her skills as a lifeguard and teacher. Beth has patience and a creative approach in imparting swim skills. She will teach using American Red Cross standards. She also plans to develop a swim team.

In addition, JORI is scheduled for two intercampus tournaments this summer. Although details will follow, JORI campers will join other camps to participate in soccer and basketball tournaments this summer. Tryouts and practice for the tournament teams will commence at the beginning of each camp session.

Camp JORI will again have an Israeli counselor this summer. Camp director, Ronni Saltzman Guttin applied for and received a grant to travel to Israel early in the year to meet and select the person for this summer; and to train with a group of camp directors to improve programming. She was able to meet with fellow directors, share ideas and improve skills. Israeli staff enhanced the camp's programming last summer, and is expected to aid in appreciation of contemporary Jewish culture here and in Israel.

Call 463-3107 or email campjori@hotmail.com.

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Touro Fraternal offers student aid

CRANSTON — Touro Fraternal Association is offering a substantially increased pool of student financial aid for members and their children. Applications are now available for two outright scholarship grants of \$3,000 each and as many as 10 interest-free student loans of up to \$2,500 each.

Alan Lury, chair of the Association's Student Financial Aid Committee said the \$500 increase in each of the awards represents an overall boost of 24 percent in the allocation for this program over last year.

The association, with headquarters at 45 Rolfe Square, was founded in 1918 and is the largest independent Jewish fraternal order in New England.

Regular Touro members, their spouses and children, and children of deceased Touro

members who are enrolled full time for the 2005-2006 academic year in an accredited institution of higher learning are eligible for the grants.

Regular members, their children and children of deceased members similarly enrolled may apply for the interest-free loans, repayment of which does not begin until the student is graduated from or leaves school.

Applications for both the grants and the loans may be obtained by contacting Touro in writing by mail or email (tourofratl@aol.com). Students may apply for both.

Lury said completed applications must be received at Touro no later than July 6, 2005, to be considered for this year's awards. Early submissions are encouraged.

Celebrations presents wine tasting at JCC

PROVIDENCE — Elliott Fishbein, proprietor of Town Wine and Spirits, will discuss kosher for Passover wines for the Seder table in an event to be held on Thursday, March 31, at 7 p.m. in the senior adult lounge of the Jewish Community Center, 401 Elmgrove Ave.

Participants will sample selected wines and cheeses, and will also learn some new ideas for their family's Seder. There is no fee, however, donations to enable the poor to purchase matzah and other items needed to observe Passover will be accepted.

For additional information, contact Robin Kauffman at 331-0956, ext. 180 or Rkauffman@bjeri.org email: Rkauffman@bjeri.org.

The program is presented by Celebrations: Discovering Jewish Life in the Marketplace™, a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island and the Partnership.

It is being co-sponsored by the Gateway Committee of the Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

Cookbooks to Crime books: Jewish writers will speak

PROVIDENCE — Three prominent Jewish writers will participate in a panel discussion at the 51st annual meeting of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, which will be held on Sunday, April 17, at 2 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center. The program is free, and all are welcome.

Discussing their books will be Prof. Lynn Davidman of Brown University, Prof. David Gitlitz of the University of Rhode Island, and Jon Land, the best-selling author of suspense novels. The moderator will be Dr. George Goodwin, the editor of "Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes" and the outgoing president of the Association. Copies of books will be available for purchase and autographs. A reception will follow.

The Historical Association's annual meeting will feature the installation of new officers: Steven M. Brown, president; James W. Tobak, first vice-president; Prof. Gitlitz, second vice-

president; Jack Fradin, treasurer; and Mary Korr, secretary. Several new members will join the board of directors: Mel Blake, Ruth Breindel, David H. Leach, Kenneth Orenstein, Philip Segal, Anita Steiman, and Richard S. Walter. In recognition of their many years of distinguished service, Anita Fine, Charlotte Penn, and Lillian N. Schwartz will become honorary, lifetime

board members.

The Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association has published its annual journal since 1954. Many outstanding articles and 97 photographs appear in the Association's anthology, *The Jews of Rhode Island*, which was recently published by Brandeis University Press and the University Press of New England. To purchase a copy, call Anne Sherman at 331-1360.

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Emanu-El offering storytime

PROVIDENCE — Temple Emanu-El is starting a themed storytime on the first Tuesday of each month. The first, which will have a Passover theme, is planned for April 5 at 10:30 a.m. in the sisterhood lounge. For more information, contact Lisa Shorr at 521-4540.

The following program will be held on May 3. Storytime is sponsored by the temple's outreach committee.

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We'll confirm your reservations!

Touro Fraternal Association

45 Rolfe Square, Cranston, RI 02910



Travel/Community

Standing in the midst of Jewish history in Curacao

By Alla Goman

Curacao is an island that sparkles with culture, history, art, beaches and gorgeous scenery. Located just off the northern coast of Venezuela, the island's infrastructure is perfectly geared towards vacationers. With a population of 130,000 people boasting 50 different nationalities, Curacao offers a multiplicity of things to see and do.

Willemstad, the capital, is a bustling shopping center and is one of the UNESCO World Heritage sites. The city has more than 700 historic buildings reflecting the origins of this 17th century port.

But to the Jewish traveler, Curacao offers more than simply sun, sand and sea. Although the tropical island may seem an unlikely place to find Jewish history, it is the home of the beautiful Mikve Israel-Emanuel Synagogue, once known as "The Mother Congregation of the New World."

As many know, the Touro

Synagogue in Newport, is the oldest synagogue in the United States, having been dedicated in 1763. However, in 1732, Mikve Israel-Emanuel was consecrated on the site of an earlier synagogue in Curacao (its congregation was founded even earlier, in 1651). It is, therefore, the oldest synagogue in continuous use in the Western Hemisphere, and the congregation played a role in helping other Sephardic congregations in this hemisphere to get established.

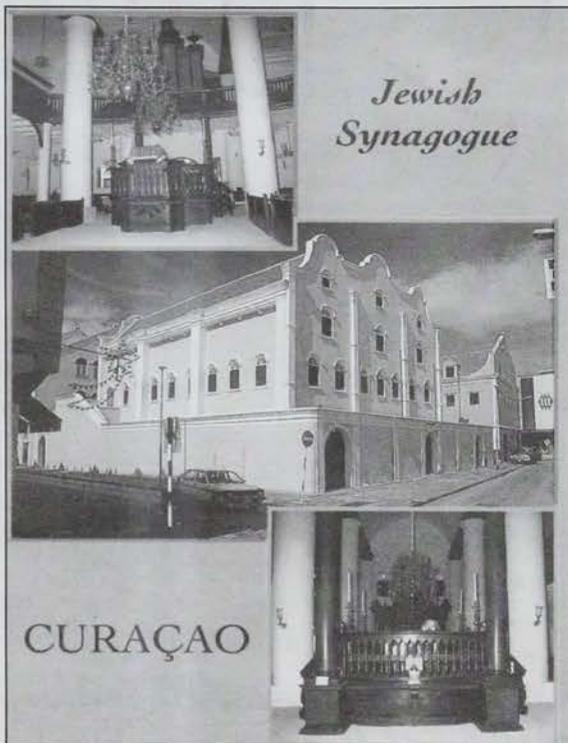
As you walk into the Mikve Israel-Emanuel, you may notice some sand in your shoes.

The entire floor of the synagogue is just that — sand, as the synagogue is patterned after the tabernacle that the Hebrews used in the Sinai desert. Also, many of the congregants' ancestors were secret Jews or Conversos (also known as Marranos) living in Spain and Portugal until their escape to other places.

In their home countries, Jews sometimes put sand on the floors of their synagogues to help



ALLA GOMAN in the synagogue



Photos courtesy of Alla Goman

muffle the sounds of their feet and enable them to escape detection and persecution. The sand on the floor reminds us of the remarkable faith and courage of those Spanish-Portuguese Jews in the face of that terror.

We were told that today the congregation has more than 350 members who come from about 140 households. In addition, there are about half that number of Ashkenazi Jews, mostly originating from central Europe, who settled on the island during the 20th century.

Another not-to-be-missed

sight is the unique collection at the Jewish Cultural Historical Museum adjacent to the synagogue. There are some outstanding items, including the 1729 mikvah (ritual bath) in the patio and the replicas of the sculptured tombstones in the ancient Beth Haim cemetery. There are two 18th century circumcision chairs, baby dresses used at *b'rith milah* for boys and the naming ceremony for girls, and a Spanish Torah Scroll dating from the 15th

century. The museum was established in 1969 and displays many interesting and unusual objects illustrating the culture and history of the local Jewish community. Many of these objects are still in use in the synagogue today.

Alla Goman lives in Providence and is an administrative assistant at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

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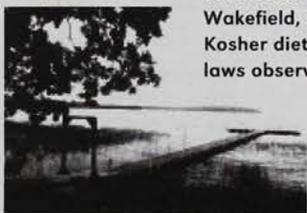


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Choosing a Passover Haggadah

PROVIDENCE — Celebrations: Discovering Jewish Life in the Marketplace will sponsor the program "Choosing Your Passover Haggadah," at Books on the Square, 471 Angell Street, Providence, on Tues., March 29, at 7 p.m. The program will feature a discussion and display of numerous haggadahs to enrich and enhance the family's celebration of Passover.

This program is free of charge. For additional information, contact Robin Kauffman at 331-0956 or rkauffman@bjeri.org.

Celebrations: Discovering Jewish Life in the Marketplace™ is a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island and the Partnership and is supported through the Endowment Fund of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity, a long with my husband Edward and my children susan and Richard to thank my family and friends for their overwhelming kindness and support during my recent illness.

A special thank you should be expressed to Cantor Remy Brown, Rabbi Peter Stein, and Rabbi Wayne Franklin for all the concern that they showed to me.

I can assure you that no amount of words will ever be able to convey how important your showing of love and support has helped to speed my recovery.

*With all my love,
Lois Rudish*

March 18, 2005

Spring Home Lawn & Garden

A Jewish Voice & Herald special supplement.



'Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.'

— John Howard Payne: Home Sweet Home

To enhance the home's floors & walls, turn to tile

By Marylyn Graff

As trends in home design keep evolving, tile is in the forefront, adding beauty and durability to interiors. Tile for kitchens and baths immediately springs to mind, but it's not your mother's tub surround or floor any more. From formal to rustic, homeowners can express their personalities and create their own looks with tile.

In the kitchen, tile is used on the floors and backsplashes to enhance the chosen decor.

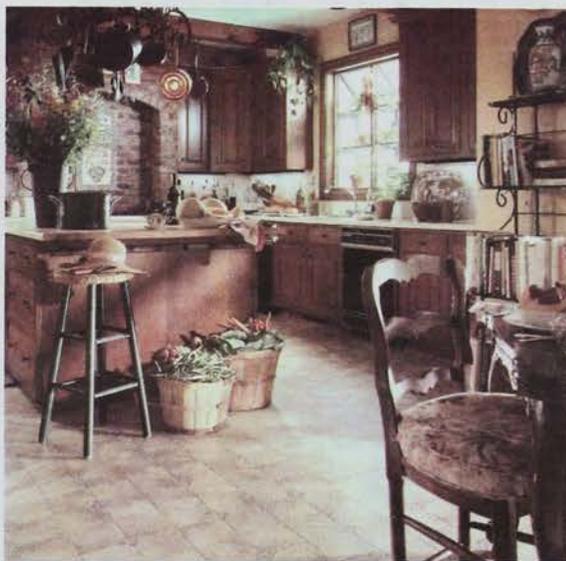
Tom Pearson, of Hill & Harbour Tile Showroom in East Greenwich, said that a popular look at present is tile that replicates various kinds of stone. The best of these are made in Italy — the Italians certainly have plenty of experience with stone and know how to make it look natural.

Tile flooring in the kitchen is usually chosen in the neutral tones which most resemble stone and can be accented with insets and borders, and laid in patterns which change direction for visual interest.

"The backsplash," said Pearson, "is the most visual part of the kitchen, giving the individual the greatest opportunity for self-expression. It should coordinate with the countertop and cabinets, with less attention to the flooring."

The bathroom is the place where one's fantasies can really let go. From the formal look of ceramic, glass or porcelain tiles, to travertine, limestone or marble on the floor and lining the shower, one's own idea of luxury can be fulfilled.

Pearson remarked that mosaics are also in demand these days, and that various colors of grout can coordinate with every kind of tile.



A NATURALLY INSPIRED LOOK can be achieved in any hard surface flooring material.

David Dole of Lowe's in Raynham, Mass., said that porcelain tiles have burgeoned in popularity, especially for floor applications. Due to their increasing popularity, more manufacturers have gone into porcelain, bringing the price down considerably. Porcelain is harder and stronger than ceramic, and the color goes all the way through, making it suitable for commercial as well as home applications, said Dole.

The tiles also come in many sizes, from 6x6 to 18x18. Although the tiles are not usually decorated, they are made in a great variety of colors. For more visual interest they can be laid in different patterns and directions and accented with borders and corners.

For foyers, fireplaces

Besides kitchens and baths there are tiles for the front and back entries, and for fireplace surrounds and hearths. The front entry can be formal and the back entry more rustic to hide the muddy footprints. The fireplace surround and hearth can coordinate with and add to the style of the living and family rooms.

The incredible variety that is available in tile can be confusing to the homeowner. Most tile showrooms have people experienced in this kind of design, who will help and advise. The showrooms will also do the installation or recommend reliable and experienced contractors. Tile is a long-term investment and needs careful attention.

Marylyn Graff is a copy editor and food editor of the Jewish Voice



ADURA LUXURY TILE in your home, shown here in the kitchen, allows for the ultimate in design flexibility.

Create unique floors with luxury tile

Experts agree that when redecorating a room, one of the keys to success is to create a look that expresses your personal style. Today, homeowners can create a truly unique statement with Adura, a new luxury floor tile that has both great design flexibility and superior durability.

Adura, from Mannington Mills, comes in eight nature-inspired patterns and a range of colors. The patterns offer something for everyone — classic stone designs, contemporary polished marble or sleek hammered metal, and unique looks like sisal, pebble and sun-baked earth. The color palette represents perennial favorites as well as the latest decorating trends — warm golds, soft blues and greens, and a range of earth tones that coordinate with any decor.

If you're into up-to-the-minute design, try Manhattan — a hammered metal look in colors like Bronzite, Brushed Steel, and White Iron. Partial to the traditional or rustic look? Vienna, an earthy slate design, will suit your style; or try Bali, an all-over pebble pattern, for its visual interest. For something softer, enhance your casual style with Yucatan, which has the texture and look of sisal.

But the beauty of this floor is more than skin deep. Its design versatility helps make it even more attractive, because you can choose multiple colors of the same pattern to create borders or insets. It's also very durable — it carries a 20-year residential warranty against wear, fading, staining and delamination (peeling); and it's incredibly easy to maintain. Just sweep regularly and mop occasionally to keep the floor looking new for years to come.

Adura is available at fine flooring retailers nationwide. For a store near you, call 1-800-482-9527 or visit www.mannington.com.

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Spring is the time to shape your landscape

By Mary Korr

Spring begins this Sunday and many homeowners are making the yearly visit to home-improvement centers, nurseries, and garden shops to stock up on the supplies they'll need to create a winning landscape, and get fresh ideas.

Dave Schwartz, owner of Schwartz Care Landscaping in Cranston, said the logical place to start with is space. "Look at the spaces on your property and see what kind of plants and materials will combine to give an interesting flow," he says. "Landscaping should be restful and pensive."

For those who have seen his landscape design slide shows at the JCC (there's also an upcoming presentation on March 30 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Clark Library in Carolina, R.I.), Schwartz takes a natural perspective.

He likes harmonious landscaping that will mature over the years and add to the property's aesthetic, as well as curb appeal. This requires the proper geometry and shapes — he doesn't care for formal pruning and adheres to a shrub or tree's natural shape, which means "no mushroom or lollipop trees or shrubs," he says.

He recommends the following book as a good reference for selecting plantings: *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants* by Michael Dirr.

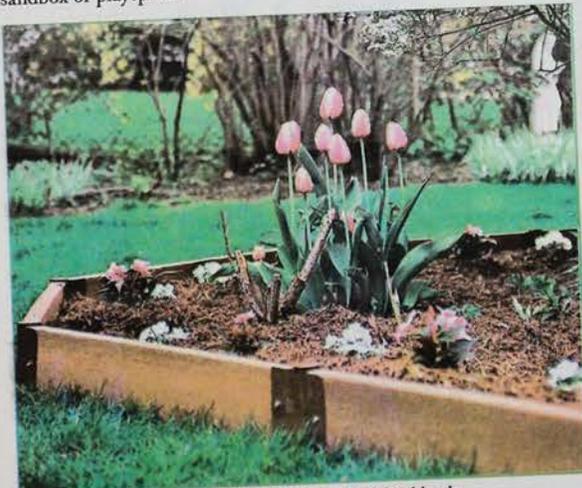
Brian Clarkin, the environmental science manager at Schartner Farms in North Kingston/Exeter, said gardens should be sanctuaries. There's nothing like the tranquility of a bubbling brook or cascading waterfall in your landscape. The popularity of Japanese-style gardens with ponds, which can be built or made from pre-fab plastic molds, reflects this. Consider a raised waterfall, or pond which allows you to build up support walls, rather than dig down into the ground to create your design element.

Water lilies, clematis, irises, viburnum, fragrant flowers and small sculptures and birdbaths are appropriate selections for a Japanese garden, as well as natural rock and stone formations. Clarkin cautions homeowners to check with their town halls for specific ordinances regarding ponds and water features; a large pond requires fencing.

Clarkin recommends looking through plant catalogues and checking the following website as a way to get started thinking about a landscape design: www.pallensmith.com. He also recommends going on the Newport mansion tours, which usually include a stroll through beautiful and mature gardens. And he advises homeowners, who have a problem with diseased plants, to avail themselves of the URI master gardener's program, where home gardeners can get diseased plants diagnosed and soil tested.

Other elements popular today which a homeowner may want to consider are:

- Raised landscape beds — raised beds offer better water drainage and soil aeration and are perfect for the homeowner who wants a contained space for their plantings.
- Edging — Just like a piece of art, a garden is made complete with a nice frame or border. Edging gives gardens a polished look and reduces grass-trimming maintenance.
- Recreational spaces — If you have an area that proves resistant to growing plants, it might be the ideal spot to plan a kids' sandbox or playspace.

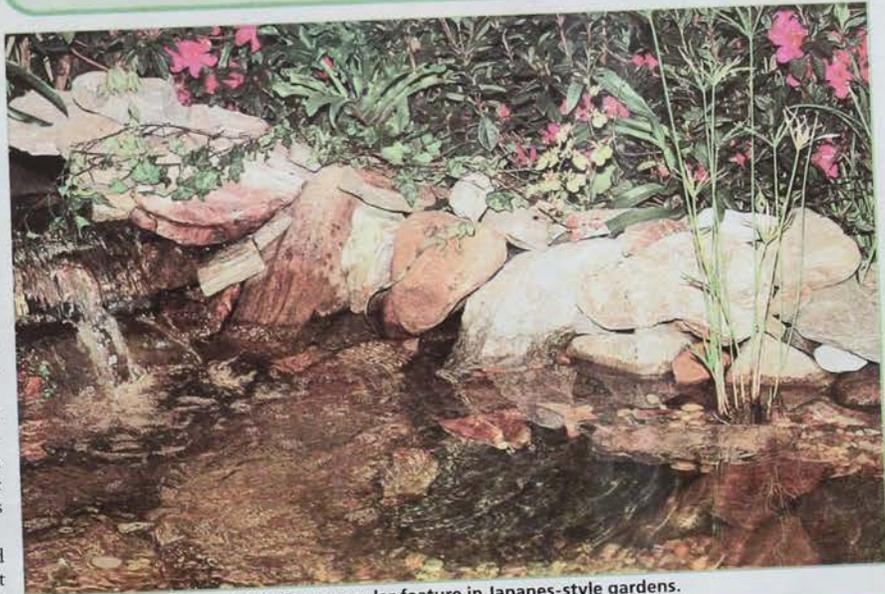


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The second variety is the Flamenco with a ruffled edge, which looks like a Spanish dancer's multicolored skirt. These pansies have the standard bright, solid colors with frilly edges but, in addition, there are mixed colors in one flower face of various shades of reds or blues, for example, called Cabernet and Mulberry.

And finally, the Hot Chilly pansies, which stand up well to the heat over the hot summer months, are ideal for planting early and will last long over the blooming season.

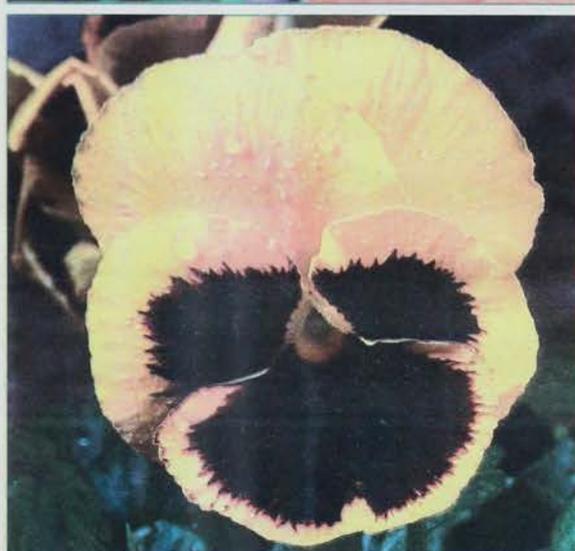
For more information, visit www.fernlea.com.

Varieties

FLAMENCO CABERNET, top left, adds flare and fancy.

HOT CHILLY SUNSET SKY, top right, come in new colors, Golden Grape and Primrose Blue.

BIGSHOT YELLOW BLOTCH, at right, is the largest of the pansies.



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Pre-approval, internet playing greater role in home purchases



By Marylyn Graff

The American dream — a home of one's own. No other country in the world has the ideal of home ownership by ordinary citizens that we have America. Not only does this create a sense of security for families, but over time, has proven the best investment a family can make. That monthly mortgage payment builds equity for the future.

Banks and mortgage companies are advertising their interest rates and closing costs on the airwaves, in print and online. Many home-buyers, especially those in the market for the first time, are turning to their realtor for mortgage advice. Realtors are ready and willing to hand-hold individuals both in finding the right home and the best mortgage company.

Affordability

Bonnie Kaplan of Coldwell Banker in East Greenwich says it's important for the buyer, especially the first-time buyer, to talk to a mortgage company before choosing a home.

Coldwell Banker has its own mortgage company but many clients come pre-approved by some other source and are not obligated to that company.

"Many people," says Kaplan, "don't know how much they can

afford," and also don't realize how many mortgage options there are. It is actually possible to buy a home with no money down, even including the closing costs in the mortgage. Creative financing can help buyers with poor credit or a bankruptcy. However, good credit and a higher down payment will lead to a better rate of interest.

The most important thing, Kaplan said, is to deal with a trustworthy real estate agent who will give full service in finding the right property and, when needed, recommend a good mortgage broker.

Pre-approval

Pre-approval from a mortgage lender is very helpful to the real estate salesperson, according to Saul Weiss of Spitz Weiss who has been selling real estate of all kinds on the East Side of Providence for 49 years. The buyer's financial status, along with preferences as to type of property, amenities, and location gives the salesperson a clearer picture of what to look for and saves time and energy.

Weiss mentioned a new wrinkle in this market: the internet. The multiple listing book which used to be fairly tedious to go through, is now available online. Prospective buyers can

look up properties on the computer, choose what they want to see and call an agent for an appointment.

Multi-family, condos

Besides single family homes, there are many multi-family residences on the East Side as well as throughout the state, according to Weiss. These offer a financial advantage in that the mortgagee will add 75 percent of the rental income to the buyer's income. In recent years, condos have entered the real estate picture, often for single people or empty nesters, as well as young first-time buyers.

Sam Glicksman of Hogan and Stone in Providence, mentioned that about half his clients have been pre-approved, but when they are not, the computer is helpful to him in handling this process. He generally recommends three loan officers whom he knows to be reliable, to his customers, or suggests that they get a recommendation from a friend or relative.

Glicksman says that today's easier mortgage climate creates greater buying power in the real estate market.

He also remarked that the

internet has made buyers more sophisticated than they used to be. They will view properties and get information online, then call their agent, (Glicksman is a buyer's agent) or the listing broker, to go through the ones they want to see.

There seems to be a consen-

sus among real estate professionals that today's mortgage climate makes it easier than ever before to own a home, so the American dream is within the reach of many.

Marylyn Graff is a copy editor at the Jewish Voice & Herald.

Sam Glicksman Realtor

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Wild plant society holding plant sale, nature walks

PROVIDENCE — The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society is a native plant conservation organization whose mission is to educate citizens about the state's botanical heritage, and to advocate for the preservation of native plants and their habitats. A hallmark of RIWPS is the extensive annual series of outdoor programs that provide the opportunity to view native plants in Rhode Island's most beautiful natural places, led by knowledgeable naturalists and biologists. (See below for schedule of upcoming walks.)

"Seed Starters"

The first Saturday in June the group's annual spring plant sale will take place on the URI campus. This sale is unique

because it features wildflowers and native shrubs hard to find in local nurseries.

Understanding native plants: Rhode Island College, Providence, Sunday, March 20, 12:30-3 p.m. Registration required, call (508) 877-7630 Ext. 3303, Fee: \$15 member/\$20 non-member. Instructor: Jim Turenne, USDA soil scientist

Skunk cabbage walk at Parker Woodland: Sunday, March 20, 10 a.m. to noon. Pre-registration required at (401) 453-3777; Fee: \$3 members; \$5 non-members. Instructor: Erin Fournier, director, Rhode Island Wild Plant Society.

For further information, check www.rivps.org



A FRESH TAKE ON ENGLISH COUNTRY STYLE, this room features classic furnishings and rich details set off by a simple rug and window treatments and pared-down accessories. The washed tapestry fabric, with its subtle large-scale floral motif, provides the room's focal point.

How to update English country style

One of the most popular decorating styles of the past few decades has been the English country look. Characterized by its comfort, timelessness, and livability, English country style is sophisticated without being pretentious. But today, according to the design experts at Stroheim & Romann, the high-end resource for decorative fabrics, wallpapers, and trimmings, this look has evolved into one that is cleaner, lighter, less cluttered, and more suited to the way we live now. Here are Stroheim & Romann's

tips for updating English country rooms:

- * The essence of English country style used to be an abundance of large floral prints. Now, instead of combining several florals in a room, choose one strong pattern, and use it as the focal point. Mix it with crisp stripes or checks and textured solids for a fresh new look.

- * Often the most elegant window treatments are simple drapery panels, opulently full and hung floor to ceiling from wood or metal rods and rings, used alone or paired with Roman shades in textured or sheer fabrics. Use a range of fabric options for softening windows, including taffetas, silks, damasks, and jacquards.

- * To create a more relaxing, modern ambiance, keep the color palette simple, and even somewhat monochromatic, rather

than mixing several vibrant colors. Especially effective are warm neutrals with complementary color accents.

- * Choose your fabrics and furnishings with comfort and practicality in mind. Furniture that is uncomfortable has no place in an English country-style home. Look for deep-seated sofas and chairs in hard-wearing and lush fabrics — chenilles, velvets, brocades and tapestries.

- * English Country rooms often incorporate an eclectic mix of furnishings. Traditional furniture can blend well with clean-lined, more contemporary shapes, formal pieces can be paired with casual and varying textures and materials can be played off one another for a fresh, timely look.

- * Simple, neutral-toned floor coverings will give rooms a newer, sparer look.

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It's important to make your backyard playground safe. Consider using a product made from naturally engineered shredded wood fibre.

Safety surfacing essential for playgrounds

Each year, about 200,000 children are treated in hospital emergency rooms for playground equipment-related injuries, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. About 51,000 of these injuries occur right in the child's own backyard. In most cases, the primary cause of injury is a fall to the ground. Falls on asphalt and concrete can result in serious consequences. Even grass is an inadequate shock absorber. An IPEMA certified playground safety surface provides the best protection.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) states that play equipment should be surrounded by a safety surface that absorbs shock to protect against head injuries from falls. For most play equipment, this surface is installed 6 feet in all directions from the equipment's perimeter. For swings, extend surfacing to twice the height of the suspending bar in front and back of the swing. Robert Heath, chairperson of the ASTM playground safety surfacing committee, recommends that the best materials for home playgrounds are Engineered Wood Fibre and shredded rubber, which work well to absorb impact, depending upon the height of the play equipment, which is usually 5 to 7 feet above the ground. These loose-fill surfaces should be installed at the correct thickness level to achieve maximum safety.

Engineered Wood Fibre System from Fibar Systems(R), is specifically designed for children's playgrounds. This product is made from naturally engineered shredded wood fibre, and it does not present any of the risks of traditional wood: It is not chemically treated, it does not

splinter, and it does not attract insects. Fibar also includes a patented drainage system, which prevents water buildup and the hazards associated with standing water, mud and insects. Fibar-Mats are specially designed for high wear areas such as swings.

Composite timbers

To keep your protective surface contained in the playground area, you will need to complete the installation with a border. Choose a border that will also be safe for your children. Composite plastic timbers with stackable joints, like those offered from Scenery Solutions, can be used to create the finishing touch to your play area. This means no worries about splinters or toxicity associated with treated lumber. Plus, the product is simple to install, comes in a variety of shapes, sizes and configurations and offers a look that will complement your backyard landscape.

Virtually all that is necessary to keep your playground area in check with Fibar is routine raking as usage indicates. Active playgrounds should be topped off with new product every three years to maintain peak performance.

Home playgrounds, as pointed out by Dr. Frances Wallace, one of the world's leading authorities in children's play, says, "Play is an important part of your child's physical and mental development. It helps the child develop agility, balance, flexibility and strength."

Safety tips

In addition to installing a safety surface, the CPSC has published a 7 point Safety Checklist (visit their Web site CPSC.gov) to keep your child safe on playground equipment.

These include:

1. Install a protective surface under and around play equipment to prevent serious head injuries:
 - * For most play equipment: 6 feet in all directions from the equipment perimeter.
 - * For swings, extend surfacing to twice the height of the suspending bar in front and back of the swing.
 - * For tire swings, extend surfacing in a circle equal to the height of the chain plus 6 feet.
2. Use the right amount of loose-fill materials:
 - * Shredded rubber and Engineered Wood Fibre can be used for equipment up to 8 feet high.
 - * Or use surface mats (Rubber Tiles or Poured-in-Place) tested to provide impact protection equal to or greater than the fall height of the equipment.
3. Maintain the correct level of loose-fill surfacing and the integrity of surface mats under and around the equipment.
4. Never attach or allow children to attach jump ropes, clotheslines, pet leashes or cords of any kind to play equipment; children can strangle on these.
5. Check for missing hardware, protruding bolts, and open "S" hooks that can cause injuries. Repair sharp points and edges in equipment.
6. Never allow spaces that can trap children such as openings in guardrails or ladders. Openings should be less than 31/2 inches to prevent entering or more than 9 inches to allow children's heads and bodies to exit.
7. Make sure that platforms and ramps have guardrails or barriers to prevent falls.

Plant a tree on Earth Day

April 22 marks Earth Day. Founded 35 years ago, the annual celebration educates the public on simple ways to protect the earth's resources. One way to protect the planet this Earth Day is by planting a tree. Trees remove air pollution, reduce energy costs, and add value to home property, not to mention how beautiful they are to look at.

There's no better time than on Earth Day to plant a tree. You can buy a tree or a sapling at your local nursery or lawn-and-garden store. If you live in an urban area or don't have enough room to plant one, you can still grow a tree on a smaller scale. Try putting a tree seed in a cup or planting a seedling in a pot of soil. Then place it in your living room or on a windowsill and watch it grow! You can also contact your local tree planting group or parks and recreation office to find out how to get involved in tree-planting projects.

For more information on tree planting, visit www.earthday.net.

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As situation stabilizes, Israelis think economy will grow

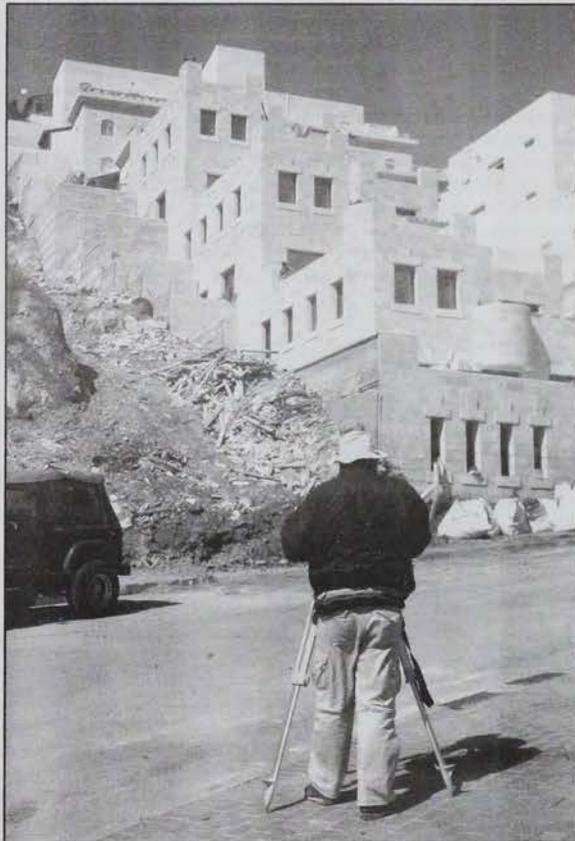


Photo: Brian Hender/JTA

BUILDING BOOM — A surveyor checks the site of almost completed high priced apartments in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Bayit Vegan.



Building boom in Israel

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The latest report from the Central Bureau of Statistics showed the Israeli economy grew 4.3 percent last year, as the credit-rating agency Fitch upgraded Israel's domestic currency forecast from negative to stable.

The air is saturated with dreams and promises.

Analyst Ya'acov Sheinin, president of Economic Models Ltd., one of Israel's foremost economic consulting firms, predicts that if the region remains stable, Israel's economy will grow at 6 percent a year.

"The decision to open the

border to Palestinian laborers offers an immediate boost to the construction industry," said Aharon Cohen, president of Israel's Builders Association.

The forecast for the Israeli economy is bright. Shraga Brosh, president of the Manufacturers Association, estimated that foreign investments in Israel could reach \$3 billion this year, three times last year's figure.

The Tourism Ministry expects about 700,000 Christian tourists this year and thinks that about 250,000 of them will be pilgrims. Last year Israel hosted 500,000 Christian tourists, including 150,000 pilgrims.

The Israel Hotel Association expects some 1.8 million tourists in Israel this year, up from 1.5 million last year.

Charter flights from Europe

to Eilat and other resorts are on the upswing as well. Issta Lines, a travel company, is again marketing tourism packages from Britain, Holland and France to Eilat, Sinai and Aqaba in Jordan — all for \$1,000 for a 10-day tour, including air fare and taxes.

If the situation remains quiet and tourism picks up, the Palestinians stand to gain right away. Now that Jericho is about to be returned to Palestinian Authority control, the company operating the casino is considering reopening it.

In the two years that it was open, the casino drew 825,000 visitors, 99 percent of them Israeli. The casino, which closed shortly after the intifada began in fall 2000, made a profit of about \$54 million in 1999.

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Community Calendar

CALENDAR

From page 2

vegetarian options available. For information, call Olivia Lichaa at 245-6144 or Micah Schwartz at 247-0121. See Community.

Hamantashen baking is Mitzvah of the Month

2 to 4 p.m. Tamarisk, 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick. Baking hamantashen - for Jewish residents in RI nursing homes - is the mitzvah of the month. Sponsored by the Gateway Committee of Women's Alliance, JSA's Women's Association and Perspectives. RSVP to Tracie at tgoldman@jfri.org or call 421-4111, ext. 162.

Beth-El film festival

2 p.m. Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. "Welcome to the Waks Family," about an Australian Jewish family with 17 children, followed by discussion with Rabbi Sarah Mack. Refreshments, free, open to the public.

Purim mask-making

1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. The Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island and the Providence Hebrew Day School present a Purim mask-making workshop at Michael's Arts and Crafts in Seekonk. Call 331-0956, ext.180 to register.

Mayor Stephen Laffey at Torat Yisrael

9 a.m. 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Cranston's mayor, Stephen Laffey, will be the guest speaker of the Temple Torat Yisrael Men's Club.

Passover wine at Torat Yisrael

9 a.m. to noon. Temple lobby, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Enhance your Seder dinner with wine purchased from Temple Torat Yisrael Cohen School Passover wine sale, many selections. For more information, call Candy Shuman at the temple office, 785-1800, or email cshoe512@cox.net.

MON., MARCH 21

Passover cooking

6:30 p.m. at the Aqua Viva Restaurant with Walter Potenza. Cooking a Passover dinner. Includes a glass of wine, recipes and dinner. Sponsored by Temple Sinai, Cranston. \$35. per person. RSVP by March 12 to Linda Gerstenblatt, 942-6699 or Susan Hanflik at 944-4312. Limited seating.

TUES., MARCH 22

Adult education at Torat Yisrael

7 to 9 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, continues its second semester of adult education. The Torateinu classes meet every Tuesday

through April 19. Rabbi Amy Levin will teach "The Jewish Bookshelf: What is Talmud? What is Mishnah? What are the basic texts of our tradition?" "An Introduction to Mishlei (Proverbs) will be taught by Ethan Adler. A fee of \$18 will be charged. For more information or to register for classes, call the Temple office at 785-1800 or email cberger@toratyisrael.org.

WED., MARCH 23

Torat Yisrael's Lunch & Learn

Noon - 1:30 p.m. Downtown Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Amy Levin at Joe's American Bar & Grill, Providence Place Mall. Order lunch individually; study session on humor is free of charge. RSVP to the Torat Yisrael office, 785-1800 or cberger@toratyisrael.org.

Jewish a cappella

8 p.m. Brown Hillel, 80 Brown St., Providence. KOL SASSON, the Univ. of Maryland's Jewish a cappella group, who have played for President Bush at the White House, will perform. \$5 for students, \$10 for adults. Call Howard Mintz 751-1251 for more information.

Touro Fraternal open house

6:30 p.m. Touro's headquarters, 45 Rolfé Square, Cranston. Touro Fraternal Association annual open house where all potential members are invited to see and hear what Touro, the largest independent Jewish fraternal order in New England, is all about. Regular meeting, meal, entertainment. Space is limited and reservations are required and may be made by calling Touro (785-0066). Further information about Touro and this and other Association events are available on Touro's website www.tourofraternal.org. See community.

THURS., MARCH 24

Beth-El Purim celebration

At the temple, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

5 p.m. "K'tan-tan" (for children under age 5). Puppet show, Purim party with Hamantashen.

6 p.m. Costume parade with prizes, Purim service, Megillah reading.

7 p.m. "The Megillah According to Stage and Screen."

Purim at Ahavath Achim

6 p.m. Purim service, Megillah reading and deli dinner. At the synagogue, 385 County St., New Bedford. \$5. person. Reservations needed.

Chabad Purim party

6:30 p.m. Chabad House, 360 Hope St., Providence. Megillah to stir your soul, music and dancing, drinks and Hamantashen, Yankel the Purim shtetler and Rebbe Rafi, the "zinging zaidy."

Habonim Purim party

7 p.m. Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington. Megillah reading with members of Living Literature, directed by Barry Press, acting out the Purim story. Hamantashen will be served.

FRI., MARCH 25

PURIM

Sushi Purim Shabbaton

4:45 p.m. Megillah reading, buffet dinner, 5:30 p.m. Chabad CHAI Center, 3871 Post Rd, Warwick. Celebrate Purim and Shabbat with dinner, "Peking Purim," including sushi. Simultaneous children's program, humor, Purim games. Adults, \$10; children, \$5, family \$30 max. RSVP to Rabbi Yossi Laufer at 884-7888.

Chabad Megillah reading

8:30 a.m. Chabad House, 360 Hope St., Providence. Reading and Hamantashen.

SAT., MARCH 26

Youth services at Beth David

10 to 11:15 a.m. Congregation Beth David, 102 Kingston Rd., Narragansett. Junior Congregation Services, followed by light refreshments. For more information, email Ethan Adler at eadler3@cox.net. See Community.

SUN., MARCH 27

Beth-El Purim carnival

9 - 11 a.m. At the temple, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence.

TUES., MARCH 29

Behavior management series

6:30 p.m. at The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence, 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick. Validation Therapy - learn about this communication technique which promotes more positive and meaningful interactions with persons who are memory impaired. Jane O'Farrell, licensed clinical social worker. Free, open to public. Call Gina at 732-0037 to RSVP and to get directions.

Choosing Passover Haggadah

7 p.m. Books on the Square, 471 Angell St., Providence. BJE/Celebrations program. Many samples on display. For more information, call 331-0956, ext. 180, or email Rkauffman@bjeri.org. See Community.

THURS., MARCH 31

Celebrations: Wine tasting

7 p.m. JCC, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Passover wine talk and tasting with Elliott Fishbein of Town Wine & Spirits. BJE/Celebrations program. For more information, call 331-0956, ext. 180, or email Rkauffman@bjeri.org. See Community.

Jewish healing

7:30 p.m. JCC, 401 Elm-

Begin remembered

From page 5

military embargo against Israel. In a speech Begin warned, indeed intoned prophetically, "Remember, America, you may appease tyrants, but have to fight them later when they are stronger and harder to defeat." Addressing Weinberger, Begin said, "By what morality did you act, Mr. Secretary of Defence? The Iraqis were preparing atomic bombs to drop on Israeli children. Haven't you heard of the one and a half million little children who were thrown into gas chambers and poisoned with Zyklon B gas? Who are you trying to punish, Mr. secretary of Defense? Self-defending Israel or aggressive, murderous, dictatorial, piratical Iraq?"

It is comforting to know that Begin lived long enough to witness the world's gratitude for the bombing and destruction of the Osirak nuclear reactor, a

deed for which he was mercifully condemned more than a decade before. One can imagine that he would have been even more pleased, were he assured that the world would soon come to recognize the justice of other Israeli actions like the expulsion of the Hamas murderers, now universally condemned. But to expect others to have the vision of Menachem Begin is, perhaps, too much to ask.

According to his wishes, Begin was not given a state funeral usually accorded to people who served their country well. Instead, he had a simple, traditional Jewish funeral. In the hearts and minds of the Jewish people, this great patriot will shine as a beacon of light for generations to come.

Morris Gastfreund, a Holocaust survivor, lives in Providence.

grove Ave., Providence. Talk on "Repairing Shattered Lives," with Wally Spiegler. Co-sponsored by JCC and Jewish Family Service. Reservations at (401) 861-8800.

SAT., APRIL 2

South County springfest

Dinner, raffle, auction to benefit the South County Hebrew School. Entrance per person \$15 - includes wine, deli dinner, dessert, auction of sports memorabilia, professional services, gift baskets, dinners. Village at Indian Lake Clubhouse. Call Janice Karnes at 783-3908 or janice-karnes@cox.net by March 18 (seating is limited).

SUN., APRIL 3

Torat Yisrael/Hadassah RISD exhibition

10:15 a.m. Temple Torat Yisrael will co-sponsor with Hadassah a program at Rhode Island School of Design Museum, 224 Benefit Street, Providence, entitled, "Celebrating: The Jewish Contribution to 20th Century American Art." The fee for this event is \$1, payable at the museum. An optional brunch at CAV, 14 Imperial Place, Providence will follow. Call Susan Smoller at 885-0003 with any questions.

Fall River Yiddish Club

1 p.m. Meeting at the Adas Israel Synagogue, 1647 Robeson St. Entertainment by Florence Markoff, radio personality, writer, speaker and performer. Refreshments. For more info, call (508) 678-4273.

Touro Family duckpin bowling

1:30- 4:30 p.m., Legion Bowl, Park Ave., Cranston. For Touro Fraternal Association

members, and their immediate family only. \$8 per bowler, includes shoes, food, refreshments and fun. Reservations required by April 3. Contact Touro at 785-0066 or on the web at www.tourofraternal.org.

Chabad Torah celebration

3 p.m. The Crowne Plaza Hotel, 801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick. Torah dedication & celebration, Torah completion program, dessert buffet, music & dancing, children's activities. RSVP necessary at (401) 884-7888.

TUES., APRIL 5

Bar-Ilan professors at Hillel

7:30 p.m. at Brown Hillel House, 80 Brown St., Providence, in the Chapel room. The event is titled: "In the Image of God: God's Body in Jewish Tradition," with Professors Adiel Schremer and Yair Lorberbaum, both from Bar-Ilan University. Discussion, debate on how the rabbis understood the divine body. See Community.

WED., APRIL 6

Cranston Senior Guild

1 p.m. at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Entertainment by Dane Valerio, keyboardist and vocalist. Raffle and refreshments.

Touro Synagogue Foundation lecture series continues

6 p.m. Pell Center, Salve Regina University, Bellevue & Ruggles Ave., Newport. "Growing up Jewish in the South" and "The War between Brothers in America" presented by Eli N. Evans. Free and open to the public. For more information, call 847-4794, ext. 14 or email info@touroynagogue.org.

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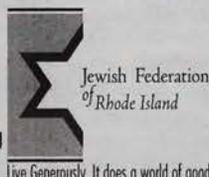
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Food

Three-cornered kreplach for Purim

By Marilyn Graff

On the theory that on Purim, we need something to eat besides hamantashen, good as they are, how about some three-cornered kreplach in a bowl of good chicken soup or lightly sautéed with mushrooms and onions?

Kreplach

You can make the dough in a food processor or heavy-duty electric mixer.

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour.

1/4 tsp. salt

2 eggs

2 tblsp. cold water

Place all into processor or mixer and work until a smooth dough is formed. Set aside covered while making the filling.

To make by hand, put flour into a bowl with salt. Work in eggs and sprinkle on water until a dough is formed. Knead until smooth and elastic.

Roll out dough as thinly as possible on a floured board. Cut into 4-5 inch squares. Place a tablespoon of filling on each, moisten edges and fold into triangles, sealing well. Drop into boiling water or soup and cook until they float to the surface (10-15 minutes.) Serve in soup or take out, drain well and sauté in a pan as follows: Chop or dice an onion, slice about 1/2 lb. of mushrooms and sauté in parve margarine until soft, add kreplach and brown lightly on both sides.

(If you are dough challenged or pressed for time, you can use wonton skins.)



Spinach filling

Defrost a package of chopped spinach and cook for a few minutes. Squeeze out as much water as possible. Sauté a chopped onion and a clove of garlic in parve margarine or olive oil until soft. Add spinach and mix in 1 egg. Season with salt and pepper.

Meat filling

About a pound of leftover cooked meat (pot roast will do nicely) or chicken, finely chopped or ground.

A medium onion, chopped and lightly sautéed in a little oil.

1 egg

Salt and pepper to taste

Mix all together in a bowl.

5-minute Bean Dip

Help! Somebody just dropped in and you need a little something to serve them.

A 14 oz. can of chick peas or any kind of canned beans on hand. (Not green beans.)

Two or three cloves of garlic, peeled

About 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil

Lemon juice to taste

Drain and rinse the chick peas or beans in a colander. Shake off water. Put into container of a small food processor with garlic and olive oil. Puree. Add more oil if needed to make a smooth dip. Mix in lemon juice to taste. Put into a serving dish and surround with crackers or cut-up veggies. Sprinkle top with chopped parsley or chives.

Mohn Candy

Another sweet for Purim, courtesy of my old Molly Goldberg cookbook.

1/2 cup sugar

2 cups honey

2 lbs. poppy seeds

2 cups hazelnuts (filberts) or almonds, halved

Combine the sugar, honey and poppy seeds in a saucepan and cook over low heat, stirring frequently, for about 30 minutes, until thick. Add the nuts and mix well. Wet a cutting board and pour the mixture onto it. Pat down to about 1/2 inch thickness. Cool and cut into triangles with a wet knife. When thoroughly cool, lift the pieces off with a knife and store between wax paper.

Marilyn Graff is food editor of the Jewish Voice & Herald.



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Not your bubbe's cooking

By Suzi Brozman

Atlanta Jewish Times

When the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy in New Jersey published Susie Fishbein's *The Kosher Palate* in 2000, the fund-raising cookbook was an immediate success in kosher circles nationwide. Cooks marveled at the new twists on traditional Jewish recipes.

That led to a book deal with Artsroll and to Fishbein's second cookbook, *Kosher by Design*. Fishbein has also appeared on the *Today Show* with Katie Couric as well as a number of other shows. Now Fishbein, 36, is promoting her latest book, *Kosher by Design Entertains*.

The mother of four young children says her approach is simple. "I love cooking and entertaining. I'm not necessarily the most talented cook. In fact, when I do cooking classes, there's always a sigh of relief when I say I didn't go to cooking school," Fishbein said in a recent interview. Her philosophy of entertaining is to limit your menu — but make everything fabulous.

"People eat with their eyes. It's not about the quantity. If you serve three meats and 17 side dishes, you're signaling that you don't know what's good, so you throw everything at people. It takes away from what you're trying to do.

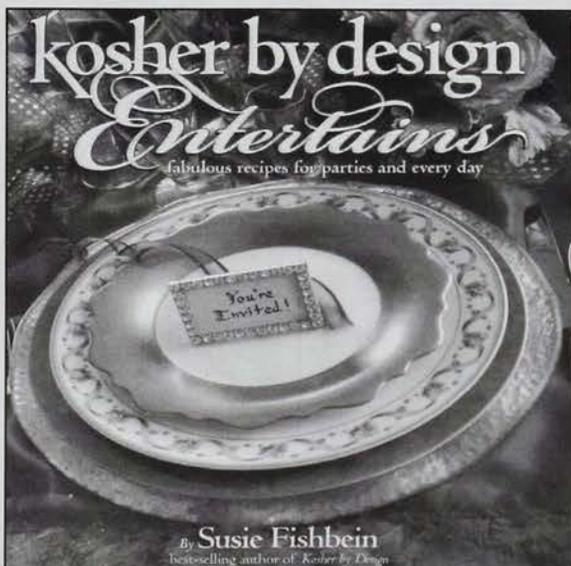
Shabbat menu

What's a typical Shabbat menu at the Fishbein home? "I always start with something beautiful, maybe a martini glass with sesame noodles, topped with a glass toothpick skewered with a single piece of meat. Then a salad, full of interesting nuts and other fun ingredients. I make my own challah. That always scores points.

"And then an impressive main dish, maybe my standing rib roast with melted tomatoes, a steamed vegetable and one side dish, perhaps individual kugels elegantly presented." She adds: "Dessert should be awesome, a beggar's purse with delicious sauce, and fresh fruit.

Fishbein has stuffed her latest book with more than 250 recipes, most illustrated with lavish color photographs.

She offers menus, beverage recommendations, a resource guide for locating unusual kosher ingredients and a helpful index for adjusting some 70 of the recipes for Passover.



Susie Fishbein's new cookbook, *Kosher by Design Entertains*.

Glazed chicken breasts with strawberry salsa

- 4 boneless skinless, chicken breasts, tenders removed
- salt
- freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 shallot, minced
- 1/2 cup chicken stock
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- 3 tablespoons strawberry jelly
- 1-1/2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

1. Season the chicken with salt and pepper on both sides.
2. Heat the oil in a medium skillet or grill pan over medium heat. Add the chicken and sear on both sides, 4-5 minutes per side, until browned. You can also grill the chicken on a barbecue grill. Remove the chicken to a plate.
3. To the same pan, add the shallots and sauté on low heat

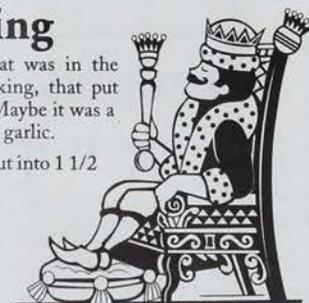
until soft, about 4 minutes. (If you grilled the chicken on a barbecue, heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a pan and sauté the shallots in it and continue).

In a small bowl, dissolve the cornstarch in the chicken stock. Add it to the pan. Add in the jelly and balsamic vinegar. Cook until thickened, about 1-2 minutes. Return the chicken to the pan and coat both sides with the glaze. Remove from heat.

4. Prepare the salsa. Place the chopped strawberries into a small bowl. Toss with the red onion, balsamic, pepper, mint, and lime juice. Allow flavors to mix for 10 minutes.

5. Serve chicken with the salsa warm or at room temperature.

Yield: 4 servings



Fit for a king

Did you ever wonder what was in the meal that Esther served the king, that put him into such a good mood? Maybe it was a nice lamb stew with lentils and garlic.

- 2 lbs. lean lamb shoulder, cut into 1 1/2 inch cubes.
- 2 large onions, cut up
- 2 cups lentils, rinsed
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 or 3 cloves garlic, peeled and smashed

- 1/2 cup pitted Greek-style olives, halved
- 4 cups chicken broth
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- Freshly ground pepper to taste

Brown lamb pieces and onions in olive oil. Stir in garlic and cook for a few minutes. Stir in lentils and three cups of the broth and cinnamon. Simmer very slowly for about two hours, adding more broth as needed. When lamb is tender and lentils are cooked, add olives and squeeze lemon over. Simmer about 15 minutes more.

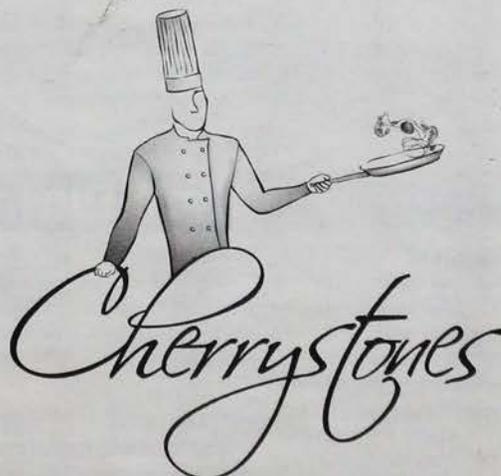
The dessert might have been fresh apricots, peeled, pitted and simmered in sweet wine with spices. — Marylyn Graff

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Happy Purim

Homeless shelters open up as synagogues overflow

PUR — In an incredible role reversal, R.I.'s homeless shelters have voted to transform themselves into emergency overflow synagogues. "We just felt it was time to help out the Jewish community, since they've been so helpful to us," says shelter resident James Smith.

Smith, who spearheaded this effort, came up with the idea after hearing complaints from Jews he knew about their High Holiday experiences.

"They said the synagogue was so crowded, and many people were complaining that they couldn't see the rabbi from their seats in the synagogue," Smith said. "One family even had to sit across the aisle from their children. I knew something had to be done."

At their last board meeting, the consortium of Rhode Island homeless shelters voted 7-2 to open up for overflow synagogue needs. "This will fulfill a great need in the Jewish community,"

said Rabbi Ploni of the Great Anonymous Synagogue. "Our congregation is very pleased with these developments."

Volunteers will need to attend four six-hour training sessions on how to deal with synagogue politics. Former members of the Cianci administration will run the training sessions.

Rachel Siegal contributed to this report.

Purim Briefs

Federation Board expands to 613

PUR — After years of getting by with a 135-member board, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island has finally decided to expand their board to truly reflect the community. The report of the Federation's Board Organization and REassessment task force (BORE) indicated that having 613 board members would show Federation's commitment to including people from all geographic areas and affiliation levels.

The new board will only have 90% of its members be

from the East Side, down from 94% in the current system and 3% of members must be under the age of 65. Says a top Federation leader, "Our task force feels that this will bring a new level of diversity to our board."

After two meetings with the new system, the JFRI will convene a task force to evaluate the new model.

Bubbies crash Jdate

PUR — They were only trying to help. Last week, Jdate, the nation's largest Jewish online dating service, gave 70,000 Jewish grandmothers across the U.S. an online walk-through of their website. A Jdate spokesperson said, "It seemed like a good idea at the time — a way to show them how the world has changed since they were dating." Minutes later, the service crashed temporarily after all 70,000 logged on simultaneously trying to find Jewish mates for their grandchildren. "I know there's someone out there for my Leah," said Robin Greenstone, of East Greenwich. "Can I search under doctors?"

Madonna adopts "Vashti" persona

PUR — "Esther" was only half of the picture — Madonna has added a new name to her Jewish repertoire — Vashti, the name of King Ahasverosh's first sinister wife. The mega-celebrity's new name will be Madonna "Esther Vashti" Kaballastein. "It creates the much needed positive/negative ying-yang within my nefesh (Hebrew for soul)," Madonna said. "I'm reinventing myself as Jewish, so it seemed appropriate to have both sides of the equation."

German Shorthaired Pointer victory blasted by ADL

PUR — What should have been a waggingly good time ended up in litigation, as a Dog Show victory was denounced by the Anti-Defamation League as "clearly anti-Jewish." The victory by Carlee, a 4-year-old German Shorthaired Pointer at the 43rd annual Westminster dog show, caused uproars by the Washington-based advocacy group. "We felt that Mordechai the Shar-Pei was the clear winner," said ADL director Abraham Foxman. "His coat was shinier, and his 'roll over' command was better executed. It's quite sad that anti-Semitism has found its way into the animal kingdom."

BRIEFS ARE NOT TO BE TAKEN INTERNALLY (OR SERIOUSLY).

Sara Masri, Rachel Siegal and Jonathan Rubin contributed to this report.

CELEBRATE PURIM

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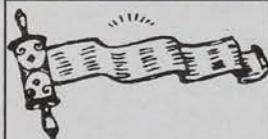
www.virtualpurim.com

Friday, March 25, 2005 — 8:30 a.m.

Megillah Reading & Hamentashen

Let there be peace, let there be joy, let there be Purim

Purim is the time to...



LISTEN to the reading of the *Megilla* (Book of Esther) this year 2005, Thursday eve, March 24, and again on Friday March 25, thereby recounting and reliving in our own day, the great miracle of Purim.



SEND a gift of at least two kinds of prepared food (pastry, fruit, beverage, etc.) to at least one friend. (Each item of food should be at least one ounce or more. 3-1/2 oz. for liquids.



GIVE charity to two or more people. If you cannot find poor people, place at least two coins in a charity box. In the *Megillah* this is called "Matonos L'Evyonim".



EAT the festive Purim meal and rejoice in the Purim spirit.

The above Mitzvos should be done on the day of Purim

More Purim information

FAST OF ESTHER

We fast on Thursday. (This year March 24.) This commemorates the day of prayer when Jews fasted before their victorious battle. It is customary, before the *Mincha* prayers on this day to give 3 half-dollars to charity. This commemorates the yearly contribution by all Jews to the Temple in the Hebrew month of Adar.

AL HANISSIM

Remember to add in the *Amidah* prayer and in Grace After Meals, the special part for Purim, beginning "Al Hanissim."

PURIM ON FRIDAY

So as not to desecrate the Shabbos, all Purim activities should finish before the beginning of Shabbos, March 25, at 5:40 p.m. in Providence.

INVOLVE THE CHILDREN

As in all Mitzvot, encourage young children to fulfill the Purim Mitzvot. Boys and girls past Bar/Bat Mitzvah are obligated, as are adults to do all Purim Mitzvot.

The Purim Mitzvos (Precepts) demonstrate the unity and togetherness of the Jewish people. The more *charity* and Purim presents one gives the better. There is no greater joy than to gladden the heart of the poor, the orphans and the widows.



Courtesy of: Chabad-Lubavitch of Southeastern New England
Telephone: (401) 273-7238

Happy Purim

Older adults and survivors benefit from Purim sights, smells, memories

By Jane Ulman

(JTA) — Offering the chance to parade in costume as Queen Esther or King Ahasuerus, shake groggers at the mention of Haman's name and feast on hamantashen, Purim is the perfect holiday for our kids' grandparents and great-grandparents.

At every age, we must be connected to life's fun side, and Purim, the boisterous and tumultuous holiday that begins this year at sundown on March 24 and celebrates the triumph of the Jews in ancient Persia over enemies determined to destroy them, gives us that opportunity.

But far more than the kids, today's elders — many of whom are contending with the death of a spouse, poor health, loneliness and dwindling finances — need the frivolity that Purim brings. Of the 35 million Americans who are 65 and older, up to 7 million suffer from some form of depression, according to the National Institute of Mental Health. That age group also claims the nation's highest suicide rate, according to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

"Laughter is the best medi-

cine," says Faye Sharabi, activity director for Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles' Valley Storefront, an adult day health-care center in North Hollywood, Calif. For the entire month leading up to Purim, Sharabi provides a variety of fun-filled activities, all part of the five-day-a-week program of physical and occupational therapy and socialization for the Storefront's elderly, physically disabled and/or memory-impaired clients, who range in age from 40 to 99.

"The Megillah is a fascinating story that is not just for kids," says Sharabi, who stresses Queen Esther's positive outlook and ability to inspire the Jewish people. She arranges a Queen Esther "makeover" for the female participants as well as a beauty pageant, with everyone designated a queen. "When you're elderly, you're still beautiful," she says.

The highlight, however, is Purim morning, when the king and queen, selected by lottery beforehand, are crowned and feted with flowers, a fiddler playing Jewish songs and a parade.

In addition, costumed second-graders from nearby Adat

Ari El Day School come to sing, dance and share hamantashen that they baked the previous day. They also bring sequins, feathers and other art materials to help the revelers make Mardi Gras-style masks.

"The older people love the kids. They see that the kids care about them and that they are not left alone," says second-grade teacher Soli Friedman.

For many older Jews, Purim evokes positive memories of their own childhood celebrations.

"I played Queen Esther at the Rock Park Theater in Rockaway Park. My mother made me a long white dress with a red sash. My brother was Haman," says Ida Greenbaum, who was originally from New York and now lives in the Los Angeles Jewish Home for the Aging in Reseda, Calif.

Another resident, Anne Marion, who grew up in Chicago, remembers her mother buying cherries and prunes off

a horse-drawn cart. "We didn't have a grinder. We used a chopping knife with a single blade and a big wooden bowl," she says.

Others were denied such memories.

"My father was an atheist. There was no religion in the home," says Dorothy DelMonte, raised in Los Angeles, who lives in the Jewish home.

Molly Forrest, the home's chief executive officer, says, "They enjoy and share memories with other Jews here. For some of them, it's a part of their heritage that they discover anew."

With two campuses and two full-time rabbis, the home offers its 800 residents many opportunities to revisit or rediscover their Jewish heritage. For Purim, there's a full Megillah reading, in Hebrew and English, on both campuses. In addition, seventh-grade students from the Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School in Northridge, Calif., entertain the residents with songs and silly

skits, and, later, conversation over hamantashen.

"These intergenerational interactions give students and seniors an opportunity to appreciate each other's unique outlooks and experiences," says Betty Winn, Heschel's head of school. These exchanges are especially valuable to those older people with no closely related living family members, who make up one-third of the home's population.

For older adults, Purim, the holiday that celebrates the survival of the Jewish people, provides an opportunity to reflect, to recapture childhood memories and to create new ones.

Elon Sunshine, rabbi-in-residence at Heschel Day School, says, "It's fascinating that Purim, which is so easily dismissed as a holiday for young children, becomes actually a serious adult-oriented holiday."

And a serious time for fun.

Hebrew transliteration taken to task

By Marty Cooper

Not all of us know how to read or speak Hebrew. It has letters that have similar sounds and letters that resemble other letters making it difficult for the hearing impaired or those of us who need new eyeglasses.

To get by, many of us rely on English transliteration. Or shall I say, try to get by as transliteration has its many quirks as well.

The transliterators who first carried out the task of putting Hebrew into English form must have had a field day. Some words, like the eight-day festival celebrated in the winter, has several transliterations that are accepted depending on who, when or where you read it. The Jewish Voice & Herald accepts the transliterated spelling as Hanukkah, but the publication will allow "Chanukah" in ads and other variations.

English transliteration of Hebrew began a long ago when it became apparent that an increasing population of Jews could not read Hebrew. "Most likely a committee of linguists got together to create a means to solve the problem," according to a member of the Jewish Federation of Transliteration, (JFT) a small group of people (under 5 feet) who analyze the Hebrew transliteration into English.

JFT reports a finding that some committee members of the original tribunal council that it would be amusing to put a "p" in front of words with the "f" sound such as "Pfrum", "Pfeta" and "Pfah." That proposal was voted down as was another to call the grogger, the traditional Purim noise-maker, a "McGrogger," in order to recognize a Scottish Jewish movement and a substantial donation pledge from a famous sportswear company if the transliteration were used.

Today there is another movement to transliterate words based on geographic location. In New England for example, the word Hanukkah would be written as Hanukkar. Challah would be transliterated to Challar. Kosher becomes Kosha; Kippah would be called Yarmulker. While this concept has merit, transliterator traditionalists still rebel.

Marty Cooper is a member of the Jewish Voice & Herald editorial board.

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Medical Arts

The man who invented chemotherapy



Stanley Aronson M.D.

Germany, in the post-Napoleonic decades of the 19th century, was a collection of contiguous principalities stretching from the North Sea to the western margins of imperial Russia. Toward the northeast was a German region called Upper Silesia, with Breslau as its administrative and cultural center. South of Breslau was the town of Strehlen with a small but established Jewish community. Ismar Ehrlich and his wife, Rose Weigert Ehrlich, owned a small clothing manufacturing plant in the town.

A son named Paul was born to the Ehrlichs on March 14, 1854. He was given a first elementary and secondary education in Breslau, attended the ancient university in Breslau, and then went on to the university in Freiburg-am-Main where he was granted his medical degree in 1878.

Most European medical schools require that their students write, and then defend, a research thesis, usually on some clinical subject, before the doc-

torate degree is conferred. Paul Ehrlich chose to investigate a group of newly isolated chemicals derived from coal tar, called the aniline dyes. The British chemist, W. Perkin, had recently demonstrated that certain aniline derivatives functioned as coloring agents, thus creating a major new industry for the dyeing of fabrics. Ehrlich's interests in the aniline dyes, however, were confined to their capacity to attach themselves selectively to certain microscopic structures but not to others within animal cells. In a curiously prescient way, his fascination with these distinctive staining characteristics of aniline chemicals, called affinities, hinted at the direction of his future research work, which led ultimately to the field of chemotherapy.

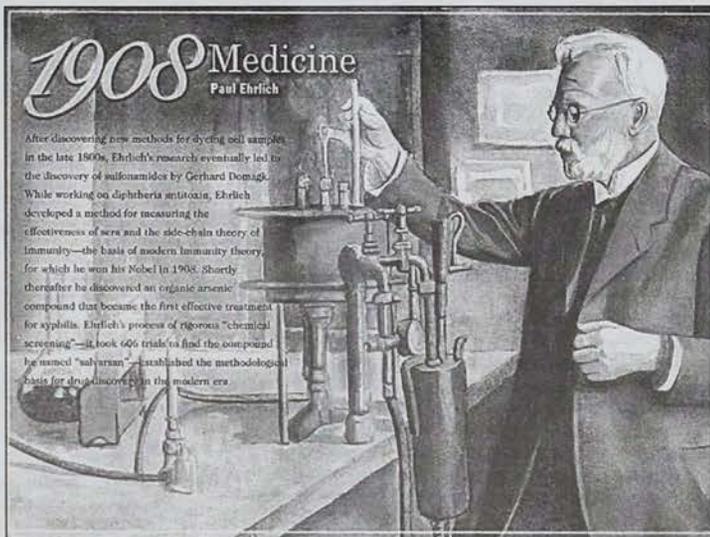
Following graduation, Ehrlich worked in the Berlin Medical Clinic but devoted much time to research in the bacteriology laboratory of his cousin, the eminent bacteriologist Karl Weigert.

Ehrlich's obsession with dyes led to the discovery that certain dyes brilliantly outlined the microscopic structures of the white blood cells, distinguishing one from another. His biological stains became the standard laboratory method for the clinical examination of human blood. By

1882 Ehrlich's fascination with chemicals that had an affinity for certain chemicals in cells led him to discover a means by which the bacillus that caused tuberculosis could readily be made visible by microscopy.

In 1887 Ehrlich developed pulmonary tuberculosis and moved to the dry climate of Egypt for two years until he had fully recovered. He returned to Berlin, now working with Robert Koch, the scientist who had discovered the causative agent of both tuberculosis and cholera. In the next few years Ehrlich elaborated on his theories concerning the nature of human immunity and how the body reacts to and neutralizes toxins. His seminal research did much to establish a newly evolving science called immunology.

The German government, recognizing his investigative genius, established a specific



research institute for him to study the nature of immunity and to find ways of standardizing vaccines and antisera.

In 1897 Ehrlich accepted a government invitation to move to Frankfurt-am-Main as director of the newly established Royal Institute of Experimental Therapy. The Speyer family, locally involved in the dyeing industry, then established a separate research facility adjacent to the institute, (the famous Speyerhaus,) allowing Ehrlich free rein in his research pursuits.

Ehrlich harked back to his earlier research indicating that chemicals, such as the aniline dyes, did not color objects by merely coating them much like a paint upon a flat surface. Rather, the microscopic structures, whether human cells or cotton fibers, had selective chemical receptors which would join solely with these chemicals. He defined the chemical nature of this reaction and saw its analog in the specific action of an antitoxin combining with a toxin.

Using an industrial dye called trypan red, he found that it attached itself, and partially destroyed, the parasite of trypanosomiasis, the causative agent of sleeping sickness. This chemical thus became the first agent capable of alleviating a specific infectious disease.

The last decade of the 19th century witnessed the accelerated growth of bacteriology. Many infectious diseases were now shown to be caused by specific micro-organisms, one of them being the scourge of syphilis. Ehrlich conjectured; "Might it be possible to find a chemical which, when introduced into the body, would attach itself solely to the surface of the microbe in question, fatally injuring that microbe while not affect-

ing any of the body's tissues?" He called such a hypothetical chemical a "magic bullet" and he then directed his laboratory to investigate an immense variety of chemicals, beginning with the trivalent arsenicals.

The 606th trial (the number 606 has now become enshrined in the annals of medical history) worked effectively against the germ of syphilis and thus was born the drug salvarsan. Ehrlich persevered, since salvarsan proved to be somewhat toxic. And, by trial number 914 in 1907, a better agent was identified: a drug now called neosalvarsan. Ehrlich, never without his cigars, (he consumed about 25 lengthy cigars per day) now enunciated his belief that some day each infectious disease would prove to be vulnerable to the combining action of a specific chemical, a process that he now chose to call chemotherapy.

Ehrlich, given the freedom to follow the investigative paths of his choosing, gave the world an entirely new, chemically based concept of how the human body defends itself against the invasion of alien organisms such as bacteria. He initiated that branch of applied biology now called immunology; and his imaginative genius led inevitably to the life-preserving science called chemotherapy.

Ehrlich was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1908. The onset of a world war in 1914 distressed him deeply, principally because of his pacifist beliefs. A stroke incapacitated him in 1915 and shortly thereafter another stroke caused his death. The research institute in Frankfurt still exists: its street name has been changed to Ehrlichstrasse.

Stanley M. Aronson, M.D., is dean emeritus of Brown University Medical School.

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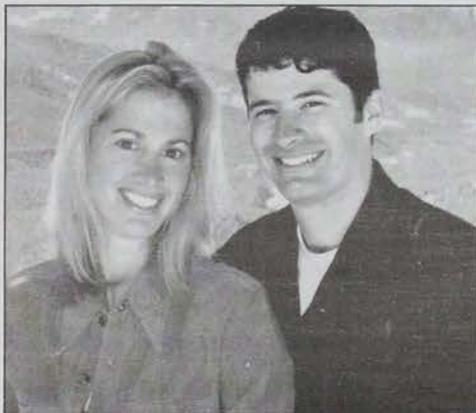
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Mazal Tov



Danielle Smith and Justin Kupperman
Engagement

WARWICK — Dr. Robert N. Smith, a former Barrington resident, announces the engagement of his daughter, Danielle, to Justin Kupperman, the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Kupperman of Oak Park, Ill. Danielle is also the daughter of the late Patricia Smith.

A 1994 graduate of the Lincoln School, Smith earned a bachelor's degree in physical therapy from the University of Vermont in 1999.

Kupperman is a 1991 graduate of Oak Park and River Forest High School and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois in mechanical engineering in 1995.

The couple lives in Brookline, Mass. An Aug. 20 wedding is planned.



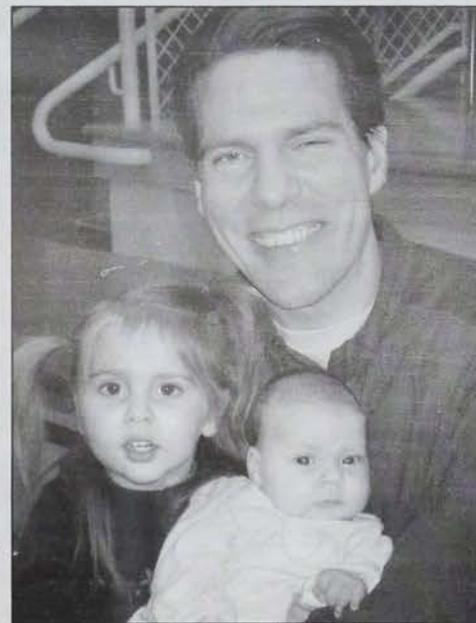
Dr. and Mrs. Jordan Jaffe
Wedding

PROVIDENCE — Alan and Suzanne Gilstein announce the marriage of their daughter, Deborah, to Dr. Jordan Jaffe, son of Robert and Priscilla Jaffe of Woodstock, Conn. The ceremony took place on Nov. 27, 2004 at the Ledgemont Country Club. Rabbi Leslie Gutterman officiated.

The bride graduated from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. She is the chief philanthropy officer at The Miriam Hospital Foundation.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Bowdoin College, the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine and the University of Maryland Department of Orthodontics. He is in practice at Orthodontic Associates and Partners.

The couple honeymooned in Playacar, Mexico. They are residing in Providence.



Katrina Lee Waldmanwerth.
Birth

Michael L. Werth and Sharon Lee Waldman announce the birth of Katrina Lee Waldmanwerth. She was born on Sunday, Sept. 19, 2004 at Women and Infants' Hospital, weighing 7 pounds and 12 ounces. She joins her two-and-a-half year old sister, Eliana.

The baby's grandparents are Myron and Marie Waldman of Narragansett, John and Carolyn Werth of Warwick, the late Elaine Rakatansky of Providence, and Herbert Rakatansky and Barbara Sokolof of Providence.

Send Simchas to: The Jewish Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906; E-mail to: voiceherald@jfri.org.

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F	Female	n/s	non-smoker
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Obituaries

Irving Beckman, 96

PROVIDENCE — Irving Beckman, 96, died Feb. 14. He was the husband of the late Pauline Krentzin Beckman. Born in Bay City, Mich., a son of the late Meyer and Lena (Goldstrom) Beckman, he lived in Michigan until moving to Rhode Island in 2001.

He was a graduate of the University of Michigan.

Mr. Beckman, a retired advertising executive in Detroit, then became a playwright. His two passions in life were the University of Michigan football team and theater.

He leaves a son, Ralph Beckman of Providence; and four grandchildren, Christopher, Jennifer, Anna and Martha. He was the father of the late David Beckman.

Contributions may be made to Trinity Repertory Co., 201 Washington St., Providence, RI 02903.

George Botvin, 77

PALM BEACH, Fla.— George Botvin, 77, formerly of Newport, an entrepreneur and chairman of the board of ACS Industries of Woonsocket, died March 2. He was the husband of Patricia (Giroux) Botvin. Born in Providence, a son of the late Peter and Clara (Peck) Botvin, he lived in Rhode Island most of his life, until moving to Florida.

He served in the U. S. Coast Guard during World War II, returning to graduate from Hope High School in 1946.

Mr. Botvin worked at his father's company, American Copper Sponge for many years before assuming the business in the 1950s. He built ACS Industries into a worldwide organiza-

tion.

He was a member of Temple Shalom in Middletown and a contributor to many religious and charitable organizations.

He leaves a son, Peter Botvin of San Diego, Calif.; two daughters, Carole Bender of Pawtucket and Gail Reiter of Kingston; a step-daughter, Erica Kaitz of Newton, Mass.; a brother, Gilbert Botvin of Palm City, Fla.; two sisters, Elaine Buckler of Warwick and Ina Rosenthal of New York City; 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was the father of the late Joan Botvin.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to Home and Hospice Care of R.I., 169 George St., Pawtucket, RI 02860 or the American Cancer Society, 222 Richmond St., Providence, RI 02903.

Jean Brenner, 90

WARWICK — Jean (Poritsky) Brenner, 90, died Feb. 17. She was the wife of the late Dr. Louis R. Brenner. Born in Camden, N.J., the daughter of the late Samuel and Lena (Zutofsky) Poritsky, she spent her youth in Philadelphia, Pa.

After their marriage, she and her husband lived and raised their family in Woonsocket.

She was the office manager for almost 20 years for Dr. Craig Harris in Woonsocket before retiring in 1989.

Mrs. Brenner was active in Congregation B'nai Israel, and a lifetime member of its Sisterhood and of Hadassah. She was also a past president of the Woonsocket PTA.

Following retirement, she volunteered for the former Rhode Island Jewish Home for the Aged

and AARP.

She leaves a son, Dr. Alan Brenner of Westborough, Mass.; a daughter, Beverly Levitt-Narciso of North Kingstown, R.I.; a brother, Albert Poritsky of Philadelphia; three grandchildren, Michelle Levitt, Jessica Baskin and Richard Brenner, and a great-grandson, Jacob Baskin. She was the sister of the late Reuben Poritsky.

Burial was in B'nai Israel Cemetery, Woonsocket.

Contributions may be made to the VNS of Greater Rhode Island, Hospice Program, 6 Blackstone Valley Place, Suite 515, Lincoln, RI 02865 or the Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence, 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick, RI 02886.

Alexandra Drexler, 83

PROVIDENCE — Alexandra Drexler, 83, a former physician in Russia, died March 3. She was the wife of the late Vladimir Drexler. Born in Odessa, Ukraine, a daughter of the late Isaiah and Ida (Moshes) Levin, she lived in St. Petersburg, Russia, until coming to the United States in 1979, residing in Pawtucket and Providence.

Mrs. Drexler was a graduate of the First Medical Institute in St. Petersburg.

She was a former member of Congregation Ohave Shalom in Pawtucket.

She studied music in Odessa and played the piano her entire life.

She leaves two daughters, Sophie Herman of Pawtucket and Ludmilla Lifson of Swampscott, Mass.; a brother, Philip Levin of Brighton, Mass.; two grandchildren, Dimitri and Alex; and six great-grandchildren.

Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Providence.

Contributions may be made to Temple Beth-El Cemetery Fund, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence, RI 02906.

Paul Field, 80

EAST PROVIDENCE— Paul Field, 80, died March 1. He was the husband of Barbara (Marcus) Field and the late Hannah Joy (Goldberg) Field. Born in Providence, he was a son of the late Maurice and Evelyn (Bergel) Field.

A graduate of Hope High School, he was a World War II Navy veteran, serving in the Pacific.

He worked as a manufacturer's representative for Helbros Watches for 30 years as well as various other companies, retiring in 1986.

He was a former member of Temple Emanu-El, Providence.

He belonged to the Masons and Touro Fraternal Association and was a founding member of Crestwood Country Club, where he was an avid golfer.

He leaves three sons, Alan R. Field of North Providence, Michael J. Field of East Greenwich and Barry H. Field of Boston, Mass.; a sister Sybil Mazor of North Providence; five grandchildren, Adam, Daniel, Rachel, Amanda and Laura; and a great-grandson, Jacob. He was the brother of the late Irwin Field. He was the step-father of Randy, Don and Bob Kass.

Contributions may be made to The Paul Field Fund at Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center, 50 Maude St., Providence, RI 02906.

Thelma Gordon, 92

CRANSTON — Thelma Rebecca (Neinstein) Gordon, 92, died March 1. She was the wife of the late Harry Gordon. Born in Kolk, Russia, she was the daughter of the late Edward H. and Sarah M. (Rog) Neinstein. She came to America in 1920 and settled in Milford, Mass.

After graduating from Milford High School, she attended the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital School of Nursing.

Upon marrying, she moved to Providence, where, while raising a family, she worked for the Providence Police Dept. At age 62 she became a ward clerk aide at the Eleanor Slater Hospital until age 88.

She was a volunteer for CASA, the court-appointed special advocate for Family Court where, for over 15 years, she acted as a guardian for children appearing before the court. In 1984, CASA honored her as an outstanding volunteer.

She was also a den mother for Cub Scout Pack 20, and volunteered as a "gray lady" for the Red

Cross, and at Traveler's Aid.

Mrs. Gordon was a life member of the former Jewish Home for the Aged, the Miriam Hospital Auxiliary and Hadassah as well as the Cranston and Majestic Senior Guilds.

In 1984, at age 72, she became a Bat Mitzvah at Temple Torat Yisrael.

She leaves three sons, Edward M. Gordon of Providence, Stephen A. Gordon, Esq. of Warwick and Andrew L.B. Gordon of Toronto, Canada; and nine grandchildren, Seth, Heather, Ari, Melissa, Jason, Matthew, Michelle (Gordon) Noon, Adam and Michael; and one great-grandchild, Austin Noon. She was the sister of the late Anne Lucille, Samuel and Esther Neinstein.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to Temple Emanu-El or Jewish Eldercare at Jewish Family Service.

Marilyn Grossman, 80

PROVIDENCE — Marilyn Grossman, 80, died Feb. 20. Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Elias and Rose (Silverman) Awerman.

She was the owner of the former Marilyn Grossman Dress Shop in Providence.

Mrs. Grossman was also director of program advisors at Providence College for 10 years and director of the Job Corps Center in Clinton, Iowa, for two years.

She leaves a son, William Grossman of Eugene, Ore.; a daughter, Jade Hirsch of West Greenwich; four grandchildren, Dr. David Cicerchia, Staci Hirsch, and Eleanor and James Grossman.

Burial was in Swan Point Cemetery, Providence.

Contributions may be made to the Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center, 50 Maude St., Providence, RI 02908.

Max Kerzner, 94

BOYNTON BEACH, Fla. — Max Kerzner, 94, previously of Cranston, died Feb. 28. He was the husband of the late Muriel Kerzner. Born in Russia, he was a son of the late Henry and Rose (Weiner) Kerzner.

He was a World War II Navy veteran, serving in Trinidad.

The owner of Bassett & Co. in Pawtucket, he retired in 1976.

Mr. Kerzner was a past president of Congregation Agudas Achim and a past president of the Hebrew Free Loan Association. He was on the

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Obituaries

KERZNER

From page 34

board at Lincoln Park Cemetery and the board of directors at the former Notre Dame Hospital in Central Falls.

He leaves two brothers, John Kerzner of Clearwater, Fla., and Samuel Kerzner of New York, N.Y. He was the brother of the late David, Louis and Sylvia Kerzner.

Contributions may be made to the Providence Hebrew Day School.

Albert Myerson, 78

BARRINGTON — Albert Myerson, 78, died March 3. He was the husband of Annette (Robinson) Myerson. They were married for 48 years. Born in Everett, Mass., he was the son of the late Issac and Ada (Chansky) Myerson.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II.

Mr. Myerson was a former member of Temple Am David.

Before retiring, he was manager of the Gob Shop in Fall River, Mass. Prior to that, he was the owner of Frye's Cigar Store in Cambridge, Mass.

He leaves a son, Steven B. Myerson of Barrington; a brother, Robert Myerson; and two sisters, Shirley Kessler and Elsie Pastan, all of Marblehead, Mass., and a sister, Evelyn Levine.

Burial was in Forest Chapel Cemetery, Barrington.

Contributions may be made

to the American Heart Association.

Florence 'Ponnie' Weiner

PROVIDENCE — Florence 'Ponnie' (Mensch) Weiner died Jan. 31. She was the wife of Jerry Weiner. They were married for 54 years.

She came to Providence in 1968 when her husband joined the faculty of Brown University.

Mrs. Weiner worked as the acquisitions librarian at Providence College for about five years after arriving here. After retiring from this position, she served as a children's library volunteer for various units of the Rhode Island school system. She also served for a number of years as a volunteer with Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island.

Among her hobbies were tennis, bridge, bowling, reading, walking, cooking and attending concerts and plays.

Besides her husband, she leaves two sons, Jonathan of Doylestown, Pa., and Eric of Manhattan; three sisters, Helen Hornstein, Selma Lynn and Doris Fleischer; and five grandchildren, Aaron, Benjamin, Zachary, Talia and Ezra.

Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Providence.

Contributions may be made to Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island.

Sylvia Yoken, 94

FALL RIVER — Sylvia (White) Yoken, 94, died Feb. 26.

She was the wife of the late Albert Benjamin (Ben) Yoken and the late Dr. Herman Green, professor of French at UMass./Dartmouth. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Abraham and Etta (Levine) White, she was a 1928 graduate of Hope High School and attended Bryant and Stratton, now Bryant College.

She worked as a secretary at the former Oval Manufacturing Co. of Providence. While in Providence, from 1931-1936, Mrs. Yoken was a pianist and piano teacher.

She and her husband were founding members and supporters of the then SMTI Theater Company and Mrs. Yoken continued to support it after her husband's death.

She attended many courses in the Fall River Adult Education Department through the 50s, 60s, and 70s, and the programs of the Center for Jewish Culture at UMass Dartmouth from its inception in 1980 and was the center's resident coordinator for the Elderhostel program from 1984 to 1992. She was a conversational partner for several programs at UMass./Dartmouth, including those with teachers from Colombia and France and students from Japan.

Mrs. Yoken was an active member of Temple Beth El and Adas Israel Synagogue and their Sisterhoods in Fall River. She was also a member of the adult education program and a life member

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of Hadassah. She was an officer in the Majestic Senior Group in Providence. From 1977 to 2000 she sponsored and hosted an annual breakfast at Temple Beth El in memory of her husband.

She also enjoyed playing bridge and Mah Jong, and socializing with friends. She loved to travel, especially to Quebec, France and Florida.

She leaves two sons, Mel Yoken of New Bedford, and Steve Yoken of Fall River; a sister, Miriam Kagan of Pembroke Pines, Fla.; five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

She was the sister of the late Leonard White and Naomi Marcus.

Burial was in Temple Beth El Cemetery, Fall River.

FREEDOM

From page 7

Incredibly, her parents escaped as well and came to find them. "I don't know how they escaped...maybe it was their desperation that was so strong to see my sister and me."

She didn't recognize her father. "He was a skeleton," she said. He died a short time later. After the war, her mother returned and reburied him in the Jewish cemetery in Nice.

On the run again

"Our safety was short-lived. The Nazis were on our back and we needed another hiding place. We were taken to an old castle in the mountains that was given to Jews on the run," Bornstein said.

Soon, they again received warnings the Nazis were near. Fate intervened for the sisters, with couriers sent by an aunt and uncle, who had earlier escaped to Spain by buying their way with diamonds. "Diamonds for freedom," said Bornstein.

"My mother had to face the agony again of letting us go. Despite my cries and pleas, she handed us to these strange men

who led us away."

They took the girls by train to the foot of the Pyrenees, where their long walk began. "The Germans were all around us. I remember crying one night. The men taped my mouth shut," she said.

Once they reached the Spanish border, they were put on a train to Barcelona, and were met there by their aunt and uncle. Six months later, the girls received papers with visas for America, accomplished through the work of the international Red Cross and Jewish agencies.

Ultimately, she and her sister came to live with foster families in Providence. Bornstein was placed with Edith and Ben Matusows. "They made me feel wanted. And protected."

Five years after the war ended, Bornstein saw her mother again. She had been located by

Over the Pyrenees, to freedom



STUDENTS from the Rhode Island College listen intently to the Holocaust presentation.

the Red Cross and relocated by Jewish relief agencies.

"It was a shock. She looked haunted. I looked at her from the eyes of the 6-year-old child she had abandoned."

She said it took her many years to realize the courage of her mother in surrendering her children. And it took half a lifetime to be able to talk about what happened.

Bornstein will be leaving

Providence soon to join her sister, Marie Silverman, in Florida. There, the sisters will continue to tell their story together.

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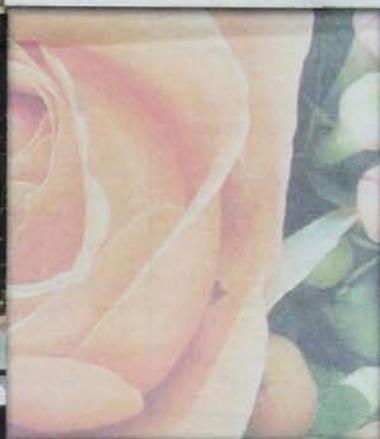
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February 4, 2005

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