

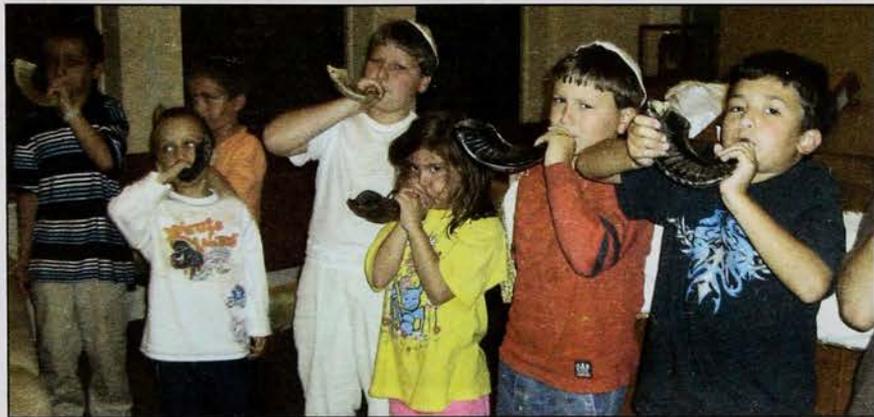
The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

9 Tishri 5768

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September 21, 2007



All together now: *Tekiah*

Photos by Mary Korr

Learning the shofar is a blast for Emanu-El children

By Mary Korr
mkorr@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — What is the secret to blowing the shofar?

"It's all in the buzz," said Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer in a shofar blowing class he conducted at Temple Emanu-El last week. The children were practicing for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur family services.

The aspiring trumpet-

ers knew that the shofar most often came from a ram's horn. They were big-eyed when they learned that Rabbi Franklin had one from a water buffalo, "or something like that," said Rabbi Kaunfer.

He reviewed some of the shofar's associations — one was to remind Jews of the ram Abraham sacrificed in place of his son Isaac — although the rabbi assured the children that God

never meant for Isaac to really be sacrificed.

Once everyone was set with their shofars, Rabbi Kaunfer demonstrated the proper puckering, pursing and placement of the tongue behind the lips and then the lips on the horn.

The 4- to 10-year-olds did their best to imitate the rabbi, who has been orchestrating this

See SHOFAR, page 12

JFRI forms framework to move forward

By Mary Korr
mkorr@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — The board of directors of the Jewish Federation of R.I. (JFRI) has approved a working framework to address critical site and structural needs of the Jewish community after years of study but little action.

The framework envisions the creation of an urban campus composed of a renovated Jewish Community Center/Federation building at their current locations, the Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS) building and the Ross building at Temple Emanu-El.

A satellite campus located at the Tamarisk site in Warwick would be established, subject to agreement with the property owners, the Jewish Seniors Agency (JSA). All Jewish agencies will be invited to discuss locating here.

Should other sites or opportunities present themselves during the planning process, they will be duly considered, said Stephen Silberfarb, executive vice president of Federation. The plan, he said, is designed to be flexible while also building momentum. "It is time for the train to leave the station," was his analogy.

The framework also calls for exploring potential facility collaborations with synagogues and other groups/organizations outside of Providence, with an emphasis on Jewish education, culture and creating a sense of community.

A Jewish building corporation, a 501(c) (3) subsidiary of the JFRI, will own, operate and maintain Jewish facilities that will emerge from this framework.

The board also authorized the creation of a capital campaign committee to plan and implement the above.

During the discussion period, there was agreement the time to act is long past due, and that Jewish community facilities are in urgent need of revitalization. Federation leaders said the process of translating this framework to action will be done in full collaboration with donors, agencies and other constituencies in the Jewish community.

D.C. peace summit faltering

NEWS ANALYSIS

By Yehuda Lev

The Washington Conference, announced by the United States for November and intended to create a statement of principles around which a Palestinian-Israeli peace can be negotiated, is deteriorating to the point where it could become a photo-op, no more. The invitees will presumably include Israel, the Palestinian Authority, the United States, Arab countries and additional European governments that are involved in attempts to solve the conflict.

Neither Israelis, nor the Palestinians appear to be in any hurry to participate. The Israelis insist that they must first have an agreement with the Palestinians on the so-called "final status issues": sovereignty over Jerusalem, final borders and the future of the Arab refu-

gees. The Palestinians are holding back because (1) they don't believe the Arab governments will appear and (2) Fatah has no control over Gaza and wants to represent the entire Palestinian community before it makes decisions that will affect the future of a Palestinian state. Both Mahmoud Abbas, leader of Fatah and president of the Palestinian Authority, and Ehud Olmert, prime minister of Israel, lead weakened governments and cannot guarantee that their followers will agree to compromise on any of these core issues.

Arab support for the conference is also fraying at the edges. A Saudi Arabian diplomat said his country would decide whether to take part and at what level on the basis of

See, SUMMIT, page 9



Photos by Jaime Lowe

JCC/Miriam road race

Runners compete at the annual JCC/Miriam Hospital 5K road race held on Sunday morning, Sept. 9. First place all-around went to Dylan Wykes. First place for women, 7th place all-around, went to Amy Rudolph. All the children were winners in the youth race. Clockwise from left are, Yaseen Magib and brother Youseff, Rachel Mongeau, Victoria Courmyer, Jordan Courmyer, and Sydney Brousseau.



Community



Photo by Mary Korr

From left, past Jewish Community Center presidents who attended a tribute in their honor were Mark Mandell, Richard Mittleman, Milton Stanzler, Julius Michaelson, Norm Robinson, Noah Temkin, Bruce Leach, Jeff Vogel (holding plaque and current President), Jeff Brier, Rose Malkin, Sam Suls and Alan Litwin.

JCC honors past presidents at gala tribute

By Mary Korr
mkorr@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — Trying to line up a large albeit distinguished group of former Jewish Community Center (JCC) presidents, each wearing a white rose, for a photo proved humorous at an event held in their honor Sept. 9. “Where is Mark Mandell?” “Where are the family members?” “Where is the sunset?” But the task was accomplished as the sky darkened on the second-floor patio at Ledgemont Country Club in Seekonk. It was a gathering of 11 former presidents, who consisted of all the living presidents but one, Peter Bardach, who lives in Florida but whose daughter, Mary Ann, attended.

“Each showed the attributes of leadership and each had to draw on volunteers to be effective in what they

were doing,” said Bertram Lederer, co-chair of the event with his wife, Margaret.

The JCC is a place that “grows leaders” said current president Jeffrey Vogel, who described the organization as the center of Jewish cultural and recreational connections in Rhode Island.

The evening, attended by 171 people, was one of tribute and humor, (via a game of Jeopardy,) in which three contestants, Providence Mayor David Cicilline, Jacob Brier and Linda Mittleman supplied the questions to answers about — what else? — former presidents of the JCC.

The mayor, who also offered the official greetings of the city of Providence and thanked the honorees “for decades of great leadership and for their contributions to

our community,” proved to be a tough competitor.

Categories included “Famous Firsts,” “Brushes with greatness,” “Potpourri,” and others, posed by a spirited and funny Doug Emanuel, a JCC board member.

The following were among questions he posed to the contestants:

“He was president when Eisenhower was president and instrumental in establishing the Trinity Rep. Co.”

Correct answer — “Who is Milton Stanzler?” (1957-’58).

“He was president when the JCC was located on Benefit Street.”

Correct answer — Milton C. Sapinsley (1934-’37).

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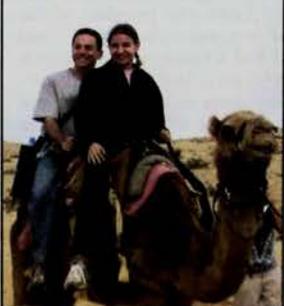
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Quote of the Week

“It’s all in the buzz,” said Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer in a shofar blowing class.

See story, page 1.

The Women’s Alliance hosted a birthright israel participant, Sophie Ambrose, riding camel at right. See story, page 6.



At far right, a tot in Temple Am David’s Tot Shabbat program. See story, page 13.



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JEOPARDY — At left, Doug Emanuel led a fast-paced round of "JCC Jeopardy" at the reception for past presidents. Contestants were, from left, Mayor David Cicilline, Jacob Brier and Linda Mittleman.

PAST PRESIDENTS

From page 2

"The social hall at the JCC is named in honor of the first president."

Correct answer — Max L. Grant (1925-'28).

This was followed by an interesting his-

torical footnote which foiled the contestants — "A future Prime Minister of Israel spoke in the JCC gym."

Correct answer: "Who is Yitzhak Rabin?"

The evening was special for families of former presidents who have passed away. Among them in attendance were Beryl Meyer, wife of Sidney Meyer; Jane Nelson

and Pam Nelson-Erskine, daughter and grand-daughter of Milton Sapinsley; Irma Feinberg Megiddo, daughter of Saul Feinberg; Claire Bell, daughter of Saul Abrams, and Jill Tobak, daughter of Charles Fox.

The gala was upbeat and fun, and the mayor took his Jeopardy defeat to Jacob Brier with good grace.

It all began on Benefit Street

By Marylyn Graff
mgrafl@jfri.org

Dating back as far as the 1880s there had been various fledgling Jewish organizations in Rhode Island such as the Young Men's Hebrew Association, (YMHA) a women's group (YWHA) and other organizations, which met in several locations. It didn't take long for a need to consolidate to arise and the growing community developed into the Hebrew Educational Institute, (HEI) which was chartered in 1914. The HEI soon recognized a need for a central place where groups could meet and functions take place.

In the spring of 1914, two buildings were purchased at 65 Benefit St. by the HEI. Funds were raised and the property was converted to fulfill various needs, including a gymnasium a religious school and meeting rooms.

The "Jewish Community Center of Providence" was incorporated as such in December of 1925. Isaac Woolf, president of the Hebrew Educational Institute, and many young leaders were responsible for its formation.

In 1934 the Jewish Welfare Board made a study of the Providence Jewish community focusing on the Jewish Community Center. It described the building as well-maintained but needing repairs and improvement, (after all, the structure was not a new one when originally acquired,) and recommended a new centrally located building plus a South Providence branch. The role of the Jewish Community Center was much in flux with as many as 69 activities in the building, taxing its facilities. After 20 years at 65 Benefit, the community realized that the building was not only in need of repairs but seriously overcrowded.

The Bar Mitzvah Year of the Center's inception under its official name was duly celebrated, followed in 1939 by (what else?) a fund drive, which raised \$75,000 for a general renovation. The building was not fireproof and

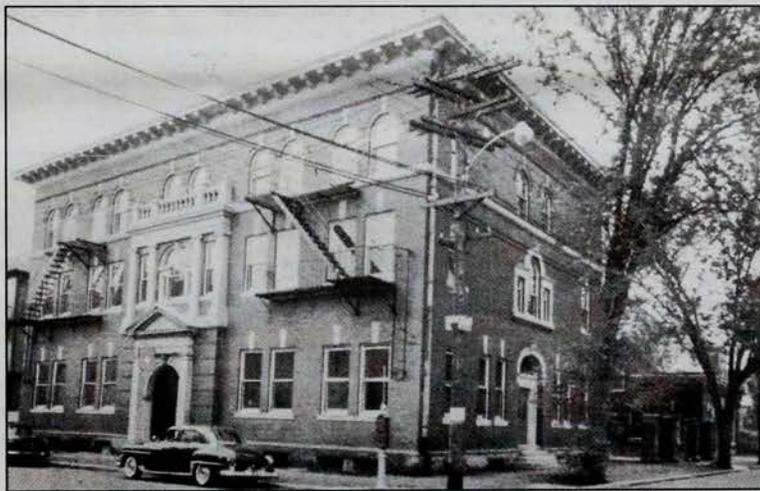


Photo courtesy of the R.I. Jewish Historical Association

The first Jewish Community Center was housed in this building on Benefit Street.

there had been a couple of damaging fires.

In 1950 the executive board concluded that a fund drive for a new JCC building would begin in the spring of 1952. A search for a site was undertaken and one was eventually found in an abandoned Providence police station on Sessions Street on the East Side. The Benefit St. property would be exchanged for buildings and land on Sessions and a mortgage loan for \$40,000 would be obtained. The buildings would be remodeled and converted for the Center's use.

In May of 1959, a committee was organized to plan a campaign for a building fund. In 1966 the original parcel on Sessions Street, was exchanged for land owned by the city of Providence at the corner of Sessions and Elmgrove Ave. The name was formally changed to "The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island." On May 2, 1969 the building

contract was awarded and groundbreaking took place on the 18th.

Dedication of the new, (present) building was on June 8, 1971.

Information for this article came from the R.I. Jewish Historical Notes of Nov., 1972.

Candle Lighting Times for Greater Rhode Island



Sept. 21 6:25
Sept. 28 6:13
Oct. 5 6:01
Oct. 12 5:50

Opinion

A MAJORITY OF ONE

Should ADL be sounding the alarm on Iran?

First it was Afghanistan where we searched in vain for Osama Bin Laden after 9/11, although how we could not find a very tall man dragging a dialysis machine passeth all understanding. Today he seems safe enough, deep in the caves of northern Pakistan. There will be no invasion of Pakistan; they are our allies in the war against terror.



Yehuda Lev

Then came Iraq. Al Qaeda is a movement dedicated to the destruction of infidels, Muslim and otherwise. A Sunni Muslim, Saddam Hussein was a secular ruler who persecuted his own Shi'ite Muslim majority and had no use

for Muslim extremists who threatened his survival. The results of that incursion? Consult your daily newspaper.

Now comes Iran. We don't intend to invade Iran, only to destroy its nuclear manufacturing capabilities if we can locate them. The governments most interested in accomplishing this are in Washington and Jerusalem. The former has no available soldiers after Afghanistan and Iraq; the latter is too distant from the target to commit its small army to such a perilous task. But both have air forces with which to

"NO NUCLEAR IRAN." Then in smaller, red letters; "A nuclear armed Iran is a clear and present threat to Israel, America and the Global Community." And finally; "We can stop a nuclear Iran. But we must act now! Get informed. Get active. Because we are their target."

bomb nuclear facilities and the talk from officials in both governments, in press conferences, TV appearances and press releases is increasingly about the threat that Iran poses to us and to Israel if Iran manages to build nuclear weapons.

The threat, especially to Israel, is real. Iran's chief authority on the elusive Holocaust has stated it repeatedly and his intentions are echoed by Hezbollah and Hamas, among others. Nor, after 9/11, can these threats be ignored. But Al Qaeda is not an ally of Iran; both their capabilities and their intentions differ. Al Qaeda has an ideological goal, ridding the world of infidels, while Iran's are largely economic and center around the sale of oil and natural gas. World domination is not on the Iranian agenda. A nation that depends on oil for its economic well-being does not want internal disruption and chaos on its borders. Movements seeking revolutionary change need exactly that.

They do share a desire to rid the world of Israel, but little else.

Fortunately there is a knight in shining armor who would rescue us from the machinations of Iranian President Ahmadinejad and his ilk. It exists in the heart of our American Jewish community and announced its intentions earlier this month in a series of full-page advertisements in some of the major general and Jewish newspapers. Its text was brief and its purpose clear. First, in half-page sized black letters: "NO NUCLEAR IRAN." Then in smaller, red letters; "A nuclear armed Iran is a clear and present threat to Israel, America and the Global Community." And finally; "We can stop a nuclear Iran. But we must act now! Get informed. Get active. Because we are their target."

Our unexpected savior is none other than the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). We are all familiar with the ADL; when someone paints a swastika

on your front door, theirs is the number to call. Did someone call you a "dirty Jew"? The ADL will deal with it. How about "Gentiles Only" country clubs? Same thing. The ADL is one of those organizations of which it can legitimately be said that it deals well with urgent Jewish communal issues despite some recent self-inflicted shots in the foot.

But an ADL with a foreign policy? An ADL pounding the drums for war? An ADL joining in the administration's campaign for another Middle-Eastern front? That's not why we send checks to its offices and take to the streets when the ADL calls for demonstrations against home-grown anti-Semites or asks us to contact our Congressional representatives when a proposed law will damage our American-Jewish interests. The ADL is there to protect us against those of our fellow Americans who wish us ill, not nasty foreign governments or religious fanatics with a death wish.

If ever you suspect that Iranian soldiers are mobilizing on our borders intending to invade, don't call the ADL, call the military. Then you may call the ADL and ask them what purpose was served by running an extensive and expensive advertising campaign urging us to war against Iran. This is important. Some day it may help us prevent an invasion by the Syrians.

Yehuda Lev can be reached at yehudal@cox.net.

FROM THE INTERIM MANAGING EDITOR

Powering up for the New Year

By Marty Cooper

A funny thing happened to me on my way to Rosh Hashanah services this year. My family was the beneficiary of a power outage that originated, of all places, on my outside property underground. (My neighborhood community has its electrical cable underground, not in the air on poles). It seems that somewhere along the power grid a power cable shorted out on my property. (I just hate when that happens).

One would think that a simple call to National Grid would take care of the problem. On the contrary, National Grid only identifies the problem. I had to hire an electrician and a landscaping company to dig the trench and then cover it up after the new power cable was installed. Of course we called the electric company for the final hook-up only after the town inspector gave his okay. At one point there must have been at least seven huge trucks parked next to the house, which is only 20 plus years old. How exciting and expensive.

So, why do I tell you this story? Because for years I have always failed to understand why, just why, the Conservative Jewish movement celebrates the holiday for two consecutive days. Many

learned rabbis and spiritual leaders have told me it is because it has to do with making sure that we celebrate the holiday at the same time it is being celebrated in Israel or something like that. But now I know the real reason. It is for people and families like mine who need to be home for one of the days in order to make sure their house is in working order.

On Thursday, the first day of the holiday, at my wife's urging I went to services while she stayed home to greet the electric company. Even though I was upset with the recent events at home, going to temple allowed me to forget for a moment my heartache and displeasure. In fact, I had a wonderful time. During breaks in the service I shook hands with old friends and new ones. I also got a chance to catch up on how the temple is doing.

The service itself, including the chanting and singing, was not only inspirational, but soothing. Seeing members that I have known for years reading the Torah service and conducting the Haftarah instilled temple pride in my community. Listening to the spiritual leader's sermon was fascinating. (They always tend to kick it up a notch during the holidays). Also inspiring to hear in the temple was the president's address to

the congregation. Both the president's and the spiritual leader's discussions caused me to reflect on what was, what is and what the temple can be. It is "what it can be" that I find so intriguing. I will let you, the reader, figure out what the "can be" is; I think it is most likely different for everyone.

On Friday, my wife Betsy went to services while I stayed home with all of the working men. The manly men dug trenches, installed a medium voltage power cable, filled in the trenches and attached the mighty cable into the

community electrical box and our meter. When my wife got home I asked how services went. She said she enjoyed her day off from the home front. She said she met old and new friends, enjoyed the camaraderie, the service and the sermon.

Although the suffering of a power loss during the holiday can be an overwhelming feeling, as well as an expensive one, just going to the service, even for one day can really make you feel good. It is what it can be.

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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.

NOW BATTING

The Israel Lobby and you

Don't read the new book, "The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy," by John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt. Don't waste your time and money. Do think about the implications of this book (and Carter's equally offensive diatribe) for the future of America and its Jews, and then do something about it.

John Mearsheimer, a much feted professor of political science who specializes in international relations at the University of Chicago, and Steven Walt, a similarly credentialed political scientist at Harvard's Kennedy School, have launched a direct attack on Israel and its supporters in the United States.

The authors purport to lay bare the nefarious influence on U.S. foreign policy of a loosely allied group of scholars and pressure groups who support Israel. Calling for open debate on Israeli and American policies, not directly challenging the existence of the State of Israel, and repeatedly denouncing anti-Semitism, Mearsheimer and Walt stride onto the stage wearing the white hats of academic scholarship and even-handed objectivity. All they care about is how to best to establish and advance the U.S. national interest. All they use are the tools of political science. Or so they imply, and would have others believe.

Let me cut to the core of the matter: Mearsheimer and Walt cannot abide Jews with power. Any power seems to frighten them, and so they exaggerate the amount of power that Jews have. They focus on those who lobby on behalf of Israel, and they recognize that not all of them are Jews, but their enemy really is Jews and their allies in the Christian community. The latter can be dismissed as religious fanatics. The Jews are more sinister.



Alan Zuckerman

Israel, in their view, is always the actor, the agent, the subject; everyone else, from the United States to the Palestinians, from Iran to Egypt and Syria, are just passive recipients of Israeli influence or aggression. The Israel Lobby, in their view, does not just influence, it controls — indeed has a "stranglehold on" — American policy on the Middle East. Israel and the Lobby prevent a solution to the conflict with the Palestinians and the Arab states, and they caused the Iraq war. In short, support for Israel is responsible for the conflict that turns Arabs and Muslims against America and the West. By extension, Israel is a threat to the West.

Could the world be this simple? Could Israel, the "Israel Lobby," and dare I say, "the Jews" be so powerful? What could induce persons with such impressive academic credentials to offer this simple-minded and offensive picture of Israel in America?

Just beneath the surface of their words is a deep ambivalence about Jews. For these authors — and for how many others? — Jews have too much power. Jews, they imply, should receive everything as citizens and nothing as Jews. They are not a nation. Jews should be the passive recipients of other people's decisions, not actors in their own right. They should not have a state that acts in its own interests. Given freedom, Jews dominate. More than 200 years after the French Revolution knocked down the walls of Europe's ghettos and six decades after the destruction of European Jewry, and writing in a land that has offered Jews and Judaism untold freedom and opportunities, Mearsheimer and Walt express a position that takes us back to an era before Jewish emancipation.

I have just returned from the annual meetings of the American Political Science Association. Many of my colleagues there were abuzz with comments about Mearsheimer and Walt. Let me give you the image of

someone who has known them both for decades: they are Cardinal Spellman meets the Greenwich Country Club. Yes, Virginia, there is anti-Semitism in American universities, even in the best ones. But there is good news here too: this evocative image is out of date.

One of the many reasons that America supports Israel is that most Americans support Israel. This is not about the nefarious influence of the Jews, as Mearsheimer and Walt would have it. Their analysis, such as it is, is flawed. Support for Israel flows from powerful social sources in American, not only shared values. Relations between most Jews and their Gentile friends, neighbors, and colleagues are excellent. Good relations imply social influence, and with that, political influence. Most American Jews support Israel and so do most of their Gentile associates. Each sustains the other's support. This social base underpins the shared values that appreciate Israel's need to survive and that forgive Israel's excesses in its battles. It's not about Jewish money and sinister power; it's about friends influencing friends, sustaining their shared values, and the political choices that support Israel.

And so there are important lessons here: what you do and say in your everyday lives about Israel matters.

That's why you should not bother to read this bad book. Not only is it filled with errors, not only does it not hearken back to a time in which Jews had no political rights and lived in ghettos, not only does it dismiss America's appreciation for the challenges that face the Israeli democracy, it dismisses the social sources that sustain American policy and indeed American democracy. Policy, the book implies, should be in the hands of its authors, members of the elite. Why waste your time with this book?

Alan Zuckerman can be reached at alan_zuckerman@brown.edu.

THE HOLIDAYS

Biologist tracks down sukkah-builders' harvest

By Robert Wiener
New Jersey Jewish News

Two years ago, just before the festival of Sukkot, marine biologist Michael Weinstein got a call from a colleague at the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission.

"He says, 'Mike, these religious Jews are out there hacking down the phragmites,'" recalled Weinstein.

"I knew instantly what was going on."

As a professor of coastal ecology at Rutgers University's Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences and chief executive officer of the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, Weinstein has been a long-term student of a pesky piece of the wetlands ecosystem know in Latin as *Phragmites australis*.

The "phrag," as he calls it, "is like kudzu. It's like crabgrass. It doesn't go away, and it has literally taken over the wetlands of the United States in brackish waters and has all kinds of negative ecological ramifications."

But it is not harmful to human beings, and, as Weinstein came to

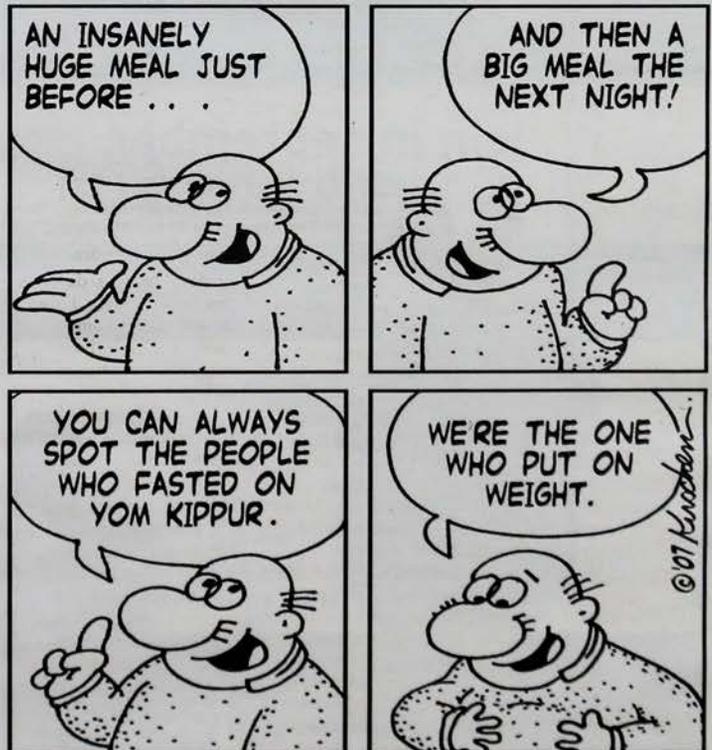
learn, its growth provides the roots of a mitzvah for the Jewish community. Armed with a set of photographs taken that day on a privately owned part of the wetlands, Weinstein tracked the harvesters to their home in a hasidic community in New Hempstead, Rockland County, NY. After a moment of mutual distrust, they invited Weinstein into a sukkah. According to custom, they had thatched the roof of the temporary booth with organic material quite familiar to Weinstein. "The whole ceiling was covered with phrag," he said. "They go down every year to take it for Sukkot, and they can cut enough for their whole community in half a day. It's good for the Jews, but it's probably not very important for the ecology. The phrag grows right back with a vengeance. It's like mowing your lawn. It's no different."

"The phrag are very, very fertile. They will sprout. You break up a phrag plant into a thousand pieces and throw it onto the ground and it grows into a thousand new plants.

It spreads almost like a disease. It

See BIOLOGIST, page 20

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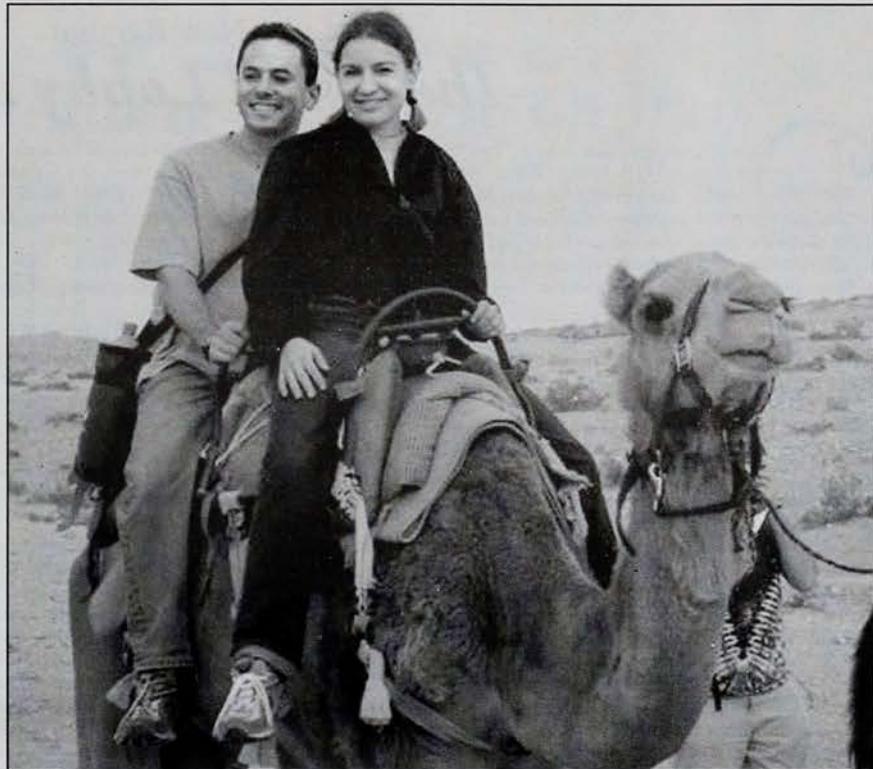
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SOPHIE AMBROSE on her birthright israel trip which changed the course of her life.

Finding her birthright

By Mary Korr
mkorr@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — Sophie Ambrose found her path to Judaism through a Google search.

The 26-year-old grew up in the Ozark Mountains in Arkansas, in a spartan home with neither electricity nor running water and about as far away from Judaism as you can get in America. In fact, her mother was the only Jewish person she had ever known in her childhood.

See BIRTHRIGHT, facing page

Community open house
SUNDAY September 30th 9am-2pm

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Community

BIRTHRIGHT

From previous page

The birthright israel program, which sends young Jewish adults from ages 18-26 on a free educational trip to Israel, and which is supported by Federation donations, changed Ambrose's life.

Last week, she spoke to the Federation's Women's Alliance (WA) group at its campaign launch for 2008. Last year, WA raised more than a quarter of Federation's annual campaign funds. "You are collaborators in *tikkun olam*. Your success is the model we follow," said Herbert Stern, Federation president, who spoke briefly.

Ambrose described her mother as a hippie, a flower child of the '60s, who was raised in an observant Jewish home and resented its restrictions. Her father was raised as a Christian. Her parents met on a commune in its final throes. He was a carpenter who believed in early morning calisthenics for his three daughters, and a mile run to the school bus stop and back before breakfast. Then it was feeding the chickens and the pigs.

"I was raised hardly knowing I was Jewish, much less know-

ing what being Jewish meant," Ambrose told her listeners.

When she left Arkansas to attend graduate school, she began to explore religions and attended different services. Attending Jewish services made her uncomfortable. "Although I knew I had an ancestral connection to Judaism, I felt like an outsider; not knowing what was happening in services and feeling out of place as everyone recited those foreign Hebrew blessings during Shabbat," she said.

But nevertheless, she felt drawn to learn more about Jewish history and culture and a Google search led her to the birthright israel program. And it was on a sunrise on Masada that she first felt a tangible connection to her birthright.

It came just at the right time in her life, when she was searching for a deeper meaning in her life, a rootedness.

Ambrose is a speech pathologist, a Ph.D. student, and speaks to Jewish groups around the country for United Jewish Communities when she can. She lives in Los Angeles and usually sets Shabbat dinner for 20.

Asked how her mother reacted to her "conversion," she said, "I think my mother is



CHERYL TEVEROW speaking to Sophie Ambrose at the Women's Alliance Home Sweet Home event held last week. Photos by Mary Korr

"I was raised hardly knowing I was Jewish, much less knowing what being Jewish meant."

— Sophie Ambrose

thrilled that I've found a community that works so well for me. In addition, last year she went to Rosh Hashanah services for the first time in almost four decades and was surprised by how at home she felt there. Unfortu-

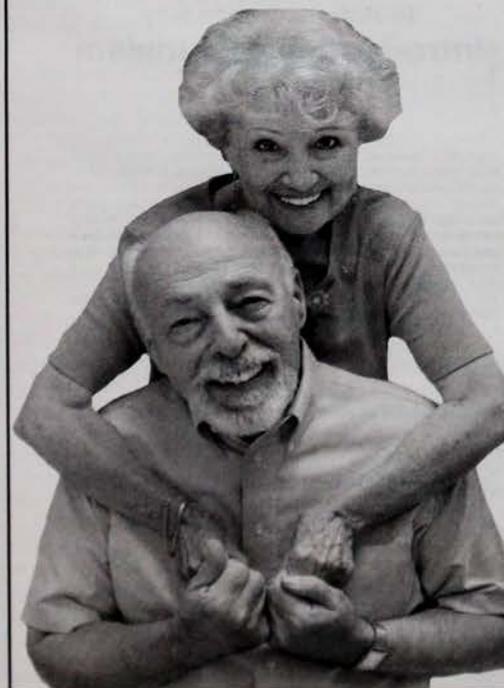
nately, she still lives an hour away from the nearest synagogue. She said if that weren't the case, she might consider getting involved in Jewish life again. So, I think this has been a positive for her as well."

(The chairperson for the WA Home Sweet Home program was Myrna Rosen; Bea Ross is WA president and Dr. Bonnie Steinberg Jennis is WA campaign chair. The two sessions were held at the home of Sally Lapides.)

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Call Meyer Goldstein, Endowment Director, at 401.421.4111 ext. 174 for further information.



Community

Tikkun olam leads off Federation campaign

By Marty Cooper
mcooper@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — Nearly 100 volunteers gathered Sept. 5 to kick off the Jewish Federation's 2008 Annual Community Campaign. This year's campaign theme is *tikkun olam*, repair of the world; Doris Feinberg serves as chairperson.

Feinberg spoke of how her recent mission to Ethiopia and Israel with a team of volunteer leaders inspired her. "We saw how blessed we are to be a part of a 'Peoplehood' who will go to any extreme to rescue any Jews anywhere and provide them with a dignified life."

She added, "All of us in this room are shepherds of the process of *tikkun olam*."

Feinberg announced this year's campaign goal of \$4.4 million, 10 percent more than last year. In the last few years, campaign revenue has been flat. This could be attributed in part to additional drives relating to natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina as well as emergency fund raising last year to help northern Israel recover from the pounding it took from Hezbollah rockets. This year, there are no additional campaigns. "There is a compelling and urgent need," stated Feinberg. "Our mission of *tikkun olam* is compelling each



Photos by Marty Cooper

Robert Mann, a UJC speaker, led a Federation campaign volunteers' workshop last week held at Temple Emanu-El.

and every day. It is an emergency of humanitarianism throughout the Jewish community local and worldwide."

Stephen Silberfarb, Federation's executive vice president, spoke of the need to include younger members of the Jewish community in raising community funds, prioritizing needs and directing resources to meet these needs. "The Federation's Plan for

Realignment is focused on directing resources and developing and executing strategies to engage more young people," he said.

Silberfarb also said that Federation would do a better job demonstrating to donors that their dollars make a difference in changing lives and bringing dignity to Jews in Rhode Island and across the globe.

Robert Mann, a Chicago-area businessman who runs a family-owned women's apparel and design company, also spoke to the crowd. As a volunteer, Mann criss-crosses the country on behalf of United Jewish Com-

munities. Mann asked the team of volunteers why they were at the meeting. "After all," he said, "you could be home enjoying a family dinner. The reason you are here tonight instead of at home is because at some point in your life as a Jew, you were touched. That made you want to continue to help the Jewish community. We don't give to the Federation," he reminded the group, "we give through the Federation."

"It's not easy being a Jew," he continued. "How do we make sure the next 3,000 years are as good as the last 3,000?"

See facing page

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From facing page

BRIEF BIO
ROBERT MANN

Robert Mann was this year's 2008 Annual Federation Campaign Kick-off guest speaker. He has spoken and made presentations to 40 federations in the United States and Canada.



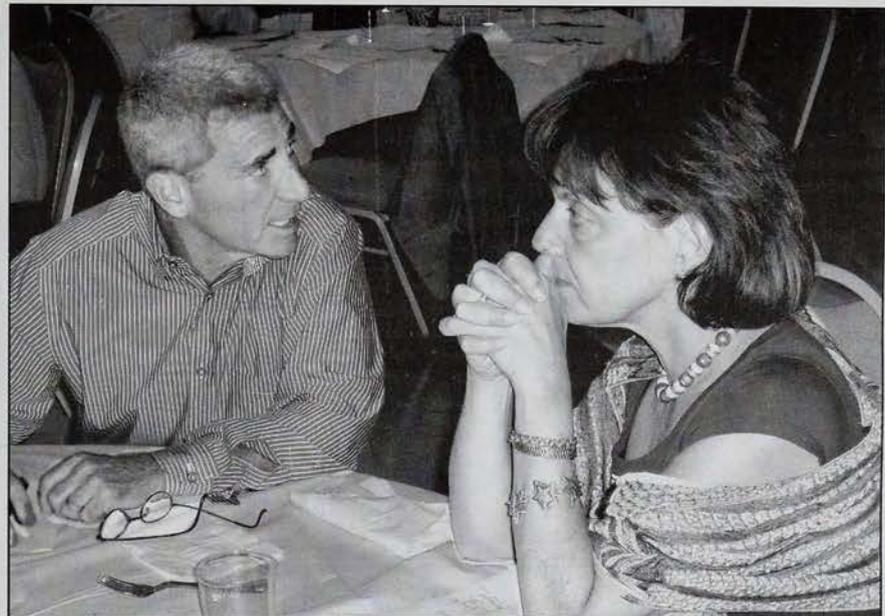
A volunteer, Mann's "day" job is managing the Henry-Lee Company; a family owned and operated women's apparel designer and distribution business in Chicago, IL. Mann became involved in the Jewish community early in his life. His parents were actively involved, with his father as a campaign chairman.

Mann became a member of the Young Jewish Leadership Board in Chicago and the National Young Jewish Leaders Cabinet. He is also a member of the Young Presidents Organization.

In 2006 Mann was selected to be a Wexler Heritage Fellow. The program is designed to develop leadership in the community. It focuses on potential leaders who have little or no Jewish background or understanding. The program concentrates on three cities or markets a year. It has been instituted in Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Houston, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Mann has B.S. in Management from Tulane University and an MBA from the Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management.

He and his wife Lisa, have three children: Lila who recently celebrated her Bat Mitzvah, Ryan, 9 and Henry, 5.



CAMPAIGN SOLICITORS Peter Barry and Elaine Fain share with one another how Rhode Island Jewish agencies have made an impact on them at this year's annual campaign kick-off meeting.

D.C. peace summit faltering

from page 1

whatever agreements are reached by Abbas and Olmert. Egypt, too, is uncertain of its attendance because of the lack of an agenda or a timeline for both sides to meet their commitments. Jordan's King Abdullah, after meeting with Abbas, said that the final status issues must top the agenda. Abbas has been doing extensive lobbying among Arab rulers and says that the presidents of Syria and Tunisia and the emirs of Qatar and Kuwait are also hesitant.

The Bush administration has adjusted its expectations for the conference, which will be hosted by U. S. Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice and was originally expected to result in an Israeli-Palestinian agreement. Now Washington is talking of trying to construct "something positive" without a definition of what that means. Next week Rice will attend the opening of the annual session of the U.N. General Assembly at which the European "Quartet," the U.S., the U.N., the European Union and Russia, - the group that guides the peace process, will also meet. Perhaps a definition will come out of those talks.

Overshadowing all of these comings and goings is a mysterious bombing earlier this month, presumably by the Israeli Air Force, of an equally mysterious Syrian site which, according to rumor, is the location of a nuclear

construction site allegedly operated by Syria and North Korea. Everyone is denying everything but it does appear that Israel did carry out a bombing raid in the area although the target and the intention have not been discussed in public. The Syrians describe the location as an agricultural research center which may be akin to the mysterious "cloth-

ing factory" in the Israeli city of Dimona, in the Negev, which turned out to be a nuclear weapons plant, the existence of which is still not official. But if North Korea is, in fact, allied with Syria in such a project, the chances for any Middle East settlement seem drastically reduced.

Yehuda Lev can be reached at yehudal@cox.net.



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NEWS BRIEFS

Bush picks Orthodox Jew

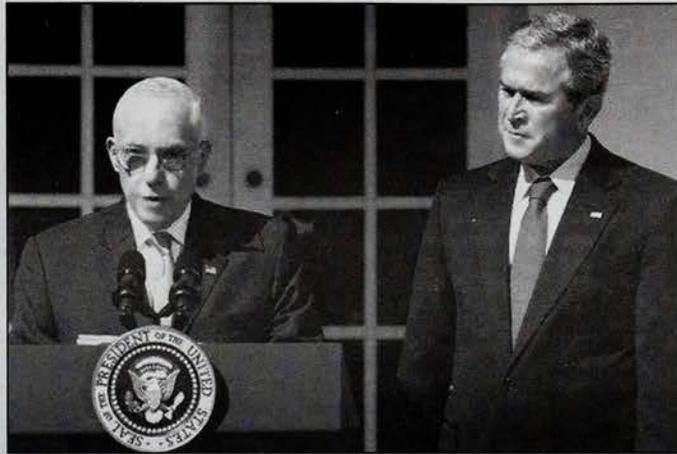
WASHINGTON: President Bush has named an Orthodox Jew, Michael Mukasey, to succeed Alberto Gonzales as Attorney General of the United States. Mukasey, a retired Federal judge and a conservative, has criticized Bush administration policies that have kept detainees from consulting with lawyers. His Jewishness became an issue when a defendant in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing asked that he be removed because his being Jewish and interest in Israel would create a bias against Muslim defendants. Mukasey's wife, Susan, is a former headmistress of the Ramaz Lower School, an Orthodox Jewish school in New York. (JTA)

8 Israelis die in Thai crash

THAILAND: Eight Israelis, including two honeymooning couples, died in the crash of a Thai plane this week. A third couple survived with moderate injuries and has been flown to Tel Aviv. To help with identifying victims, relatives of the passengers and members of Magen David Adom flew to Thailand with DNA samples and photographs. (JTA)

Living on \$21 week

NEW YORK: If your Jewish community worker is looking a bit wan this week, it is not because of a Yom Kippur fast. Jewish communal executives and some non-Jewish politicians have agreed to spend one week eating



PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH listens to remarks by Judge Michael Mukasey after announcing his nomination Monday, Sept. 17, 2007, in the White House Rose Garden, to be the 81st Attorney General of the United States.

on a budget that would pay for an appetizer at a power lunch. The Jewish Council for Public Affairs is enlisting people to live for a week on \$21, the national average for food stamps benefits. Among those participating are the heads of some local federations and Jewish community relations councils and several lawmakers including the only Muslim member of Congress, Rep. Keith Ellison, (D-Minn.). (JTA)

No swinging chickens

JERUSALEM: Each year, just before Yom Kippur, many religious Jews take part in the kapparot ritual that involves swinging a chicken around one's head symbolizing penitence. The chicken is then eaten. This year an Israeli group, "Let the Animals Live", Israel's largest animal welfare society, has asked former Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, to urge his followers to opt for a more humane and doctrinally approved version of kapparot in which money is used

instead of a chicken and then given to charity. Yosef, who is considered the spiritual mentor for the powerful Sephardi religious political movement, had no immediate response to the appeal. (JTA)

Rabbis pessimistic on temple growth

NEW YORK: Is the glass half full or half empty? According to a national poll of rabbis conducted by a Minneapolis based group that supports innovative congregational programming, the rabbis tend to see the glass as being half empty. Fewer than half of American rabbis are optimistic about the future of American Jewry and less than one third expect synagogue membership to increase over the next three years. "Shifting denominational affiliations and larger numbers of interfaith families are challenging synagogue growth and rabbis keenly recognize it is not just about increasing ongoing membership participation, but

reaching out beyond the current congregants by attracting a more diverse community" said Rabbi Hayim Herring, who directed the study. Last year, support for Israel was the top sermon topic but this year there are more sermons on inspiring congregants with a compelling vision of Jewish life; on broader Jewish participation, on forgiveness and on the internal life/health of the synagogue. (JTA)

JNF nixes Playboy prize

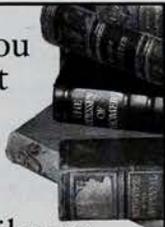
NEW YORK: To the Jewish National Fund it sounded like a great idea. They are going to hold a fund raising auction and one of their contributors offered an all-expenses paid trip to the Playboy mansion in Holmby Hills, California. But it never left the station. Some other contributors to the JNF, convinced that the excursion didn't have too much to do with tree planting and marsh draining, the more normal JNF activities, talked them out of it; and so if you are planning a research expedition to Holmby Hills, please don't tell them the JNF sent you. (JTA)

—Compiled by Yehuda Lev

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CHRP

So. County Hebrew School opens for the new year

Photos by Marty Cooper

By Marty Cooper
mcooper@jfri.org

NARRAGANSETT — On a nice, warm Sunday morning early in September many Narragansett residents are heading to the beach for one last swim. Not so for 25 Jewish families. It is off to the South County Hebrew School for opening day.

On this day Ethan Adler, no stranger to Jewish education and the community, is welcoming approximately 40 eager children and their parents.

The school has seven teachers in addition to Adler, who is the director, joke teller, motivator, and administrator. Adler began by speaking about the *tzedakah* efforts of last year, which benefited the Make A Wish Foundation, Hasbro Children's Hospital, the Johnnycake Center and the Jewish Braille Institute International.

"The school," said Adler, "will have several new learning programs. There will be a Sunday *Sbacht* morning service, *Mincha* afternoon service on Wednesdays, a children's choir, "Jammin Juniors," a family learning program called *Mishpacha* Madness, and Israel at 60.

In addition, this year parents and students can go online to www.schebrewschool.org to learn the prayers assigned to their grade levels. A CD will also be available.

History

The South County Hebrew School began about 40 years ago. At that time Adler was a senior at the University of Rhode Island, (URI), and one of the school's first teachers. The principal was Lenore Levin. "The students were mostly children of the university faculty or staff who needed a place to learn Hebrew and Jewish values," recalled Adler.

Over the years the school has been in transition, located at homes, a church and at various buildings at URI. This past January, spearheaded by Rick Karnes, it moved to its current site. As president of the school, Karnes got to officially welcome the students and their parents to their new home.

On July 1 the school formed an alliance with Congregation Beth David of Narragansett. Plans for a new building next to the school have been finalized, and construction will begin shortly.

The South County Hebrew School meets on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. For more information, call 946-2604 or email to eadler3@cox.net.



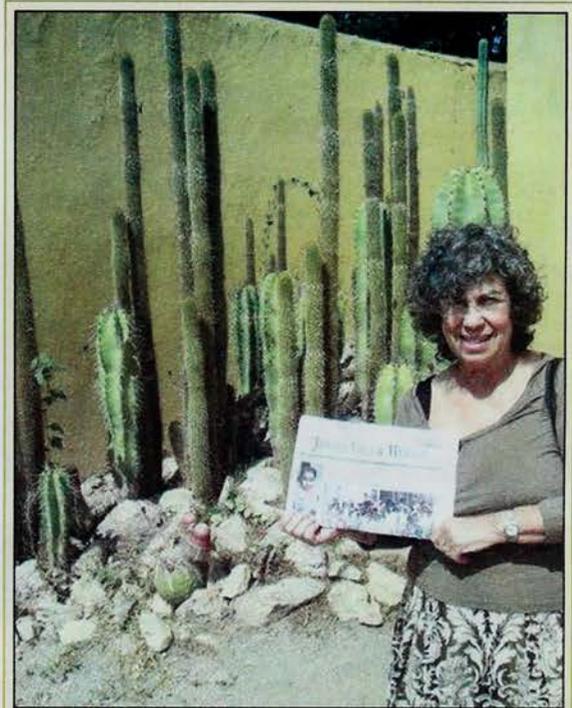
FROM A HOME TO A SCHOOL. The building went through a massive transformation to make it a school of Jewish learning with several classrooms.



SOUTH COUNTY HEBREW SCHOOL CHILDREN and their parents and teachers listen as Ethan Adler, school director, tells them what kinds of activities they will doing this school year.



NEW SCHOOL PARENT — Sheri Snow enrolled two children in the school this year. The school is close to home.



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(Where in the world will we go next?)

Caryl-Ann Miller Nieforth brought her copy of the Jewish Voice and Herald on her recent trip to Chiclayo, Peru.

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Learning the shofar at Emanu-El



Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer conducted two shofar workshops at Temple Emanu-El for the holidays.



Photos by Mary Korr

Joshua Stone holds on to his kippah!



Jacob Katzman grooves to the shofar sounds.



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SHOFAR

From page 1

holiday class for about 15 years.

"Buzz into the shofar," he began.

You couldn't blame the novices for a little spittle.

The rabbi extended his hands far apart. *Tekiah*, one long straight blast.

The rabbi drew out three shorter notes with his hands. *Shevarim*.

The rabbi punctuated the air with his finger. *Teruah*, a series of staccato blasts.

Leah Ribner-Martin swayed as she played.

Jacob Katzman really got down on the notes, lying on his back on a chapel bench.

And when it was time for a group demonstration, the group huffed and puffed and almost blew the chapel roof off in a wild primitive cacophony.

And, in a spontaneous finale, thunder clapped outside.

Tekiah!

As Aurora Rees packed up her shofar, she said the sound was used as a warning to the Jewish people. "It's time to wake up, there is danger coming," she said. "Like an alarm clock."

Forrest Rees said the shofar sounds like — "a shofar. When we all played together it was a horrible sound, like screaming."

"It kinda hurt my ears," Aurora said.

Tots learn about Shabbat

By Jessica Perlman
perlman_jessica@yahoo.com

WARWICK — This year, adults and junior congregants won't be the only ones celebrating the Sabbath, as Tot Shabbat prepares to familiarize Judaism's youngest with the traditions and joys of the day of rest...all the way down to the last crumb of challah.

Located at Temple Am David in Warwick, the Tot Shabbat program was created and designed by Jeanine Silversmith and Sharon Sock, co-creator of Shalom Friends. Every month, from September – June, the hour-long program will take place during Am David's regular Shabbat service, and will welcome children 0-7 years, along with a parent or caregiver. The children will learn the traditional Shabbat prayers, but will do so in an "age-appropriate" and entertaining environment, through "kid-friendly" siddurs, song, dance, props, and a lot of creativity.

"Our philosophy is to start creating happy Jewish memories as early as possible for young children," explains Sock. "This is a way to make Shabbat a special day for the whole family."

Stuffed Torah

During the traditional lifting of the Torah from the ark, the children will each be handed a stuffed Torah, which they'll hold while learning and singing the prayer, and the "lesson of the day" will be loosely based on the specific Torah portion. The children will also receive the Tot Shabbat Torah Take-out, which are activities that they can use at home to help strengthen their Shabbat knowledge and understanding, and offer ideas for the family to spend Shabbat together,



Photos by Jessica Perlman

Sierra Silversmith, and Reese and Cooper Sock.

such as taking walks and hikes or reading a special book.

"We wanted to have more for the younger kids in the temple, and also encourage young families to come to Shabbat services," said Silversmith.

The program also allows children to become familiar with the Shema, and other prayers and Hebrew aspects of the Shabbat service.

"It's nice for them to have a connection and feel that it is a part of their language repertoire before they formally start to learn Hebrew," Silversmith explained.

At the end of the Tot Shabbat program, the children will go into the main service and join the junior congregation students on the bimah, where they'll say the ending prayers, be given candy, and say the Kiddush together. Children who attend Tot Shab-

bat five or more times will also receive an award at the end of the year.

Conveniently, Tot Shabbat coincides with the junior congregation, so when the parents drop off the older kids, they will have a place to go with their younger ones.

In addition to Am David's Tot Shabbat, children ages 0-5 are welcome to join Shalom Friends, a program that Sock co-created in 2002 with Jennifer Thaler, which received the 2005 Gold Solomon Schechter Award for excellence in Jewish Family Education, from United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

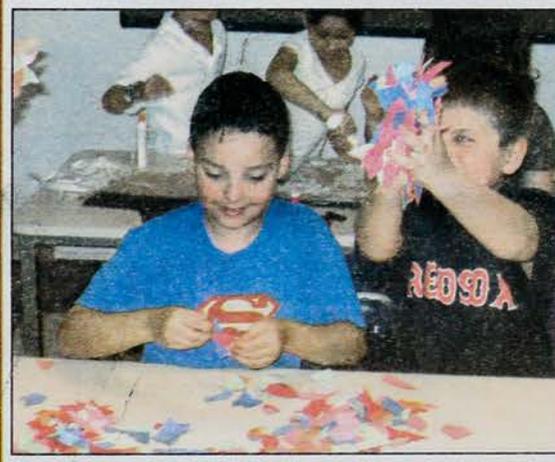
With a mission to "develop a child's love for Jewish life through music, art and movement in a family-centered program," Shalom Friends incorporates original songs, instruments, stories, snacks, and Jewish topics into one-hour classes, Friday and Sunday, for three eight-week sessions a year. Children learn about Shabbat, Mitzvot, Tzedakah, Israel, and holidays and will meet two very special friends, Gilly Gilly Gefilte Fish, and Mitzvah Giraffe. They're also given a Shalom friends CD to take home, which instills and reinforces Judaism further into their lives. "The kids listen to the music at home and the parents tell me that it's all they want to listen to," Sock said.

There are many other family oriented events at Temple Am David, including Family fun Havdalah, the Cantor's Party, and a children's book fair in October. Sock also developed Family Fun Shabbat, which takes place Friday nights at 6 p.m., and offers a menu of pizza and make-your-own sundaes.

Back to school at Habonim



Above, Emily Levis, Lina Goncalves and Jack Steckler, students in Elisa Chubka's second-grade religious school class, enjoy their first day back at Temple Habonim. Below are fellow students Nathaniel Gordon and Grant Friedman.



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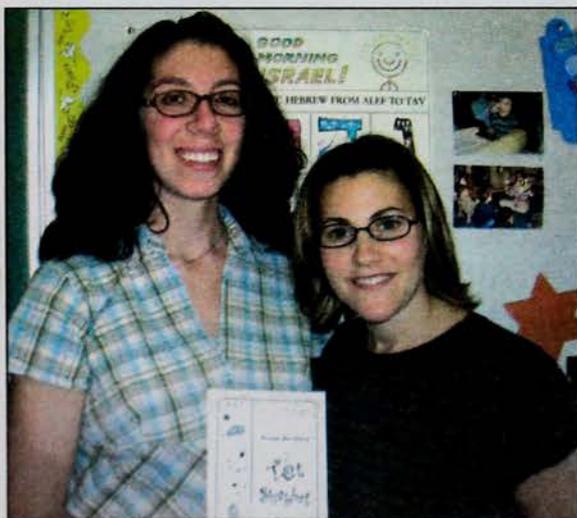
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Jeanine Silversmith and Sharon Sock of Temple Am David's Tot Shabbat and Shalom Friends program.

Food

Stews, soups for dinners in the sukkah

By Linda Morel

NEW YORK (JTA) — Dairy gets short shrift on the Sukkot dinner menu. Jewish cookbooks typically feature plenty of recipes for hearty soups

and stews, tzimmes and brisket. "Sukkot is a time of celebration and rejoicing," says Rabbi Sue Ann Wasserman, director of the Department of Worship, Music and Religious Living for

the Union for Reform Judaism. "In a purely customary way, meat is seen as a bigger deal than dairy foods."

Many Jews will consume milk and cheese for breakfast and lunch during the holiday's eight days, but there's no *hal-akab*, Jewish law, that says dairy is taboo for the main meal of the harvest festival.

Unlike latkes at Hanukkah, charoset at Passover or hamantaschen at Purim, Sukkot never became associated with specific dishes, Wasserman says. This leaves options on what to prepare during Sukkot.

Soups, stews and casseroles have become popular at Sukkot, particularly among those living in colder climates. These dishes are relatively easy to bring outdoors, and they're more likely to retain their heat inside a chilly sukkah far longer than food presented on platters.

"Our sukkah sits on a porch behind our house," Wasserman says. "We ferry everything to the back. We eat a lot of soup during Sukkot. My husband is our family cook, and he's a great soup maker."

During Sukkot, the ancient Israelites traveled to the Temple in Jerusalem carrying offerings of animals, grains, fruit, oil and wine. As the holiday marked the end of the growing season, thousands of people were able to journey to Jerusalem to offer thanks for the year's plentiful crops.

In biblical times, Sukkot was celebrated with great revelry, and people dwelled in temporary huts — a precursor to today's home-built sukkahs that are so creatively decorated with seasonal produce and artwork.

Creamy Carrot Ginger Soup**Equipment:**

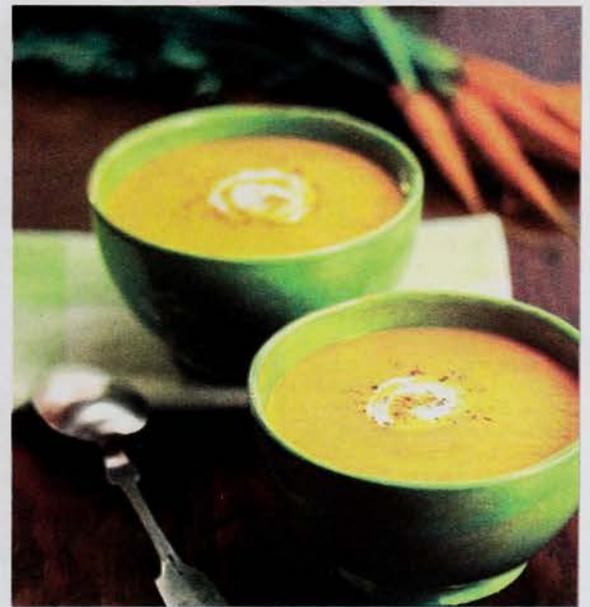
Blender and (optional) soup tureen

Ingredients:

2 medium onions, chopped
4 tablespoons olive oil
5 cups canned or fresh vegetable broth, or more, if needed
16 medium sized carrots, peeled and cut into carrot sticks
4 large potatoes, peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks
4-inch knob of ginger, peeled and diced finely
3 cups homogenized milk
Salt and white pepper to taste

Preparation:

1. In a medium-sized pot, saute and stir onions in olive oil until transparent, about 5 minutes. Add broth, carrots, potatoes and ginger. Cover pot and bring to a boil on a low flame. Simmer



Creamy Carrot Ginger Soup

until solids are mushy, about 15 minutes. (Add more broth if mixture becomes dry.)

2. Uncover pot and cool contents for handling. Ladle contents in 4 batches, one batch at a time, into a blender and puree. Pour pureed batches from blender into a large pot.

3. Add milk to puree. Combine milk and puree with a spoon. Add salt and white pepper. Recipe can be prepared to this point 2 days in advance. Cover and refrigerate until ready to proceed.

4. Warm soup on a low flame until simmering. Check seasonings and adjust. In the meantime, fill a soup tureen with hot water and cover. When ready to serve soup, discard water and dry tureen with a towel. Carefully ladle hot soup into tureen and carry to the sukkah. Yield: 8-10 servings.

Brazilian Style Snapper Stew**Equipment:**

Enamel cast-iron pot in an attractive color is recommended, so stew can be prepared and served in the same pot that retains its heat outdoors.

Ingredients:

5 red snapper fillets, skinned
Juice of 1 lime
7 tablespoons olive oil, or more if needed
Kosher salt to taste
1/4 teaspoon white pepper
1 large onion, diced
6 cloves garlic, minced
1 green bell pepper, diced
12 Italian plum tomatoes, chopped coarsely

3/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper

14-ounce can unsweetened coconut milk

1 cup cilantro, chopped

6 scallions, finely chopped

White rice, prepared according to package instructions

Preparation:

1. Rinse fillets under cold water. Pat dry with paper towels. Place in a non-metallic bowl. Drizzle with lime juice and 3 tablespoons of olive oil. Sprinkle with salt and white pepper. Cover and marinate in the refrigerator while assembling remaining ingredients. (Fillets may whiten from acid in lime.)

2. In a large pot, heat 4 tablespoons of olive oil on a medium flame and saute onion, garlic and green pepper for 5 minutes, stirring often to avoid burning.

3. Add tomatoes, crushed red pepper and salt to taste. Cover pot and simmer for 15 minutes, until tomatoes start releasing sauce. Stir often and reduce flame, if necessary.

4. Place a strainer over a bowl. Pour coconut milk through the strainer and discard gloppy solids. Turn off flame. To the pot, add coconut milk, 1/2 cup cilantro, 3 scallions and fillets, including marinade. Submerge fillets in cooking liquid. Cover pot and simmer on a medium flame for 10 minutes or until fillets turn opaque and are cooked through. Recipe can be made to this point a day in advance. Cover and refrigerate. Reheat on a low flame before proceeding.

5. Sprinkle remaining cilantro and scallions on top of stew. Serve with white rice. Yield: 10

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Carrot cake, apple cobbler for desserts

By Marylyn Graff
mgrafl@jfri.org

When you take down the sukkah, you will have many good fruits and veggies, you can transform into everything from soups to yummy desserts.

Gather up the carrots and bake a cake. This is my own recipe, adjusted over the years.

Carrot cake

- 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 cups finely shredded raw carrots
- 1 cup juice-packed crushed pineapple, well drained
- 2 cups packaged grated coconut
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup walnuts, chopped
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. cinnamon

In a large bowl beat eggs until light. Stir in oil and vanilla. Combine all dry ingredients in a sifter and sift into egg mixture. Mix until well blended. Stir in carrots, pineapple, coconut, rai-



sins and nuts until blended. Turn into well-greased and floured bundt pan or 5 by 9 inch loaf pan and bake at 350 about one hour or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean.

Also makes two 4 by 8 foil loaf pans or 3-4 mini loaf pans. (Smaller pans will need less baking time.) Let sit 5 minutes, remove from pan, serve or store. You can make a frosting or glaze. I prefer just to sift some powdered sugar over the top.

You can make cake several days in advance as it keeps well. Wrap tightly. It freezes very well.

Apple Cobbler

When you bake with the apples on the bottom, they become nicely caramelized. Use a heavy nine-inch skillet or top-of-

stove-proof pan, (not pyrex.)

Melt 1/2 stick butter or margarine in pan. Sprinkle generously with about 1/2 cup brown sugar and melt over low heat. Sprinkle evenly with about 1 tsp. cinnamon, 1/2 tsp. allspice and 1/4 tsp. powdered cloves (opt.) Peel, core and slice 3 or 4 firm apples, such as Granny Smith or other cooking apples evenly into pan. Cook on medium heat, stirring occasionally until apples soften and caramelize on the bottom. (Apples should still hold their shape and not be mushy.)

Meanwhile, preheat oven to 425.

Make a biscuit dough of:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 1/2 tsps. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt

- 1 Tblsp. sugar
- 2 Tblsp. melted butter or margarine
- 3/4 cup milk or soy milk

Mix just until blended. Drop by spoonfuls over hot fruit in skillet. Put into oven and bake about 10-12 minutes until biscuits are golden brown. Serve warm.

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Calendar

SUN., SEPT. 23

Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club

2 p.m. Epoch, One Butler Ave., near the Eastside Marketplace. "Steven & Philip Martorella in concert - 1 piano, 4 hands."

Jewish Family Service family event

1 to 3 p.m. JFS family fun event at the Save the Bay Exploration Center in Newport. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, with a maximum of \$25/family. Snacks provided. For more information contact Sara at 331-1244.

Cranston High School reunion

Class of 1952 - 55th Reunion. Contact Norma Hill at 942-5328 or NHILL169@cox.net.

Temple Am David pizza in the hut

12 p.m. Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick. RSVP 463-7944.

TUES., SEPT. 25

Beth-El program for very young

11 a.m. Temple Beth-El, 70

Orchard Ave. K'Tantan Boker Tov - For children not yet in preschool and their parents. Older siblings welcome. Songs, stories, snacks and playtime. Silverstein Meeting Hall.

Boston Globe columnist

7 p.m. St. Martin's Church, 50 Orchard Ave., Providence. "Religious Self-Criticism and the Middle East: A Christian Reflects" with James Carroll, author, playwright, and Boston Globe columnist. He is the author of "Constantine's Sword: The Church and the Jews, A History." pen to public; suggested donation is \$10.

Paperclips movie at Habonim

6:30 p.m. Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington. Join authors

Peter and Dagmar Schroeder for dessert, and then the movie will be shown at 7 p.m. followed by a Q&A. This is the true story of how a small, rural mining town, inspired by its children, learned a powerful lesson and created a memorial to those who perished in the Holocaust. For more information, call 245-6536.

SUN., SEPT. 30

Torat Yisrael Sukkot events

Noon - Sukkah hop at the temple, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. For information call 785-1800.

FRI., SEPT. 28

Sinai potluck dinner

6 p.m. Temple Sinai, Cranston. Annual new member pot luck dinner and Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m.

SUN., SEPT. 30

Sinai program on colonial Jews

1 p.m. The Temple Sinai Sisterhood and the Seniors Group will present Keith W. Stokes, executive director of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce. He will speak on "Faith, Family & Freedom: Colonial Jewish Families of Newport: the early Jewish settlement of Newport in 1658 and the growth of one of America's earliest and most significant Jewish communities during the Colonial period." Refreshments. At Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Avenue, Cranston. Free and open to the public. RSVP to 942-8350.

USY trip from Emanu-El

2:15 to 6:15 p.m. Three separate cruises, rain or shine, for Sr. USY, for Jr. USY and for Kadima. All leaving from same dock at Rowes Wharf, 400 Atlantic Ave., Boston. \$32 per person includes round trip bus transportation, refreshments, DJ. Cruise of Boston Harbor, visit to George's Island. Departing from Temple Emanu-El at 12:15, returning at 7:30 p.m. For reservations call Miriam Abrams-Stark at the temple, 331-1616 or e-mail miriam@teprov.org.

Charlie Samdperil event

6 p.m. Reception, 7 p.m. Dinner, presentations and entertainment to celebrate the life of Charlie Samdperil at Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence.

TUES., Oct. 2

Emanu-El to begin Story time

10 a.m. Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence, in the Sisterhood lounge. For more information call 331-1616.

Chabad

"Soup in the Sukkah"

7:30 p.m. Event in the "Women's Evenings" series by Chabad of West Bay. Variety of autumn soups under the stars with friends. Donation \$5. RSVP to Shoshana at 884-7888.

WED., OCT. 3

Cranston Seniors meeting

1 p.m. at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Happy Hoofers dance group will entertain. Raffle and refreshments to follow the meeting.

THURS., OCT. 4

Temple Torat Yisrael

5:45 p.m. - Kid-friendly Simchat dinner

6:30 p.m. - Simhat Torah family celebration

At the temple, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. For more information call 785-1800.

UPCOMING

SUN., OCT. 7

BBYO new young teen program

9 - 11:30 a.m. for 7th and 8th graders. (Game Day) At Dave & Busters' Providence Place Mall. Pick-up and return at the Providence JCC. Kickoff program. Power card, activities, breakfast, transportation to and from the mall included in \$15 cost. For more information call (781) 341-2016 ext 268 or Malki Karkovsky at mkarkovsky@bbyo.org.

MON., OCT. 8

Great Day of Service in Barrington

8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. B.O.W. community collaborative working for community betterment. For more information contact Amy Rovin at 258-6860, www.bowri.org or email greatday@bow.org.

SAT., OCT. 13

Hope High School 50th reunion

Providence Marriott on Orms & Charles Street in Providence. Hope High School Class of 1957 will hold a 50th reunion of both the January and

June 1957 classes. The reservation deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 9. Call Al Johnson at 353-1602 or Pat Houlihan at 751-4699 for more info.

SUN., OCT. 14

Dr. Aronson to speak at Jewish Historical Assn.

2 p.m. Temple Beth-El. Dr. Stanley Aronson, the renowned medical educator and highly regarded columnist, will address the mid-year meeting of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association. The annual Bonnie and Seebert Goldowsky Lecture. All are welcome. Dr. Aronson's topic will be "Mischief, Mayhem, and Murder: Jewish Contributions to Forensic Medicine." See Community.

THURS., OCT. 18

Jewish Family Service annual meeting

7:30 to 9 p.m. 78th annual meeting. The Odeon at Laurelmead, 355 Blackstone Blvd., Providence. Honoring Peri Ann Aptaker for service as president; installation of Scott Libman as next president. RSVP to Sara Masri, 331-1244, sara@jfsri.org.

SUN., OCT. 21

Am David tourney

1 p.m. Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick. Fall event sponsored by the women of the temple. Refreshment break. Prizes and awards at 5 p.m. For more information and to register, call 463-7944. Send check for \$18 payable to Temple Am David.

WED., OCT. 26

Habonim sukkah

6 to 6:30 a.m. short service, followed by dinner in the sukkah. Temple Habonim in Barrington. Bring your blankets, bug spray, and a picnic supper (vegetarian or dairy only please). Everyone will have the opportunity to perform the mitzvah of waving the lulav and etrog.

MON., OCT. 29

Talmudic Ethics

Six Mondays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Center, 3 Shalom Drive, Warwick. A course sponsored by the Jewish Learning Institute of Chabad of RI. The cost \$118, textbook included. Scholarships are available. To register, or for more information, call Rabbi Laufer at (401) 884-7888.



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GesherCityRI: for those in their 20s and 30s

By Jessica Perlman

PROVIDENCE — Young Jewish adults in their 20s and 30s will soon have the opportunity to meet new friends, and take active roles in the Jewish community, as GesherCity makes its official Rhode Island debut.

"The overall goal of GesherCity RI, is to get the young Jewish adults involved in the community," explained Jacob Briar, coordinator. Gesher is Hebrew for bridge.

Located at the Jewish Community Center (JCC), and sponsored by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI), GesherCity, which originated in Boston in 1998, is a national organization, with a web-based portal, that allows people within the community to both view the planned events or design and arrange them. Most

of the programming is executed through "clusters," which are various activity groups that focus on specific activities and missions that a majority of people within each group are interested in.

There are larger events that are geared for the entire community as well, and on Sept. 30th, there will be a meet and greet at the JCC's open house, which will include a sukkah as well as traditional snacks. Prospective members can share ideas as to what they would like to do in the program, and where they plan to go with it. Then, on Oct. 14, there will be a bus trip to Foxwoods; GesherCity will also be involved in the JCC Hanukkah party, and, in addition to these activities, there are more events yet to be developed.

Currently, Briar is in the process of sorting out the clusters. "I recently sent out emails to a list of

young adults who were involved in the program, Perspectives. For the past nine months, nothing has been going on with that, so now I'm trying to get the ball rolling again."

Briar has sent out about 200 emails. He did not have access to any names associated with the addresses, and so he decided to use a questionnaire.

"I've received about 40 responses to the questionnaire, and now there's a list, and I'm confident that it will grow very quickly," he said.

Born and raised in Providence and Pawtucket, Briar went to Johnson and Wales University, majoring in marketing, and is currently in the process of getting his MBA. As the GesherCity RI coordinator, he will provide the planning of all general events, will lead a cluster, and will assist other leaders of clusters as well.

"I've previously been involved

in event programming with the JCC in a volunteer role, as well as throughout high school and college. I've also worked with other Jewish organizations, planning and running events, and now, I'm really looking forward to this."

For more information, go to <http://www.jccri.org/adults/geshercity.shtml>.

Jessica Perlman is a freelance writer from East Providence. She can be reached at perlman_jessica@yahoo.com

BOOKSHELF

New books that are hot off the presses

By Jessica Perlman

The following books have arrived in the Jewish Voice & Herald's mailbox this week.

Three Times Chai

Laney Katz Becker
Behrman House, INC.
ISBN: 0 - 874 - 41810 - 0
2007

54 stories told by 54 "diverse" rabbis, each telling their favorite legends, folklore, Bible stories, as well as rabbinic and modern commentaries, and explaining their choices.

A View of Heaven

"After a full and long life, a wise, pious man dies and goes to heaven. There he is greeted and welcomed. But like so many of the truly pious, he never expected to be allowed to enter heaven, for even though he has led a righteous life, he has been a very humble man."

Rabbi Samuel N. Gordon of the Reform congregation Sukkat Shalom in Wilmette, Illinois, especially likes this story because, he says, it so clearly illustrates the human condition.

Foxbats Over Dimona

Isabella Ginor and Gideon Remez
Yale University Press
2007

This co-written book attests that the "Soviet Union deliberately engineered the war to create the conditions in which Israel's nuclear program could be destroyed." The authors declare that, "the Soviets flew sorties over

Dimona in the still-experimental and top-secret Foxbats both to bolster a deliberate Soviet effort to encourage Israel to launch a war and to ensure that the nuclear target could be effectively destroyed once Israel, branded an aggressor for its preemption, came under a planned joint Arab-Soviet counterattack."

A Shout in the Sunshine

Mara W. Cohen Ioannides
The Jewish Publication Society
ISBN -13: 978 - 0 - 8276 - 0838 - 2
ISBN - 10: 0 - 8276 - 0838 - 1
2007

Miguel and David are two young Jewish boys, living in 15th century Greece. Miguel is a poor refugee from Spain, while David comes from a wealthy, Greek Jewish family, specializing in fabrics. When Miguel begins working for David's family in their store, the two form a fantastic friendship, which is inevitably threatened by matters of the heart and family.

The Last Chicken in America: A Novel in Stories

Ellen Litman
W.W. Norton & Company
ISBN: 978 - 0 - 393 - 06511 - 4
2007

A collection of humorous, yet at times saddening, stories about Russian-Jewish immigrants in America, trying to adjust to their new communities and lives.

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Community

Dr. Aronson to speak at Historical Association meeting

PROVIDENCE — Dr. Stanley Aronson, the renowned medical educator and highly regarded columnist, will address the mid-year meeting of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association on Sunday, Oct. 14 at 2 p.m. The annual Bonnie and Seebert Goldowsky Lec-
 ture, will be delivered at Temple Beth-El. All are welcome.
 Dr. Aronson's topic will be "Mischief, Mayhem, and Murder: Jewish Contributions to Forensic Medicine." To counterbalance its serious content, a festive social hour will follow.



Dr. Stanley Aronson

The founding dean of Brown University's Warren Alpert School of Medicine, Dr. Aronson has also taught at numerous American universities as well as in Brazil, Canada, Israel, and Mexico.

In a category beyond prolific, he has authored eight medical textbooks and more than 450 scientific articles. Dr. Aronson edits the Rhode Island Medical Society's journal, *Medicine and Health*, and is a frequent contributor to both the *Providence Journal* and the *Jewish Voice & Herald*. He has also written many fascinating articles for *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes*.

For additional information, contact Anne Sherman at the Association's office: 331-1360.

NCJW to honor four at 'Jewel of a Day' event

PROVIDENCE — National Council of Jewish Women, Rhode Island Section (NCJW/RI) is holding a fall fundraiser luncheon, *A Jewel of a Day*, on Nov. 7 at noon at the Providence Marriott Hotel. Proceeds will be used to continue the NCJW mission of advocacy for issues that profoundly affect women, children, and families (especially those issues that are ignored or inadequately addressed by others).

Four rare and precious community "jewels" will be honored as exemplars of the values that are promoted by National Council of Jewish Women. Honorees are: Joan Countryman, retired headmistress, Lincoln School, Providence, RI and interim Director of the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy, South Africa; Kathleen Hittner, MD, President and CEO, The Miriam Hospital; Marie Langlois, Managing Director, Phoenix Investment Management Company; Barbara Schepps, MD, Director, Anne C. Pappus Center for Breast Imaging, Rhode Island Hospital.

Fine jewelry expert Gloria Lieberman, director of Skinner Auction Gallery Fine Jewelry Department will present an illustrated talk entitled: *Are Diamonds Really a Girl's Best Friend?* Ms. Lieberman frequently offers appraisals on PBS's *Antiques Roadshow*. Following her talk she will auction a rare piece of estate jewelry and will provide informal appraisals of jewelry worn by several lucky guests. A jewelry raffle will conclude the day's program.

The cost of individual tickets is \$125. If you would like to receive an invitation or to reserve a table, contact Marilyn Shealey at marilyn256@yahoo.com.



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Hadassah to participate in stem-cell summit

BOSTON — Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, will participate in and co-sponsor a landmark stem cell summit in Boston on Oct. 2-3.

The meetings, sponsored by the Genetics Policy Institute, Harvard Stem Cell Institute, and Burrill Life Sciences Media

Group, will focus on the latest developments in stem-cell research in the quest for treatments of devastating medical conditions, like diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease, spinal cord injury and paralysis, aging, as well as Parkinson's, ALS, and other neurological disorders.

The target audience for this unique event includes researchers, clinicians, patients, key policymakers, industry leaders, investors, philanthropists, legal experts, bioethicists, students, political strategists and advocates.

Dr. Rafi Hofstein, President & CEO of Hadasit, the technology holdings company of the Hadassah Medical Organization in Jerusalem, will participate in a panel discussion, titled "The Global Perspective on Stem Cell Research."

In Israel, where Hadassah owns two major research hospitals in Jerusalem, stem-cell research has been at the forefront of the organization's scientific investigations. A research team, headed by Prof. Benjamin Reubinoff, Director of Hadassah's Center for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research at the Goldyne Savad Institute of Gene Therapy, has been working for years with a stem-cell line that is the second oldest in the world and approved for research funding by the National Institutes of Health.

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AgeWell RI is a collaborative program of Jewish Family Service, Jewish Seniors Agency & the Jewish Community Center, core agencies of the Jewish Federation of RI, working together to provide seamless delivery of services to older adults, their family members and caregivers.

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Koffler Bornstein Families Institute to begin in Oct. at Emanu-El

PROVIDENCE — The Koffler Bornstein Families Institute of Jewish Studies at Temple Emanu-El will begin first-semester classes on Tuesday, Oct. 16, and Thursday, Oct. 18. Registration will open at 7 p.m. on both evenings. Classes will begin at 7:30, following registrations.

Course offerings, which are open to anyone in the community, include Talmud Study, Choral Singing, Tefillah Study, "Top 50 Ideas" in the Bible, Women in Film, Modern Hebrew Poetry, New Short Stories, Jewish Law, Conversion, Text and Art, and Formation of the Arab States. Classes vary in length per session and in number of weeks offered.

Tues. semester offerings

In the full Tuesday-evening semester (Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27, Dec. 4), from 7:30 to 8:50, Rabbi Wayne Franklin will teach Talmud study, focusing on the third chapter of Tractate Megillah (which discusses rules for reading Torah); and Cantor Brian Mayer will prepare the Congregational Choral Club—open and welcoming to all, without audition and with

no requirement that you read music!—for a December 9th performance at the Temple Hanukkah party. From 7:30 to 8:20, Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer will continue the Ben/Bat Torah class, concentrating this semester on Tefillah study; and Rabbi Saul Leeman will lead an exploration of The Bible's Top 50 Ideas, based on the book of that name by Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins. From 7:30 to 10, Professor Raphael Shargel will look at the role of Women in Jewish Film, showing and discussing six movies, classic to modern.

Tues. mini courses

Tuesday evening mini-courses will meet from 7:30 to 8:20. For four weeks, Oct. 16 through Nov. 6, Dani Steiner and David Raffeld will offer The Bible in Modern Poetry. Working with original Hebrew texts and English translations, they will study how Israeli writers have dealt with biblical stories. In a later session, Nov. 13 through Dec. 4, Professor Penney Stein will consider Who's New: Short Stories by the New Generation, reading the work of young Jewish writers

on Jewish themes.

Thurs. semester offerings

Thursday classes for the full semester (Oct. 18, 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29, and Dec. 6, 13) include, from 7:30 to 8:20 p.m., the Gerim Conversion Institute, taught by local rabbis and cantors; and The Process of Jewish Law From Moshe to Moshe to Moshe, taught by Shayna Rhodes, which will examine selected issues in law as they evolve through Moshe at Sinai to Moshe ben Maimon to Moshe Feinstein.

Thurs. mini-courses

Thursday mini-courses will meet from 7:30 to 8:20 p.m., beginning on Oct. 18. Text and Art: Especially for the Artist will study a text on the 18th, take two weeks off while participants create new works based on that text, then reunite on Nov. 1 to share the results. As facilitators, Marcia Kaunfer will focus on text and Professor Steven Subotnick will offer the artist's perspective. Also beginning on the 18th, Professor Ruth Ben-Artzi will address Post-World War I

Classes on converting begin

PROVIDENCE — The Conservative Movement of Rhode Island is again offering a course for prospective converts to Judaism. The Gerim Institute meets at Temple Emanu-El, Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. now through May. For further details, call at 331-1616.

Partners in learning

PROVIDENCE — "Yad B'Yad," a unique Jewish educational program, matches adults with professional and volunteer mentors to engage in Jewish learning. Topics to study are chosen from a long list of skills and subjects, and are determined by the learner. Partners meet together at a mutually agreed time and place. This is "one-on-one" learning in the comfort of one's home! Registration is open and ongoing throughout the year. For more information, contact Miriam Abrams-Stark at 331-1616.

Bronfman Prize seeks nominees

NEW YORK - The Charles Bronfman Prize has launched its 2008 award cycle, marking the start of this year's international quest for extraordinary, young humanitarians. The Prize celebrates the vision and talent of an individual or team under 50 years of age whose humanitarian work has contributed significantly to the betterment of the world. Its goal is to bring public recognition to dynamic individuals whose Jewish values infuse their humanitarian accomplishments and provide inspiration to the next generations.

Nominations guidelines and forms for the \$100,000 award are available at www.TheCharlesBronfmanPrize.com. Nominations for the 2008 Prize will be accepted through Nov. 30.

It will be awarded in the spring of 2008.

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Formation of the Arab States, in four sessions (ending Nov. 8). The class will examine recent political history and its shaping of today's Middle East.

Sun. morning classes

In addition, Temple Emanu-El will offer Sunday morning classes, 9 to 10, aimed at enhancing synagogue skills. Cantor Leslie Hamilton will teach Davening Skills 101, developing basic proficiency for leading the daily Minyan. Edward Adler will offer Ein Keloheinu: Hebrew Reading Fluency, concentrating on prayers from the Shabbat Morning Service.

Wed. classes

Temple Emanu-El also partners in classes offered on Wednesdays. With the JCC, it offers Yiddish Language, taught by Mara Sokolsky, which meets 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the JCC, Sept. 19 through Nov. 28. With Congregation Beth-El and the Hebrew College, Boston, it sponsors the continuation of Me'ah, this semester addressing Jewish life in the medieval period, and meeting at Temple Emanu-El from 7 to 9:30 p.m., Oct. 10 to Dec. 19.

For more information about class topics, times, dates, fees, etc., contact the Temple office at 331-1616.

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D'VAR TORAH
YOM KIPPUR

Jonah: Success or Failure?

The story of Jonah teaches compassion by not following the prophet's example.

By Rabbi Michael Strassfeld
On Yom Kippur we confront our mortality. This is done by denying our physical needs and by wearing white, the color of shrouds. The Yom Kippur liturgy adds to this somber message by focusing on life and

death, as well as on our human failings. The result is twofold: The worshipper feels alone, yet this sense of loneliness spurs the individual to repair relationships with others. The following excerpt sees the rebuilding of relationships as central to



else in the story, including the sailors, who are extremely reluctant to throw Jonah overboard.

Lacking compassion for others, he lacks compassion for himself. Fearing *teshuvah* [repentance] and change in himself and flees the truth, only to find it at least for a moment in the dark depths of the whale.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur together affirm the chance for positive change; for no matter how old or routine, there is hope for new birth and new ways. Each year these days ask us, "Which shall it be, Tarshish or Nineveh? Darkness or light? Death or life?"

Michael Strassfeld is rabbi at the Society for the Advancement of Judaism in New York City. He is the founding chairperson of the National Havurah Committee and is the author, editor or co-editor of numerous articles and books, including The Jewish Catalogue series.

Biologist tracks down sukkah-builders' harvest

From page 5

reduces the biodiversity of the wetlands dramatically," said the professor.

The Jewish men who travel south from Rockland County to the marshes may not make much impact on the ecosystem when they remove the destructive reeds, Weinstein said. But they are putting the tall grasses to a good use.

"The roofs of the sukkah are supposed to be constructed from vegetation," he said. Used as the raw material for thatched roofs in many parts of the world, phrag has shown itself worthy as a water-repellant cover. But, Weinstein said, he can already hear "some inevitable questions" from cautious suburban homeowners: "Are you taking insects along with the phragmites? Will phragmites start to sprout in my lawn?"

The answers are simple, he said. "The risks are minimal because there is not enough salt on your lawn to trigger maturation of the seeds."

Although he is "not religious," Weinstein said, he is eager to help his fellow Jews harvest the plant. "I'd love to do it with kids if they get in touch with me. I'd find a place where we could get permission to take the phragmites, and once we

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repentance. This theme plays a pivotal role in the story of Jonah, read on Yom Kippur afternoon. Reprinted with permission from "The Jewish Holidays: A Guide and Commentary" (Harper and Row).

Yom Kippur calls for profound re-examination of our self-definition and our relationship to the rest of the world. The tradition recognizes the difficulty of this process and sets aside the day of Yom Kippur specifically and this whole period more generally to force us to focus on a subject we prefer to avoid. All of us are like Jonah, ready to flee to some exotic Tarshish rather than face the reality of who we are and, even more threatening, the possibility that we could become different.

Ironically, Jonah is the only successful prophet in the whole

Bible, the only one whom people listen to and who causes them to actually change their ways. Yet it is his knowledge that he will succeed, not doubts about a possible failure, that causes Jonah to flee. Jonah is not afraid that the people of Nineveh will dismiss him as a quack; rather, he knows that they will repent. As he says: "O Lord! Isn't this just what I said when I was still in my own country? That is why I fled beforehand to Tarshish. For I know that You are compassionate and gracious God...Please, Lord, take my life, for I would rather die than live."

Rather than face that possibility, he flees. To the end, Jonah resists any sense of responsibility for the fate of the world or his own fate. Jonah lacks compassion for the people of the city, a compassion found in everyone

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Obituaries

Stacy Edmonds, 51

EAST GREENWICH — Stacy Edmonds, 51, died Sept. 13. She was the wife of Chelsea Edmonds. They were married for 22 years. Born in Queens, N.Y., a daughter of Shirley (Danzinger) Weiss of Hicksville, N.Y., and the late Irwin Goodman, she had lived in East Greenwich for 12 years, previously residing in Illinois.

Mrs. Edmonds was a special education teacher at the Rhode Island School for the Deaf for eight years.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El.

Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Maxwell; a daughter, Chloe, both at home; a brother, Craig Weiss of Des Plaines, Ill.; and a sister, Ivy Weiss of Chicago. She was the sister of the late Philip Weiss. Contributions may be made to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney St., Boston, MA 02115 or Home and Hospice Care of RI, 169 George St., Pawtucket, RI 02860.

Rose Celia Fishbein, 84

PROVIDENCE — Rose Celia (Rome) Fishbein died Sept. 3. She was the wife of the late Mel Fishbein, to whom she was married for 56 years. She was the daughter of the late Abraham and Eva (Barel) Rome.

In her life she was associated with the R.I. Heart Association, the John Hay Library and Dept. of Engineering at Brown University, Mel's Restaurant Supply, Cook's Connection, Zeigfeld's and Coffee Exchange.

She leaves two sons, Charles Fishbein and his wife Sandra of Providence; Bill Fishbein and his wife Donna of Santa Fe., N. M.;

a daughter, Deborah Fishbein Adams and her husband Ashley of Boston; four grandchildren, Jacob and Adam Fishbein and Rebecca and Hannah Adams; a sister-in-law Celia Mack; a nephew, Elliot Buckler; a niece, Gale Rudolph, and a grandnephew Jason Rudolph. She was the sister of the late Trudy (Rome) Marmer and Francis (Rome) Brodsky, both of Los Angeles; sister-in-law of the late Esther Abrich, aunt of the late Arlene Marmer and Bobby and Jerry Brodsky.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 222 Richmond St., Providence, RI 02906.

Paul D. Friedman, 64

PROVIDENCE — Paul D. Friedman, 64, died Sept. 11 at Miriam Hospital. A Providence resident most of his life, he was the husband of Barbara (Harris) Friedman. The son of the late Meyer and Dorothy (Ray) Friedman, he was born in Liberty, N.Y.

The owner of R.I.'s first video store, Video Works on South Main St., he retired in 1990. Prior to that, he had been the Director of International Purchasing at the former Brite Industries in Providence for 15 years.

Mr. Friedman was devoted to social justice, was active in the peace movement in the 1960s and throughout his life. He was an accomplished guitarist who loved folk music and blues.

Besides his wife, he leaves his daughters: Jennifer Schnirman and her husband Geoffrey of Providence; Amanda Wislocki-

Wasecki and her husband Cezary of Natick, Mass.; a brother, Jeffrey Grossman of Glen Cove, N.Y.; two sisters, Carol Sachenbacher of Acton, Mass., and Geri Grossman of Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y.; three grandchildren: Ruby, Leah and Noah; his mother-in-law, Helen Harris of Deerfield Beach, Fla., and many good friends.

Burial was in Swan Point Cemetery, Blackstone Blvd., Providence.

Contributions may be made to a peace organization.

Dorris Mendelsohn, 92

PROVIDENCE — Dorris Marcus Mendelsohn, 92, died Sept. 10.

Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Albert and Sarah Cohen, granddaughter of the late Anna and Julius Marcus and niece of the late Esther Spear and Ira Marcus.

A 1936 graduate of Pembroke College, Ms. Mendelsohn received a master's degree in Latin and education from Brown University in 1939. She taught in the Providence public schools for 45 years, the last 25 of which were at Classical High School teaching English, Latin, German, Spanish and ancient history. She retired in 1985.

For 16 years she also taught the confirmation classes at Temple Emanu-El. Education was her passion and she inspired countless students to make it their life's work.

She was long an active member of Hadassah and a member of Temple Emanu-El.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund at Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence, RI 02906.

Paula Cohen Zois, 71

Paula Cohen Zois, 71, died Sept. 4.

Ms. Zois worked at Reliable Gold in Wayland Square for over 20 years. After retiring about 10 years ago she worked part-time at RGE in Warwick.

She was a lover of theater, music and movies. She also enjoyed history, especially of royal families.

She leaves a daughter, Deborah, and her husband, John Chabon; two grandsons, Jake and Nicholas, all of Colorado; a sister, Ellen O'Hara of New Hampshire; and a dear friend, Hazel Kenegrow.

Contributions may be made to The Imus Cattle Ranch for Kids with Cancer, Ribera, NM 87560 or a favorite charity.

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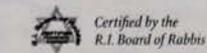
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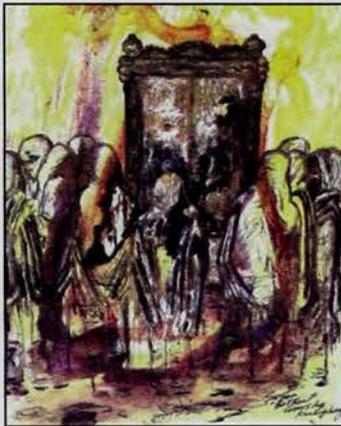
Minyan – A transatlantic memoir

By Varda Lev

It was a bitter cold late winter evening. I had just changed into my warmest nightclothes when the telephone rang. The caller was my rabbi, who told me that a family only two streets away from me was sitting shivah. They needed a *Minyan* in order to say *Kaddish* and could I please come over immediately? I hastily dressed and ran the entire way to the house of mourning. There I stood with the mourners as the rabbi conducted the evening service and *Kaddish* was said. The service came to an end, the family thanked me for my participation and having declined their kind offer of supper, I hurried home through the frigid night.

This episode reminded me of a drama that had occurred some years ago, at a time when women were not accepted as part of a *Minyan*. My husband, two small daughters and I had spent a sabbatical year in Scotland. The year ended, September came and the only available passage home was a transatlantic voyage on the SS France. This involved celebrating Rosh Hashanah at sea. As we embarked with hundreds of others, I saw to my surprise a notice in the grand lobby that said "Service Israelite" to be held three days hence on the morning of Rosh Hashanah. I was delighted and curious to see what kind of holiday service would take place on the SS France.

The morning of Rosh Hashanah arrived. I deposited my two little girls in the ship's nursery and made my way to the parlor that had become the designated synagogue. As I neared



the entrance to the room, I saw a large group of elegantly dressed Spanish-speaking Jews looking at me expectantly. I soon realized, however, that they were not looking at me, but beyond me for the man they had hoped would accompany me. Greetings in French, Spanish and broken Hebrew were exchanged, and I learned that this was a group of Jews from Mexico City who had organized the services. They had assumed that on this huge ship, with its thousands of passengers, they would be able to find enough Jewish men for a *Minyan*. We chatted for a few minutes and it soon became evident that no more people were coming for the service.

The head count was 15 women, assorted boys and girls, and nine men. At this point I impulsively volunteered to go out on deck and find a tenth man. It was a glorious September day. The decks were packed with people playing shuffleboard, doing calisthenics, sip-

ping their morning bouillon, and reading in deck chairs. I started scanning faces and soon realized what a difficult venture this was. Somewhat disheartened, I was about to give up/when I saw an older man in the corner reading a Yiddish newspaper. I couldn't believe my luck and hastened towards him. As I got nearer, however, my steps faltered. He was immersed in his reading and his face was rather severe. I approached him with some trepidation. I decided to speak to him in French since my Yiddish is ungrammatical. I told him quite simply that we needed a tenth man for a *Minyan*. He looked at me with annoyance and spat out quite venomously in French "Madam, I am not interested" and with emphasis added "Pas de tout." He then resumed his reading.

I stood there for a second, quite stunned by his hostility and then retreated: There was only one option left. I went back to my cabin. There was my husband the agnostic, reviewing notes for the coming year's lectures. I explained the situation to him and he, hearing the entreaty in my voice, quietly rose, put his reading material away and accompanied me back to the waiting congregants. When we appeared they broke into smiles and exclamations of "Shalom Aleichem." My husband donned the proffered *yarmulke* and took his place among the men. I went across the room to where the women were seated, and the Rosh Hashanah service, delightfully spiced with the faintest hints of Iberia, duly commenced.

Simchas

With songs in their hearts, couple celebrates 60 years



GLORIA AND DONALD ZEMAN renewed their wedding vows recently at Temple Am David.

By Jessica Perlman

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WARWICK — It was love at first sight when Donald Zeman saw his future wife Gloria, for the very first time. Though they were on a double date and Zeman was actually there with Gloria's friend; their chemistry could simply not be ignored. "I took one look at Gloria and it was, *zam bam alakazam*, wonderful you came by. I fell in love with her instantly," explained Zeman.

On Aug. 19, the Zemans celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at Temple Am David. Surrounded by their three sons, Michael, Malcolm and Marc, their two daughters-in-law, Maura and Colette, and their grandson, Brian, (the other two grandchildren Marni and Jillian were unable to attend) as well as other family and friends, they lovingly renewed their vows underneath the Huppah. Later, he presented his wife with a beautiful diamond necklace, as the 60th anniversary is traditionally known as the diamond anniversary.

A bit of a "jazz buff," Zeman can summarize his relationship with Gloria through four songs. The first, "Orange Colored Sky," made famous by Nat King Cole, reminds him of their first encounter, on that fateful double date, when he knew his life had changed upon seeing Gloria for the first time. However, the second song, Bunny Berrigan's, "I can't get started without you" represents an entirely different aspect of the relationship. After "taking the bull by the horns," and calling Gloria for a first date, he began feeling apprehensive about something.

"In 1946, I didn't have much to offer. I was going to law school on the GI Bill and a small scholarship. I was working two weekend jobs, lived in one room on the third floor of a rooming house in Boston. I had no car except for the use of my father's old Chrysler that had a bell instead of a horn. I didn't feel that 'I could get started' with her."

On their first date, as they danced the night away at Lincoln Park Ballroom, in Westport Mass., they shared their goals and family backgrounds, and his fears began melting away, as it became obvious to him that nothing could stand in their way; that they were truly meant for one another. However, that evening would prove to be a bit more complicated than he had ever imagined.

"When we left Lincoln Park on the way home, the left front wheel of the car fell off and I didn't get Gloria home until about 3 a.m. Needless to say, her father, mother, and sister were up waiting for us. Boy, I learned to plea bargain quickly!"

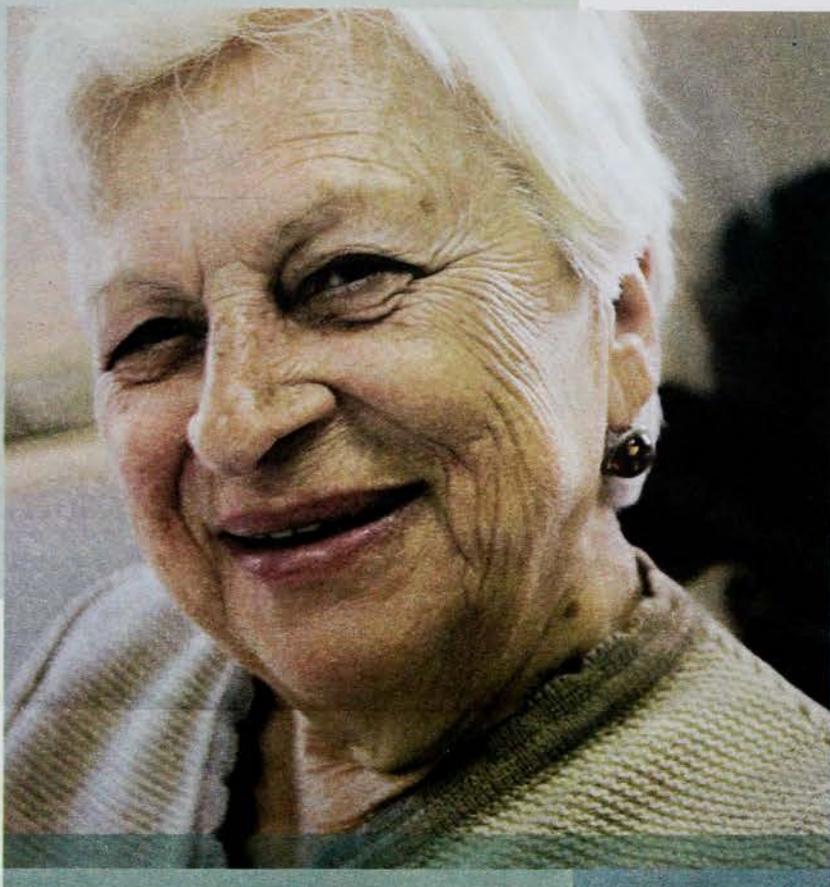
After explaining to her family what had happened, Zeman was off the hook, and a few months later, they became engaged, and then married after he graduated.

The third song, "April in Paris," brings him back to April of 1971, when he and Gloria left the United States for the very first time and vacationed in Paris. The romantic getaway was everything that they ever imagined, and will forever be a memory that they will always treasure.

The fourth and final song, Gerishwin's, "Our Love is Here to Stay," basically speaks for itself. 60 years ago, the Zemans pledged their love and commitment to one another...their love will surely be "here to stay" for all eternity.

Helen needs you.

*H*elen lost her beloved husband two years ago. Now 88, she longs to remain independent. But, over the last few months, her children began to notice she was forgetting things and skipping meals. They knew she needed help if she were going to stay safe at home. Thanks to the JFS Home Care program, a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) now spends 20 hours with Helen each week, helping with meal preparation, personal care and light housekeeping. Now Helen has the support and the companionship she needs to lead an independent life... in her own home.



Your Federation is here to help Helen and others like her. Working together, we can perform the sacred act of *tikkun olam* – healing the world. We can give dignity and opportunities where none existed before. We can provide comfort and meet critical needs. We can transmit our traditions to a new generation. No gift will ever touch so many and travel so far.

We are part of a proud community with a long history of being there for our people in good times and bad. Now we have an opportunity to create healing, hope and miracles, one our children and grandchildren can be proud to inherit. But to accomplish this, each of us needs to step up to the challenge and play our part.

And it's never been easier to make a difference in so many lives. You can give your gift to the 2008 Jewish Federation of Rhode Island Annual Community Campaign:

BY PHONE: (401)421-4111 ext. 165

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