The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

9 Cheshvan 5766 | Vol. IV — Issue XXXI | Jewish Federation of Rhode Island | November 11, 2005

Inside...

Special Bar & Bat Mitzvah planning guide inside.

Remembering Jane Sprague, former editor of the *Jewish Voice*. See page 8 & 34.

Dining out guide, pages 16-19.

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Looking at Alito's record

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The long paper trail of hard-hitting conservative opinions that Judge Samuel Alito has left in his wake is perfect fodder for the kind of left vs. right, black-and-white confirmation battle that this town relishes.

For Jewish groups, however, the clarity of Alito's record fades to gray.

President Bush's new nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld religious freedoms that the entire Jewish community cherishes, on one occasion strongly defending the right of a Jewish employee to Sabbath observance. Yet his views on the establishment of religion as well as abortion hew to a tough conservative line that much of the community repudiates

See ALITO, page 13

Photo: Brian Hendler/JTA

RABIN ANNIVERSARY — Dalia Rabin lays flowers at the graves of her parents, assassinated Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his wife Leah, in the Great Leaders of the Nation section of Mt. Herzl cemetery Nov. 4 in Jerusalem, on the 10th anniversary of Rabin's assassination.

Hillel hosts figure in CIA leak

By Mary Korr

PROVIDENCE — Former ambassador Joseph Wilson, whose wife's identity as a covert CIA operative was leaked to the press, will speak at Brown on Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 8 p.m. He was invited here by Brown Hillel.

Wilson and his wife, Valerie Plame, are central figures in the ongoing federal inquiry and the recent indictment of Lewis "Scooter" Libby, former chief of staff to Vice President Cheney.

Wilson will discuss his book, *The Politics of Truth: Inside the Lies that Led to War and Betrayed My Wife's CIA Identity.*

See CIA FIGURE, page 35

Photos by Mary Korr

'Girlfriends are Forever'

The JFRI's Women's Alliance held an author's evening to thank donors to the 2006 annual campaign Nov. 2 at the Ledgemont Country Club. Looking at the books were, from left, Lenore Leach, Stacy Emanuel, and Lisa Davis. Honorary chair Robin Homonoff, lower left, introduced Lynn Kaplan (left) and Janice Schnurnberger, authors of *The Botox Diaries* and *Mine Are Spectacular.* Attending from the East Bay were, below from left, Olivia Lichaa and her mother, Maybeth, Miriam Shana, Karen Rasnick and Evelyn Zawatsky.

Community Calendar

SAT., NOV. 12 to SUN., NOV. 20

R.I. Jewish Film Festival

Sat., Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m., Go For Zucker!
Columbus Theater, 270 Broadway, Providence

Sun., Nov. 13 at 2 p.m., Watermarks
Columbus Theater, 270 Broadway, Providence

Sun., Nov. 13 at 4 p.m., My Land Zion and My Terrorist
Columbus Theater, 270 Broadway, Providence

Wed., Nov. 16 at 7 p.m., Mechina: A Preparation
Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Avenue, Cranston

Thurs., Nov. 17 at 7 p.m., King of the Corner
Odeum Theater, 59 Main St., East Greenwich.

Sun., Nov. 20 at 4 p.m., Campfire shown with West Bank Story
Roger Williams University, Bristol.

$10 adults, $7 seniors and students.

SAT. & SUN. NOV. 12-13

Scholar weekend at Ahavath Achim

2005 Phyllis & Sydney L. Horvitz Scholar-in-Residence weekend at Ahavath Achim in New Bedford. Speaker Rabbi Dr. Jacob Schacter For more information call the synagogue at (508) 994-1760.

SUN., NOV. 13

Tamarisk health fair

1 to 4 p.m. Tamarisk's 2nd annual holistic health fair, featuring informational booths, presentations and demonstrations, raffle. First floor. Refreshments served. For more info, contact Gina at 732-0037.

Achorn to speak at Leisure Club

2 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. *Providence Journal* editorial writer-editor Edward Achorn will speak on "The Legacy of Corruption in Rhode Island."

MON., NOV. 14

JCDS Open House

(Formerly Alperin Schecter Day School)

7 p.m. at the Alperin Schechter bldg., 85 Taft Ave., Prov. For Jewish families with children entering pre-K through eighth grades in Sept., 2006, to

See CALENDAR, PAGE 22

E-mail calendar listings to: voiceherald@jfri.org; Fax to: 401-331-7961,or mail to: Jewish Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906 – Attn: Calendar

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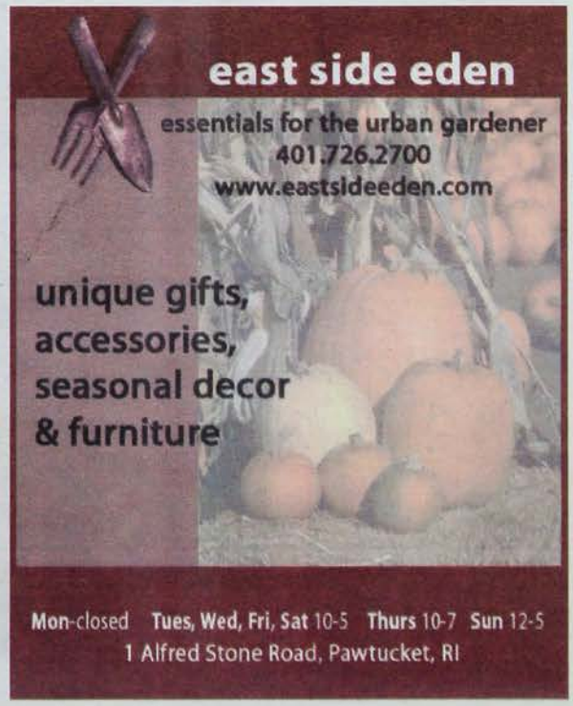

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The *Jewish Voice & Herald* encourages synagogues and members of the Jewish comunity to submit announcements of weddings, bar- and bat-mitzvahs, obituaries and other life cycle events.

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CANDLE LIGHTING
For greater Rhode Island

Nov. 11	4:09
Nov. 18	4:03
Nov. 25	3:59
Dec. 2	3:56

Community

Judea Pearl speaks on fighting hatred

By Mary Korr

PROVIDENCE — Behind Judea Pearl, the smiling face of his slain son, Danny, a *Wall St. Journal* reporter murdered by Islamic extremists, shone from a screen in the sanctuary at Temple Beth-El on Sunday night.

Pearl spoke — and sang a passage from Psalms — at a Jewish Federation of R.I. donor event. Before he came on, Rabbi Baruch G. Goldstein, a Rhode Island Holocaust survivor, first addressed the audience of several hundred.

"I was struck when I came into the sanctuary. There's nothing but goodness, kindness and intelligence in his face," Rabbi Goldstein said, qualities reminiscent of his own mother who died in the gas chambers of Treblinka — "...my beautiful, wonderful, precious, kind, innocent mother."

Both men fight the hatred that killed their family members with hope.

After the war, the rabbi said he was "angry with God — and, by the way, I still have a few complaints." Ultimately, and with the help of his late wife, he made peace with his faith. "There is God, there is pain, there is good and evil...let's eliminate the hatred, the prejudices — it can be done," Rabbi Goldstein said.

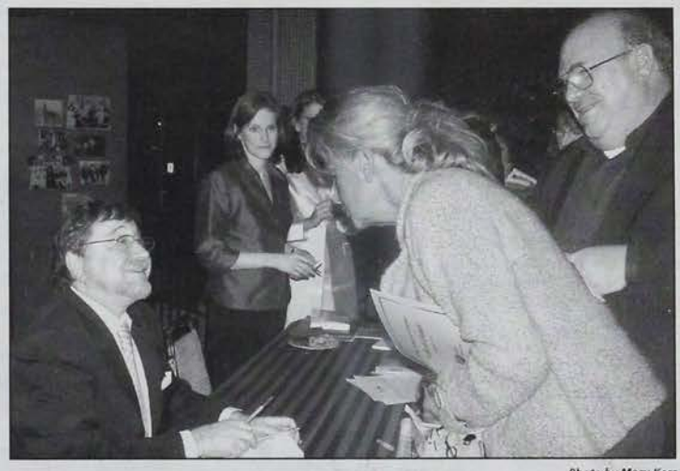

Photo by Mary Korr

JUDEA PEARL autographed copies of the book I Am Jewish, which won the Jewish book award for anthologies in 2004, on Sunday night at Temple Beth-El. Speaking to him is Linda Paster of Cranston, with her husband Ben.

Pearl, who flew in on the red eye from Los Angeles, and was en route to Tel Aviv, has made cross-cultural understanding his mission, through the Daniel Pearl Foundation he and his wife, Ruth, formed (www.danielpearlfoundation.org) shortly after their son's death in 2002.

He often speaks on the same stage with Akbar Ahmed, a professor of Islamic studies and international relations at American University. The two professors (Pearl is a professor of computer science at UCLA) "talk their hearts out" in an effort to shift the Muslim-Jewish discourse from accusation and fear to inquiry and respect.

"Friends," he told those gathered, "three years and nine months ago, in a desolate dungeon in Karachi, Pakistan, in the midst of madness, in a moment of extreme crisis, a young man — a walking sunshine of truth — looked at his captors, looked straight in the eye of evil, and said, not with *chutzpah*, or defiance or gallantry, but with his usual matter-of-fact way, 'My father is Jewish, my mother is Jewish, I am Jewish.'"

"What did Danny mean by this? As you can imagine I have asked myself this question so many times in the past three years. But they made a big mistake when they put that camera in front of him. When the camera zooms in on his face, the world sees the face of America and the character of the Jewish people. They see a Jewish journalist armed with a pen and a fiddle, not with a helmet and a gun as all the Jews are portrayed on Al Jazeera."

It gave his son the opportunity to ultimately triumph over the "venom that drooled from his captors' mouths," his father said.

He continued, "Danny was not a religious Jew. Judaism for him was the language of his extended family — a source of strength, commitment and historical identity. To Danny, 'I am Jewish,' meant three things:

"I must understand...I am possessed with a historically baked obsession to understand and repair things, because my wandering ancestors, hardened by centuries of persecution and discrimination, have taught me to distrust dogma and ideology.

"I understand suffering because of the suffering of my ancestors. I understand justice because I was distilled in injustice.

And, "I understand Muslims' suffering as well, for I have seen your people in Kosovo, I have worked with your carpet weavers in Iran, and I have sung with your pearl divers in Qatar."

Pearl said the loss of his son will forever tug at his heart. "Do we not seek revenge? Yes we do — by fighting the hatred that took Danny's life."

Afterwards, at the book signing of the anthology, *I Am Jewish, Personal Reflections Inspired by the Last Words of Daniel Pearl*, which he and his wife edited, many asked Pearl to inscribe it to their children or grandchildren.

Breakfast *Shmooze*

Join us for a Breakfast Seminar with
Tzipporah Heller
as she speaks on the topic of
Does Judaism Discriminate Against Women?

Sunday December 4th @10:30 AM
(Breakfast @ 10 AM)

Brown Hillel - 80 Brown St
(corner of Brown & Angell St.)

$12 per person
$18 per couple
$15 @ the door

Men & women welcome

For more info. or to RSVP please call the Providence Community Kollel at 401.383.2786

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Light Your Spiritual Path

A Majority of One

A decade later: assassination lessons

Headline in the *Forward* issue of Nov. 4. "A Decade After Rabin's Killing, Israeli Democracy is Thriving."

Yehuda Lev

Headline in *The Jerusalem Report*, issue of Nov. 14. "Ten Years, Nothing Learned."

The author of the first article believes that Israeli society has matured in the last ten years and cites the non-violent manner in which the disengagement from Gaza was carried out. The author of the second article says that violence has become endemic in Israel and that Israeli society has not learned from the experience of the assassination.

Ha'Aretz published one report on Palestinian reactions to the tenth anniversary which, as you can imagine, are somewhat different from those expressed in Israel, and another on the reactions of Israel's youth, who seem, in the main, to regard both Rabin and his assassination as ancient history.

Finally there is the murderer himself, Yigal Amir, who demands to be released from prison and whose family claims that he didn't commit the deed at all (he was firing blanks) and was wrongfully tried and convicted. There is even a conspiracy theory extant that names Shimon Peres as the instigator of the crime. Peres armed Amir's pistol with blanks, intending only to cause a scandal and embarrass the government but the blanks were accidentally replaced by live bullets.

Rabin did accomplish one important achievement, virtually unheard of in Israeli politics...he changed his mind.

As a postscript, it should be mentioned that Rabin's memory is being honored in the traditional Israeli manner, by spending $20 million on a "Rabin Center for Israel Studies," housing an institute glorifying his life and achievements and including a future "Museum of Israeli Society," whatever that may mean. This by a government that cannot meet its obligations to the poor and helpless among its citizens.

So what are we to make of it all? We begin with the understanding that Rabin did accomplish one important achievement, virtually unheard of in Israeli politics although Ariel Sharon did the same more recently; he changed his mind. Palestinians remember him best for ordering the troops to "break their arms and legs," which for many years served as the model for relations between the Israeli military and the Palestinians. This was the same Rabin who, in the light of later developments, reversed course and supported the Oslo agreements which aimed to end the conflict through a negotiated compromise.

This was also the same Rabin who found himself unable to stand up to the Jewish settlers and did not close down a single illegal outpost, let alone a single settlement. Even during the negotiations on Oslo the settlements continued expanding, thus arming the Palestinian leadership with at least one strong reason (though certainly not the only one) for Yasser Arafat's refusal to back off on some of his more extreme demands. The author of the *Forward* article recalls going into Rabin's office after the massacre of 29 Muslims by a Jewish settler in a Hebron mosque and urging him to evacuate the 400 Jewish settlers living among 120,000 Muslims in Hebron, who were among the most violent of the settler communities. "Rabin categorically refused" was his recollection.

No evaluation of the consequences of Rabin's assassination is complete without reference to the political climate of the time. We might ignore the calls for his death on the part of religious extremists and their rabbis and the caricatures of him as an SS man that were circulated by his enemies, but for the fact that the same scurrilous attacks were made against Sharon much more recently. Nor were those responsible ever brought to trial for their actions, then or now. In a sense Amir was right; he pulled the trigger but others paved the way for his action by making his decision to do so acceptable to a small but lethal segment of Israeli society.

Israel has learned from the assassination. The armed protection provided its endangered political leaders is far greater than was thought necessary a decade ago. The media pay more critical attention to kabbalistic rituals labeling the Prime Minister a *rodef* or danger to the Jewish people and therefore deserving of death. And those who point to the successful withdrawal from Gaza as an indication of Israeli maturity have a valid point. The death of Rabin, ten years ago, served as a cautionary note to many who might otherwise have defied military orders or in other ways sabotaged the evacuation. For this at least, Israelis and their supporters can be grateful.

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

Alison on Aliyah:

A hard weekend

Late yesterday, Thursday afternoon, I picked up my boyfriend from the airport, after three long weeks of being apart. Mikhael had been in France visiting his family, and the separation had been fairly excruciating for both of us, given that our relationship is still relatively young and that we see each other for only eight days per month anyway.

Alison Golub

So needless to say, we were both very much looking forward to spending a long weekend together before he would have to report back to the army on Sunday morning. The next morning, however, before we could even get in the car to go to the shuk to buy our weekend's worth of food, Mikhael got a call from his unit commander, requiring that he report to his base within hours. Less than 24 hours after he had stepped off the plane, I had already dropped him off at the army base.

He couldn't tell me anything about what he had been called back in to do, only that it was a "big operation." Mikhael is consistently (and frustratingly) tight-lipped about his army duties and has never used any type of descriptor to detail his activities, so I knew that "big" must not even begin to cover what he was about to do. As I called around to the other soldiers I know, I found out that everyone had been made to stay on their base this weekend, or had been let out in the morning but called back in before the afternoon was over. I slowly began to realize that this was no small matter.

Indeed, one glance at the newspapers over the past couple of days would tip anyone off that this weekend represents a watershed moment in post-disengagement Israeli defense tactics and policy. Since the bombing in Hadera a few days ago, Israel has responded with extreme force, targeting a multitude of individuals and terror cells linked to the bombing, as well as to the Qassam rocket attacks that have increased over the past week.

It scares me that Mikhael is so deeply involved, and I spend long nights worrying whether or not he will come out of each "operation" unscathed.

Part of me feels a great deal of satisfaction at the severity of our response, knowing that Israel is doing significant damage to the Palestinian terrorist infrastructure and hoping that this will cause them to think twice about attacking us in the future.

A lot of Israelis hoped that the disengagement would, at least and if nothing else, buy us the permission to respond with this kind of severity if the Palestinians continued to behave as they always have. After all, we pulled out, unilaterally, with nothing close to a promise of peace from the other side. And what was our reward? Internal strife and more violence from the other side. I believe it is high time for Israel to respond in this fashion; in fact, we are long, long overdue.

Of course, the other part of me wishes my boyfriend didn't have to be intimately involved with Israel's military response to the Palestinian terrorists. I mean, hey, we all make sacrifices, but I have to admit that I would prefer not to have to make this particular sacrifice. It scares me that Mikhael is so deeply involved, and I spend long nights worrying whether or not he will come out of each "operation" unscathed. I actually don't believe there is an "unscathed" in what he is doing; I can see the emotional and psychological toll it takes on him.

I forget sometimes that Israel really is in the middle of a war. Before I began dating Mikhael, it all seemed so distant, and I was so removed from it in many ways. Of course, the bombings inside the city centers affect all of us, but the military operations in towns and refugee camps I've never heard of, the news reports of an army unit whose name I don't recognize capturing hundreds of people I'll never know—these things were all very, very far away from me.

But now it's right in my face. I worry that my boyfriend will get shot, or that my friends will have to serve in the middle of what amounts to a war zone. When I look back on my "prior life" in America, sometimes I can barely believe how I'm living now. If someone had told me, three years ago, that I would be washing my boyfriend's army uniform every weekend and asking him to call me at 5 a.m. to tell me he made it home safely after each mission, I wouldn't have believed it. It's so easy sometimes to pretend that because I can speak English and buy Cheerios and call my family on my American phone line that Israel is just like any other, "normal" country. But it's not. We deal with things here that I never would have been able to predict that I would have to see and come to terms with. What can I say—it's been a hard weekend.

Alison Stern Golub 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.

Opinion

VIEWPOINT

The international Hillel handshake

By Allison Goldstein

While most students were bringing their summers to a close, 15 of us University of Michigan Hillel students were just beginning our adventure. On August 22, along with our rabbi and program director, we departed on a 10-day service program to Ukraine. The project was sponsored by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), which provides assistance to overseas Jewish communities, University of Michigan Hillel and Kharkov Hillel, with financial support from the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation and the Mandell L. and Madeleine H. Berman Foundation.

Ukraine is home to one of the largest Jewish populations outside of Israel, but the current number of active Jews is small due to the difficulty, and even danger, of dealing with anti-Semitism and the lack of Jewish resources. Thus, our primary goal was to connect with Ukrainian Jews who are rebuilding Jewish life following years of Nazi atrocities and Communist rule, to provide them support and a link to a larger, global Jewish community.

We flew into Kiev, and after a brief visit to Babi Yar, the site of tens of thousands of Jewish deaths during World War II, we boarded an overnight train bound for Kharkov, our main destination. Kharkov, the second largest city in Ukraine, consists of approximately 1.8 million people, 40,000 of whom are Jewish (down from 150,000 before WWII).

It was upon our arrival in Kharkov that we got our first glimpse into the incredible revitalization of Jewish life taking place in Ukraine. At six in the morning, we were greeted with signs and roses by students from Kharkov Hillel and JCC Beit Dan, whose incredible warmth and enthusiasm, to our amazement, only seemed to grow throughout the week we spent together. These students, our peers, were so eager to connect with us and to celebrate a joy for being Jewish.

We visited many Jewish establishments, including Hillel, Hesed welfare centers and JCC Beit Dan. We took the time to play with children from broken homes whose development depended on the warmth and caring of Hesed workers, to repair apartments of elderly Jewish community members who relied on JDC's assistance to meet their most basic needs for food, clothing, and medicine, and to celebrate with our peers. All the while we gained insight into the pride and pure zest for life that is such a prominent part of Ukrainian culture.

The Shabbat we spent at Kharkov Hillel was an unforgettable experience. Despite the lack of Jewish educational resources, these students knew the words to every song and blessing by heart, and in spite of the language barrier that existed for many, their enthusiasm and passion brought everyone together into what felt like one big family. This again held true in our visit to the small town of Konotop where, although the Jewish community was much older, the pure pleasure of their singing and dancing seemed like that of children.

For our University of Michigan Hillel group, the incredible time we spent in Ukraine opened our eyes to Jewish life outside of the United States and Israel, and made us think about what it means to be Jewish and about how much we take for granted living in a land of freedom. We are so thankful to have had the chance to meet so many wonderful people, and we are going to do everything we can to continue our connection with our Ukrainian peers and aid in their quest to strengthen their Jewish community.

Allison Goldstein is a sophomore at the University of Michigan. She is the granddaughter of Alice Goldstein, of Warwick.

Dry Bones

INTIFADA IN FRANCE

www.drybonesblog.blogspot.com

A letter to King Abdullah II

By Rabbi Avi Shafran

Your Highness:

This was to have been a letter of concern and protest, over a Jordan-based satellite network's planned airing during Ramadan of a virulently anti-Semitic television series.

Instead, having been informed of new and heartening developments, I write to express my gratitude and admiration for the cancellation of the series' broadcast.

As you surely know, the series, "Al-Shatat," or "The Diaspora," rivals the worst canards ever propagated by the Nazis. It includes wild fabrications intended to incite hatred for, and violence against, Jewish people. It depicts, for example, a rabbi overseeing the slitting of a Christian boy's throat in order to obtain blood to bake in matzos; a Jewish leader taking "credit" for suggesting the destruction of Hiroshima; a "Secret Jewish World Government" assisting in the Holocaust in order to drive European Jews to the Holy Land – and other canards, both old and original.

I became aware of your government's intervention to prevent the airing of the Syrian-produced poison through groups like the David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies and the Middle East Media Research Institute; both had earlier drawn attention to the broadcast and have now promptly informed the public of Jordan's principled action.

As one of a number of Jewish religious representatives you invited to a luncheon in Washington last month, I heard you eloquently address the importance of building bridges between Jews and Muslims, and I, like all those gathered, deeply appreciated your words. You have now shown them to be more than mere words. I salute you for showing your willingness to back them with action.

With your indulgence, though, please allow me to share a further hope.

Al-Jazeera reports that Jordanian officials have been "tight-lipped on the ban [of the television program], apparently to avoid agitating a public opinion frustrated with Israel's policies." In fact, while the statement of your embassy in Washington was laudable, it disturbingly characterized the Al-Shatat program only as "controversial," and contended only that it "drew concerns for inciting hate."

But Al-Shatat is an evil production, pure and carefully distilled lies and hatred. And condemning such anti-Jewish poison should have nothing to do with anyone's political views. When you spoke to us in Washington, one of your themes was precisely that: the need to separate political matters from religious ones. You asked your listeners to put the

See KING, page 7

Letters to the editor

Let everyone hear Pearl's message

Judea Pearl's dedication to *tikkun olam* is a wonderful honor to the memory of his son. I am saddened to hear that his talk was only open to those who pledge $1000 or more to the JFRI campaign. His message is one of such importance that it should be heard by as many people as can fit into the room — especially students and those of other ethnicities — since his message is an important one of peace and understanding.

Alyssa Nordhauser
Providence

Alyssa Nordhauser is a member of the Voice & Herald's editorial board.

The Federation campaign team responds:

For years the Federation has had the tradition of bringing thought-provoking speakers to our community. We certainly understand concerns about inclusiveness and outreach, and to that end we decided to have two events this year — a leadership donors speaker event in the fall and a spring event for all donors.

It is important to remember that many non-profit organizations hold events to recognize donors at a specific level; this is not unique to the JFRI.

The JFRI Campaign team invited Mr. Pearl to address our leadership donors in the hopes that we will be able to raise more dollars to allocate to those in need.

Our goal is to balance two priorities — provide outreach programming and raise essential dollars for our community.

Alan H. Litwin
JFRI Vice-President
Annual Campaign Chair

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.

"Mitzvah of the Month"

The Mitzvot for November are:

Eastside Marketplace Receipt Collection

Help us feed a local family this season by turning in your Eastside Marketplace receipts to the Jewish Federation of RI. Your receipts will be redeemed for turkeys for this holiday.

Receipts accepted through November 12

and

Hanukkah Gifts for Our Friends at Tamarisk

This Hanukkah, help the Women's Alliance bring special gifts to our friends at The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Center. Bring a wrapped gift to the Jewish Federation of RI.

Bring your gifts by December 7.

For more information, contact Meredith Einsohn at 421-4111, ext. 206 or E-mail: meinsohn@jfri.org

Future Community Service Projects

December 18	Gift Wrapping
January	Community Day School
February	Volunteer at Children's Museum
March	Hamentaschen Baking
April	Collect Food for Passover
May	Community-wide Drive at Annual Meetings

Information for above projects will be provided at a later date.

From the Federation President

Checking items off the 'to do' list

I am delighted to report that we are a Federation and a community on the move. Here are some updates and recent accomplishments:

• I am grateful to Hershey Rosen for agreeing to step in as JFRI's Interim Executive Vice President starting the first of January. Hershey brings a breadth of experience not only as a long-time federation volunteer leader, but also as a prior JFRI interim executive.

Herbert Stern

David Hirsch's search committee has engaged the United Jewish Communities (UJC), and they will be conducting over 40 one-on-one interviews, on November 21st and 22nd, to solicit in-depth information about the qualities that people throughout our community are hoping to find in a new Executive Vice President.

• We are in the midst of this year's annual campaign, and we have already raised $3.1 million, on our way to our $4.3 million goal. This is a difficult philanthropic year for all charities, and we very much need the maximum financial commitment from everyone who is reading this article so that we serve those who need us around the world.

• Our Planning & Allocations Committee, which recommends wise distribution of the campaign and endowment dollars we raise, has launched their four-month long decision-making process. This month P&A will recommend how we will best spend this year's endowment income.

• A JFRI governance review is underway. UJC Consulting was enlisted to help us uncover issues, concerns and needs about our current structure and decision making processes, as mandated in our Organizational Audit performed a year ago. UJC has completed over 30 leadership interviews. They are also requesting all of our Board members to respond to an on-line survey so that they can report on their findings to a governance task force at the beginning of next month.

• We are making clear progress completing the agreed-upon objectives in our communications and marketing strategic plan for this year, including finalizing vision and mission statements for JFRI and designing a unified and modern look for the organization.

It amazes me that it already has been six months since I took office. All that I mentioned above, and so much more, could only be happening with the assistance of our deeply dedicated volunteer and professional leaders. I feel blessed to be part of a community made up of such caring, committed people. It has been a real pleasure to have had the opportunity to have coffee or lunch with, and learn from, over 100 people in the past year. Most particularly, I am grateful for the outpouring of support I have received from our officers and former presidents. I appreciate their support, and I am honored to lead such a devoted, capable Jewish community as we move from strength to strength.

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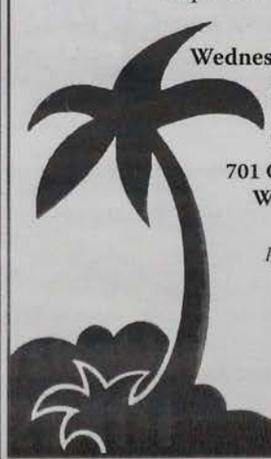

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Campaign 2005-2006

Super Sunday adds sites to neighborhood

December 11 date set

By Amy Siegle

Ken and Roberta Schneider love Sundays—Super Sundays, that is! As chairs of this year's annual community campaign phonathon, they are bringing a great enthusiasm to the event, scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 11.

"It's not every day that a single call can improve the life of a young Jewish family in Barrington, of a Jewish teen from Tbilisi, or of a grandmother in Argentina," explains Roberta. "Yet on Dec. 11, volunteers will gather to make the calls that make a difference in Jewish lives."

An integral piece of the annual campaign, Super Sunday callers will reach hundreds of households of fellow Jews throughout greater Rhode Island, affording community members the opportunity to make their gifts to the 2006 community campaign of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. These gifts provide local agencies and those in Israel and more than 60 countries around the world the necessary funds to support their ongoing services and begin to address critical issues facing our most vulnerable.

This year, in addition to the call site at the Jewish Com-

See SUPER SUNDAY, next page

SUPER SUNDAY 2005

From page 6

munity Center (401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence), three additional neighborhood sites will be established at Temple Habonim, (165 New Meadow Rd, Barrington); Newport's Salve Regina University, Ochre Court; and in the West Bay, at the Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence (3 Shalom Drive, Warwick).

"We also want to stress the importance for community members to pick up the phone and heed the call they will receive on Dec. 11," says Ken Schneider. "One phone call can help feed the hungry, comfort the sick and bring dignity and opportunity to Jews around the world."

Volunteers at any of the four calling locations will hear a campaign briefing at 9:30 a.m., and will have access to the phones from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers are needed to make phone calls and to offer general assistance for the day. For more information on volunteering, call 421-4111, extension 173 or email asiegle@jfri.org. You can also sign up on the Federation's website at www.jfri.org.

Amy Siegle is the assistant campaign director at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

A letter to King Abdullah II

From page 5

question of Israel and the Palestinians aside and focus on fostering mutual respect between religions. Al-Shatat's producer – Hezbollah – surely has its political views, but the production is, above all else, anti-Jewish in its every frame.

And so it is my hope that you will find the right opportunity to state, unequivocally and straightforwardly, as a descendant of Mohammed, the monarch of a great nation and a promoter of truth, that Al-Shatat is falsehood from beginning to end, that it was designed to foment hatred of Jews, and that no Muslim who respects truth or justice, ideals glorified by the Koran, should, for even the briefest moment, imagine otherwise.

Your Highness, you have demonstrated unusual – in fact, unique – determination and courage in speaking up for the cause of true peace among religions and peoples. And so that is what emboldens me to share with you my prayer that you continue, and intensify, the work you have bravely begun.

May the Creator grant you long life, good health and His constant protection in that holy task.

AM ECHAD RESOURCES. Rabbi Avi Shafran is director of public affairs for Agudath Israel of America. This was sent to King Abdulla via the Jordanian Embassy in Washington on November 1.

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In memory: Jane Sprague, former editor of Jewish Voice

(Full obituary on page 33, additional remembrances on page 34.)

By Yehuda Lev

Two worlds met and meshed on Nov. 1, at the funeral of Jane Sprague, a former editor of the *Jewish Voice*. One was the largely gentile, sometimes conservative world of Jamestown R.I., a world of school committees, performing arts programs, sailing, the Republican Party and the local issues that concern every community.

In that world Jane chaired the Jamestown Republican Town Committee, served on the school board, led a campaign to restore the Jamestown Theater and when that ultimately failed, founded the Jamestown Fund for the Performing Arts.

The other world was that of Jewish Rhode Island and its concerns: Israel, liberal Democratic politics, Holocaust vigils, anti-Semitism, uncertainties about the future of Judaism and the rising rate of defections to the majority culture. It was a world into which Jane entered voluntarily, converting to Judaism because she felt more comfortable, felt even that she may have been the descendant of Jews from previous generations.

To her Jewish world, Jane brought her professional skills as a writer and editor, and to the Jewish community she contributed her organizational abilities. In a description offered by her daughter Sara, she "galvanized" the Jews of Jamestown, arranging for annual community seders and other celebrations and serving as a link connecting Jews and non-Jews in Jamestown and Jamestown with the larger Jewish community across the bridge.

Within her own family Jane played a similar role. She and her husband of 36 years, Bill Sprague, taught their two children, Sara and Paul, to regard the Judeo-Christian tradition as their own and they benefited, as do many children of intermarried couples, by celebrating the holidays of both faiths. In one respect the children differed from their parents: they both consider themselves liberal Democrats. When Sara and Paul were born, they joined Bill's three children from a former marriage. Within the generational circle there is no talk of step-brothers or step-sisters; with the guidance of both parents the five regard each other as siblings.

Jane and Bill met and married in Indianapolis, Indiana. He was a film-maker working on a TV documentary and she was a state employee, assigned to assist his crew. They didn't hit it off at first but by the time production was completed and the crew packed up, a more positive relationship had developed. At the final wrap, as everyone was saying their farewells, the two looked at each other from across the room and have not been separated since.

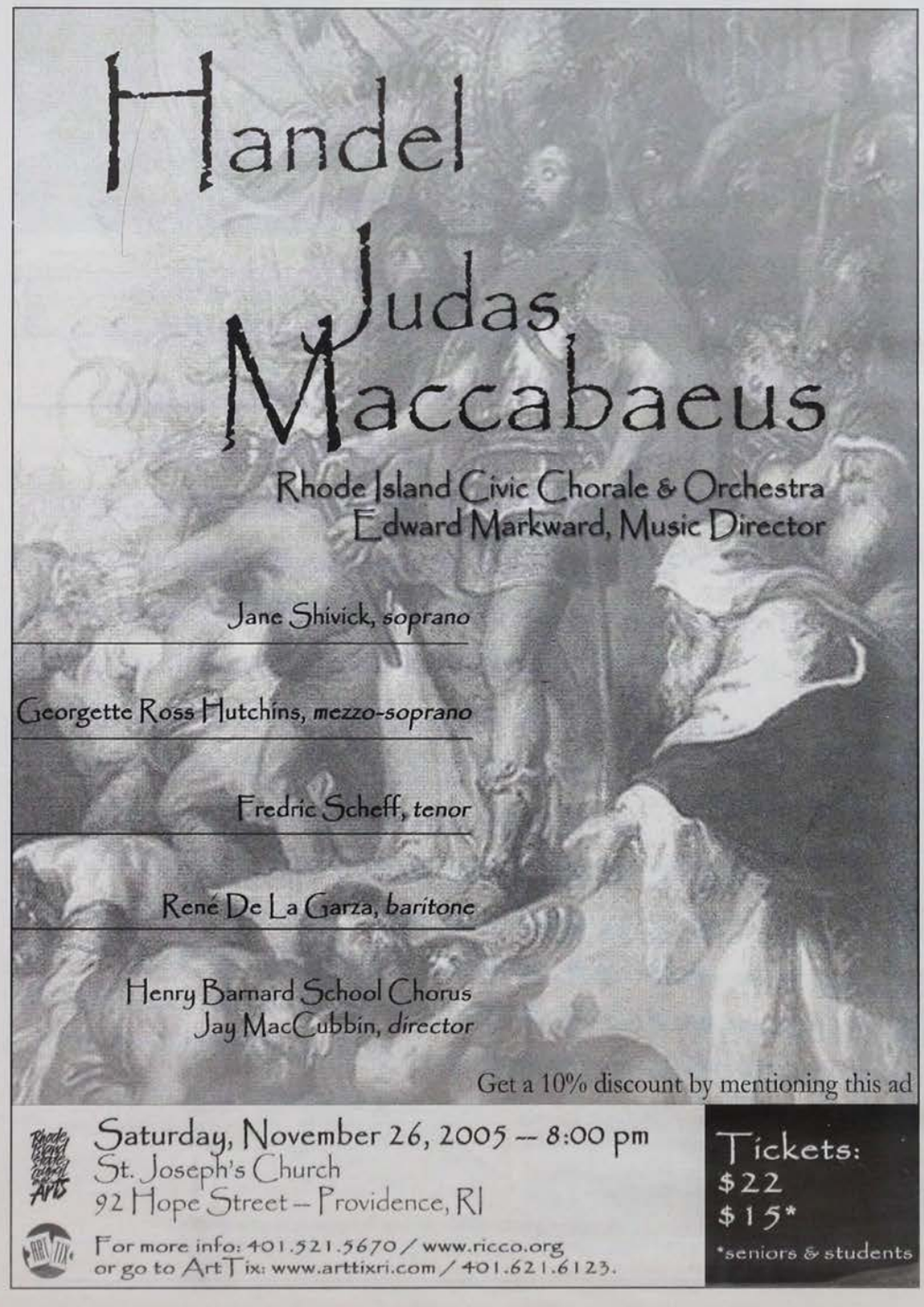
From August 1989 to July of 2001, Jane Sprague was the editor and principal writer of the *Rhode Island Jewish Voice*, the monthly publication of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and the precursor of today's *Jewish Voice & Herald*. Leah Camara was her assistant, and she attributes to Jane a quality much needed at the time: patience. Leah, who today is responsible for the V&H's graphic design and paper layout, among other assignments, says that during those first months Jane's favorite expression was "Don't worry , it will all work out," a phrase much heard in the office as she taught Leah the techniques of her new profession.

There was another characteristic of Jane's that served her well as an editor. One of the unavoidable conflicts in the news business lies in the relationship between the publisher, who has to worry about the bottom line, and the editor, who is concerned with what appears above the bottom line. Jane solved the conundrum by standing her ground when challenged but not in such a way as to antagonize those with whom she disagreed. As an editor she never allowed her personal opinions to make their presence felt in *The Voice* and she strove to achieve a balance among the many competing and sometimes conflicting elements in the Jewish community. Here too, as in her roles as civic leader and as a community member, Jane served as a bridge joining disparate parts to create a stronger whole.

When the decision was made to merge *The Voice* with the *Jewish Herald*, a move Jane had campaigned for, she retired and joined the staff of Friends of Touro Synagogue as its executive director, not incidentally freeing herself from the rigors of the long commute from Jamestown to Providence's East Side. The distance did not deter her from attending services and a Torah class at Temple Emanu-El for as long as her health permitted.

The morning of Jane's funeral, the arrangements for which she planned in advance with her family at Beavertail State Park, was also the first day of a week of unseasonably pleasant weather. For the more than 250 people in attendance, representing all of the communities to which she had given so much, it seemed almost as a parting gift from Jane to both of the worlds she brought together during her lifetime.

Yehuda Lev, a regular columnist, lives in Providence.



World

Israeli soldiers mistakenly kill boy with toy gun; Palestinian boy's family donates organs

By Dan Baron

JERUSALEM (JTA) — For one Palestinian family, tragedy born of five years of fighting with Israel has provided an opportunity to appeal for peace. Israeli troops scouring the West Bank city of Jenin for terrorists on Nov. 3 shot 11-year-old Ahmed Khatib after mistaking the toy gun he was carrying for a real weapon.

The boy, who has Israeli Arab relatives, was rushed to Rambam Hospital in Haifa for treatment, but succumbed to his head injury over the weekend.

After consulting with Muslim authorities, Khatib's relatives announced that his organs would be donated to anyone who needs them — Arab or Jew.

"The truth is that since Thursday we have been sitting in the hospital and discussing this pain, how a boy can leave home and get shot and wind up dead. We began talking about how we have to put an end to this cycle of bloodshed," Khatib's uncle, Mustafa, told Israel Radio on Sunday.

"The doctor there asked us to donate his organs. We sat and discussed it, and decided that yes, we want to bring more people, more children to life. Perhaps in the future they will be decision makers who will put an end to the bloodshed."

JTA Photo

HEART RECIPIENT — Samah Gadban recovers from a heart transplant operation at the Schneider Children's Hospital near Tel Aviv on Wednesday, after receiving one of the organs donated by the family of a Palestinian 11-year-old, Ahmed Khatib, accidentally killed by Israeli troops.

Officials at Schneider and Beilinson hospitals said Monday that the organs are expected to save the lives of six Israelis, among them Jews and a Bedouin.

The Israeli army voiced regret at Khatib's shooting, and Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said he would seek a meeting with the bereaved family to pass his condolences.

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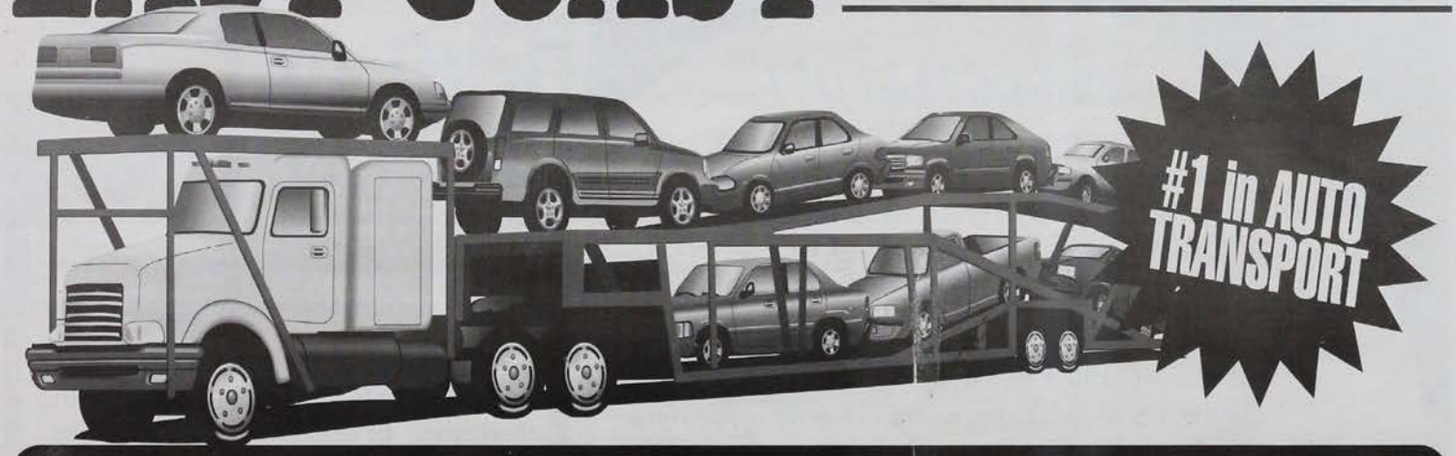

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Photo: David Bohrer/White House

LEWIS LIBBY, right, confers with Vice President Cheney after 9/11.

Libby, Judaism and the leak probe

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) — When Joshua Muravchik, perhaps the pre-eminent expert on the interventionist foreign policy that has become known as neo-conservatism, was looking for non-Jewish neo-cons to prove that the movement isn't pervasively Jewish, he naturally included Lewis Libby.

"Go easy on me," Muravchik laughingly told a reporter this week, after it emerged that the man at the center of the White House leak scandal indeed is Jewish. Libby resigned as Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff just hours after his indictment on perjury charges related to the leaking of the name of a CIA operative married to a prominent Bush administration critic.

Across the blogosphere, anti-Semitic and anti-Israel conspiracy theorists were quick to tie Libby's Jewishness to his role in selling the Iraq war, imagining once again a neo-con cabal that has a singular agenda: promoting Israel at all costs.

"One more Jewish Neocon Traitor," headlined the White Civil Rights Web site, which features the writings of David Duke. Yet the fact that many people in Washington — including neo-conservatives — had no idea that Libby was Jewish underscores how tenuous the Jewish-neo-con link actually is, said Muravchik, a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and Jewish himself.

"One key measure of the falsity of the argument is that the non-Jewish neo-cons are equally pro-Israel as Jewish neo-cons," he said.

In addition to DeMuth, Schmitt and Bolton — who now is U.S. ambassador to the United Nations — prominent non-Jewish neo-cons include Bolton's predecessors Jeanne Kirkpatrick and Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former CIA chief James Woolsey and former Education Secretary William Bennett.

Conversely, polls have found that a majority of American Jews embrace liberal and centrist views. Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, last year's Democratic presidential candidate, won up to 77 percent of the Jewish vote.

Libby's Jewish profile at the White House was low, according to Jews who have worked with the administration.

The low profile was attributable in part to Libby's general reserve and to his closeness to power. After Karl Rove, Bush's top adviser, he was considered the most powerful unelected official in the White House.

Some of the misapprehension apparently has to do with Libby's persona. His Andover prep school education; his nick-

See LIBBY, facing page

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LIBBY

From page 10

name, "Scooter"; and the Jr. tacked onto the end of his full name as it appears in the federal directory — I. Lewis Libby, Jr. — seem to indicate a non-Jewish background.

In fact, Libby, 55, for years has been a member of Temple Rodef Shalom in Falls Church, Va., a five-minute drive from his home in McLean, a wealthy suburb known for multimillion homes housing top lobbyists, lawyers and Bush administration officials.

Libby's only other ostensible Jewish involvement was with the Republican Jewish Coalition, and only since he joined the Bush administration. He made an appearance at the RJC's 20th anniversary celebration last month.

Libby is known as a workaholic but he has a busy private life which could have kept him from spending much time on extracurricular Jewish activities. He's an avid skier, plays touch football on weekends and has written and published an erotically charged novel set in Japan.

A number of Jewish leaders told JTA they didn't think Libby's Jewishness would become a factor in the leak scandal that has obsessed Washington, but his name already appeared on numerous anti-Semitic Web sites long before JTA published an item over the weekend reporting his synagogue membership.

Muravchik said it's an old ploy to ascribe ulterior motives to neoconservatives having to do with the Jewish origins of some movement leaders. "It's certainly a slur that has been repeated by people who are enemies of neo-conservatives or who are enemies of Jews," he said.

The underlying argument is that the movement led the Bush administration into war with Iraq in hopes of protecting Israel. That argument ignores the low Jewish profile of many other Jewish neocons.

It also ignores the essentially American origins of a movement that seeks to spread democracy overseas.

The sympathy for Israel is simple, Muravchik said. "It's a lone democracy in the Middle East, and it was a chief target of the Soviet bloc," opposition to which helped shape neo-conservatism.

World news in brief

Reform fiction award announced

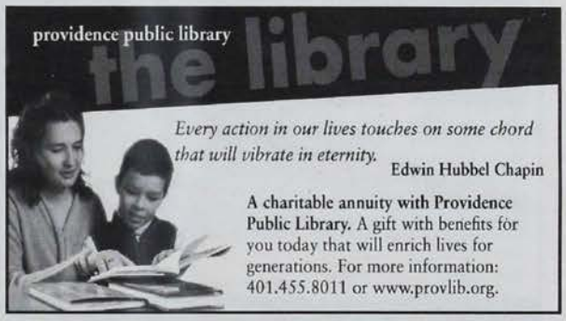
NEW YORK (JTA) — Jonathan Rosen won the 2005 Reform Judaism Prize for fiction. Rosen's novel, Joy Comes in the Morning, concerns the life of Rabbi Deborah Green, a Reform rabbi who gets involved in a love triangle with a science reporter and God. The prize carries a $5,000 award.

Bush meets Jews in Brazil

NEW YORK (JTA) — President Bush heard from Jewish leaders about Latin America's Jewish community. In a meeting Sunday in Brazil, leaders of the World Jewish Congress and the region's Jewish community stressed to Bush, who has been promoting democracy in the area, that the way Jews are treated can be "a kind of barometer, a bellwether of when things are going badly in South America," said Rabbi Israel Singer.

McCain: Israelis don't torture

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Sen. John McCain cited Israel as an example of a nation that successfully combats terrorism without resorting to torture. A bill by McCain (R-Ariz.) restricting all U.S. government employees to interrogation techniques in the army manual passed 90-9 last month, but is meeting fierce resistance from the White House, which wants to exempt CIA agents. In recent TV appearances, McCain said he consulted with Israelis about his initiative. "The people in this world that suffer more threats from terrorist attacks and get them every day are the Israelis," McCain said Monday on NBC's "Today" show. "The Israeli Supreme Court outlawed torture, outlawed cruel and inhumane treatment. And I have talked to Israeli officials, and they say they do very fine without it."



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News in brief

Dutch teen said to threaten El Al plane

NETHERLANDS: A Dutch teenager is under arrest on suspicion of planning to shoot down an El Al plane. Netherlands television reported last Friday that the 19-year-old son of Moroccan immigrants was among seven terrorist suspects arrested last month. According to the report, the suspect planned to shoot down an El Al passenger plane as it took off from Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport. The suspect previously had been acquitted of charges of plotting to attack a Dutch nuclear reactor. — JTA

U.N. passes Holocaust resolution

NEW YORK: The U.N. General Assembly has passed a Holocaust commemoration resolution. The document, called Holocaust Remembrance, establishes a Holocaust Memorial Day at the United Nations, calls on member states to incorporate Holocaust education into their missions and had more than 100 sponsors. — JTA

JDL member murdered in prison

PHOENIX: A Jewish Defense League member was murdered in prison.

Earl Krugel, who was sentenced to 20 years in prison for his role in a plot to bomb a mosque and the office of an Arab-American congressman, was killed last Friday evening when another prisoner hit him over the head with a cement block, authorities said. Krugel, 62, had been at the medium-security federal prison in Phoenix for three days.

The murder comes after Irv Rubin, a JDL leader imprisoned for the same plot, died in prison in 2002 in what has been described as a suicide. — JTA

Muslims sue David Project

BOSTON: The Islamic Society of Boston is suing terrorism expert Steve Emerson and the David Project for defamation in an attempt to prevent it from building a mosque. The parties being sued also include a local TV station and the Boston Globe. The David Project earned headlines last year by alleging bias against Jewish and pro-Israel students at Columbia University. — JTA

Poll: Jews like public religious displays

NEW YORK: A poll conducted by the Anti-Defamation League has found that 64 percent of Americans believe that religious symbols like the 10 Commandments should be displayed in public buildings, 56 percent think creationism should be taught alongside evolution, 44 percent believe organized prayer has a place in public schools and 47 percent favor individual prayer. Sixty-four percent said that religion is under attack in America. — JTA

Pollard release date set

WASHINGTON: The U.S. Bureau of Prisons projects a 2015 release date for Jonathan Pollard, the former U.S. Navy analyst convicted of spying for Israel. The release date is the first indication that the government plans to release Pollard who is serving a life sentence in a North Carolina prison. The government has consistently rejected appeals to grant clemency for Pollard. — JTA

Magen David Adom admitted to Red Cross?

JERUSALEM: According to the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Israel expects its Magen David Adom relief agency to be admitted to membership in the International Red Cross. In December. Magen David Adom has been excluded from the international body because of objections from Muslim states despite the inclusion of the Muslim Red Crescent. —JTA

Parochial schools win in Katrina aid

WASHINGTON: The Senate has passed legislation approving aid for public and religious schools taking in students displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Schools will receive up to $6,000 for each student. The Orthodox Union praised the decision. A spokesman said: "The Orthodox community is pleased that we are no longer discussing whether non-public and parochial schools will be included in a federal education aid program, but how they will be included." — JTA

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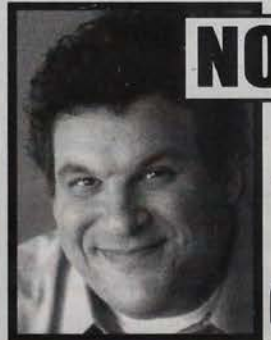

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BOSTON: The Islamic Society of Boston is suing terrorism expert Steve Emerson and the David Project for defamation in an attempt to prevent it from building a mosque. The parties being sued also include a local TV station and the Boston Globe. The David Project earned headlines last year by alleging bias against Jewish and pro-Israel students at Columbia University. — JTA

Poll: Jews like public religious displays

NEW YORK: A poll conducted by the Anti-Defamation League has found that 64 percent of Americans believe that religious symbols like the 10 Commandments should be displayed in public buildings, 56 percent think creationism should be taught alongside evolution, 44 percent believe organized prayer has a place in public schools and 47 percent favor individual prayer. Sixty-four percent said that religion is under attack in America. — JTA

Pollard release date set

WASHINGTON: The U.S. Bureau of Prisons projects a 2015 release date for Jonathan Pollard, the former U.S. Navy analyst convicted of spying for Israel. The release date is the first indication that the government plans to release Pollard who is serving a life sentence in a North Carolina prison. The government has consistently rejected appeals to grant clemency for Pollard. — JTA

Magen David Adom admitted to Red Cross?

JERUSALEM: According to the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Israel expects its Magen David Adom relief agency to be admitted to membership in the International Red Cross. In December. Magen David Adom has been excluded from the international body because of objections from Muslim states despite the inclusion of the Muslim Red Crescent. —JTA

Parochial schools win in Katrina aid

WASHINGTON: The Senate has passed legislation approving aid for public and religious schools taking in students displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Schools will receive up to $6,000 for each student. The Orthodox Union praised the decision. A spokesman said: "The Orthodox community is pleased that we are no longer discussing whether non-public and parochial schools will be included in a federal education aid program, but how they will be included." — JTA

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Nation

Jewish groups examine Alito's record

From page 1

"He wrote a very important opinion in expanding what little is left of the free-exercise clause," Marc Stern, co-director of the legal department of the American Jewish Congress, said, referring to the constitutional guarantee of free religious practice.

On the other hand, in several cases dealing with the constitutional prohibition against the establishment of a state religion, Alito indicated a leaning in favor of religious speakers "to the exclusion of those who might not want to listen," Stern said.

Stern emphasized that the AJCongress had yet to make a decision on where it stands regarding Alito. The National Council of Jewish Women, which usually takes the lead in abortion-related announcements, was the first Jewish group to formally oppose Alito.

"Judge Alito has ruled to severely restrict a woman's constitutional right to abortion and against civil rights protections for both women and minorities," NCJW said in a statement Monday.

National Jewish groups at times have been pivotal in joining liberals in opposing judicial candidates; President Reagan's failed nomination of Robert Bork in 1987 stands out as an example. The White House was eager to get out the message that Alito was safe for the Jews.

"Judge Alito has been a strong defender of religious liberty as guaranteed by the First Amendment," Jeffrey Berkowitz, White House liaison to the Jewish community, wrote in an e-mail within minutes of the announcement.

Legal scholars say Alito substantially expanded First Amendment rights in 1999, when he ruled that the Newark, N.J., police department violated the rights of Muslim officers by banning them from wearing beards, though it allowed an exception for health reasons.

Another Alito opinion had a more immediate impact on Jewish observance. In Abramson v. William Patterson College in 2001, the court considered the case of Gertrude Abramson, who sued the New Jersey institution in 1995, claiming that it violated an earlier agreement to allow her to take off Jewish holidays. Abramson also alleged a pattern of harassment, including meetings scheduled on the Jewish Sabbath.

The court ruled in Abramson's favor, but Alito's separate concurrence was even stronger, citing favorably an amicus brief filed by the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs, an alliance of Orthodox groups.

Title VII, the applicable civil rights law, "does not permit an employer to manipulate job requirements for the purpose of putting an employee to the 'cruel choice' between religion and employment," Alito wrote.

Such insights are typical of Alito, his former law clerk, Jeffrey Wasserstein, told JTA.

Alito expressed interest in Wasserstein's own Sabbath observance, and was quite probing when it came to religious cases, he said. Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Penn.), the Jewish chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which must consider Alito's appointment, was more circumspect, but notably held back the enthusiastic endorsement of other Republican senators.

"We are in the process of assembling his opinions," said Specter, a Republican moderate who is pro-choice. "It is estimated that he has been involved in about 3,500 cases and has some 300 opinions which he has written."

The Orthodox Union does not endorse judicial candidates, and Alito is not an exception, said Nathan Diament, the O.U.'s Washington director.

However, Diament said, Alito is "clearly someone who is sensitive to religious minorities."

Should the left mount a multibarreled assault on Alito's church-state record, Diament said, "our role will be making his record clear, trying to prevent it from being distorted."

Pelavin suggested the Reform movement also would have a role to play — probably not one particularly sympathetic to Alito.

"It's not just about competence, it's about the court shifting on fundamental issues, including reproductive rights and religious liberty," he said.

Photo: Paul Morse/White House

PRESIDENT BUSH looks on as Judge Samuel Alito acknowledges his nomination Oct. 31 as Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

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Nation

B'nai B'rith seeks to reach teens

NEW YORK (JTA) — In the television world, network execs drool over the 18- to 34-year-old demographic, since young viewers often help boost advertising revenue.

Young people, and teens in particular, also are seen as an essential target audience for Jewish educators, who view them as the key to another kind of currency: Jewish continuity.

In recent years, however, educators are finding their wares an increasingly tough sell to young Jews.

"Jewish teens have changed," says Matthew Grossman, executive director of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. "We can't expect the same formula to work today that worked 80 years ago. Teens aren't joining groups like they did. The reality is that a vast majority of Jewish teens are not connecting Jewishly during the teenage years," he adds. "If you take out the Orthodox community, it's a vast, vast majority."

In this light, BBYO has launched a new initiative aimed at reaching Jewish teens in their own milieu, an online Internet community.

BBYO recently launched b-linked, an online community built on the model of social-networking sites like Friendster and Facebook, online communities that connect people through networks of friends for dating or making new acquaintances.

New B'nai B'rith website seeks to engage teens.

The site, www.b-linked.org, aims to revolutionize the way Jewish teens connect with each other. BBYO leaders hope that 50,000-100,000 Jewish teens will join b-linked over the next four years.

The site was launched in October and made available initially to the BBYO community. It already has more than 2,000 members, and the group is publicizing the initiative more broadly in an effort to attract a wider spectrum of teens.

"Our goal is to get as many Jewish teens onto the site as possible, and then deliver them meaningful Jewish experiences," Grossman says.

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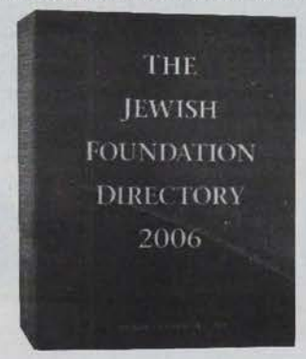

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Books

Writer speaks on growing up Jewish in Chile

By Mary Korr

PROVIDENCE — At the fall meeting of the R.I. Jewish Historical Association held recently, a Chilean Jewish writer, Marjorie Agosin, related the story of her grandmother's emigration from Odessa in the early 1900s.

"She, like most Jewish immigrants of the time, came through Buenos Aires and crossed over the Andean range by mule," said Agosin. "Her name was Hannah. It was changed by the Chileans to Josefina. She embraced Spanish culture and never spoke Yiddish again."

Agosin spoke on the topic "Always from Somewhere Else" on Oct. 16 at Temple Beth-El.

She is a poet (20 volumes), author (six books) and professor at Wellesley, where she teaches Spanish, women's and Latino studies and courses on human rights — she is the recipient of a U.N. leadership award for her focus on humanitarian issues. Her book, Tapestries of Hope, Threads of Love, detailed the life of women under the Pinochet dictatorship. She is also the winner of two prestigious awards given to Latin American writers, the Letras de Oro and the Latino Literature Prize for poetry.

Agosin, who thinks and writes in Spanish, spoke of the Jewish Diaspora in Chile within the context of her own family. Much of her work is peopled with the large extended Ashkenazi family she grew up in, many of whom remain in Santiago today.

She lovingly spoke of her grandfather, Jose (Joseph). "He was above all a dreamer and an adventurer. When his mother did not like the fact that he was going out with a cabaret girl in Vienna, she told him he had to leave the family home in Austria. He looked at a map and decided he would go to the end of the world – Chile. He took a transatlantic trip from Hamburg to Valparaiso and stayed ever after."

Marjorie Agosin

The titles of two of her memoirs, A Cross and A Star: Memoirs of a Jewish Girl in Chile, and Always from Somewhere Else: My Jewish Father, capture the paradoxes inherent in being a Jew and living in a Catholic and a Spanish country. Her father was a doctor, who trained at the National Institutes of Health in Maryland, but was unable to make a living in Chile as a physician. "A Jewish physician was thought of as unclean," she said. He turned his career to research in biochemistry.

The family fled Santiago de Chile, where they lived, after the military coup of the Socialist regime of Salvador Allende in 1973. "My family did not want to live under the Pinochet military government," she said.

They went to Athens, Georgia, where they were perceived as Latinos, she said. "In Chile, my father was considered a Jew. When we came to America, he was considered a Latino. My mother gained a new identity not through the Jewish community, which rejected us, but through the Catholic Hispanic community."

Agosin, 50, now lives in Wellesley with her husband and two children, but returns annually to Chile.

She described herself in contradictory terms – as an Ashkenazi who wanted to be Sephardic when she was a girl "because they had more fun." As a Jewish writer who writes from the Jewish experience, and from the Jewish tradition of fighting for social justice, but also as a Latino and a woman writing in the Hispanic cultural context.

She said while anti-Semitism is prevalent in Argentina today, it is not as evident in Chile, where the Jewish population is 20,000. "But people want you to make a choice — are you a Chilean or are you a Jew?" they ask.

Photo by Mary Korr

JESSICA FAIN talks to Chilean Jewish writer Marjorie Agosin when she spoke in Providence.

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Website: spicedpear.com

Opened in 2003, The Chanler, a small luxury hotel along Newport's Cliff Walk, is home to the award-winning Spiced Pear Restaurant, which features seasonally inspired cuisine in its elegant dining room with ocean views. A special Thanksgiving menu, both traditional and creative, has been prepared. The wine list is extensive, with many selections by the glass. Menus are online.

Twist on Angell

Address: 500 Angell St., Providence
Phone: 831-4500
Fax: 831-4501
Reservations: For parties of 6 or more
Hours: 7 days for lunch and dinner. Mon. to Thurs., 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.,
Fri. & Sat., 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.
4 to 6 p.m. pizza & 1/2 price appetizers
Sunday brunch, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Fax lunch order for pickup.

Twist is located in the lower level of Wayland Manor, with a sophisticated décor, spacious martini bar, a private dining area and an available chef's table. For lunch there are appetizers, salads, wraps and sandwiches with a special "twist" — twisted Thai, twisted turkey gobbler, for ex. The dinner menu features grilled pizza, and a variety of pasta dishes, meats and fish. How about eccentric eggplant? Full-bar service.

(The dining guide listings do not represent the endorsement of The Jewish Voice & Herald or its publisher, the Jewish Federation of R.I.)

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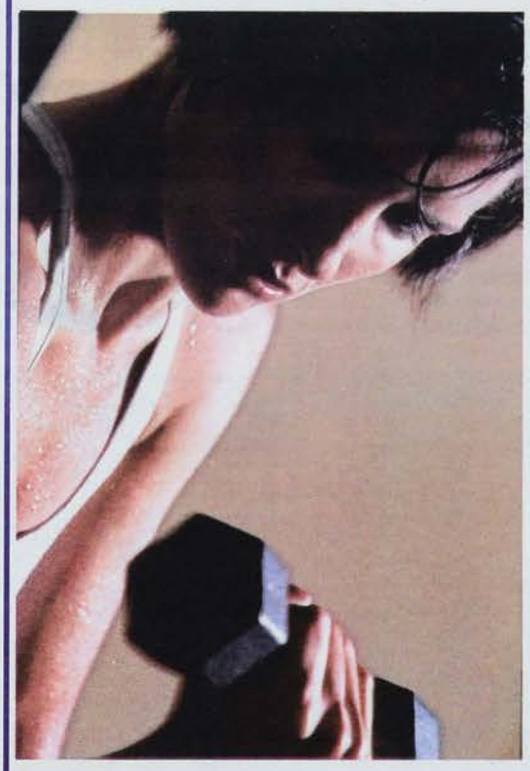

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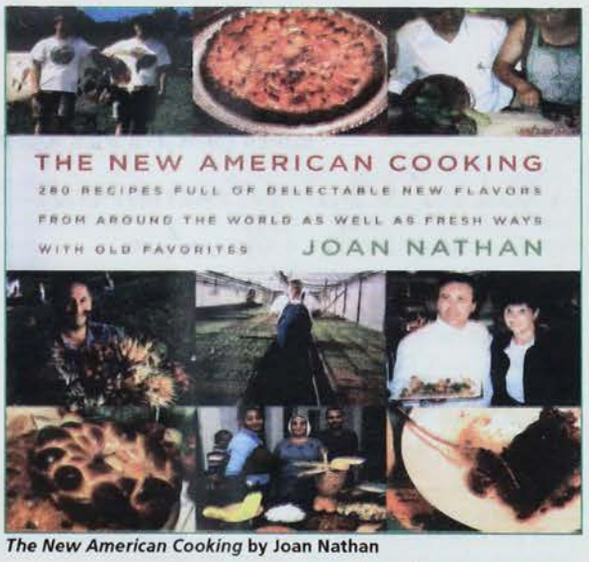
Food



The New American Cooking by Joan Nathan

Joan Nathan's latest is ethnic potpourri

By Mary Korr

Joan Nathan's latest cookbook, *The New American Cooking*, is a departure for the Providence native and author of nine Jewish cookbooks, including *Jewish Cooking in America*, which won both the James Beard and Julia Child annual cookbook awards, and which was the basis for her PBS television series of the same name.

She said, "Now that I have learned so much about my Jewish background, as a journalist I felt ready to explore what has happened

See facing page

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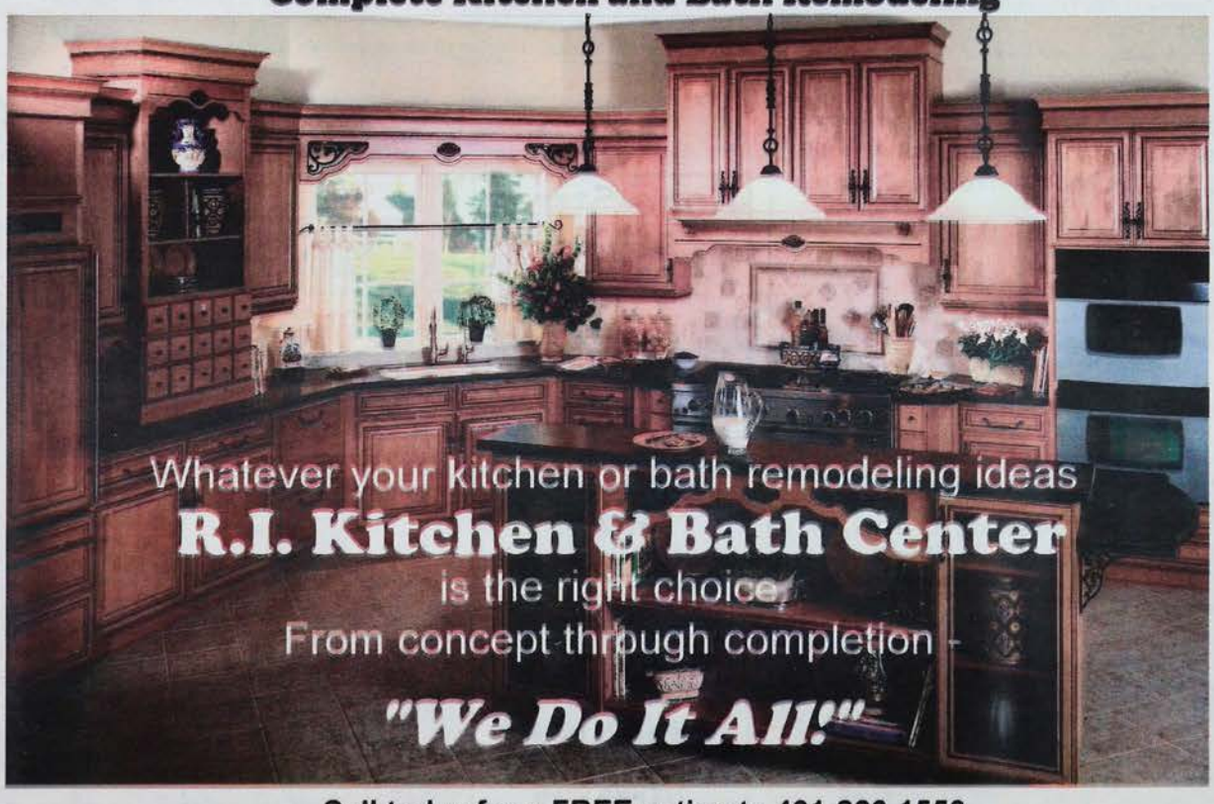

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Food

ETHNIC POTPOURRI

From page 20

to American cuisine in the past 40 years."

(But that doesn't mean you can't find some Jewish gems, such as her 90-year-old mother's recipe for chicken matzo ball soup, with a twirl of escarole.)

The cookbook is the result of Nathan's intermittent five-year trek across America, into culinary pockets and hot spots — from artisanal cheesemakers and bread bakers to a Hmong farmer in Minnesota and into Al Forno's kitchen in Providence, where she learned the art of grilling pizza from chef/owners George Germon and Johanne Killeen.

There's a story to go with each recipe.

In her introduction to her Israeli couscous recipe, Nathan writes: "Israeli couscous was created by a Czech noodle company (now a Nestle subsidiary) at the request of David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister." Ben-Gurion had requested the company to create a pasta product for immigrants from North-African couscous eating countries. It is a wheat pasta, and larger than the semolina American cooks are familiar with. Israeli couscous can be bought loose or in a package; a substitute would be orzo or Arborio rice.

Israeli couscous with pine nuts, fresh herbs

Yield: 6 to 8 servings.

2 TBLS. Extra-virgin olive oil

1 onion, diced

1 stalk celery, diced

2 cloves garlic, diced

2 cups Israeli couscous

4 cups chicken broth or water

2 TBLS. chopped fresh parsley

2 TBLS. chopped fresh herbs such as lemon thyme and rose mary

Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

1/2 cup toasted pine nuts

Preparation

1. Heat the oil in a frying pan and sauté the onions, celery and garlic until the onions are translucent. Add the couscous and stir until browned.

2. Stir in the chicken broth or water and halve the parsley and fresh herbs. Bring to a boil and then lower to a simmer and stir occasionally for about 8 to 10 minutes or until the couscous is al dente and most of the water is absorbed. If you leave it in the pan after cooking, it tends to stick together, but it will return to its proper consistency if you fluff it up with a fork and add a little more hot liquid.

3. Season with salt and pepper to taste and turn onto a platter. Sprinkle with the remaining herbs and the toasted pine nuts and serve hot or at room temperature.

Here's a harvest recipe for succotash that comes from Walker's Stand in Little Compton. Nathan writes: "I found this modern succotash recipe at Walker's Stand, which is known for its corn. Made with corn, red pepper and zucchini, this is a version of a corn and lima bean dish the Narragansett Indians ate. The recipe is very simple and a delicious change from straight corn on the cob.

Cookbook author Joan Nathan

Succotash

Yield: 4-6 side dish servings

Walker's Stand corn, red pepper, zucchini succotash

6 ears corn

2 TBLS. milk

2 TBLS. butter or extra-virgin olive oil

2 large cloves garlic, minced

1 red pepper, diced

1 medium onion, diced

1 medium zucchini, diced

Salt, freshly ground pepper to taste

2 TBLS. chopped fresh parsley

Preparation

1. Fill a large pot halfway with water and bring to a boil over high heat. While waiting for the water to boil, husk the corn. Add the corn and the milk when the water has come to a boil. Return to a boil, reduce the heat, and simmer for 4-5 minutes.

2. While the corn is cooking, heat the butter or oil in a large frying pan and sauté the garlic, red pepper and onion until the onion is translucent, just a few minutes.

An American folklife cookbook.

3. Add the zucchini to the pepper and onion and sauté for a few more minutes, until the zucchini is soft but not mushy. Remove from the heat.

4. Using tongs, remove the corn from the water and cool slightly. Scrape the kernels off the cobs (about 3 cups) and toss into the other vegetables. Reheat the vegetables in the frying pan for a few minutes. Season with salt and freshly ground pepper, then sprinkle with the fresh parsley and serve.

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CommunityCalendar

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DAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

From page 2

learn about the school and meet administration, faculty, alumni and staff. Call 751- 2470 for more information.

Read Hebrew America

7:15 p.m. at Chabad Chai of West Bay, 3871 Post Rd., Warwick. Learn to read Hebrew. Six free 1 1/2 hour lessons. RSVP to 884-7888. See Community.

TUES., NOV. 15

JCC 'Plain Talk'

11 a.m. JCC, 401 Elmgrove Ave, Providence. Conversations about "aging well." New session begins, led by Adell Fine and Rena Ries. For more information, call Sue Robbio at 401-861-8800.

East Greenwich lunch & learn

12-1:30 p.m. Learn about contemporary issues in the light of Jewish sources and lunch with Rabbi Amy Levin at The Grille on Main, 50 Main St., East Greenwich. Study session on "What Judaism Says about Autopsy" is free of charge; lunch will be ordered individually. RSVP by Nov. 10, call 785-1800.

WED., NOV.16

Chess at Habonim

6:30 p.m. at the temple, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington. Chess for all ages, every other Wed. Bring an opponent or find your match. Bring a chess set. Call Margie to sign up, 245-6536.

NCJW domestic abuse program

7 p.m. at Brown Hillel Glenn & Darcy Weiner Center, 80 Brown St., Providence. Guest speaker Shira D. Epstein on educating for healthy relationships. For more information, call 272-3649. See Community.

THURS. NOV. 17 – SAT. NOV. 19

Jewish play at PCD

7:30 p.m. The Providence Country Day School presents "Mourning Light," an original production written by the Page to Stage summer writers, which tells the story of the children in the Terezin concentration camp. Ticket prices are $10 for adults, $5 for students and children.

FRI., NOV. 18

Morgan to speak at Habonim

Following 8 p.m. Shabbat service, Dr. Vance G. Morgan, chair of philosophy dept. at PC, will speak on the moral philosophy of ethicist Peter Singer. All are welcome.

FRI., NOV. 18-19

Shabbaton at Beth Sholom

Cong. Beth Sholom will be sponsoring a Shabbaton with Rabbi Benjamin Hecht (from Hamilton/Toronto, Ontario), the founding director of Nishma. Rabbi Hecht will be speaking about "Jewish Identity, Orthodox Identity, Defining Our Identity" on Friday night, during Shabbat morning services and at a Seudah Shlishit meal. Call 724-7643. Cost for Friday night dinner is $12.50 adults / $8 children, by reservation only. Call 621-9393 by Nov. 14. See Community.

FRI., NOV 18 and DEC. 16

Nosh and Nach

12 - 1 p.m. at Temple Beth-El, Providence. A lunchtime study group. Free. Call 331-6070.

SAT., NOV. 19

JCC casino night & auction

6 p.m. Ledgemont Country Club, 131 Brown Ave., Seekonk, MA. To benefit the JCC Scholarship Fund. Featuring Texas Hold 'Em tournament at 7 p.m. Food, games, auction. For more information, call 861-8800 or visit www.jccri.org/casino. See Community.

Challenges to Orthodoxy conference

Congregation Beth Sholom will join Young Israel of Sharon, Newton's Congregation Shaarei Tefillah, and the Harvard and Boston University Hillel House for a regional mini-conference organized by Edah. Speakers include Rabbi Saul Berman, Rabbi Benjamin Hecht, Rabbi Dov Linzer, and Dr. Efraim Zuroff. 8 to 10:30 p.m. $10 per person; includes dessert. Location: Congregation Shaarei Tefillah, 35 Morseland Avenue, Newton Center, Mass. Call 724-7643 for more information.

SUN., NOV. 20

Yiddish Book Center trip

8:30 a.m. Bus departs from Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick. Return approximately 6 p.m. $30 per person includes transportation, breakfast, lunch and tickets to see a play presented on site. Yiddish book and sheet music repository, exhibitions, Yiddish writers' garden and other attractions. Call 401-463-7994 by Nov. 11.

Family health fair

1 to 4 p.m. at congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence by Cub Scout Pack 104. Health and safety demos, games prizes, etc. Blue-Cross, Blue Shield wellness van. See Community.

SAT., NOV. 26

Hanukkah chorale

8 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church, 92 Hope St., Providence. Join Maestro Edward Markward, renowned soloists, and the RI Civic Chorale & Orchestra as they perform Handel's oratorio "Judas Maccabaeus." Call for tickets (401)521-5670 or log into arttixri.com. Mention the *Voice & Herald* and receive a 10% discount.

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Arts

Youth theater to present 'Charlie Brown'

PROVIDENCE — Temple Emanu-El will present "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" by Clark Gesner on Nov. 17, 19 and 20. The performances will be held in the Meeting House of the Temple at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday and 1:30 pm on Sunday.

The play is based on the Peanuts comic strip by Charles Schulz and follows some of its most well known characters, including Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus and Snoopy, through a typical day. It features 12 musical numbers and a cast of 18 performers, who have been rehearsing the show twice a week for two months.

The production has a Jewish "twist," correlating many of the scenes to Jewish teachings and showcases the young cast singing in Hebrew. The cast members range in age from 8-14. All students participating in the production are members of Temple Emanu-El.

Andrea Champagne of Lincoln directed and choreographed the production. Mo Tian, a student at Brown University, served as musical director. Numerous parent volunteers and key staff from the temple served as publicity assistants, costumers, technical designers and set and prop creators.

Tickets are available in advance at the Temple Emanu-El office and at the door. Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for children ages 10 and under. Call the temple office at 331-1616.

Rosie Fine as Lucy rehearses with Zeb Stern, who plays Charlie Brown.

The production is sponsored by the Temple Emanu-El Family Committee with the support of the Shuster Fund.

Students tackle Holocaust at PCD play

EAST PROVIDENCE —Providence Country Day School and the PCD Players will perform "Mourning Light," showing Nov. 17, 18 and 19 at 7:30 p.m.. The play, an original production written by the Page to Stage summer writers, tells the story of the children in the Terezin concentration camp.

The production was written, directed and performed by PCD students.

In order to prepare for the writer's workshop, Eric W. Van Dervort, director and chair of PCD's performing arts department, traveled to Prague and Amsterdam this summer with a grant from the Jewish Federation of R.I. During this summer, the Page to Stage writers traveled to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. on a grant from the Edwin S. Sofrenko Foundation.

The play will be held at PCD's Corkery Auditorium. Ticket prices are $10 for adults, $5 for students and children.

Call 401.438.5170, ex 175 or email rudis@providencecountryday.org for more information.

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Free memory screenings will be available during this special event and conducted on a first come, first serve basis. Refreshments will be served.

For more information or to RSVP, call Arlene Nihill at **401-273-6565.**

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Community

Temple Am David holding auction in December

Sports memorabilia to highlight event

WARWICK — Temple Am David will be hosting a live and silent auction of goods and services on Sat., Dec. 3, at 6:30 p.m.

Included in the auctions are autographed baseballs and footballs from New England sports legends, tickets to sporting and theatre events and vacation packages as well as popular gift certificates from restaurants. Some examples of autographed memorabilia are Ted Williams, Carl Yastrzemski, and Jim Longberg signed baseballs as well as baseballs from Hall of Famers, such as Enos Slaughter. Also being displayed and auctioned will be autograph memorabilia from Larry Bird, Tom Brady and Adam Vinatieri.

The program will also feature tickets to sporting events such as the URI and Providence College basketball games, tickets to popular Rhode Island theatres, including Providence Performing Arts Center, Rhode Island Philharmonic and the Festival Ballet. The highlight of the action will be luxury suite seats for either a Celtic or Bruins game. Also being auctioned will be tickets to Boston Red Sox games as well as the New England Patriots.

Lee Lerner, chairperson of the program, said, "Last year we had a large turn-out of people from the community for the silent auction. This year we anticipate more response from the community due to the live auction."

Tickets for the Dec. 3, Saturday evening program, which includes wine and cheese, are being sold for $10 in advance, or $15 at the door. People are encouraged to come early. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

Temple Am David is located at 40 Garde\iner Street in Warwick, near Hoxie Four Corners. For more information call the Temple office at (401) 463-7944.

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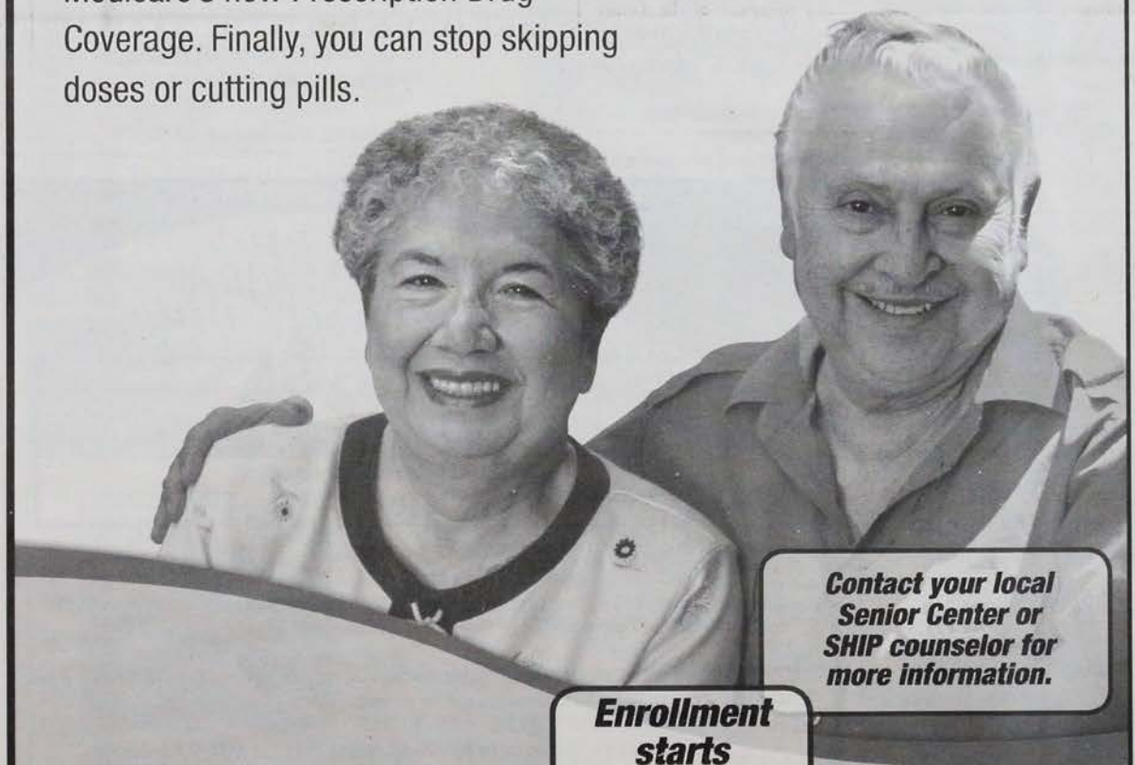
FOR RHODE ISLAND

Beginning **January 1**, Rhode Island Seniors will be able to save money with Medicare's new Prescription Drug Coverage. Finally, you can stop skipping doses or cutting pills.



Contact your local Senior Center or SHIP counselor for more information.

Enrollment starts November 15

RIPAE

The State of Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs

The Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs (RIDEA) is committed to assisting RIPAE members in making the right decision about prescription drug coverage.

Casino night planned by JCC

SEEKONK — The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island will be holding its second annual Casino Night and auction on Sat., Nov. 19, at Ledgemont Country Club in Seekonk.

There will be casino games, bingo, a Texas Hold 'Em tournament, and silent and live auctions. Mah Jongg will be added this year. The proceeds will benefit the JCC's scholarship fund.

Entry fees include a buffet dinner and opportunities to bid on auction items plus various categories of games and events, and range from $100 to $1200. Call 861-8800 or visit www.jccri.org/casino.

Brotherhood holding raffle at Beth-El

PROVIDENCE — The Brotherhood of Temple Beth-El is holding its 2006 raffle to raise funds for its college scholarship fund. Each year the Brotherhood awards two or more scholarships to qualified graduating seniors of the religious school who are going on to college.

One thousand tickets have been printed with 23 cash prizes, which include one each $1,500, $1,000 and $500 prizes, and 20 $100 winners.

The drawing will be held on May 6, 2006 at the Charles Lindenbaum "person of the year" award dinner at the temple. Winners need not be present.

To purchase tickets, call Rona Nachbar in the temple office at 331-6070 or Barry Schiff, Brotherhood vice president at 781-4612.

Read Hebrew America at Chabad Chai

WARWICK — The Chabad Chai Center of West Bay will be joining other communities across the country in a crash course teaching people to read Hebrew, starting Mon., Nov. 14 at 7:15 p.m. There will be six free hour and a half lessons available for beginners and intermediates.

The lessons are intended to teach people to follow services, be more involved in their children's Jewish education or to enhance one's ties to Judaism and Israel.

The Center is located at 3871 Post Rd. in Warwick. RSVP at 884-7888.

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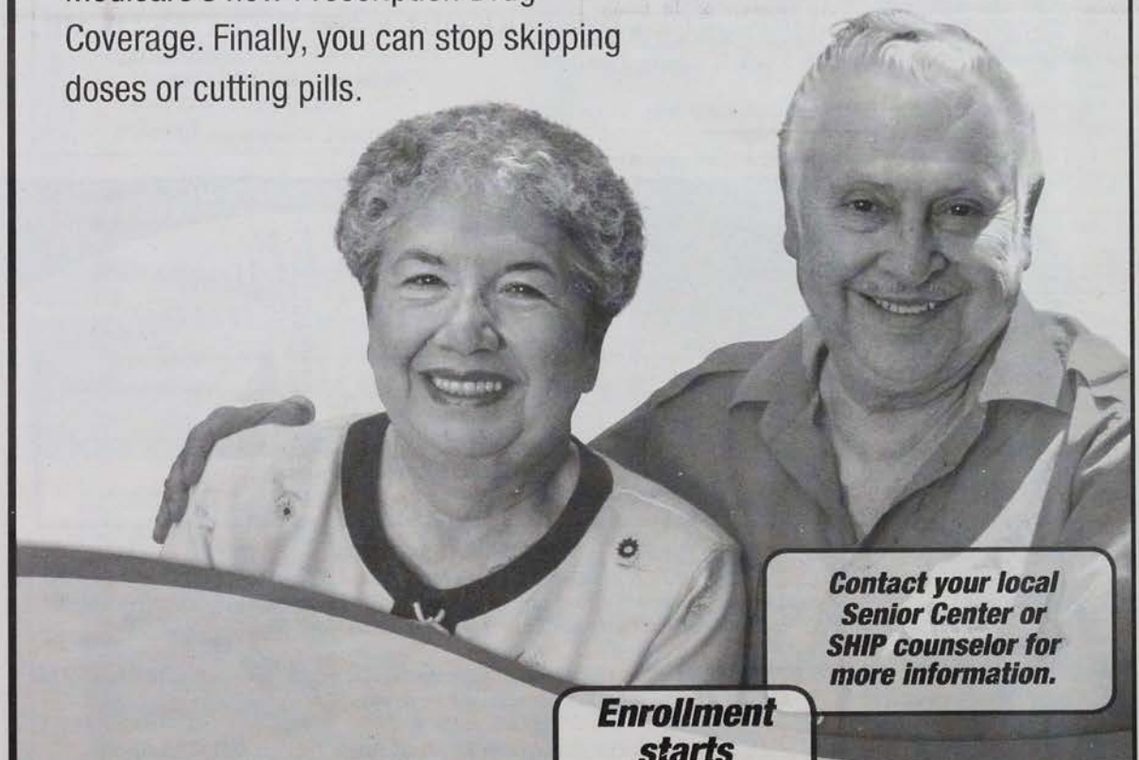

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To purchase tickets, call Rona Nachbar in the temple office at 331-6070 or Barry Schiff, Brotherhood vice president at 781-4612.

Read Hebrew America at Chabad Chai

WARWICK — The Chabad Chai Center of West Bay will be joining other communities across the country in a crash course teaching people to read Hebrew, starting Mon., Nov. 14 at 7:15 p.m. There will be six free hour and a half lessons available for beginners and intermediates.

The lessons are intended to teach people to follow services, be more involved in their children's Jewish education or to enhance one's ties to Judaism and Israel.

The Center is located at 3871 Post Rd. in Warwick. RSVP at 884-7888.

Community

Photo by Jonathan Rubin

For crepes sake

DANIEL ALON, of Daniel's Gourmet Kosher Catering, prepares crepes for women and their children at a Babies, Kids and Kibbitzing event of the Women's Alliance.

Cub Scouts plan health, safety fair

PROVIDENCE — Cub Scout Pack 104, along with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Rhode Island, will be holding a family health and safety fair on Nov. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St. on the East Side of Providence.

The activities will include home fire safety presentations, street safety and cooking demonstrations.

There will be activities for kids along with storyteller Mark Binder. A book fair and prizes are also included.

The Blue Cross, Blue Shield wellness van will be there with health screenings, flu shot clinic and fingerprinting for children.

Other health organizations will be represented.

All members of the family from children to grandparents are invited to this free event.

The fair is sponsored by Bank RI.

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Community

Beth Sholom to host Shabbaton

Will also participate in Orthodox conference

PROVIDENCE — Congregation Beth Sholom will be sponsoring a Shabbaton on Nov. 18 and 19 with Rabbi Benjamin Hecht (from Hamilton/Toronto, Ontario), the founding director of *Nishma*. Rabbi Hecht will be speaking about "Jewish Identity, Orthodox Identity, Defining Our Identity" on Friday night, during Shabbat morning services (services begin at 9 a.m.,) and at *Seudah Shlishit* meal.

Call Alan Krinsky at 724-7643 for more information about the weekend's events. Cost for Friday night dinner is $12.50 adults / $8 children, by reservation only. Call 621-9393 by Monday Nov. 14; specify vegetarian or meat.

Challenges to Orthodoxy

On Nov. 19, Beth Sholom will be partnering with Young Israel of Sharon, Newton's Congregation Shaarei Tefillah, and the Harvard and Boston University Hillel House for a regional mini-conference organized by Edah, a Modern Orthodox organization based in New York. Topics include religious Zionism, divine providence, subjectivity in *halacha*, and pluralism and tolerance; speakers include Rabbi Saul Berman, Rabbi Benjamin Hecht, Rabbi Dov Linzer, and Dr. Efraim Zuroff. Time: 8 to 10:30 p.m. Cost: $10 per person; includes dessert. Location: Congregation Shaarei Tefillah, 35 Morseland Ave., Newton Center, Mass. Call 621-9393 for more information.

R.I. Jewish Film fest continues

PROVIDENCE — The second Rhode Island Jewish Film Festival continues through Nov. 20 at venues throughout the state. It will include award winning and provocative films and documentaries, family films, and guest speakers. Last year, there were over a thousand participants.

The festival is organized by the Jewish Community Center and the Bureau of Jewish Education and grew out of a successful mini-series for Israel education month several years ago. Co-chairs are Linda Fain and Joyce Starr.

The schedule and locations are:

- Saturday, Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m., *Go For Zucker!*
  Columbus Theater, 270 Broadway, Providence
- Sunday, Nov. 13 at 2 p.m., *Watermarks (appropriate for families)*
  Columbus Theater, 270 Broadway, Providence
- Sunday, Nov. 13 at 4 p.m., *My Land Zion* and *My Terrorist*
  Columbus Theater, 270 Broadway, Providence
- Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m., *Mechina: A Preparation (teens and up)*
  Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston
- Thursday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m., *King of the Corner*
  Odeum Theater, 59 Main Street, East Greenwich.
- Sunday, Nov. 20 at 4 p.m., *Campfire* shown with *West Bank Story*, Roger Williams University, Bristol

For a brochure with film details, ticket prices, and ticket purchase information, contact Marsha Horovitz at mhorovitz@bjeri.org or call the JCC at 861-8800 or the BJE at 331-0956.

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Drawing to be held **Sunday, Dec. 11, 2005 at 12:00 p.m.** At the Little Brothers Christmas Party, Smithfield Elks Lodge. 326 Farnum Pike, Smithfield, RI (winner need not be present to win)

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Community

Beth Sholom celebrates centennial of synagogue life

PROVIDENCE — Congregation Beth Sholom, a modern Orthodox synagogue, will be celebrating the centennial of synagogue life on Providence's East Side with a series of lectures and events over the coming months, a shabbaton with area synagogues and a dinner event honoring the shul's history and leadership. The lecture series, entitled "About 100 Years Ago," includes talks about Jewish and general history by members and friends of the congregation. All of the lectures will be held at the synagogue at 8 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

Upcoming events include:

Dec. 4: Einstein lecture — Professor Robert A. Pelcovits of the Brown University Physics Department will deliver a presentation on "Einstein's miracle year: 1905."

Jan. 8, 2006: Young, female and Jewish — Alison Rose Levine of URI will explore some of the issues raised by her forthcoming book, with a talk entitled "Being young, Jewish and female 100 years ago."

Feb. 12, 2006: Jews in America: Lawrence Charap of URI will share an insightful examination of "Jews and Judaism in America."

May 7, 2006: "Hermann Cohen and Jewish Philosophy 100 years ago." — Mark Kaplowitz of NYU will lead discussion.

This lecture series represents the synagogue's interest in opening its doors to the larger community and in contributing to public discourse. According to congregation president Yaakov Rosenbaum, "I am excited by the prospect of welcoming to our synagogue those who might not have had a prior opportunity to get acquainted with us. Beth Sholom is a friendly place, and we aim to extend our traditional hospitality to all who attend our centennial programming."

Gala

Beth Sholom will also host a gala dinner to celebrating 100 years of synagogue life on Providence's East Side and 10 years of service to the community by Rabbi Mitchell Levine on March 5, 2006. A ticket price has not yet been set.

The committee organizing the gala aims to contact as many "alumni" of the congregation and its two predecessors—Congregation Ahavath Sholom and Congregation Sons of Zion.

The gala will be marked by presentations on the rich and colorful history of the congregation, as well as personal reflections by congregants on the contributions that Rabbi Levine has made to enhance the quality of Jewish life in Providence.

For information about Congregation Beth Sholom, its centennial programming, or to be added to the congregation's "alumni" list, call 401-621-9393 or email bethsholom1@yahoo.com.

Journal's page editor to speak at Emanu-El

PROVIDENCE — Edward Achorn, deputy editorial page editor of the *Providence Journal*, will speak at the Leisure Club of Temple Emanu-El at 2 p.m. on Sun., Nov. 13, on "The Legacy of Corruption in Rhode Island." The temple is located at 99 Taft Ave., Providence.

Achorn has been deputy editor of the *Providence Journal* editorial page since 1999. He was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2003 for what the judges called "his clear, tenacious call to action against government corruption in R.I."

He has had more than 25 years of experience in New England journalism as a reporter and editor. He is co-author, with Phil Swann, of a book, *How to Land a Job in Journalism*, and is currently working on a book about 19th-century baseball.

The event is free and the community is invited. Call 331-1616.

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Sunday, Dec. 18, 2005	• "Jewish Dilemma"
Friday, Jan. 20, 2006	• "Jews Around the World through music"
Friday, Feb. 17, 2006	• Tu B 'Shevat
Friday, March 17, 2006	• Purim
Sunday, April 9, 2006	• Passover
Friday, May 19, 2006	• Israel

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Reserved guests will receive a complimentary copy of *The Forgetting*. To RSVP, call Kathleen at 401-737-7222.

Healthcare providers, caregivers, family members and professionals are all encouraged to attend.

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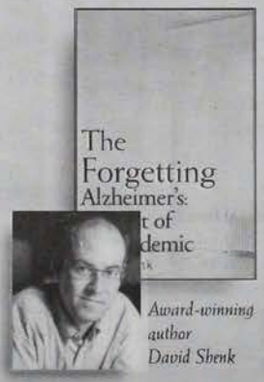

Award-winning author David Shenk

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– Newsweek

"Written with a researcher's attention to detail and a storyteller's ear."
– The New York Times

AS WE GROW OLDER

Of Bubbies and Buspar: Pharmaceuticals and us

Tema Gouse

The medical advances of the last two decades have been phenomenal. Treatment options are vast and varied. And nowhere is this expansion more obvious than in the field of pharmaceuticals.

Doctors should make treatment decisions. Self-medicating is not only often ineffective, it can also be dangerous. I feel we are over-using the medical system. I am in essentially good health but have thick charts in the offices of six different kinds of doctors.

My concern these days is the relationship that seniors have with the drug industry. Without a doubt, drugs, prescription or over-the-counter, are over-used, if not downright abused..

Join any foursome of older people and inevitably the conversation will turn to health issues and "which medicines are you taking?" The competitiveness of having the most expensive pharmacy bill soon surfaces.

Important questions arise out of such discussions. Are all those medicines necessary? How many of them are effective? Is it possible that one drug can interact negatively with another? Can the use of some drugs actually precipitate new medical problems?

The producers of our medications do not like these questions or their answers. The Federal Drug Administration mandates that each drug on the market must carry *known* possible side effects of its usage. "Known" because some of the nation's most popular medicines have unknown side-effects. It is important that older consumers assume responsibility for being knowledgeable about each pill they take.

Are all your meds necessary? Many are not. Doctors prescribe them because they can be helpful or because the patient pressures for relief of symptoms (real or imagined.}

Most medicines are effective. Aspirin or acetaminophen will usually relieve headaches. However, most headaches will usually go away untreated if the patient is patient. We must consider whether pills are addressing symptoms or neglecting their causes. Think about it.

Negative drug interactions can happen and must be considered. The astute pharmacist may be your best ally in confronting this possibility. If you are seeing multiple specialists who were given a list of your medications (and allergic reactions), it is wise to remind him of that list when he is prescribing.

Warning labels or accompanying printed material about your prescriptions often allude to dangers or side effects. I believe that unless you have a good magnifying glass and an advanced medical degree, they will do you no good. Some medications for one problem can precipitate different problems. Steroids have literally been lifesavers for many and problem creators for others.

The drug industry loses much of its credibility with me when most of my prescriptions warn of both constipation and diarrhea. Come on, boys—make up your mind!

At the risk of being ousted from AARP, I must say that we have mostly ourselves to blame for this mess. We have assumed that miracle drugs could eliminate *all* pain. Untrue. We have little tolerance for waiting for a medicine to do its work. So we demand stronger dosages or replacement prescriptions.

We resent when the doctor tells us that a problem is due to aging; when that diagnosis may be correct for a set of symptoms, there are conditions that are only attributable to advancing age. We can accept that. Or we can deny it, demand alternative diagnoses and a new pill; which we may not need and which may not help or may even create new problems—well, you get my message.

I cannot end this treatise without alluding to the TV commercials about medicines. They are insulting to the public. Glitzy gorgeous actors and actresses tell you that you do not have to suffer bladder frequency, psoriasis, GERD (gastric esophageal reflux disease), backaches, constipation, or even acne, if only you will use their products. To avoid being sued, they whisper or print, lengthily, possible side effects and suggest you consult your doctor if problems occur. You should consult your doctor before you try any drug.

I have not begun to delve into the cost of prescribed medicine. Just suffice to say—wait till you see how those prices are going to soar for most of us when the Medicare prescription program goes into effect next year.

Tema Gouse, a retired social worker, is a regular columnist. She lives in Cranston.

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D'var Torah

Our Torah: Lech-Lecha
(Genesis 12:1-17:27)

One, No Trump

This week, another episode in the life of a man who knew how to manipulate the markets, how to make the most of his talents and his time. He started off with little, moved away from his comfortable village to the big city, made friends with the most powerful politicians, and got very rich from dealing in real estate, precious metals and cattle futures. In fact, he gathered up so many goods and so much power that his sphere of influence conflicted with that of others; he sent his good friend to another territory, essentially saying "This town ain't big enough for the two of us."

Was Abram the Donald Trump of his time? Did possessions and fame mesmerize him into wanting even more possessions and fame?

Not so long ago, shame and humility were still part of the human vocabulary. Even the wealthiest and most influential felt a duty to something outside of themselves, and public scandal produced apologies and atonement, not defensiveness and denials. Great industrialists believed the owner of a business should earn no more than 40 times the salary of his average employee.

CEOs today pull in over 500 times the salary of their average employees, while reducing health care benefits and laying off workers. Would compensation of 200 times the average employee alleviate the situation? We'll never know.

And it isn't just the *machers* who have been infected. Teenagers demand of their middle-class parents a wardrobe of designer clothes, a cornucopia of gadgets. Their parents accumulate the most outrageous consumer debt load in history. Society's institutions cooperate in this pursuit. Banks offer mortgages that require only interest payments for many years, with the crushing debt delayed until a time far in the future. Will you be able to pay it off? And if you can't?

What would Abram make of all this? Did he, too, have an emotional black hole into which material possessions must be poured? This week in Lech Lecha we are meeting him before he became Abraham, the first Jew. He was still a product of his time, a man with so much juice he had his own army.

When Abram rescues his nephew Lot from captivity, the defeated king of Sodom says, "Blessed be Abram of God Most High," and offers him anything. And Abram answers, "I will not take a thread or shoe-latchet... save only that which the young men have eaten." Somewhere inside him, he already understood.

Maybe it was because of his conversations with God, in which he was filled with the spirit. Maybe, without even having the Law explained to him, or knowing what it means to be a Jew... somehow he got it.

How much easier should it be for us - who know our responsibilities and our blessings?

Courtesy of Rabbi Yossi Laufer.

Parasha Lech Lecha: Summary

God speaks to Abram, commanding him to "Go from your land, from your birthplace and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you." There, God says, he will be made into a great nation. Abram and his wife Sarai, accompanied by his nephew Lot, journey to the Land of Canaan, where Abram builds an altar and continues to spread the message of a One God.

A famine forces the first Jew to depart for Egypt, where beautiful Sarai is taken to Pharaoh's palace; Abram escapes death because they present themselves as brother and sister. A plague prevents the Egyptian king from touching her and convinces him to return her to Abram and compensate the brother-revealed-as-husband with gold, silver and cattle.

Back in the Land of Canaan, Lot separates from Abram and settles in the evil city of Sodom, where he falls captive when the mighty armies of Chedorlaomer and his three allies conquer the five cities of the Sodom Valley. Abram sets out with a small band to rescue his nephew, defeats the four kings, and is blessed by Malki-Zedek the king of Salem (Jerusalem).

God seals the Covenant with Abram, in which the exile and persecution (Galut) of the people of Israel is foretold and the Holy Land is bequeathed to them as their eternal heritage

Still childless ten years after their arrival in the Land, Sarai tells Abram to marry her maid-servant Hagar. Hagar conceives, becomes insolent toward her mistress, and then flees when Sarai treats her harshly; an angel convinces her to return and tells her that her son will father a populous nation. Ishmael is born in Abram's 86th year.

Thirteen years later, God changes Abram's name to Abraham ("father of multitudes") and Sarai's to Sarah ("princess"), and promises that a son will be born to them; from this child, whom they should call Isaac ("will laugh"), will stem the great nation with which God will establish His special bond.

Abraham is commanded to circumcise himself and his descendents as a "sign of the covenant between Me and you."

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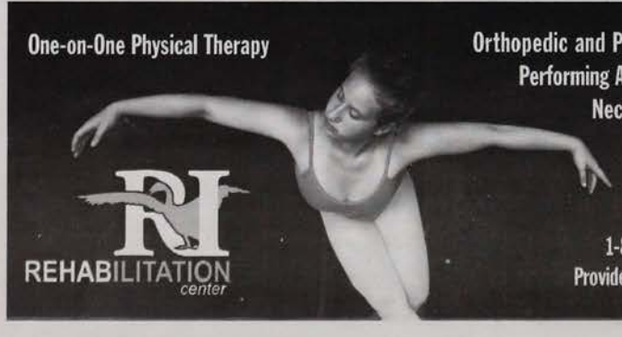
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Mazal Tov

Simchas

Births

Karyn and Jay Rosenfield announce the birth of their daughter, Samantha Beatrice Samdperil Rosenfield on Sept. 10.

Maternal grandparents are Ruth and Charles Samdperil. Paternal grandparents are Sue Rosenfield and the late Thomas Rosenfield. Samantha joins her big sister, Emma, at home.

Erik and Stacy Mancyak announce the birth of Alexa Lee on Sept. 13. She weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz.

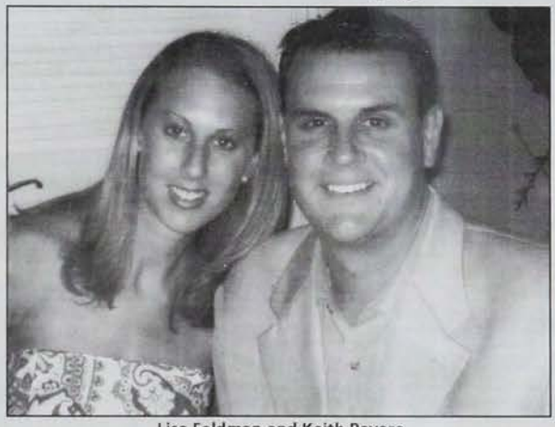
Her maternal grandparents are Alec and Donna Sinel of North Kingstown and paternal grandparents are Ron and Maureen Mancyak of Exeter. Great-grandparents are Ben and Thelma Delcon of Cranston.

Bonnie and Paul Hildred, of Attleboro, Mass., announce the birth of their fourth son, Jack Andrew Hildred, on Oct. 9. Maternal grandparents are Arlene and Howard Zisserson, of Seekonk. Jack joins big brothers Matthew, Zachary, and Sam.

Rachel and Daniel Silverman of East Greenwich announce the birth of their son, Max Joseph, on Oct. 26. Max joins brothers Jack and Ryan.

Sara Westerman of Cranston is the maternal great-grandmother. Maternal grandparents are Nancy Waszkis of North Kingstown and Joel Westerman of East Greenwich. Mary Silverman of Yonkers, N.Y., is the paternal great-grandmother. Paternal grandparents are Sandra Silverman of Somers, N.Y.

Engagements



Lisa Feldman and Keith Bavaro

Feldman-Bavaro

Harvey and Linda Feldman of West Warwick announce the engagement of their daughter Lisa to Keith Bavaro, son of **Anthony Bavaro** and the late **Kathyann Bavaro**.

The couple both reside in Coconut Creek, Fla. She is an elementary school teacher and he is a television writer and producer.

A July 8, 2006 wedding is planned in Rhode Island.

Wolpert-Rachman

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Wolpert of Providence and Narragansett announce the engagement of their daughter, Nancy Ruth, to Dr. Arnold William Rachman, son of the late Max and Sally Rachman of New York.

The future bride is currently the vice president for home entertainment at Nickelodeon and Viacom Consumer Products in New York. She graduated from Brown University and received an MBA from Columbia Business School.

Dr. Rachman is a psychoanalyst in private practice in New York. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Buffalo, his PhD in human development and clinical psychology from the University of Chicago and did his post-doctoral training at the Postgraduate Center for Mental Health in New York.

People

Pharmacy degree, honor

CRANSTON — Ellina Khaykin, daughter of Lev and Raisa Khaykin, received a doctor of pharmacy degree from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. She graduated magna cum laude and received the pharmacy leadership award for her outstanding service at the University. She will be completing a one-year primary care pharmacy residency at the University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy in Baltimore, MD.

Historical Association names winners

PROVIDENCE — The Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association has presented the Eleanor F. Horvitz $500 award for excellence in essays on R.I. Jewish history to **Micah Fitzerman-Blue** and **David B. Cohen.**

Undergraduate and graduate students may submit essays for the 2006 Horvitz competition until July 1, to the R.I. Jewish Historical Assoc., 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906.

Astrachan joins Stop & Shop

QUINCY, Mass. — The Stop & Shop Supermarket Co. named **Andrea Astrachan** to its new consumer advisor position. Astrachan will act as a liaison between the company and its customers. She lives in Rhode Island with her husband and two children and is a member of Temple Sinai in Cranston.

Cohen to head R.I. Realtors

WARWICK — **Cecile Cohen**, manager of Randall REALTORS(r)/GMAC Real Estate in Charlestown has been installed as the 2006 president-elect of the Rhode Island Association of Realtors. Cohen was the 2005 Vice President of the 4800-member organization.

An active member of the Realtor community, Cohen has served as treasurer and president of the state-wide Multiple Listing Service, president of the Kent-Washington Association of Realtors, and treasurer of the Washington County Board of Realtors. She resides in Perryville.

Golden promoted at R.I. Foundation

PROVIDENCE — **Carol Golden**, a Providence resident, has been appointed the Rhode Island Foundation's first executive vice president and chief operating officer. Golden joined the Foundation in 1991 and has been a key staff member in its growth. She will oversee Foundation operations, assist in strategic direction of the organization and represent it in the community.

CPA nat'l group honors Kaplan

PROVIDENCE — **Richard A. Kaplan**, a certified public accountant, was recently named an honorary member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). He is managing partner with Yarlas, Kaplan, Santilli & Moran, Ltd.

He received his bachelor's degree in economics from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and a law degree from the Suffolk University Law School. He is a past president of the Community College of Rhode Island Foundation and Jewish Family Service. He is currently treasurer at Tamarisk, a non-profit assisted living facility.

Zeltzer to head senior facility

BROOKLINE/BRIGHTON, Mass. — **Barry Zeltzer** of Barrington has been appointed executive director of Chestnut Park at Cleveland Circle, a kosher assisted living residence for senior citizens. He was previously executive director of Weinberg Village in Tampa, Fla., and Victoria Court in Cranston.

Gilstein named Miriam Hospital Foundation chairman

PROVIDENCE - After five years of service, Benjamin G. Paster has stepped down from his role as chairman of The Miriam Hospital Foundation board of trustees. A 15-year veteran of the board, Paster will remain a member and be succeeded as chair by **Alan M. Gilstein**.

Gilstein has been a member of the Foundation board for five years and is a long-time member of the hospital's board of trustees, serving as chairman from 2000-2004. For the past 26 years, he has served on the finance committee as well as on various subcommittees and ad hoc committees of the board.

Gilstein is a CPA/PFS and founding partner of the Provi-

Obituaries

Katharine Coken, 97

WARWICK — Katharine "Kitty" Coken, 97, died Oct. 28. She was the wife of the late Charles Coken. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Max and Mary (Mistofsky) Mushnick, she had lived in Warwick for over 20 years.

Mrs. Coken was a member of Temple Torat Yisrael and its Sisterhood, the Knights of Pythias and the former Women's Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged.

She leaves a son, Morton Coken and his wife Joan; and a daughter Rosalind Coken; all of Warwick, two grandchildren Lee and Carl and five great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Frederick and Herman Mushnick. Contributions may be made to Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, RI 02905.

Zelda Kouffman, 93

PROVIDENCE — Zelda (Landau) Kouffman, 93, died Oct. 26. She was the wife of the late Dr. Daniel Kouffman.

A lawyer, she owned and operated Cranston Travel for 30 years. She was a resident of Cranston before moving to Providence three years ago.

Mrs. Kouffman leaves two sons, Marc, of New York and Howard of Providence; a brother, Reuben Landau of Cambridge.

She was a caring mother and devoted to friends and family.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to one's local Jewish Federation.

Hyman Meyers, 54

WARWICK — Hyman Meyers 54, died Oct. 27. He was the husband of the late Leona (Arbour) Meyers. Born in Providence, a son of the late Anthony and Anna (Miller) Meyers, he had lived in Warwick for many years.

Mr. Meyers was a packaging manager for New England Data Services for 22 years, retiring 8 years ago.

He leaves a son, David Meyers of Warwick; and two brothers, Norman Meyers of East Greenwich and Ronald Meyers of Cranston.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Jane S. Sprague

JAMESTOWN — Jane S. Sprague, 62 died Oct. 28. She was the wife of William Sprague. Born in Oklahoma City, Okla., a daughter of the late Paul and Mary (Brown) Shick, she had lived in Indianapolis, Ind. before moving to Jamestown 29 years ago.

Mrs. Sprague was a 1965 graduate of Butler University. She had worked in public relations and journalism for many years. In recent years, she was the editor of the *Jewish Voice of Rhode Island* for the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island for 12 years then became the Executive Director of Friends of Touro Synagogue for a year until her retirement in 2002.

She had won many awards and citations in journalism over the years.

She was a member of Temple Emanu-El in Providence, a past president of the Republican Town Committee of Jamestown and was a founding member of the Jamestown Fund for the Performing Arts, RI Foundation.

She leaves a son, Paul Sprague and his wife Errin of Jamestown; a daughter, Sara Sprague of North Kingstown; and step-children, William G. Sprague of Indianapolis, Ind., Karen Buss of Slidell, La. and Mary Beth Sprague of Pittsburgh, Pa.; a sister, Marcia Woodruff of Kingston, N.Y.; six grandchildren, Spencer, Riley, Ethan, Esmeree, Skye and Jayna; five great-grandchildren and 10 step-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Peter Shick.

Burial was in Cedar Cemetery, Jamestown.

Contributions may be made to the Jamestown Fund for the Performing Arts, Rhode Island Foundation, One Union Station, Providence, R I 02903, Newport Hospital Foundation, 11 Friendship St., Newport, RI 02840 or Jewish Federation of RI, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906.

Jacob Till, 84

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. — Jacob "Jack" Till, 84 died Oct. 28. He was the husband of Selma (Schwartz) Till. They were married for 60 years. Born in Malden, Mass., a son of the late Israel and Ethel (Gerstman) Till, he had lived in Providence and Cranston before moving to Delray Beach eight years ago.

Mr. Till was a meat broker for Rhode Island Frozen Foods, Roger Williams Foods and Supervalu, retiring 10 years ago.

He was a World War II Army veteran, serving in the South Pacific as a medic.

He was a past member of Temple Beth-El in Providence and a past Master of Wamsutta Lodge of the Masons in New Bedford, Mass.

He leaves two sons, David K. Till of Tampa, Fla. and Alan H. Till of Phoenix, Ariz.; a brother, Barney Till of Tamarac, Fla. and a sister, Barbara Swartzman of Peabody, Mass.

Burial was in Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, Mass.

Contributions may be made to Hospice by the Sea, 1531 Palmetto Park Rd., Boca Raton, FL 33486 or a favorite charity.

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My Voices

My trip to Israel

Miriam Hospital's head visits the Holy Land

By Dr. Kathleen Hittner

Over the summer, I took a trip to Israel sponsored by the Jewish Federation of R.I. In addition to my visits to hospitals and to a kibbutz, I would like share some other experiences that I had.

I heard a great many presentations on politics and terrorism. We had lectures from university professors, political leaders, local businessmen, lawyers and social activists. We heard from a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council. As you can imagine, the political feelings run strong and I do not intend to get into a political discussion. The emotions were high as the country was preparing to disengage from the Gaza Strip, specifically to evacuate 8,000 Jewish settlers from there. Some citizens were demonstrating their opposition by flying orange ribbons from their car antennas. However, the majority of Israeli supported the disengagement as they believe that this is an important step to bring about peace. This evacuation took place during the middle of August and the Palestinians now occupy the territory.

Dr. Kathleen Hittner, center, in Israel this past summer on a Jewish Federation of R.I. study seminar.

I have a greater understanding of the Jewish people and their tenacity to promote the life and beliefs they cherish.

Security fence

We heard much discussion about the security fence separating the Israelis from the Palestinians. Pros included much less violence and terrorism in Israel and cons included denying Palestinian access to goods and services in Israeli territory. I am sure the dialogue will continue for many years. I felt we had great, objective presentations and really have a better understanding of both sides.

We had a private tour of the Knesset, which is the Parliament of Israel. We met with government officials and politicians. We witnessed an exciting session where 120 Knesset members who are elected, represent a wide spectrum of opinions from their constituencies including left and right, Jews, Muslims, Druses, Christians, new immigrants and old-timers. When we were there, we saw Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and other well known leaders. We had a private one hour meeting with Daniel Kertzer, the United States diplomat to Israel. I cannot tell you how impressed I was with his professionalism. The depth of his knowledge and political acumen was amazing.

Christian sites

I walked where Jesus walked and it was a very moving experience. We visited the mount of Beatitudes and saw the Lake of Tiberius, the city of Tiberius, the plain of Gennesearet and the territory of Bethsaida. This is where the Sermon on the Mount took place. We visited Capernaum on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, another site of Jesus' teachings. We visited Jerusalem and toured the Church of Holy Sepulcher. We saw tombs similar to the one in which Christ was buried – the Bible came alive here. The Western Wall attracted believers from all over the world. Emotions were high as people tucked small pieces of papers with their wishes into cracks in the wall.

I floated in the Dead Sea. Because of the heavy salt and mineral content, one cannot sink – in fact, you cannot swim – only float.

Masada was palatial fortress built by Herod, King of Judea. The ruins tell the story of the last bastion of Jewish freedom fighters against the Romans.

We heard from a Holocaust survivor, Rabbi Baruch Goldstein. He told in graphic details of his capture by the Nazis, separation from his family who were sent to a gas chamber, struggle to survive captivity, starvation and near death. His ultimate survival was a total surprise as he had given up all hope. He spoke of the guilt a survivor feels for the rest of his life – why me, why couldn't I help others, why couldn't I save my family, am I a coward who just did what they told me to do so I could survive???? We spent time after with a Holocaust educator who detailed the experience of families and the difficulty for survivors. We then visited the Jewish National Memorial to the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust. Besides unbelievable graphic information in picture and print, there were television monitors with testimonials from survivors running constantly. We must all visit these difficult places and study this despicable part of history and make sure that we never let something like this ever happen again.

What a great experience I had. I will never forget the lessons I learned. I have a greater understanding of the Jewish people and their tenacity to promote the life and beliefs they cherish.

Dr. Kathleen Hittner is the chief executive officer of the Miriam Hospital.

A 'calm' fighter

Those who worked with the late Jane at The Voice share their remembrances...

A Seussian Speciality

Jane was special in so many ways. Even her funeral was special. She placed it in a beautiful spot by the sea, which she loved, and which she may have known would comfort her friends and family. She chose songs for us to sing together in addition to the traditional prayers, so we were participants as well as listeners.

Most astonishing, she chose a book to be read aloud toward the end of the service, mainly for her grandchildren but certainly speaking to all of us. It wasn't sad. It wasn't sanctimonious. It was Dr. Seuss! As I listened to *Oh, the Places You'll Go* with its exuberant encouragement to embrace life's great potentials and its realistic recognition that there are times of great difficulty, I thought of how Jane had lived her life — full of love for family, of friendships, of accomplishments and of struggles. What shone through on that morning by the sunny sea was Jane's enduring optimism. Thank you, Jane.

— Elly Lewis

Chair for the *Jewish Voice & Herald* editorial board

Worldly

Jane was not only a consummate Editor but also knowledgeable about history, sophisticated as to the nuances of world politics and a reliable talent when it came to the care and nurturing of our Federation. Most importantly, she was a kind and loving friend who taught me a lot about being a good Jew.

— Richard Shein

Former Chair of *The Voice* editorial board and current member

Courageous

Her courage and optimism will live in my heart forever. She has taught me lessons in fighting this disease that I have tried to pass on to friends also facing this battle. Her patience was endless in teaching me how to do this job.

— Leah Camara

Graphic designer at *Jewish Voice and Voice & Herald*

CIA FIGURE

From page 1

In it, he describes the trip he took to Niger in 2002 at the behest of the CIA, to assess whether that country was supplying uranium to Iraq for use in nuclear weapons. He found nothing to document this and challenged a statement made by President Bush in his 2003 State of the Union address about Iraq's attempts to obtain uranium from Africa.

The controversy came to a boil after Wilson published a critical opinion piece in the New York Times on July 6, 2003 titled, "What I didn't find in Africa," which asked the question: "Did the Bush administration manipulate intelligence about Saddam Hussein's weapons program to justify an invasion of Iraq?"

Wilson alleges the leak of his wife's name was in retaliation for his criticism of the Bush administration's reasons for going to war.

Wilson has spent a career in the foreign service, with postings in Africa and Iraq. In 1990 he was charge d'affaires in Baghdad and was the last American diplomat to meet with Saddam Hussein before the start of the first Gulf War. He served as ambassador to Gabon from 1992 to '95 and helped direct African policy for the National Security Council during President Clinton's administration. He is now an international business consultant.

The talk is free but is expected to fill up fast. The Watson Institute for International Studies is also a sponsor of the event. There will be a book signing after the event, which will be held on campus in Salomon 101; a simulcast is expected to be set up downstairs in Salomon 001.

French riots not 'Jewish problem'

PARIS (JTA) — Some media are calling it a "suburban intifada," but the rioting that is rocking France is not a Jewish problem, but a national one, although two synagogues were damaged in the riots.

That appears to be the consensus of French Jews, who are simultaneously alarmed at the widespread violence of mostly Muslim youths in suburbs around the country — and relieved that Jews have not been directly targeted, as they were during the height of the Palestinian intifada.

"Anti-Semitism in these neighborhoods has drastically declined over the last six months or so," said Sammy Ghozlan, who heads the Office of Vigilance Against Anti-Semitism. The earlier violence against Jews "was just a pretext for these groups of people to violently express their dissatisfaction with their lot in life. Now, the anger that was being channeled toward the Jews is instead being directed at the French state. Instead of Jews, they're attacking the police," Ghozlan said.

Many of the rioters are descended from North African immigrants. However, local Islamic groups have condemned the violence.

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Super Sunday

December 11, 2005
9 am -1 pm

Now held in FOUR locations across RI!

- Providence JCC
- Newport/Salve Regina University
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- *West Bay/Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence

**You will use your personal cell phone to make calls from these locations*

- Build a STRONGER Rhode Island Jewish Community
- Have an IMPACT on Lives in our Area & Around the World
- Mark your Calendar NOW to Help Make a Difference!

Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

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Count me in! I look forward to joining my community for Super Sunday on December 11th.

___ I will help make phone calls **OR** ___I prefer administrative work

NEW! Select a calling location: (your site will be confirmed by mail)

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___I'd like to sponsor a phone ($18) in honor of_____

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Attention: Amy Seigle — or email: aseigle@jfri.org — or fax to: 401-331-7961.
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Rhode Island

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Bar & Bat Mitzvah Guide

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November 11, 2005