

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

1 Sivan 5770

Vol. XII — Issue X

WWW.JVHRI.ORG

May 14, 2010



ELENA KAGAN

Nod would put third Jew on Supreme Court

Kagan was Obama colleague at University of Chicago

By RON KAMPEAS

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Elena Kagan would make it three — three women and three Jews on the U.S. Supreme Court for the first time in its history.

President Obama, announcing Monday the nomination of his solicitor general to fill retiring Justice John Paul Stevens' seat on the Supreme Court, made one historical element of the nomination explicit; the other was implied.

"She would relish, as I do, the prospect of three women taking

See KAGAN, Page 9

What's Inside:

Books	2, 23
Business	28-29
Calendar	10-11
Community 3,7-9,12-14,16,18-19	
Food	20-21
Obituaries	31
Opinion	4-6
Seniors	27
Simchas	35
Torah	30

NEXT ISSUE:

Baby Boomers & Seniors



MARISA GARBER EMBRACES her children, Tessa, left, Sandy and Joey Gamm, at the JFRI Annual Meeting.

Moving (Jewish) Rhode Island forward

Speakers enlighten, challenge, provoke audience at JFRI's annual meeting

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

PROVIDENCE — "Life must be understood backward and lived forward," said Stephen Silberfarb, quoting Søren Kierkegaard before

he introduced the panelists at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's (JFRI) annual meeting on the evening of Monday, May 4 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island (JCCRI).

The panelists — Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts, businessman and entrepreneur Saul Kaplan, and United Way of Rhode Island Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer Anthony (Tony) Maione — spoke engagingly and provocatively on the topic,

"Moving Rhode Island Forward."

Rhode Island faces a shrinking population, a K-12 school system in need of reform, an unfavorable tax and business climate and entrenched thinking, said Silberfarb, JFRI's executive vice president and chief executive officer. At the same time, he asked, how can we stop talking about the negatives and start working together on solutions to move forward?

See FROM, Page 18



MARTY COOPER

Poverty conference draws diverse crowd

Gubernatorial candidates face children's issues

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

PROVIDENCE — Six middle-aged white men walk into a casino... It's not the beginning of a risqué joke; six middle-aged (give or take) white men, gubernatorial candidates all, comprised the panelists at a forum sponsored by the Interfaith Coalition to Fight Poverty with Faith (the Coalition), co-founded by the Community Relations Council (CRC) of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI). The Coalition sponsored its second annual "One

See FLAM, Page 33

March of the Living teaches us to 'never forget'

Participants experience spirituality, gratification and self-empowerment

By CHLOE R. EDMONDS
Special to The Voice & Herald



CHLOE EDMONDS, seated in front, is on an Israeli tank in Latrun surrounded by her New England March of the Living Friends.

NEVER FORGET. That's what kids today are taught when learning about the Holocaust and genocide. The sheer mass of the loss in the Second World War is taught through pictures, lectures, and facts, but what happens when

See MARCH, Page 32

We need you!

Please help support *The Jewish Voice & Herald*. When you donate to our Patron Campaign, you help ensure that our high-quality, award-winning paper will continue to bring you "all the news for all the Jews of greater Rhode Island." It's simple to donate: Online at www.jfri.org, or use the enclosed Patron envelope. See page 17 for more information.

Thank you.

Rethinking congregations

Elie Kaunfer's book on minyanim

BY JOHN T. LANDRY
Special to *The Voice & Herald*

ELIE KAUNFER may be a familiar name to many readers. The son of Alvan Kaunfer, formerly Temple Emanu-El's long-time associate rabbi, he followed in his father's footsteps and was ordained in the Conservative movement.

Rather than taking a pulpit, though, he's gone in the opposite direction: Teaching congregants to lead from the *bimah* themselves. His book, *Empowered Judaism: What Independent Minyanim Can Teach Us About Building Vibrant Jewish Communities*, argues that the future of Judaism is in empowering ordinary people to worship without clergy, not in strengthening the rabbinic or other institutions.

He takes a strong position in the ongoing debate on how to attract people dropping out of Jewish life. One side argues for better programming: Offer a wide variety of engaging and efficiently presented activities to attract people who aren't already involved.

These activities might have nothing to do with Judaism per se, as long as people come. Proponents argue that this is the



ELIE KAUNFER

only way to get large numbers mingling on a regular basis, and therefore ensure Jewish conti-

“Elie Kaunfer wants clergy and other staff to be less the performers in Jewish life, and more the teachers and facilitators so congregants can do most of the work themselves.”

nity. Kaunfer caricatures the approach as, “If flaming torches will get Jews to date and marry each other, let’s fund the flaming

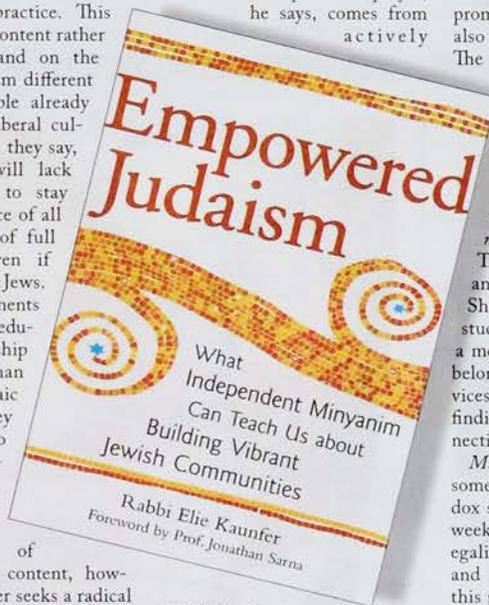
torches.”

Instead, he and others argue for better meaning: Provide a rich array of offerings for people to discover the richness of our tradition and practice. This side focuses on content rather than turnout, and on the aspects of Judaism different from what people already get in secular liberal culture. Otherwise, they say, many people will lack a hard reason to stay Jewish in the face of all the attractions of full assimilation, even if they marry other Jews. These proponents want in-depth education and worship to be more than tiles in the mosaic of programs; they want these to have priority.

Unlike other proponents of meaningful content, however, Kaunfer seeks a radical empowerment of ordinary people. While applauding the rise in adult education during the past few decades, these offer, he says, merely a digest of what someone else has gleaned from the tradition. Much of the power of studying the tradition, he contends, comes from confronting the text directly in Hebrew and dealing with surprising or puz-

zling points, points that, when pondered, can strike a chord in different readers according to their circumstances.

Much of the power of prayer, he says, comes from actively



erment. After helping establish one such *minyan* in New York City in 2001 and seeing it imitated elsewhere, he co-founded an institute, Mechon Hadar, to promote them further. (This was also why he went to seminary.) The book is part of that campaign, both to explain the phenomenon and to save other pioneers from having to reinvent the wheel.

These groups run services without clergy or other staff; *minyan*-goers do everything. They usually rent their space and come together only for Shabbat services and Torah study, often only once or twice a month. Some members might belong to a synagogue for services the rest of the year while finding their main religious connection in the *minyan*.

Minyanim typically offer something close to a full Orthodox service, including the entire weekly Torah portion, but fully egalitarian (women can lead) and with new melodies. Why this particular mix of traditional and new should work well, while others such as a shorter service or the use of some English would not, the book doesn't effectively address.

Even the most devoted synagogue-goer might find the book's descriptions of *minyanim* refreshing, as their energetic and devoted cadre of young volunteers

participating in the full traditional service. He argues that attending the most beautiful service or profound lecture can never touch the heart as deeply as worship or study that a person does him or herself.

Most of this brief book focuses on the independent *minyanim*, or worship groups, that Kaunfer says best exemplify this empow-

See INDEPENDENT, Page 23

Garden of Delights.



Rhode Island's only Kosher Assisted Living Residence

Live in elegant surroundings, enriched with a distinctive cultural ambiance. An unparalleled level of service and amenities, and the support you need for your safety and peace of mind.

Choose from spacious studio, one or two bedroom apartments - and studio or companion apartments in our Renaissance Memory Support wing.

To arrange a personal visit, call Dianne:
401-732-0037 • www.tamariskri.org



Our Inclusive Pricing Means Savings for You!



THE PHYLLIS SIPERSTEIN
TAMARISK
ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE

3 Shalom Drive Warwick, RI 02886

Where Life is Celebrated™

A Carelink Member
A Community of the Jewish Seniors Agency of RI

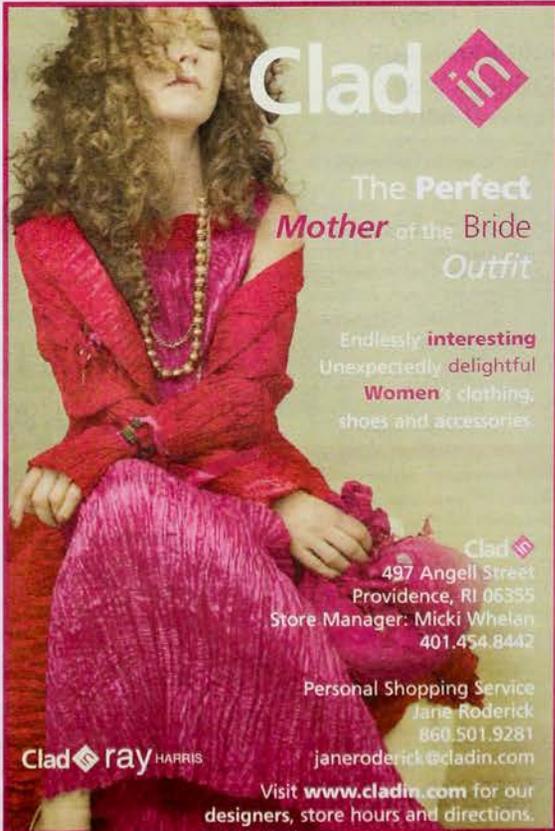
A Kosher Assisted Living Residence
Supervised by the Kashrut Commission of Greater Hartford

www.jvhri.org

Clad in

The Perfect
Mother of the Bride
Outfit

Endlessly interesting
Unexpectedly delightful
Women's clothing,
shoes and accessories.



Clad in
497 Angell Street
Providence, RI 06355
Store Manager: Micki Whelan
401.454.8442

Personal Shopping Service
Janie Roderick
860.501.9281
janeroderick@cladin.com

Clad in ray HARRIS

Visit www.cladin.com for our designers, store hours and directions.

NEWS TEASERS

PAGE 4:
Rosenberg reminds us to take off our blinders...

PAGE 7:
A combined JFRI, BJE and JCCRI – the timeline and more...

PAGE 12:
At 50, Beth David is vibrant and strong...

PAGES 18-19:
Annual Meeting attendees learn that we're prepared for change...

PAGE 24:
Temple Habonim celebrates its 50th birthday with a play...

PAGE 27:
Did you remember your mother on Mother's Day? Zelda Feldman did...

'Tolerance Team' in Narragansett High School

Narragansett students address issues of racism, anti-Semitism

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

NARRAGANSETT – Can you imagine being a Jewish student in high school facing anti-Semitic taunts such as "Heil, Hitler" salutes and swastikas on the bathroom walls?

Last year, some Narragansett High School students didn't have to imagine those experiences – they faced them head on. When parents, staff and the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's (JFRI) Community Relations Council (CRC) heard the news, they swung into action (See "The Community Relations Council acts swiftly to counter anti-Semitism," by Nancy Kirsch, in the Dec. 11, 2009 issue).

Since then, school leaders and students have been meeting, in small groups and with other leaders, such as Marty Cooper, the CRC director; the Reverend Dr. Don Anderson, from the Rhode Island State Council of Churches; Scott and Angela Libman, concerned parents of Narragansett High School students; and Toby Ayers, executive director of Rhode Island for Community & Justice (RICJ) a nonprofit organization that promotes and embraces diversity, to develop school-wide programs to tackle the problem.

At an all-school assembly on April 14 – the first such meeting since the small groups had met – faculty, staff and student leaders showed YouTube videos that Ayers called "extremely powerful." Some addressed diversity



From left, Katherine Sipala, superintendent of the Narragansett School Department, Malinda Bridges of Rhode Island for Community & Justice (RICJ) and Rhode Island College, and Nanda Shewmangal of RICJ.

and racism, while others focused on bullying and what students can do to stop it.

The program was held around the same time that news swept the country about a teenage girl in Massachusetts who committed suicide after experiencing relentless bullying. According to some who were present (this reporter could not attend), the program's message was direct: "We need to be tolerant, our behavior matters and our attitude matters."

Cooper noted that six million people, according to one video,

experience bullying each year. Although it was purely coincidental that the event was held during Holocaust Memorial Week, he said, "I immediately thought of the Holocaust when I heard the number of six million people."

The assembly also included presentations from student members on the Tolerance Team, a group that will meet monthly with Dan Warner, the school principal, and serve as positive role models and mentors for other students on diversity and tolerance issues; RICJ

staff member Nanda Shewmangal; and Malinda Bridges, a biracial student at Rhode Island College; among others.

Bridges, in describing her personal experiences, told the audience, "I'm a triplet and one of six people of color who was in my class at Coventry High School. Three of us graduated – you do the math."

In follow-up phone interviews, Warner and other staff members shared their thoughts about the day's events.

"The audience response was positive," said Warner. "We felt very good about what the kids had heard and their response to the assembly. The principal of the middle school and Katherine Sipala, the school district's superintendent were both

See YOUTH, Page 26



Candle Lighting Times
for greater Rhode Island

May 14 7:33
May 18, Erev Shavuot..... 7:41

May 19 - Shavuot 8:50
May 21 7:43

HOW TO CONTACT US

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Nancy Kirsch • nkirsch@jfri.org
421-4111, ext. 168

ADVERTISING
Tricia Stearly • tstearly@jfri.org
401-441-1865 or 421-4111, ext. 160

CORRESPONDENTS:
Dr. Stanley Aronson, Tema Gouse, Alan Krinsky,
Sam Lehman-Wilzig, Yehuda Lev, Rabbi James
Rosenberg, Daniel Stieglitz, Joshua Stein

EDITORIAL CONSULTANT:
Judith Romney Wegner

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD
SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Copy Deadlines: All news releases, photographs, etc. must be received on the Thursday two weeks prior to publication. Submissions may be sent to: voiceherald@jfri.org.

The Jewish Voice & Herald (ISSN number 1539-2104, USPS #465-710) is printed bi-weekly, except in July, when it is printed once a month.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT PROVIDENCE, RI POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to: Jewish Federation of RI,
130 Sessions Street, Providence, RI 02906

EDITORIAL BOARD:
Howard Tinberg, *Chair*

MEMBERS:
John Landry, Eleanor Lewis, Toby London,
Rabbi Sarah Mack, Rabbi Jacqueline Satlow,
Richard Shein, Joshua Stein, Ezra Stieglitz

BUSINESS COMMITTEE:
Justin "Jay" Strauss, *Chair*

MEMBERS:
Everett Finkelstein, Toby London,
Ken Schneider, Bob Starr, Joyce Starr

COPY EDITOR/PROOFREADER:
Fran Cohen

*Published by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island • President Doris Feinberg • Exec. Vice President Stephen R. Silberfarb
All submitted content becomes the property of The Jewish Voice & Herald. Announcements and opinions contained in these pages are published as a service to the community and do not necessarily represent the views of The Jewish Voice & Herald, or its publisher, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.*

130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906 • 401-421-4111 • 401-331-7961 (fax) • E-mail: voiceherald@jfri.org

ADVERTISING: The Jewish Voice & Herald does not accept advertisements for pork or shellfish, or attest to the kosher of any product.

www.jvhri.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Plagiarism?
No worries,
honest!

I WANT TO be healthy and get some exercise – so, in the interest of experience, this column – full and fair disclosure – is plagiarized. But, don't worry – I am only 'plagiarizing' my own words – those given at the May 6 Michael P. Metcalf Award breakfast. Without further ado, my comments, with some slight edits, follow:

I was honored to be chosen again as a Metcalf Award winner (given for excellence in fostering understanding and goodwill) this year. It's the third consecutive year that *The Jewish Voice & Herald* has won this award from Rhode Island for Community & Justice, though it's the first time that I stand before you as the executive editor of a paper that reaches more than 20,000 people throughout greater Rhode Island. In fact, we have subscribers in 36 states!

When I sat down to evaluate which sto-



ries we wanted to submit for consideration for the award, I realized that, by its very nature, *The Jewish Voice & Herald* is filled with stories about diversity. We initially chose 20 stories and, from those, winnowed the list down to submit six stories that became the award-winning package.

Writing about diversity is what we do – whether it's the diversity of a Muslim physician working side-by-side with Christian and Jewish doctors at The Miriam Hospital or the diversity of a young man, with multiple special needs, who went above and beyond to overcome those challenges and celebrate his bar mitzvah.

I feel extraordinarily blessed that people allow us to intrude into their lives, to probe and ponder and question. Without their gracious willingness to expose themselves to us, as reporters, editors and columnists, our newspaper would be a far less meaningful read.

I share this award with my fellow writers. The six writers whose stories were submitted are a diverse group: A former corporate attorney turned writer (me); two university professors (Josh Stein and Marcy Brink-Danan), a student at Brown University (Philip Eil), a 12-year-old girl (Merci Pauline) and one professional journalist (Mary Korr). A diverse group writing about diversity – what could be more apropos?

To my colleagues here today – Leah Camara and Marty Cooper; my boss, Stephen Silberfarb; members of the editorial board – thank you for keeping me on track

See METCALF, Page 6

IT SEEMS TO ME
Uncovering our blind spots

Professor David Carlin's column is mean-spirited and insulting

LAST APRIL 10 an oped appeared in *The Providence Journal* under the headline, "Gays, who hurt priesthood, now aim for military." The author, David Carlin, is a professor of sociology and philosophy at the Community College of Rhode Island and former Senate majority leader of our state legislature.

Rarely have I read a column so mean-spirited, so gratuitously insulting to a large segment of our community, so replete with non-sequiturs.



Rabbi Jim Rosenberg

While Carlin's subject is allegedly the U.S. military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy (DADT), his column turns out to be a disjointed tirade aimed at all those whom he deems to be "enemies of traditional Christianity" – liberals, secularists, and, of course, gays. Carlin insists, for example, that political liberals who support DADT are "generally unsupportive of the military. They are great believers in 'diplomacy,' which they feel makes the United States' military force rarely needed."

By what bizarre twist of logic does support for diplomacy translate into lack of support for the military? Our nation's foreign policy has long relied upon a mixture of diplomacy and military force – "diplomacy by other means," as some have called it. Carlin goes on to assert – without even a hint of evidence – that the liberals' "wish to legitimize homosexuality is tantamount to delegitimizing traditional morality, otherwise known as old-fashioned Christian morality." Not content with showing his contempt for liberal supporters of DADT, Carlin feels the need to include this truly weird paragraph in the midst of his diatribe: "For the sake of argument, let's conclude that sexually active gays

have a human right to serve in the military. This right is absolutely guaranteed by DADT. What is not guaranteed is a right of a gay soldier to notify his comrades that he is gay, for instance by boasting of his conquests last night at a gay bar."

And if all this gay-bashing is not enough, Carlin goes on to blame gays for the shortage of priests in the Catholic church!! "As more gays came to populate Catholic seminaries, fewer "straights" were willing to do so, and fewer orthodox Catholic families were willing to encourage their sons to enter the priesthood. This helps explain the 'priest shortage' that currently afflicts the Catholic Church."

"If we all become more sensitive to our potential blind spots, we can avoid the destructive effects of groundless hatred. What we need now is not more heat but more light."

Carlin concludes his attack on his enemies' list by suggesting – "we can't be sure, since we can't see the future; but it's a real possibility" – that the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" might well create a soldier shortage in our military by driving "straight" men and women into non-military lines of work.

I assume that David Carlin is not usually as unintelligent and irrational as he presents himself in his column. After all, he has earned the right to instruct college students in the fields of sociology and philosophy. Moreover, at one time he had earned sufficient respect from his colleagues in the Rhode Island Senate for them to elect him their majority leader. Surely he does not usually equate hurling insults with developing a cogent argument; surely he knows that name-calling is no substitute for thought-

ful debate. It must be that some deeply felt passion that Carlin cannot clearly articulate, some emotional blind spot, has compelled him to write a column of such monumental incoherence.

What might we in the Rhode Island Jewish community learn from Carlin's column? We can remind ourselves that we all have our blind spots and that our blind spots lead us to saying things that are at best merely foolish and at worst hurtful and destructively divisive. Just listen to ourselves whenever we try to engage in serious discussion of our relationship with Israel. Bring up the manifold issues in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and those of us on the left, on the right, or in-between tend to talk past each other rather than to each other.

It certainly does not advance mutual understanding when some members of the Jewish community have the temerity to label those of us who support a particular version of the two-state solution as self-hating Jews or even apostates. Others in our community continue to refer to President Obama as "the Jew-hating @#%& (expletive deleted)" because of the stance he has taken vis-à-vis the settlements. I have recently asked to be removed from an email "discussion" group because of the increasing vile and violent rhetoric. Indeed, a major synagogue in the Boston area has felt the need to engage an outside group facilitator in the wake of the hissing and booing that erupted during a session on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Our Talmud (Yoma 9b) tells us that the Second Temple was destroyed as a result of *sinat chinam*, groundless hatred. As we continue to debate our federal government's involvement with the State of Israel, let us pay more attention to what we say and how we say it. If we all become more sensitive to our potential blind spots, we can avoid the destructive effects of *sinat chinam*. What we need now is not more heat but more light.

James B. Rosenberg is rabbi emeritus at Temple Habonim in Barrington. Contact him at rabbierem@templehabonim.org.

Letters to The Editor

Teach your children

Thank you for Josh Stein's opinion piece ("Jewish students demonstrate appalling lack of awareness,") in *The Voice & Herald* on April 30.

In his piece, Stein wrote, "Let us explore Palestinian textbooks and TV; then we'll know better."

I agree. Countries and peoples may lie to the world to accomplish their aims, but they always teach the truth to their own children.

I would personally like to make a comprehensive review of what is being taught to Palestinian children, but I don't know where to begin.

Stein should be less appalled

Perhaps Josh Stein should be less appalled and more sympathetic to what he considers a "lack of awareness" on the part of some Jewish undergraduates ("Jewish students demonstrate appalling lack of awareness," in the April 30 issue).

Certainly one can forgive American Jews born around 1990 for being puzzled that a concern for the plight of the Palestinians, and a profound disappointment with the political and military behavior of the Israelis, should prompt the sort of Hitler-laced scolding that

Could you tell me where I could find the resources to make a comprehensive review of what the Palestinian Arabs are teaching their children?

Yehudah Selinger
Barrington

Editor's Note: Josh Stein provided Selinger with these references:
<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Peace/patext1.html>
<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,263666,00.html>

Stein presents. One can forgive such young people, born years after Earl Shorris' wonderful, if forgotten, critique of Jewish neo-conservatism, *Jews Without Mercy*, for wondering how a Jew who values the Torah and the Talmud could be anything less than appalled by Israeli political leadership during their lifetime. And one can forgive these young people for failing to see how a deep concern for Palestinian well-being can be any less productive of Israeli well-being than the failed strategies of their elders.

Finally, one can forgive American Jews

of any age for being appalled at the ease with which writers like Stein invoke the horrors Hitler and the Nazis. Perhaps contemporary student struggles with "Jewish identity" show a greater awareness than Stein would like to believe.

Roger B. Blumberg
Providence

More Jewish merchants in South Providence

I was sorry to have missed the letter to the editor ("Remembering days gone by" by Norm Bolski) in the April 2 issue of *The Voice & Herald*. I am sure I would have enjoyed reading Mr. Bolski's letter to the editor and then discussing it further with my father.

I did notice, though, in the April 30 letter to the editor ("Willard Avenue was filled with Jewish merchants" by Sherwin Zaidman), that my grandparents' store was not mentioned in the list of merchants. Ida and Morris Lury ran a grocery store and my father, Nate Lury, worked there. I am sure he could provide additional names of storeowners on Willard.

Gail Lury Johnston
Warwick

See MORE LETTERS, Page 6

FROM THE OLD OLIVETTI

Food, glorious – or not so glorious – in Israel

Does deli food delight Israelis?

T IRED OF READING yet again about narrowly beating back divestment proposals in California universities, (Berkeley and San Diego) by student government, I turned to the *Forward* for escapist fodder. Amidst the discussion of the serious and the portentous, I found an article that surprised, yet rekindled memories of my Brooklyn youth.



Josh Stein

I lived on Avenue M, just off East 27th Street which, when cars were not intruding, was also our stickball and sewer-to-sewer touch football playground. Farther down Avenue M was a shopping district that included a couple of bakeries (Ebinger's and the Elm), a movie theater (also called the Elm), a pizzeria, a Chinese restaurant and an Italian one, a toy store, grocery stores, an appetizer store, and two kosher delis, these latter a veritable foretaste of the world to come. One was the Palace, the other must have had a name, but I can't recall it.

In the delis, everyone knew what everyone else had ordered as the waiters would shout to the kitchen, "Two

salamis on rye, one tongue, two corn beams and a side of fries." The official drinks were Dr. Brown's Cel-Ray or root beer.

In the summers, walking home from the elevated subway stop on East 16th Street, from whatever my summer job in the City was (we called Manhattan "the City") I'd stop at the deli whose name I can't remember and buy a knish or a hotdog with mustard and sauerkraut on a roll and eat it on the way home.

Such a street scene was duplicated on avenues J and U and on Kings Highway, so I assumed this was the norm in the Jewish world. You can then imagine my shock when I read in the *Forward* that a kosher deli in Tel Aviv called Ruben, was the first of its kind in the country! How could that be? Surely

there are Ashkenazi Jews in Israel who would have brought the recipes and the skills to make corned beef, pastrami, tongue, knishes, etc. from Eastern Europe. Turns out, according to Gil Sheffer who wrote the

countries.

Those who skipped the opportunity of coming to the land where the streets were paved with gold (also known as the Lower East Side) going instead straight to Palestine couldn't bring what they didn't have, so yes there are plenty of falafel joints, and hummus is not unknown but only recently has the deli arrived.

So the question is how good is Ruben the delicatessen? Sheffer (I picture him in my mind as munching on a knish) conducted an unscientific survey:

A recent immigrant from Washington, D.C., who grew up on cold cuts from Katz's Kosher Supermarket in Rockville, Md., gave it a measured seal of approval. "The atmosphere's a bit odd: It's like a chic, scaled-

down version of a deli. Where are the sweaty old Jews?" he said. "But for Israel it's not bad. It's what you'd expect a satisfactory Tel Aviv take on the food would be. I'll be back because the meat tastes fine and I love my pastrami."

An immigrant from London was even less enthusiastic (if you can imagine). While acknowledging that some guys from Long Island liked the place, "For me," he said, "the sandwich here pales in comparison to the salt beef sandwiches served at Bloom's in Golders Green, mostly on account of the bread."

So a mixed reception ranging from "not so great" to "poor" – from the mavens who grew up with deli.

To compound the negativity, food critic Janna Gur doubts the business plan. "Ruben is a fun place which serves good food, but I find it hard to believe deli foods will gain widespread popularity in Israel – it just doesn't fit the mentality." Maybe, but maybe Israelis are not the prime audience.

You and I, Jews from America (especially refugees from New York or Chicago or Montreal) who, on a visit to the Holy Land hunger for corned beef on rye with a *glezel* Dr. Brown's are, I imagine, the real sought after market. OK; next week, it's back to serious discussion of the world and its Jews.

Josh Stein is a professor of history of Roger Williams University. Contact him at jstein@rwu.edu.

"Ashkenazi Jews in Israel would have brought the recipes and the skills to make corned beef, pastrami, tongue, knishes, etc. from Eastern Europe."

piece under review, that yes, there are Ashkenazi Jews in Tel Aviv, but deli fare was not Eastern European in origin; it was American! Who knew? The idea wasn't brought over to New York from the old countries; it was invented by immigrants from the old



REFLECTIONS OF/IN ISRAEL

Is J Street the right avenue?

Jewish American opinion is not monolithic

WHAT WITH THE recent contretemps between the Israeli government and the Obama administration, the J Street "question" has taken on great urgency. Actually, there are three central questions here: legitimacy, representativeness and utility.



Sam Lehman-Wilzig

First, can a Jewish-American lobby that does not see eye-to-eye with Israel, and is willing to publicly criticize the Israeli government, be considered legitimate? My answer is an unequivocal "yes." Indeed, that role is quintessentially Jewish – we have been a people of protest at least from the time Abraham confronted God over his possibly killing "upright people" in Sodom and Gomorrah. Moreover, the Talmud established a

cardinal principle of Jewish argumentation: "*elu v'elu divrei Elohim kbayim*" (both contradictory opinions are the word of God). If done out of true concern for the issue in question (whether theological or political), then from a Jewish perspective, voicing one's oppositional opinion is actually incumbent on those that think differently.

Second, is J Street representative of American Jewry? That's more of an empirical question, but as a political scientist I would venture to say that at the least, Jewish-American public opinion is not monolithic. In fact, the more vociferous, pro-Israeli policy supporters might be the loud minority as opposed to the more quiescent (and overall, probably less committed) Jewish majority. But the issue here is not numbers – after all, Jewish-Americans don't vote in Israeli elections. They do vote in American elections, though, and insofar as the J Street (and AIPAC) lobbying efforts are directed at the U.S. government, one can hardly argue that they do not represent anyone among American Jewry. Of course, just how many are represented, time will tell – either J Street expands its membership or

it doesn't. That's the real (American) test for how representative a pressure group is in fact.

Third, what about utility? As the saying goes, "Is it good for the Jews?" Here I believe the answer is: "which Jews?" It seems to me that J Street is good for Israeli Jews (whether they like it or not) but less so for American Jewry. Let's take the latter first.

As a small numerical minority in American society (2 percent and declining), Jews have been extraordinarily fortunate in wielding power in great part (but certainly not only!) as a result of the electoral college system in which most Jews happen to live (and vote) in the largest states. Moreover, the perception that Jews vote as a relatively monolithic bloc, in large part on the Israel issue, has only reinforced Jewish political power. However, once that monolithic facade is broken (J Street), candidates for the presidency might view the "Jewish vote" as far less unified and therefore less to be concerned about. (Again, this does not deny many other factors behind Jewish influence: very high education rates; strong economic profile; concentration in influential professions, e.g. media; etc.)

However, the perception of unfettered "Jewish power" is precisely what has led the Israeli

"J Street is good for Israeli Jews (whether they like it or not) but less so for American Jewry."

government to ignore U.S. pressure to change its policy. Let me be candid here. On the one hand, it is the Palestinian side that has been most to blame for the lack of peace progress over the years – from the Arab nations' refusal to accept the U.N. Partition Plan in 1947, to the Khartoum three "nos" in 1967, to Arafat's turning down Prime Minister Barak's very generous peace proposal in 2000-01 (President Clinton explicitly pointed the finger at Arafat as the obstacle in the way of a treaty), to Abbas' recent non-response to Prime Minister Olmert's equally generous peace

proposal offer.

On the other hand, the Israeli government has also tended to do things in shortsighted fashion, even when the other side shows signs of flexibility and willingness to move forward.

Thus, a different voice on this issue within the U.S. – among "our own" – is probably a good thing in that it puts the Israeli government on notice that it cannot forever count on blind, unthinking support for anything and everything that it wishes to do. More flexibility and greater consideration of America's broader interests (which can only redound to Israel's benefit in the long run) is precisely what hubris-driven Israeli politicians could use. J Street can serve that important function – as long as it views the conflict in realistic terms, i.e. that the Palestinians need to be pressured at least as much as Israel.

Prof. Sam Lehman-Wilzig teaches at Bar-Ilan University in Israel. In 2008-09 he was a Schusterman Visiting Professor at Brown University. Visit his Web site: www.proflw.com.

ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

Iran is not a nuclear danger

Reactor not a guarantee of weapons production

BY WILLIAM O. BEEMAN AND BEHRAD NAKHAI

IS IRAN a year away from making a nuclear bomb? Israeli officials frequently visit Washington to consult on Iran, and presumably to renew Israel's request for the administration's blessing to bomb Iranian nuclear facilities. John Bolton, the former U.S.

ambassador to the U.N., wrote in *The Wall Street Journal* on Feb. 11, 2010, that "America's central focus must be to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons in the first place. Doing so requires decisive, and likely military, action now, since there is essentially no likelihood that an Obama-inspired regime of sanctions, will achieve that objective."

Yet there is no proof that Iran is engaged in nuclear weapons production. Iran has developed a reactor, but, like other signatories to the nuclear non-proliferation

treaty, it has the right to enrich uranium for peaceful purposes. Bolton and other military hawks in the United States and Israel suggest that a "turning point" is imminent whereby Iran could quickly produce a weapon. But it would take years, and many intervening steps, for Iran to move from its current state of low-enriched uranium (LEU) to the production of a nuclear weapon.

Getting to high-enriched uranium (HEU) requires not only enough quality LEU, but also perfectly-tuned working machineries that Iran currently lacks. The quality of the Iran's LEU is also questionable.

And if another nation were to provide Iran with HEU, Iran does not have the capability to assemble a test bomb, let alone a threatening bomb.

Hawks on Iran make it appear trivial to assemble a "bomb" once HEU is obtained. But the handling HEU is not at all trivial. That is why the United States, Russia and other nuclear nations have atomic tests. Once testing begins, the bomb-making process could never proceed unnoticed - even if conducted underground.

We should remember that North Korea's nuclear bomb tests were unsuccessful. This may be one reason they were willing to relinquish their nuclear program.

Finally, even if Iran were to obtain a bomb, it is not clear how they could provide a delivery system for the bomb with their

present level of military technology. Iran's testing of conventional missiles has gone poorly, as in their over-hyped "show of strength" last July 10, when launches failed and had to be "Photoshopped" into publicity pictures.

A nuclear loaded missile is a vastly different technological accomplishment than a conventional missile. An airplane might be an alternative delivery mechanism, but Iran has no aircraft capable of delivering a sophisticated nuclear weapon.

Iran does not pose an immediate danger, the reason is likely political. Iran is a universally effective "bogeyman." No American politician has lost a vote by attacking Iran, just as Iranian leaders cover up their own political difficulties by attacking Israel.

Israeli politicians can use the "Iranian existential danger" as a smokescreen to cover their political disarray and disagreements with the Obama administration. Successfully hyping the existence of a fearsome external enemy is quite useful to politicians.

William O. Beeman is the former director of Middle East studies at Brown University, and currently professor and chair of the department of anthropology, University of Minnesota. His most recent book is The Great Satan vs. The Mad Mullahs: How the United States and Iran Demonize Each Other.

Behrad Nakhai, who holds a Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from the University of Tennessee, currently performs nuclear safety analysis. Formerly a research nuclear scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, he recently returned from Iran.

This is an updated version of an article that first appeared in New America Media in 2008.

Letter to The Editor

From Page 4

Wanting peace isn't enough

Judy Kaye's letter in the April 30 issue ("I support Obama on Israel") deserves to be publicly critiqued. Does J Street support the fact that:

Obama never visited Israel post-election even after touring several Mideast countries?

Obama, in his Cairo speech, stated that, in effect, Israel was created by the world community as a result of the Holocaust, ignoring that generations of Jews have returned and settled there?

Obama bowed to the king of Saudi Arabia, showing extreme undeserved reverence?

Obama and his Cabinet members came crashing down against Netanyahu for building 'settlements' in East Jerusalem when the last six U.S. presidents backed Israel in building housing there?

With no press conference or photo opportunity when Netanyahu visited, Obama's treatment of Netanyahu was a complete insult?

Obama's administrators are downplaying the use of the words 'terror' and 'terrorists'?

Obama is playing 'footsie' with both Syria and Iran, long-time enemies of both Israel and the U.S.?

Obama has used some of the big guns of the administration to infer that the 'Israeli-Palestinian situation is causing American casualties in the Mideast'?

American Jewish support has declined significantly since Obama racked up 78 percent of the Jewish vote in 2008.

It's wonderful to announce that J Street is "pro-Israel and pro-peace." Who isn't? However, their views of opening negotiations with Hamas, declaring that East Jerusalem is not part of Israel and endorsing the Goldstone Report, sounds like J Street is more "pro-Palestinian" than "pro-Israel."

Sy Dill
Providence

METCALF: Award is pleasing

From Page 4

and reminding me to breathe, breathe, breathe. And a special thank you to our colleague, Frank Zasloff, whose serious illness keeps him from being here today. We miss you, Frank.

To Toby Ayers and all the staff at the Rhode Island for Community & Justice, thank you for this

award. You make writing about diversity all the more meaningful.

Mark Twain, who had his own 'love affair with Jews,' once said, "Writing is easy. You just have to cross out the wrong words."

Thank you for allowing me to write, write and write some more. I hope that I can continue to always - and only - cross out the wrong words.



MARY KORR, NANCY Kirsch and Marcy Brink-Danan accept the Metcalf Award.

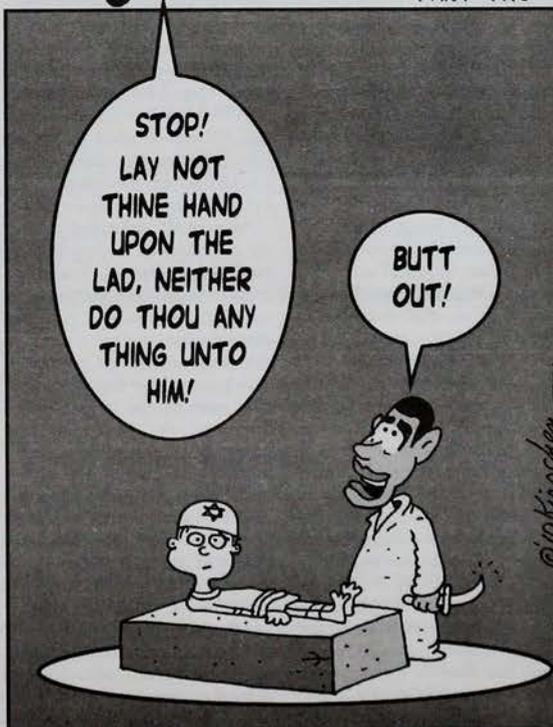
"There is no proof that Iran is engaged in nuclear weapons production."

It is reasonable to conclude that Iran's uranium enrichment efforts have so far been elementary - effectively just practice runs for the very lowest levels of enrichment. Iran's LEU is currently of no practical use except as a means to learning the enrichment process. It is certainly no cause for a military attack.

Too, the U.S. military is firmly opposed to military action. They note that an attack wouldn't deter Iran in any significant way in its nuclear program, and the retaliation by Iran would inflame the region for decades.

Why then all of the political pressure to bomb Iran? Since

Dry Bones THE SACRIFICE PART TWO



DryBones.com

SEND US YOUR LETTERS....

The Voice & Herald welcomes letters from our readers. Send letters (no more than 250 words,

please) to voiceherald@jfri.org or The Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906.

Letters must be signed and may be edited for content and length.

What will a combined JFRI, JCCRI and BJE look like?

At town meeting, questions asked and answered

BY VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voiceherald@JFRI.org

PROVIDENCE – Leaders of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI), the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island (JCCRI) and the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island (BJE) briefed the Community Leadership Council (CLC) about the planned integration of their agencies. The community meeting was held at the JCCRI on the evening of April 27.

The CLC is a forum to discuss community-wide issues. It includes leaders of synagogues and Jewish agencies in greater Rhode Island, along with approximately 50 additional at-large members.

Rabbi Mordechai Rackover, Brown University's associate chaplain for the Jewish community and the Brown-RISD Hillel rabbi, kicked off the evening by offering a biblical commentary on the integration. "It's acceptable – even advisable – under Jewish law to build the new first, then dismantle the old," he said, just as JFRI is doing with this integration process. "It's more pleasing to have one big Megillah reading with 100 people present than to have 10 Megillah readings with 10 people at each one," he said, suggesting that, with our limited resources, joining forces made sense.

"Three agencies will become one, with a single strategic plan," explained Leslie Sax, the JCCRI interim executive director. "We'll merge our mission statements into one and the agencies will all have a common goal. We plan to keep our national memberships as they offer guiding principles and support."

The JFRI and the JCCRI have consolidated their accounting processes, and, more recently, the two agencies combined their marketing and communications efforts.

ANSWERING THE 'WHY' QUESTION

JFRI President Doris Feinberg explained that integrating the three agencies into one will result in better

services, without gaps, to all being served. Operating as one entity will enable our three agencies to leverage our resources more effectively, which means better programs and services to our community, she said.

The JFRI will continue to steward communal dollars fairly, efficiently and in the best way possible, Feinberg said. The JFRI is committed to doing so, and this integration process will help us achieve that goal, she added.

THE 'HOWS' OF THE PROCESS

With a wealth of experience in nonprofit mergers and Jewish communal agencies, Stuart Forman has been hired to shepherd the process. Forman, JFRI's staff advisor for integration, said that an Integration Committee, composed of three representatives from each of the agencies involved, has been formed. In addition, several work groups have been created to address such key issues as legal structure, governance, budget and finance, program and personnel, communications and financial resource development.

Each working group will identify the specific issues to be addressed and each has a specific, yet flexible, timetable to follow. The groups will present their recommendations to the Integration Committee, which will have final authority on the overall integration plan, which will then be submitted to the individual agencies for approval.

Sharon Gaines, selected by the Integration Committee to chair the group, identified its other members: Feinberg, Doug Emanuel (JCCRI board president), Minna Ellison (BJE executive director), Steve Silberfarb (JFRI chief executive officer), Sax, Richard Licht, Sam Suls and Cheryl Teverow.

Silberfarb said that the group is working hard and at a fast pace with the hope of formally launching the new entity early in 2011. He said the Integration Committee anticipated that the three agencies would begin "acting as one as soon as possible, beginning with a unified budget, which is currently being developed and should be ready for implementation this summer."



From left, Barbara Sokoloff, Amy Olson, Susan Leach DeBlasio and David Leach listen to speakers at the April 27 meeting.

Nancy Kirsch

Some key questions:

Q: How was the decision made to integrate these three agencies?

A: In July 2008, the JFRI Board of Directors adopted a communal strategic plan, which among other things called for transformational restructuring of the community. It then established a Strategic Restructuring Task Force (SRTF), made up of JFRI leaders and others who formerly served in senior volunteer roles with Jewish agencies. The SRTF issued a report in December 2009, in which it made four recommendations:

- That the Rhode Island Jewish community create a new communal entity that fully integrates program delivery and administrative functions to provide a continuum of Jewish Life and Learning programs and services. [Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI), Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island (JCCRI), and Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE).

- That the new communal entity should engage in discussions with the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS) and the Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS) to determine how the schools can be part of an educational continuum for our community.

- That the new communal entity make available, as appropriate, operational resources and services to enable partner program and service providers to benefit from the improved operational capacities.

- That in order to better serve the social service needs of our community, there should be a single Jewish social service agency provider for the greater Rhode Island Jewish Community. The Task Force urges the boards of Jewish Seniors Agency (JSA) and Jewish Family Service (JFS) to rekindle negotiations between themselves and with any other Jewish social service providers that could lead to

such a result. The reports and recommendations were then adopted by the boards of directors of JFRI, JCCRI and BJE, and, on that basis, an Integration Committee was formed to implement the first recommendation.

Q: What will happen with allocations?

A: The allocations system, which was revised two years ago, will continue to work as it does now. The Community Development Committee (CDC), which identifies community needs, recommends allocation of funds to qualifying programs and evaluates programmatic performance, will continue to have primary jurisdiction on how funds are distributed. The new allocations process provides funding on a program basis, not on an agency basis. Each and every program, regardless of the agency performing the program, has to qualify for allocation.

Q: How will the Annual Campaign work once the new entity is formed?

A: The Annual Campaign will run just as it does now. Monies raised currently through the Annual Campaign are for communal purposes. The integration of the JFRI, BJE and JCCRI does not change this approach. Currently, JFRI's financial resource development team has the responsibility of raising Annual Campaign funds. In the new entity, this team will still have this responsibility. And just like the current process, all funds raised through the Annual Campaign are for communal needs, as determined by the CDC.

Q: Are there models of Federations in other cities that have done this successfully?

A: During the past 10 years, Jewish communities have been increasingly looking at similar integrations and consolidations;

we have looked carefully at these and learned from them. In Akron, Ohio; Austin, Texas; Louisville, Ky; and New Haven, Conn., there have been similar consolidations. In Baltimore and Washington DC, there have been integrations of agencies with similar programs and services. The bottom line is that there are many different models but no 'one size fits all.'

Q: How do the Jewish day schools fit into this new scheme?

A: Consistent with the second recommendation in the SRTF report, we're looking at creating an "educational continuum" involving the JCDS, PHDS and relevant programs currently provided by BJE and the JCCRI.

We're in conversations with JCDS and PHDS to explore the educational continuum, but for now, the complexities of integrating the JFRI, JCCRI and BJE demand our primary focus.

Q: Is the integration of the JCCRI, JFRI and BJE focused on young people? What about seniors?

A: Integration is about improving programs and services to everyone. Helping our seniors age with dignity, quality of life and opportunities for Jewish enrichment has been, and will remain, a critically important priority for the JFRI.

At the same time, if we do not engage our young people, we have no future. Our allocations will continue to provide funding to meet needs of seniors and young people.

In addition, while the JFRI, BJE and JCCRI are in the process of integrating, JSA and JFS, which provide most of the services for area seniors, are also discussing opportunities for collaboration.

Stay tuned!



DORIS FEINBERG, president of the JFRI board of directors, speaks with Stuart Forman, JFRI's staff advisor for integration, at the April 27 community meeting.

Nancy Kirsch

FROM THE FEDERATION PRESIDENT

JFRI is ahead of the change curve

Times and needs are changing

THE PAST TWO years have been a period of marked alteration in the way the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island does its business. With the adoption of the new Community Development Committee (CDC) allocations process, we shifted to funding programs and services addressing specific community needs, rather than focusing our resources on supporting agencies.



Doris Feinberg

At last week's annual meeting, our approach was validated: According to leaders of Rhode Island's business, nonprofit and governmental sectors, we have been ahead of the curve.

It became clear at the annual meeting that our adaptability has put us ahead of other sectors of the Rhode Island economy. Since 2008 we have been working on a restructuring of our community to provide services that are seamless, based on communal priorities, efficiently delivered, and have maximum impact on those we serve. As we learned at the meeting, the

same kinds of conversations are now happening all over our state.

We are adapting our services in response to the reality that the way we live, contribute, participate, gather information and communicate with one another is dramatically different from the way we did these things even 10 years ago. Yesterday's programs will not meet today's demands; rather, they will just lead to inefficiency, duplication and critical needs going unanswered. A generation ago, for example, seniors often moved to nursing or retirement homes as they aged. Today, many wish to "age in place," remaining in their own homes for as long as possible. This means that, while we still have seniors who need our help, we must devise new means to respond.

At the other end of the generational spectrum, young adults under 40 see the world very differently than do those in their 50s, 60s and beyond. With no personal memory of the Holocaust or the birth of Israel, and, for the most part, no direct experience of anti-Semitism, young adults have priorities for the Jewish community that may look very different. That circumstance, too, will shape the community's agenda for years to come.

As a small Federation, we've been able to be flexible. Because we are consistently asking,



SAUL KAPLAN, ANTHONY Maione, Doris Feinberg, Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts and Stephen Silberfarb at the JFRI Annual Meeting.

"What's our mission and how do we get there?" I feel that we are headed in the right direction. Each day, our community's leaders make decisions based on the best information available right now. We are trying new things and not all of them will succeed, but that is how we learn what works. It's the only responsible approach in this time of rapid transformation.

The sometimes difficult conversations we are having day after day are taking place all throughout Rhode Island and all around the United States. As non-profits merge and consolidate, some programs adapt and others may no longer have

a reason for being. As Tony Maione, president and chief executive officer of the United Way of Rhode Island, pointed out at the annual meeting, nonprofit mergers "involve people with a lot of emotions invested [in their programs or agencies]." Change can be painful, but not to respond to the shifting circumstances all around us would be a terrible mistake. Our community depends on us to keep talking to one another, remain transparent and to keep supporting one another with time, energy, ideas and donations.

For many years, we as a Jewish community have successfully responded to the challenges that confronted us

and I don't expect us to be any different today. Almost 2,000 years ago Rabbi Hillel asked, "If not now, when?" His question demands that we be ready now to use our resources wisely and for the greatest good. Just two years into our new strategic plan, we are well on our way to creating the Jewish community we'll need in the future. We're a small Federation that is doing great things - and setting an example for the rest of Rhode Island.

Doris Feinberg is the president of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. Her column appears regularly in The Jewish Voice & Herald.



ASSURANT
Health

Affordable temporary health insurance

When you're between permanent health insurance plans, Assurant Health Short Term Medical will provide the dependable financial protection you need at rates you can afford.

- Next-day coverage
- Coverage for 30 to 360 days (varies by state)
- Flexible plan and payment options
- You may keep your own doctors

For more information, contact:

Brier & Brier
245 Waterman St. #505 • Providence, Rhode Island • 02906
401-751-2990 • Fax: 401-223-3020

Between jobs
Waiting for employer benefits
Temporary or seasonal employees
Newly Independent






Assurant Health is the brand name for products underwritten and issued by Time Insurance Company and John Alden Life Insurance Company.
J-66646 (2/2009) © 2009 Assurant, Inc. All rights reserved.

Save the Date! Save the Date! Save the Date! Save the Date! Save the Date!

The Alef List: Happenings for Hip Jews

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
The next Alef List function is Thursday, May 27, 7 pm
at India, 1060 Hope Street, Providence
Cash bar, hors d'oeuvres, schmoozing. It'll be fun!

RSVP to Wendy Joering by May 26
Wjoering@jfri.org or 401.421.4111 x169
www.ShalomRI.org

dietary laws observed





Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

Alef List is brought to you by
the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

www.jvhri.org

Award recipients grateful for honors

Community leaders, educators contribute in many ways

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF
Voic Herald@JFRI.org

AFTER THE JEWISH Federation of Rhode Island annual meeting, award recipients shared their thoughts with *The Voice & Herald* about being honored.

EDUCATION AWARD WINNERS

Rhonda Mills, recipient of the *Lea Eliaz Memorial Teacher Award*, said, "For 30 years, I have been privileged to work in Jewish education. I have been fortunate to successfully nurture the positive Jewish identity of hundreds of students, while helping them become

Hebraically and Jewishly literate."

The Jewish Community Day School Judaic studies teacher continued, "I have the chance to cultivate future leaders who are the promise of the American Jewish community. The seeds of what we reap in the future are sown today."

Avis Gunther-Rosenberg, a religious school teacher for some 15 years at Temple Beth-El, is also the education director of the Friday Group. The recipient of the *Jenny Klein Memorial Teacher Award*, she wrote, "I get my award just about every Sunday. It's that moment when of the students who didn't understand suddenly 'gets it.' Or when someone who never raises his hand becomes animated and can't wait to share; even better, it's when students turn the tables and I learn from them."

LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS

Rabbi Elyse Webberman, of Temple Agudas Achim, in Attleboro, Mass., was given the *Merriam L. Hassenfeld Leadership in Community Service Award*. She received the award for her service with Jewish Family Service (JFS), and for creating the Kesher Outreach program, which places JFS social workers in area synagogues to offer congregants resources and other services.

She said, "I am so glad the work of JFS and Kesher is being recognized. Especially now, with a difficult economy and recent floods, our Jewish community needs to do the work of supporting one another through helping hands, professional resources and local connections. This is *ahavat Yisrael* (love of the Jewish people) in its most direct sense."

Susan Gertsacov, the co-chair of

leadership development and education for JFRI's Young Leadership Network and a former Women's Alliance vice president for community service, is the recipient of the *Riesman Leadership Development Award*. She said, "I was very surprised and quite humbled. Participating in volunteer opportunities has been a way for me to be involved after moving here from New York. Selfishly, I mostly concentrate my volunteer efforts in areas that directly affect my family life, whether it is with the JCCRI Early Childhood Committee, The Network or with the Women's Alliance; I want a bit more for our wonderful community that thrives on the efforts of so many volunteers who do incredible work."

Avi Nevel, recipient of the *Norman and Flo Tilles Community Relations Council (CRC) Award*,

was recognized for his contributions, in his capacity as chair of the CRC Israel Task Force, to promote awareness of Israel and create strong programs to link Israel with the people of Rhode Island.

He wrote, "My late father, Ernst David Nebel, immediately after his release [from a Nazi slave labor camp], set an example for me on the importance of volunteering and Jewish life. He passed away when I was 4 years of age, but he left me a legacy. Israel is free but without complete peace with its neighbors and the happiness is diluted by the daily loss of Israeli lives while protecting Israel. I am more than ever energized to continue to support and strengthen the friendship of the Jewish community in Rhode Island, its citizens and the U.S. with the state of Israel."



/Rhode Island Scholarship Alliance

SEATED, FROM LEFT, Lauri Lee, Jewish Community Day School of RI (JCDS)'s director of development; Bruce Wolpert, JCDS board president; Irene Rudnick, JCDS assistant head of school; and students, Joshua Brandes, Lily Hamin and Molly Usher; standing, from left, Larry Katz, Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island; Rabbi Peretz Scheinerman, Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS) dean; Moshe Golden, PHDS board president; and students: Yitzhak Jakubowicz, Avidor Weiner, Rochel Lapin, Rochel Golden and Ronit Stukalov attend a May 4 breakfast at the Providence Marriott Hotel.

Students, faculty and boards support scholarship tax credits

PROVIDENCE – Sponsored by Rhode Island Scholarship Alliance, the May 4 breakfast honors the business community for their continued support of the Corporate Scholarship Tax Credit Program. Donors receive tax credits from the State of Rhode Island for contributions that provide scholarship funds for needy students at various private schools, including JCDS and PHDS. For the first two years, (fiscal years 2007 and 2008), 19 business donors par-

ticipated annually and maxed out the \$1 million in available tax credits, and for the last two years (fiscal years 2008 and 2010), 39 businesses participated.

The next open period will be on July 1, 2010 for state fiscal years 2011 and 2012 (as donors can opt to make two year commitment for a 90 percent tax credit; a one year commitment yields a 75 percent tax credit).

For more information, contact Larry Katz at 331-0956, ext. 179.



/Official White House Photo/Pete Souza

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA meets with Solicitor General Elena Kagan in the Oval Office last month.

KAGAN'S: Senate confirmation hearings expected soon

From Page 1

their seats on the Supreme Court for the first time in history," Obama said of Kagan's late mother, who fought gender discrimination as a lawyer.

The implied reference to Kagan's Jewishness – joining Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer – also arose in reference to her parents at the announcement, delivered at the White House alongside Vice President Joe Biden. Both Obama and Kagan referred to her late parents as "children of immigrants."

The immigrant status of her grandparents, Kagan said, instilled in her parents a belief in the right of "all Americans, regardless of their background or beliefs, to get a fair hearing and an equal chance at justice."

Kagan – whose years in the upper reaches of academe have not softened her long, oval New York-bred vowels – got to know Obama through her association with Abner

Mikva, the Chicago-area former federal judge who mentored both of them as young lawyers making their way in Chicago. Kagan tried to persuade Obama to seek tenure at the University of Chicago, where he taught for a time, but he had other

"She's intellectually brilliant, and politically gifted at finding common ground and finding consensus."

Rabbi David Saperstein

As dean at Harvard Law, Kagan sought to redress what she perceived as an ideological imbalance by hiring conservative professors.

On Monday, May 10, conservatives issued statements critical of Kagan, particularly for resisting military recruitment at Harvard because of the military's discriminatory policies against gays.

However, U.S. Senator John Kyl (R-Ariz.), a member of the Senate Republican leadership, told CNN that a filibuster was unlikely. Obama wants Kagan confirmed by the August congressional recess.

Jewish groups that have surveyed the likely picks – Obama reportedly was down to four – have been enthusiastic about the prospect of a Kagan candidacy.

"She's intellectually brilliant, and politically gifted at finding common ground and finding consensus," Rabbi David Saperstein, who directs the Reform movement's Religious Action Center, said when Obama picked Kagan to be his solicitor general.

Jewish Community Calendar

Friday

May 14

Yiddish Shmoozers

Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence

9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

More info: 861-8800

K'Tantan Shabbat

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

5:30 p.m.

More info: 331-6070

Shabbat Hallelu and High School Graduation

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

6:30 p.m. – refreshments,

7 p.m. – service

More info: 331-6070

Family First Early Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Temple Emanu-El Alperin Meeting House, 99 Taft Ave., Providence

5:45 p.m.

More info: Rabbi Seltzer at 331-1616 or jseltzer@teprov.org.

Saturday

May 15

The Miriam Wine & Dine

The Foundry, 235 Promenade Street, Providence

6 - 10:30 p.m.

More info: 444-3761 or www.miriamhospital.org

Persons of the Year Award Dinner

Honoring Rona and Milton Nachbar, installation of Brotherhood officers, scholarship awards to graduating students.

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

6:30 p.m.

\$30

More info: Rob Massi at 331-6070 or Rmassi@temple-beth-el.org

Double Chai Dinner

Honoring Joyce Kelly Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick

7 p.m.

More info: 463-7944

Sunday

May 16

Blood Drive & Bake Sale

Congregation Beth David, 102

Kingstown Rd., Narragansett

9 a.m.

More info: 789-3437

Taunton Hebrew School Open House

Congregation Agudath Achim,

133 High St., Taunton, MA

9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

More info: 508-822-3230

Hebrew Play Rhode Island Kickoff Event

JCCRI Gallery, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

More info: www.hebrewplay.org

Temple Beth-El Annual Meeting

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

4 p.m.

More info: Rob Massi at 331-6070 or Rmassi@temple-beth-el.org

Holocaust Center Awards

Art and Writing Contest Awards Ceremony

JCCRI, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence

5 p.m.

More info: 453-7860

RI Premier of "Off and Running"

Blackstone Valley Visitors' Center, 175 Main St., Pawtucket

6:30 - 9 p.m.

\$10

More info: Peg Boyle, at 331-1244 or Peg@jfsri.org

Midrasha Graduation and Teen Recognition Celebration

Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

7 p.m.

More info: 331-0956

Holocaust Film

Movie and discussion of Michèle Ohayon's film, "Steal a Pencil For Me."

JCCRI, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence

7:30 p.m.

\$5 in advance; \$8 at the door

More info: 861-8800

Monday

May 17

JCCRI Charity Golf Tournament

TPC of Boston, 400 Arnold Palmer Blvd., Norton, Mass.

More info: Lisa Mongeau at 861-8800 or lmongeau@jccri.org

Temple Shalom Annual Meeting

Temple Shalom, 223 Valley Rd., Middletown

7:30 p.m.

More info: 846-9002

Tuesday

May 18

Shavuot Observance

Service followed by dairy dessert and Shavuot night study

Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

6:30 p.m.

More info: 785-1800

Erev Shavuot and Confirmation

Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston

7 p.m.

More info: 942-8350

Erev Shavuot and Confirmation

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

5:30 p.m.

More info: 331-6070

Shavuot, Confirmation and Yizkor

Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington

7:30 p.m.

More info: 245-6536

Erev Shavuot Service

Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence

7:30 p.m.

More info: 331-1616

Shavuot Dinner and Sleepover

Congregation Beth Shalom, 275 Camp St., Providence

8 p.m.

More info: 621-9393

Wednesday

May 19

Shavuot Service and Yizkor

Congregation Agudas Achim, 901 North Main St., Attleboro, MA

More info: 508-222-2243

Shavuot Service

Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

9:15 a.m.

More info: 785-1800

Shavuot and Yizkor Service

Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston

9:30 a.m.

More info: 942-8350

Shavuot Service

Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence

9:30 a.m.

More info: 331-1616

Shavuot and Yizkor Service

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

5:30 p.m.

More info: 331-6070

Celebrate Shavuot

Reading of the Ten Commandments followed by dairy dinner

Chabad Chai Center, 3871 Post Road, Warwick

5:45 – 7:30 p.m.

More info: 884-7888, www.RabbiWarwick.com or rabbilauffer@netzero.net

Shavuot Service and School Graduation

Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

7:30 p.m.

More info: 785-1800

Thursday

May 20

Shavuot Service and Yizkor

Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

9 a.m.

More info: 785-1800

Shavuot Service and Yizkor

Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence

9:30 a.m.

More info: 331-1616

Friday

May 21

Temple Torat Yisrael Senior Café

Jerry Columbo performs big band/swing vocalist show.

330 Park Ave., Cranston

11:15 – noon – program; noon – kosher lunch

Program is free, \$3 suggested donation for those 60+ or with a disability

RVSP for lunch (required): Contact Neal or Steve at 781-1771

Temple Torat Yisrael has a Senior Café lunch Monday through Friday every week.

Sunday

May 23

Mitzvah Morning

A variety of opportunities to perform mitzvot – indoors and

outside.

Congregation Agudas Achim, 901 North Main St., Attleboro, Mass

8 a.m. – registration and breakfast; 9 – 9:30 a.m. – havdalah; 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. – mitzvah projects; 1 – 2 p.m. – potluck luncheon

More info: 508-222-2243

Jewish Film Festival: "The Syrian Bride"

A Druze woman lives in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, and is engaged to a man from Damascus. The wedding must take place at the border, and once she crosses into Syria, she will never be able to return home.

Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington

7:30 p.m.

More info: 245-6536

Monday

May 24

JERI Satellite Office Hours

Topic: "Jewish Moms – in Lyric, Lore, and Laughter." JERI Director Susan Adler and Assistant Director Ethan Adler counsel seniors and their families.

Sakonnet Bay Manor, 1215 Main Rd., Tiverton

10 – 11:30 a.m.

More info: Susan Adler at 621-5374 or email sadler-jeri@jsari.org.

Jewish Seniors Agency Annual Meeting

Installation of officers and Maurice Glicksman Leadership Award presentation.

The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence, 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick

7 p.m.

More info: Irene at 351-4750

Sisterhood Book Review:

Olive Kitteridge, by Elizabeth Strout

Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston

7 p.m.

More info: 942-8350 or www.TempleSinaiRI.org

Tuesday

May 25

Environmental Sensitivity Course

CALENDAR

From Page 10

9-week course on environmental issues in Jewish thought.

The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence, 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick

6:30 – 8 p.m.

\$50 – entire course including text book; \$10 – individual session

More info: 884-7888 or rabbi-lauffer@netzero.net

Hebrew Free Loan Association Annual Meeting

Jewish Federation of RI Board Room, 130 Sessions St., Providence

7 p.m.

More info: 331-3081

Wednesday

May 26

The Miriam Hospital Women's Association Annual Meeting

The Miriam Hospital, 164 Summit Ave., Providence
11:30 a.m.

More info: Mary Ferreira at 793-2520

Touro Fraternal Association Installation Dinner

Lodge officers and board members are installed.

Touro Hall, 45 Rolfe Square, Cranston

6:30 p.m.

\$15 by reservation, members only

More info: info@tourofraternal.org

Thursday

May 27

Adoption Options Informational Meeting

Jewish Family Service, 959 North Main St., Providence
6 - 7 p.m.

More info: Peg Boyle at 331-5437 or peg@jfsri.org

Alef List Event

Cash bar, hors d'oeuvres, shmoozing.

India, 1060 Hope St., Providence

7 p.m.

More info: Wendy Joering at 421-4111, ext. 169 or wjoering@jfri.org

Friday

May 28

JCCRI Senior Café

Nature writer Todd McLeish profiles 11 humpback whales.

Noon – 12:45 p.m. – lunch; 12:45 p.m. – program

Program is free, \$3 suggested donation for those 60+ or with a disability

RVSP for lunch (required): Contact Neal or Lucy at 861-8800, ext. 107

JCCRI has a Senior Café lunch every Wednesday and Friday.

The Voice & Herald welcomes calendar submissions

Calendar entries, which may be edited for content, length and relevance, must be submitted two weeks PRIOR to issue date of the publication. For example, calendar entries for our May 28 issue must be received by May 17.

Send to voiceherald@jfri.org (ATTENTION: Calendar) or by mail, The Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906.

JFRI offers support for Emunah Children's Center

Center offers nurturing support and practical skills

By CLAIRE ROCHE
croche@bjeri.org

PROVIDENCE – Donors to the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI) annual community campaign do so much good in so many places – here at home and overseas. The Emunah Children's Center in Afula, Israel is one such place.

For several years now, the greater Rhode Island Jewish community has had a relationship with the Emunah Center, a day and residential facility for at-risk children. The Emunah Center's choir, the Emunotes, has visited and performed in Rhode Island, and the Center is a frequent stop for Rhode Island groups visiting Israel.

In April, the JFRI board approved allocations for the 2010/2011 fiscal year, which included a recommendation by the Jewish Peoplehood Subcommittee of the Community Development Committee (CDC) for a second year of funding for a program called "It's a Deal."

Two years ago, with the help of the Joint Distribution Committee, which initiated "It's a Deal," and with the financial support from our Jewish community, Shlomo Kessel, director of the Center, began a creative arts program. At Emunah, "It's a Deal" is operated by some of the Center's older students, together with a local artist. The program encourages responsibility and creativity and teaches business skills to the teens who participate. "It's a Deal" provides young artists the opportunity to develop skills and earn some money, while also boosting their self-esteem, all through the design, creation and sale of Judaica and housewares.

Kessel says that the program



A YOUNG STUDENT from the Emunah Children's Center embraces Providence resident Mike Teitelbaum at the Center in Afula.

has attracted a number of students who were unengaged at the Center – students who had not previously been attracted to other programs and opportunities available to them. Much to everyone's delight, the program is thriving, and so are the students who are participating. Kessel attributes this to the comprehensive nature of "It's a Deal" – it's an "alef to tav" program, as he describes it. Students are involved in all decision-making about what products to design and develop, where and how to market and sell them, and how to re-invest the proceeds. In the process, they are developing valuable skills that will help them succeed when they finish high school and leave the Center.

The Jewish Peoplehood Subcommittee considers building relationship with our overseas partners a high priority. As Robbie Mann, Subcommittee chair, says, "Funding the programs is important, but building direct relationships between members of our community and theirs is essential to cementing the ties between us."

In addition to providing \$20,000 in funding for the program, the allocation for 2010/2011 includes an additional \$8,000 for people-to-people exchanges between our community and the Center. Planning for that is under way, but will include, at the very least, an opportunity locally for our community members to support this project directly by purchasing items made by the students of the Center.

The work that the Emunah Center does is vital to hundreds of children in the Afula/Gilboa area, most of whom have nowhere else to turn. Shlomo Kessel and his team – which includes his own family – provide a safe, nurturing and loving environment for children of all ages, and the tools they will need to succeed independently when the time comes.

Claire Roche is the director of operations at the Bureau of Jewish Education of RI and senior planning associate at the JFRI.

Annual luncheon for Cranston Senior Guild

CRANSTON – The Cranston Senior Guild will hold its annual installation luncheon on Wednesday, June 2, at noon at the West Valley Inn in Warwick.

Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Roberts will be the installing officer, and entertainment will be provided by Johnny "T" and his

big band sound.

The cost is \$18.50 per paid-up member, with a choice of chicken or fish. For reservations, call Mal Ross at 723-8580, or send information and your check for \$18.50 per paid-up member to Mal Ross, 115 Marbury Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02860.



China Inn

a taste of china in town

Located in downtown Pawtucket, just a few minutes from the East Side, China Inn has received "The Best of" award many times from local Rhode Island publications and has built a reputation for offering delicious, authentic Chinese cuisine for its 30 plus years of business. The classy interior of our restaurant helps to create a bright and warm atmosphere that complements the simple, clean décor of the dining area, and which makes it stand out among the average Chinese restaurants in the surrounding area.

GIFT CERTIFICATE

BAR LOUNGE

PRIVATE PARTIES & BUSINESS MEETINGS

BANQUET HALL

For Delicious Take Out or Delivery Please Call 401.723.3960

We deliver to Pawtucket and East Side

401.723.3960 | 285 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 02860 | www.chinainri.com



THE KRIEGERS – Hinda, Dr. Steven and Brenton – enjoy the festivities at the Village Inn.

/Beth David



/Beth David

The new Torah scroll was carried by Martin E. Zucker, who was presenting it in memory of his mother, Mrs. Mary Zucker. The portable huppah, protecting the Torah scroll, was carried by four of the synagogue's founders, Jacob Felder, Jacob Frank, Morris Horovitz, and Hyman B. Stone.

Congregation Beth David celebrates half a century

Members, guests gather to mark milestone

By NANCY ABESHAUS
Special to *The Voice & Herald*

NARRAGANSETT – It was an evening of fun and fundraising; stories and celebration; a time to look back and a time to look ahead. The occasion was the 50th anniversary of Congregation Beth David and its South County Hebrew School. And everyone was there.

50 YEARS OF HISTORY

On Saturday night, May 1, more than 100 synagogue members and guests gathered in the festive ballroom of the Village Inn in Narragansett to commemorate the golden anniversary of Congregation Beth David and its South County Hebrew School. With the theme of "Celebrating Over 50 Years and Growing," the evening included a gourmet dinner by Amalfi; music by Bill Thomas; the sixth annual auction, a raffle and a Karaoke fundraiser.

A special keepsake, a 31-page book on the temple's milestones, was given to all who attended. Merle (Magi) Green, publicity manager for the synagogue and president of the South County Hebrew School, and Shelley Parness, corresponding secretary, compiled the book that included copies of every plaque on the temple walls. "The book is a labor of love," said Green. Janice Karnes organized the fundraiser for the sixth straight year.

"I have a great team behind me,"

said Karnes. She and her family joined the synagogue eight years ago so her son, Sam, could prepare for his bar mitzvah close to home.

When the temple purchased a building earmarked for a Hebrew school, Janice's husband, Richard, and his team of volunteers converted the building into the school.

Inside the Village Inn, the multi-generational crowd shared their memories and pride in their temple and its 50 years of meeting the South County Jewish community's spiritual, educational and social needs. Outside, the spring evening was unseasonably warm, like evenings back in the early 1940s when a small group of traditional Jews who summered at the Pier met for prayers in their Narragansett homes. Such evenings sowed the seeds of the Jewish community that would become today's Congregation Beth David.

CONGREGATIONAL HISTORY

By 1961, the growing congregation yearned for a formal meeting place. In 1964, they purchased and renovated a cottage in the neighborhood. They named it Congregation Beth David in memory of David Frank, the 26-year old son of founder Jacob Frank, who was killed in an accident.

In 1978, year-round services began. Perhaps past president Dr. Stanley Barnett said it best, "The congregation rises to meet the special needs of its members. We continue to grow."

Gladys Jacober remembers the 1960s and 1970s when the congregation gathered from Memorial Day to Labor Day only and temple business was conducted on Canonchet Beach (now North Pavilion) at Narragansett Pier.

"We collected dues, contributions and new members," said Jacober. "Benton Odessa (now deceased) had a charisma that no one could refuse."

What makes this temple so special? "The people are supportive and loving," said Jacober. "When my children died, and more recently when I lost my husband, Harold, I wanted a *minyán* at my house for 30 days and this temple made it happen."

From a summer synagogue in 1974 to a year-round synagogue in 1978 to today's 100-plus members, the temple and the Hebrew school have remained steadfast in a changing Jewish community landscape. Walter Horowitz, temple president for the past three years, said, "The more people get involved [in the synagogue], the more we can help fulfill their spiritual needs." In his formal remarks at the gala, he said, "We are special because of the people who are members of Congregation Beth David. You make me so proud to say that I am your president."

Reverend Ethan Adler, religious leader of Congregation Beth David and director of the Hebrew school, has served there for the past 25 years. Referred to as "a blessing" and "the heart and soul of

"Come and visit us any time."

Reverend Ethan Adler

www.jvhri.org

& *Herald*. "Come and visit us any time."

Visit www.bethdavidri.org or call 789-3437 for Congregation Beth David; for more about the South County Hebrew School, visit www.schebrewschool.org or call 783-7453.

Contact Ethan Adler at 783-7453 or eadler3@cox.net.

Nancy Abeshaus is a freelance writer in South Kingstown. Contact her at nabeshaus@cox.net.



Faye L. Silverman

Patricia M. Herron

Silverman McGovern Staffing

Rhode Island's Leading Office Staffing Agency

284 West Exchange Street Providence RI 02903

632-0580

www.SilvermanMCGovern.com

ASK WENDY

Working in disaster relief is a new experience

Q: What has it been like working with disaster relief and Nechama during the past several weeks?

A: This question has come across my computer several times since April 4. At first, I did not think it was relevant to write a column about it, but the more I thought about it, I realized it was. It is remarkable how our community came together, and the people we partnered with were equally remarkable.

Working with the people from Nechama was eye opening; they are some of the kindest and most generous people I have ever met. What is very interesting to me is that most of the Nechama volunteers are not Jewish. It made me think – what makes somebody be so passionate about something that is not part of them? Then I realized: It is part of them. It is part of their core – the morals and values that they were raised with make them want to help people and make a difference in their lives.

It is not about religion or race, not about socio-economic background or financial capacity. It is about who you are as a person. These people went out six days a week and worked harder than I have ever seen anyone work. Not only did they physically help more than 40 families, but they were there emotionally for them as well. And, our community members were out with them daily. There are too many people to mention here, but members

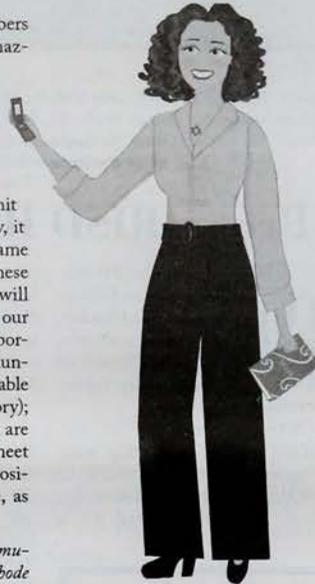
from every synagogue, the Rabbinical College, Brown-RISD Hillel staff, Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island staff, Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island board members and many more all worked together and helped.

Those individuals who could not do manual labor listened to homeowners and helped them. If they could not go out on sites, they cooked and bought gift cards to feed the volunteers meals.

Our community members came together in the most amazing outpouring volunteer initiative I could have ever imagined. This was the largest group of people with the biggest hearts!

If there is a silver lining to this very dark time that hit the Rhode Island community, it is the way the community came together. I hope many of these energy-filled volunteers will volunteer in the future in our community. I have listed opportunities where there are volunteer positions currently available (see box at the end of the story); please call or e-mail me if you are interested. I would love to meet you. If you have a volunteer position open, please contact me, as well.

Wendy Joering is the community concierge for the greater Rhode Island Jewish community. Contact her at wjoering@JFRI.org or 421-4111, ext. 169.



- The Met School, Providence
- The Jewish Community Day School, Providence
- Meals on Wheels, Warwick and Providence
- The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence, Warwick
- EPOCH on Blackstone Boulevard, Providence
- To Life Center Adult Day Services, Providence



SHIRA COHEN, portraying Betsy Ross, with her parents Sarah and Robert, in front of her project at the Providence Hebrew Day School on May 4.

PHDS hosts 'meet the leaders' night

PROVIDENCE – On May 4, famous people – presidents, first ladies, scientists, authors and artists – filled the auditorium of the Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS).

Students chose the leader in whom they were interested, began their research and wrote

a grade-appropriate research paper. Those papers were then peer-edited, teacher-edited, and finally graded by Maureen Sheehan, the PHDS principal.

Students also created poster boards depicting their person's life story and accomplishments using the wide array of resources available at the Bureau of Jewish Education's Creativity Center.

HAVE YOU TRIED TO LOSE WEIGHT AND FAILED, POSSIBLY MORE THAN ONCE?

ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH DIABETES, HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE & OTHER "LIFESTYLE DISEASES"?



IRVING T. GILSON, MD

INTRODUCING:

DR. GILSON'S LIFE EXTENSION AND WEIGHT MANAGEMENT REVOLUTION

A CUSTOMIZED PLAN TO HELP YOU LOSE WEIGHT.

YOU WILL ENJOY:

- DOCTOR-SUPERVISED CARE
- A COMPLETE HEALTH AND CARDIO-METABOLIC RISK PROFILE
- A STEP BY STEP PLAN TO MEET YOUR PERSONAL GOALS
- WEEKLY GUIDANCE & SUPPORT FROM A TEAM OF REGISTERED DIETITIANS
- AN EATING, EXERCISE AND LIFESTYLE PLAN THAT YOU CAN EMBRACE FOR LIFE... AND MUCH MORE!



HealthWay RI

Living longer, living better, through nutrition.

GET STARTED NOW!

ATTEND A FREE NO-RISK ORIENTATION CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION

401-228-6010

VISIT OUR WEB-SITE AT

WWW.HEALTHWAYRI.COM



When a stroke hits, seconds count.

In the moments following a stroke, you want to be treated at a hospital that recognizes the importance of each second. Roger Williams Medical Center is proud to be recognized as a Stroke Center and a participant in the American Stroke Association's "Get With The Guidelines" Stroke program.

This designation means our staff has been specially trained to treat stroke patients. At the Stroke Center at Roger Williams, the care you receive can improve your chance of recovery while reducing the risk of a secondary attack.



To learn more about the Stroke Center at Roger Williams Medical Center, please visit www.rwmc.org

Voice & Herald welcomes new full-time advertising representative

Zasloff continues health battles

PROVIDENCE – Please welcome Tricia Stearly as *The Jewish Voice & Herald's* new full-time advertising representative, replacing part-timers George Peckham and Daisy Gilmore.

Tricia comes to us with 20 years of newspaper advertising experience. Most recently, she worked as an advertising sales representative for the Southern Rhode Island Newspapers, Inc., which includes *The Kent County Daily Times*, *East Greenwich Pendulum*, *Narragansett Times* and the *Coventry Courier*. Before that, she was the co-owner of the *Property Line Real Estate Magazine*.

A native of Randolph, Mass., she is a long-time resident, with her husband, of Coventry.

"We are delighted to welcome Tricia to *The Voice & Herald* staff. We believe that Tricia will be able to hit the ground running and grow our advertising revenue," said Nancy Kirsch, the newspaper's executive editor.



Nancy Kirsch
TRICIA STEARLY

Tricia looks forward to working with our advertisers to meet their business needs. Contact her at tstearly@JFRI.org, on her office line at 401-421-4111, ext. 160, or on her cell phone at 401-441-1865.

Frank Zasloff continues to fight the good fight in his battle against leukemia. We hope that he will experience a full recovery and will be able to return to *The Jewish Voice & Herald*.



/alisa grace photography

BACK ROW FROM left, Leor Shtull-Leber '12, Jessica Bendit '12, Spencer Fields '12, Paige Kirstein '12, Ethan Tobias '12, Sarah Wolk '10, Yoni Dolgin '10 and Zohar Atkins '10. Front row, from left, Rebecca Theise '10, Rachel Cohn '10, Cayla Saret '12, Naomi Heilweil '12, Elizabeth Langevin '10 and Sarah Levy '12, all at the Brown-RISD Hillel Foundation annual meeting on April 21.

Brown-RISD Hillel holds annual meeting

PROVIDENCE – The Brown-RISD Hillel Foundation held its annual meeting on Wednesday, April 21 that drew students, staff, members of the board of trustees and community representatives.

Outgoing members of the elected student leadership were recognized for their work in building Jewish life on campus, which was highlighted in a

programmatic year-in-review. Incoming student leaders were charged with building upon the work of their predecessors and continuing to grow the community at Brown and RISD.

Brown-RISD Hillel's annual awards were given as follows: Senior Leadership Award to Yoni Dolgin '10; President's Award to Zohar Atkins '10; Goldberg Family Ruach Award to Harry Samuels '13; Rabbi Alan Flam Tzedek Award to Paige Kirstein '12 and Spencer Fields '12; the Danny Warshay '87 Outstanding Leadership Award to Leor Shtull-Leber '12 and Jessica Bendit '12; and the John Blacher Astounding New Initiatives Award to Sarah Wolk

'10 for Thursday Night Torah.

Two outgoing members of the Brown RISD-Hillel leadership team were recognized for their leadership. Incoming Board President Joe Hollander (Brown '81) presented Fred Horowitz (Brown '86) with the Marty Granoff Award for Leadership and Commitment in honor of his effort and dedication during his six years as president.

In turn, Horowitz honored outgoing executive director Megan Nesbitt's eight years of service to Brown-RISD Hillel and surprised her with the gift of a trip to Israel from the board of trustees.



BAYSIDE NURSING LLC

RELIABLE COMPETENT AFFORDABLE

Private duty care at home, hospital, assisted living facility, or nursing home

- Skilled and non-skilled care;
- Therapy services;
- Private-duty care can be administered by RNs, LPNs, or home health aids/CNAs;
- Driving services available;
- Companionship duty;
- 24 hour care.

"We are committed to tailoring care to each client and their particular and specific needs"

COMPLIMENTARY FIRST DAY OF SERVICE!!!!

For more information, email us today or call 401-921-5995.
Info@baysideNursing.com

Torat Yisrael religious school in East Greenwich

EAST GREENWICH – Temple Torat Yisrael's Frederic G. and Lawrence G. Cohen Religious School will meet at The Village Lower School in East Greenwich for the second year, offering programs from pre-K through seventh grade. Meeting in East Greenwich is an important step, synagogue officials say, in the synagogue's plan to relocate from Torat Yisrael's current Cranston location to the building being built in East Greenwich.

Sunday, May 16 is the last day of

classes for this school year. Interested families may visit classes from 9 to 11 a.m., meet Rabbi Amy Levin, Ronni Guttin, the education director, and congregational representatives, and join synagogue families at 11 a.m. to mark the end of the school year with a brief ceremony and celebration.

For more information, contact Ronni Guttin at ronni@toratyisrael.org or 785-1800. Visit the Web site at www.toratyisrael.org.

Visit us online at:
www.jvhri.org

There are many reasons to help ADL fight anti-Semitism.

But you only need one.



The Anti-Defamation League leads the fight against anti-Semitism and hate, helping to build a more secure world. But only with your ongoing support can ADL continue our work into the future. When you leave a legacy, through a bequest or life income gift to the Anti-Defamation League Foundation, you support our programs protecting the Jewish people. And you may receive tax or payment benefits.

For example, an ADLF Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) allows you to create a valuable gift for ADL and receive some of the most attractive rates available. With a CGA you may receive:

- Fixed annual lifetime payments
- An income tax deduction
- Partially tax-free payments
- Coverage for one or two individuals

Find out how you can make your voice heard in the battle against anti-Semitism and create a meaningful gift that provides you and your family with tax and payment benefits.

For a complimentary CGA illustration, with no obligation, or for more information, please contact us:

JONATHAN KAPPEL

Director of Development, New England Region

Anti-Defamation League, 40 Court Street, Boston, MA 02108
617-406-6353 | plannedgiving@adl.org | www.adl.org/gift

Charitable Gift Annuity Rates

CGA Rate	Age
11.5%	90+
9.7%	85
8.3%	80
7.3%	75
6.7%	70
6.3%	65

Sample single-life rates are based on when the gift annuity is established. Rates for other ages, as well as for two lives, are also available.

The Anti-Defamation League Foundation is not a financial, legal or tax advisor. Please contact your advisors regarding your financial, legal or tax needs.

Charitable gift annuity rates are subject to change from time to time and may vary depending on the annuitant's state of residence. The rate is locked in at the time the gift is made and remains fixed for the annuitant's life. Factors such as the annuitant's age and number of annuitants may affect rates and tax and payment benefits.





THE KLEIN-CLOUD FAMILY, from left: Zay-Zay, Avery, Tova, Travis and Rafi.

'Off and Running' redefines family constellations

Rhode Island film sponsored by Adoption Options

BY MONICA COLLINS
Special to The Voice & Herald

PAWTUCKET – What is family? We think we know; then a film such as "Off and Running: An American Coming of Age Story" upends our assumptions. This documentary, which premieres in Rhode Island on May 16, challenges the status quo in a thoughtful, tender, and utterly absorbing way. Adoption Options, the adoption agency of Jewish Family Service, sponsors the premiere at the Blackstone

Valley Visitors Center and will host a reception after the screening.

The film centers on the quest for roots by Avery Klein-Cloud, the daughter of Tova Klein-Cloud, an émigré from Israel, and Travis Klein-Cloud, an architect who grew up in the Midwest. The lesbian mothers head a highly unorthodox, yet very religious, family. Their Jewish faith means much to them; the scenes at Hebrew school when their sons, Avery (an African-American), and Zay-Zay, or Samuel Isaiah (of Korean descent), participate in prayer and song remind us that parents' nurturing is indelibly etched on hearts and minds.

Filmmaker Nicole Opper met

See FILM, Page 34



URI Hillel

Front row, from left, Jacob Harris, Michael Justa, Dayna Rignanese, Rebecca Eith, Betsy Cohen and Jacob Holzman. Back row, from left, Caroline Roth, Jeff Scherr, Jamie Brosos, Gina Sloman and Ally Gerand.

Awards night at URI Hillel

KINGSTON – URI Hillel hosted its Student Leadership Dinner and Awards Night on May 2. Rebecca Eith, a senior from Marlton, N.J., received the Bertram Brown Award, awarded to the most active graduating senior.

Jacob Holzman, a senior from Madison, Conn., received the B'nai B'rith Plantations Union 5669 Award, awarded to a student who has made significant contributions to Hillel and Jewish life on campus.

Jacob Harris, a freshman from San Diego, received the Lawrence Hopfenberg Memorial Scholarship, awarded to the freshman student who made the greatest impact on Jewish life on campus.

SECRETS to our **LONGEVITY**

THE SECRETS TO OUR LONGEVITY...

- Good old-fashioned compassionate caring
- The continual pursuit of excellence & innovation
- Experienced, loyal staff in every department
- A committed, involved Board of Directors
- Generous supporters



TOCKWOTTON HOME

Caring for and about older adults through the changing stages of life since 1856.

Assisted Living Residence • Skilled Nursing Home • Rehabilitation Services

75 East St. • Providence • 272.5280 • www.Tockwotton.org

JEFFREY B. PINE, PC
Attorneys at Law



Jeffrey B. Pine
Attorney General 1993-1999

- Criminal Defense
- Personal Injury/Serious Accidents
- Civil and Business Litigation
- Divorce/Family Law
- Probate/Estate Planning
- Real Estate

Attorneys
JEFFREY B. PINE
BRIAN G. GOLDSTEIN

321 South Main St. • Suite 302
Providence, RI • 401.351.8200

Summit Plaza • 231 Old Tower Rd.
Wakefield, RI • 401.788.9100

www.pinelaw.com

The RI Supreme Court licenses all lawyers in the general practice of law. The court does not license or certify any lawyers as an expert or specialist in any field of practice.

www.jvhri.org

www.BonnieSellsHouses.com



Relocation Specialist
ABR, ASR, CHMS, CRS, ePRO, GRI, SRES

#1 Coldwell Banker
Residential Brokerage Agent
in RI - 2009

COLDWELL BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Bonnie Kaplan
401-374-4488

'Let Bonnie's Experience Work for you in 2010'

Top 2% of NRT employees Worldwide
Call today for Complimentary Market Analysis and Home Staging

Visit us online at:
www.jvhri.org

a message from Nancy Kirsch, Executive Editor

Nancy Kirsch



We know that you count on us to bring you meaningful Jewish news.

By making a generous gift, you help ensure that *The Jewish Voice & Herald* will remain strong and vibrant.

So, can we count on you?

Please send in your patron gift or give online at www.JFRI.org

Patron gifts are tax deductible.

www.jvhri.org





MYRNA ROSEN, ROSALIE FAIN, FLO TILLES and FLORENCE MARKOFF



HERB STERN and DORIS FEINBERG



ALL PHOTOS BY alisa grace photography

MARC and SUSAN GERTSACOV



STEPHEN SILBERFARB and JONATHAN FAIN

Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's Women's Event • Sunday, June 6

The Hilton Hotel Providence
4 PM

Some secrets are too good to keep.



Featuring Jill Zarin of Bravo's *Real Housewives of New York*, her sister radio host Lisa Wexler, and their mother Gloria Kamen

Limited Seating. Tickets: \$36
Advance reservations required
For more information call 401.421.4111
For tickets please visit www.JFRI.org

Brought to you by the Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

www.jvhri.org

FROM: Strength to strength

From Page 1

GETTING OUT OF OUR OWN WAY

"Rhode Islanders love to talk about what's not right," laughed Roberts, as she rapidly identified some Rhode Island "positives," including: OSCAR – the Ocean State Consortium for Applied Research – a collaboration of public and private partners to build our knowledge economy; social venture entrepreneurs, capitalizing on our close knit and connected community by mentoring one another; and the "Buy Local" movement to help build and strengthen the local economy.

Rhode Island's quality of life is the envy of many, said Kaplan, but we must put aside the negative talk, and focus on fixing our school systems. "It's not just the K-12 system, the post-secondary schools, too – they're what we need to get right. Our schools were created for an industrial economy that no longer exists." Kaplan lauded Deborah Gist, the commissioner of education for the state, for moving swiftly to implement reform.

Maione, whose work at the United Way is similar to that of Silberfarb's, said that nonprofits, too, have to work smarter. Nonprofit consolidations, though necessary, are not easy, said Maione. "Nonprofit mergers aren't like the for-profit mergers, with golden parachutes and buy-outs. They involve people with a lot of emotions invested [in their programs or agencies]."

WHAT WILL THE FUTURE BRING?

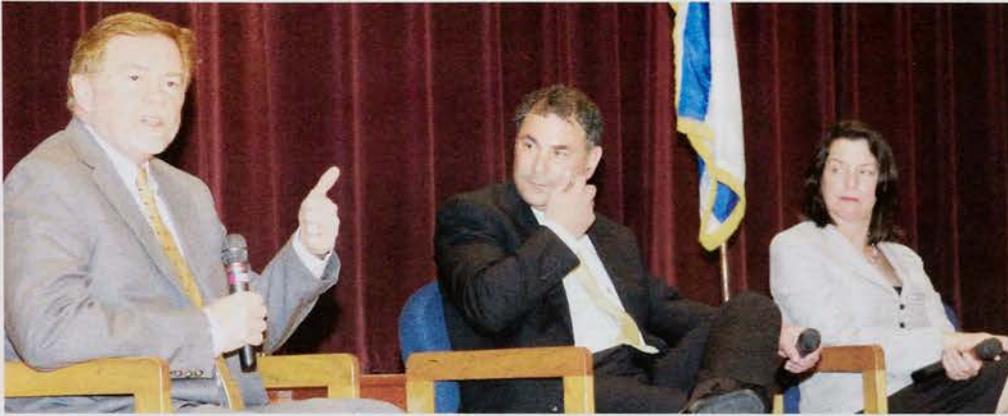
While collaboration was the buzzword a few years ago – where an agency might think, "What money can we get?" – the new paradigm requires that we ask, instead, "What can we give?" In putting the mission first, Maione said, the people we serve must come first, everything else comes later.

"A crisis is a terrible thing to waste."

Saul Kaplan
Former director of
Rhode Island's Economic
Development Corporation

When Silberfarb asked what the next two to three years might bring for Rhode Island, Roberts acknowledged, somewhat ruefully, that federal stimulus monies have been used to fill budget holes, rather than more

See NEW, Facing Page



ANTHONY MAIONE, SAUL KAPLAN and LT. GOVERNOR ELIZABETH ROBERTS



HINDA SEMONOFF and MARCIA RIESMAN



JACOB, REBECCA, ALAN and ETHAN ROSENBERG flank AVIS GUNTHER-ROSENBERG, center.



MARCIA KAUNFER and SHEILA ALEXANDER

NEW: Allocations process is one change

From Page 1

strategically. Urging audience members to push elected officials to consolidate services and promote reform, Roberts said, "No one likes change, but we need to show how [change] is an improvement."

"A crisis is a terrible thing to waste," said Kaplan, warning that a return to our old profligate ways

will bring even more challenges. The recession hit Rhode Island harder, he said, because "we didn't prepare for the downturn - we weren't resilient."

Sitting squarely at the intersection of the worlds of business and government, Maione voiced frustration about how society frames the discussion. Rather than asking, "What do we need to cut to get to a number?" we should ask, "What do we want from government?" "What do we want from our nonprofits?"

When the floods came, said

Maione, "no one thought the government did too much. When we need government, we want them, but otherwise, we want it to go away."

Roberts believes that more public - and honest - conversations are essential. "People need to feel connected, and if the community isn't involved, we won't be successful," she said.

"In putting the mission first, the people we serve must come first. Everything else comes later."

**Anthony Maione
Executive director and CEO,
United Way of R.I.**

Kaplan's three-point strategy is this: We must fight our lack of belief in ourselves, we must collaborate, and we must experiment. Our size, he said, makes Rhode Island an ideal locale for experimenting and innovat-

ing. Referencing a speaker from an international United Way conference, Maione identified three factors that stall change. "I don't understand what it means to me," "I know what it means and I don't like it," or "I don't like you."

See LOOKING, Page 32

introducing
shalomri.org
your source for all things Jewish in Rhode Island



featuring

get connected
Jewish organizations, programs and services around the state, from Shalom Baby to Jewish Seniors Agency

jewish federation
community leadership and planning, programs and services that support Jewish life and learning

calendar
events, meetings and programs throughout greater Rhode Island

breaking news
The Jewish Voice & Herald: local and international Jewish news

ask wendy
your Jewish concierge

volunteer
the Jewish volunteer connection

what's hot
editor's top picks

powered by the energy and imagination of Jews in Rhode Island
and made possible by funds from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

www.jvhri.org

Eat well, eat healthy and enjoy the celebrations

Good food doesn't guarantee a weight gain

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voiceherald@JFRI.org

THE SEASON OF celebrations is upon us — Mother's Day has just passed, and many of us will celebrate Father's Day, graduations, engagements, weddings and other *simchas*. In light of that and in honor of this issue's focus

on health and beauty, we thought some healthy recipes that look and taste delicious might inspire us all to do some cooking. Eat well, savor your food and don't over-indulge. Enjoy the bounty of the season!

All of these recipes and photos are from *Enlightened Kosher Cooking*, by Nechama Cohen, Feldheim Publishers, 2006.

Orange-kiwi salad

Low carb, low fat

Salad ingredients

- 2 small romaine lettuce heads
- 2 small kiwi, peeled and sliced

- 1/2-inch rounds
- 1 small orange, peeled and sliced into 1/2-inch rounds

Dressing ingredients

- 1-and-1/2 tablespoons walnut or olive oil
- 3 tablespoons apple cider or champagne vinegar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon water



- sugar substitute equal to 1 teaspoon sugar
- salt and pepper to taste

Method

Wash lettuce and tear into bite-sized pieces. Spin or pat dry.

Put on a serving platter and top with kiwis and oranges arranged in a circular pattern.

Combine the oil, vinegar, lemon juice, water, sugar substitute, salt and pepper in a small bowl.

Whisk until blended. Drizzle the dressing over the salad.

Garnish with red onion rings and almonds.

Garnish

1 medium red onion, peeled and sliced into rings

2 tablespoons slivered or sliced roasted almonds, optional

Makes 6 servings.

Oven-steamed endives with lemon and parsley

Low carb, fat free

The cookbook notes, "The endives will taste braised, even though they're not made with oil. Try this same recipe with almost any low-carb vegetable and keep it on hand for a great snack. Can be eaten warm or at room temperature."

Ingredients

4 medium endives, washed and trimmed

1/2 cup chicken broth, or 1 tablespoon chicken soup powder mixed with 1/2 cup boiling water

1 tablespoon lemon juice, freshly squeezed

2 tablespoons fresh parsley, finely chopped

salt and pepper to taste
non-stick cooking spray

Method

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Arrange endive in glass baking dish and pour broth and lemon juice on top. Spray with non-stick cooking spray.

Cover and bake for about 30 minutes, until fork-tender.

Remove from oven and cool.

Cut endives into quarters and rearrange in the same dish.

Sprinkle with the rest of the ingredients. Broil for a few minutes, until they start to brown.

Makes 4 servings

Sushi

Low carb, fat free

The cookbook writes, "Making sushi is an art and it requires practice. A bamboo sushi mat is an important tool for creating successful rolls."

Ingredients

1-and-1/2 cups brown rice

3 cups water

1/4 cup rice vinegar

salt to taste

1/2 teaspoon powdered ginger
sugar substitute equal to 1 tablespoon sugar

6 toasted nori sheets

5 slices smoked salmon

6 thin avocado slices

REINVENT THE MEAL

WITH ALL NATURAL, READY TO SERVE

MANISCHEWITZ BROTH.



For over 120 years, Manischewitz has been a trusted brand providing families with delicious, premium kosher soups and many other specialty foods including matzo, macaroons, Tam Tam® crackers, noodles and gefilte fish. When we decided to introduce a line of all natural, ready to serve broths, we started with a treasured family recipe and used only the finest



ingredients to produce broths that were made like homemade to taste like homemade.

We wanted our chicken and beef broths to set a new standard, so we started with real kosher chicken and beef, all

natural spices and vegetables and slow cooked them in small batches to guarantee a superior product. All



world's most recognized and respected kosher certifying organization.

The result is an all natural line of broths that delivers exceptional flavor as the base for soups or as a key ingredient in your favorite recipes, including brisket, turkey, rice and gravy.



Manischewitz broths are produced under the supervision of the , the



For your added convenience, these delicious broths are packed in easy open cans and re-sealable, easy pour cartons, and are available in Chicken, Beef and Reduced Sodium Chicken varieties.



New All Natural Manischewitz Broths -- **made like homemade to taste like homemade.**

Manischewitz is a proud sponsor of



www.JewishAmericanHeritageMonth.us

Manufacturer's Coupon | Expires 6/30/10 | Not Subject To Doubling

Save 75¢
on any 32oz carton of
Manischewitz Broth



5 72700 22575 0 (8101)0 31310 0610

Manischewitz® The Manischewitz Co. will reimburse you for the face value of this coupon plus the handling, provided you and the combine have complied with the other terms. Coupon not properly redeemed will be void and void. Reproduction of this coupon is prohibited. Only one coupon per household. Coupon good only in U.S.A. © 2010 Manischewitz Co. All Rights Reserved. For More Information Visit: www.manischewitz.com

See RECIPES, Facing Page



RECIPES: Tempt the palate

From Previous Page

Method

In a covered saucepan, cook rice in warm water for 40-60 minutes, until all the water is evaporated. Transfer rice to a bowl and add vinegar, seasonings and sugar substitute.

Place a nori sheet on a bamboo (sushi) mat and brush with a small amount of vinegar.

Place 1-2 tablespoons of rice onto the sheet and, with wet hands, put it down until it reaches 1/8-inch from the edges.

Layer the salmon and avocado. Roll up tight and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Using a serrated knife, dipped in warm water, slice into 4 rolls.

Serve with soy sauce, wasabi paste and pickled ginger slices.

Note: Almost any combination of vegetables can be used.

Makes 24 pieces (6 rolls, 4 slices each).

Baked spinach-cheese delight

Recipe is low carb and low fat

Ingredients

non-stick cooking spray
2 whole eggs plus 2 egg whites
3/4 cup 1 percent milk or low-fat,

low-carb soy milk
3 slices day-old light bread, cut into small triangles

1 cup fresh spinach, finely chopped
1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese

Method

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line the bottom of an 8-inch springform pan with baking paper and spray with non-stick cooking spray.

In a medium bowl, whisk the eggs and egg whites until frothy.

Add the milk, spinach and cheese. Stir to blend.

Pour into the prepared pan.

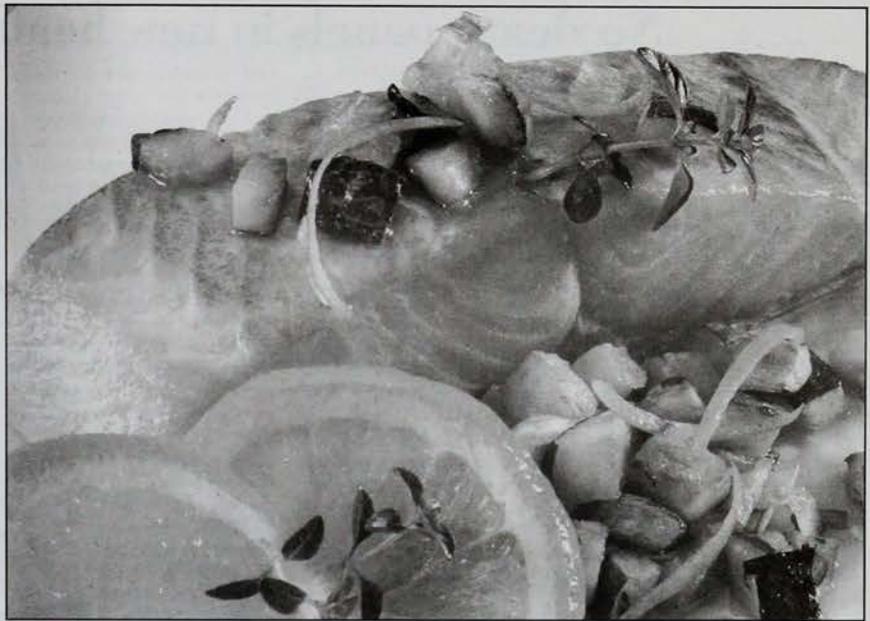
Immerse the dried bread triangles in the mixture. After they are coated with the mixture, raise one point of each piece with a fork so that they peek out at the top.

Bake uncovered until lightly browned, about 20-30 minutes. Remove from the oven and cool.

Loosen the edges by cutting around the outside with a knife. Remove from the pan and place on a heatproof plate.

Serve hot or at room temperature.

Makes 6 servings.



Susannah's orange-glazed salmon

Low carb and medium fat

Ingredients

1 pound salmon fillet
1 teaspoon olive oil
non-stick cooking spray
1/2 cup dry white wine
1/2 cup balsamic vinegar
2 tablespoons orange spice tea
1 tablespoon orange juice
1 tablespoon sugar-free orange or apricot marmalade
2 tablespoons lemon juice
brown sugar substitute equal to 2 tablespoons brown sugar, or sugar substitute equal to 2 table-

spoons sugar

1 teaspoon orange rind, grated
1/2 teaspoon lemon rind, grated
Garnish
Orange slices
Mint leaves

Method

Brush both sides of fish with a tiny bit of olive oil and brown in a non-stick frying pan sprayed with non-stick cooking spray.

Cook until done, about 6 minutes on each side.

Meanwhile, in a medium-sized bowl, combine wine, vinegar, orange spice tea, orange juice marmalade, lemon juice, sugar substi-

tute, lemon and orange rinds, and mix.

Pour into a small saucepan and boil until reduced to a bubbly glaze.

Remove the fish to a serving plate, pour the glaze over it, garnish and serve.

Optional serving suggestion

Once the glaze is reduced, it can be poured over the fish in frying pan, brought to a boil, and then removed together to a serving plate.

Makes 5 servings.



CALLING ALL TEAMS!

FIRST ANNUAL

JCCRI
KOSHER
CHILI
COOK-OFF

June 13, 2010
1 tammuz 5770

Don't Miss Out...
Have Fun and Support the JCCRI...

Create a
RI Kosher Chili Cook-Off
Team!

Only 25 team spots available!

Equipment and kosher meat provided...
just dish up your best chili recipe!

For team registration and more information, visit
www.rikosherchilicookoff.com

All proceeds benefit the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island

If you're not eating
CASERTA's you're
not eating pizza!

\$1.00 OFF

a delicious 12-piece pizza

The ORIGINAL
CASERTA
PIZZERIA

A Rhode Island Tradition for over 50 years.



There's
Only One
Caserta
121 Spruce St
Providence "On the Hill"
Parking available

TAKE OUT 272-3618 or 621-3618 or 621-9190

JV

401 elmgrove ave.
providence, ri 02906
401.861.8800
www.jccri.org



The JCCRI is a partner agency of the
Jewish Federation of Rhode Island
www.jfi.org



No death panels in new healthcare legislation

A guide for the perplexed

By MICHAEL FINE, M.D.
Special to The Voice & Herald

THE HEALTH CARE Reform 2010, known to both supporters and opponents as the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the "Act"), is large wide-ranging and complex.

It has many moving parts, and many provisions that aren't applicable to most Americans, but the Act does contain a major overhaul of health insurance purchasing and regulation, and does change some other parts of the U.S. healthcare market as we know it.

The Act's major impact is on health insurance and does the following.

First, the Act regulates health insurance companies, and bans some of their worst abuses, such as refusing to insure people with pre-existing conditions, discriminating in pricing on the basis of age and gender and revoking insurance from people who thought they had insurance after they become ill. (The Act requires insurance companies to allow full-time students to remain on their parents' insurance policies until they are age 26).

The Act requires all Americans to have health insurance, and levies new taxes on those people who don't have health insurance after 2014.

The Act expands eligibility for Medicaid, so that low income people, who earn less than 133 percent of the federal poverty level — \$14,404 for an individual and \$29,327 for a family of four in 2009 — for everyone under age 65.

The Act provides small businesses with subsidies so that they can continue to purchase insurance for their employees, and will provide subsidies for lower- and moderate-income individuals who buy their own insurance. The small business subsidies begin in 2010; the individual subsidies begin in 2014. The combination of required insurance, subsidies for small businesses and low-to-moderate income Americans and the expansion of Medicaid is expected to reduce the number of uninsured Americans from about 50 million to as low as 18 million by 2019.

The Act also introduces health insurance purchasing exchanges — state-by-state health insurance programs through which individuals and small businesses with up to 100 employees can purchase qualified insurance coverage, and that allow "apples-to-apples" comparisons between plans offered by insurers at different levels of benefit designs. Health insurance purchasing exchanges, mod-

eled on the Massachusetts model, streamline purchasing choices, and will hopefully help reduce the cost of health insurance by promoting competition, although that has not been the experience in Massachusetts.

The Act makes two relative minor changes to Medicare. It reforms Medicare to Medicare. It changes Medicare Advantage, a way to replace Medicare with private insurance for some people, a process which was designed to save taxpayers money but which ended up costing us billions of dollars; and it provides a \$250 rebate to Medicare beneficiaries who reach the Part D coverage gap (the so-called donut hole) in 2010.

now provide comprehensive primary care services to 16 million people at

of Americans who lack access to health care services. In the process, health care reform moves some financial risk away from individuals, but allows

the public pocketbook to assume more financial risk. It makes the health insurance market fairer, but may also make health insurance more expensive.

The United States lacks a health care system, an organized set of health services provided to all Americans, designed to protect and improve the public health. Instead, we have a health care market.

Health Care Reform 2010 is the first step in reforming that market, and the first step in creating health services that are more fairly distributed, while helping protect individuals and families from the financial distress that now often accompanies illness.

Michael Fine M.D. (www.michaelfine.com) is *Managing Director of HealthCare RI, Director of the Medical Department of The Rhode Island Department of Corrections of Health, and coauthor of The Nature of Health (2007) and The Zero Calorie Diet (2010)*. Visit his web site at www.michaelfine.com.

"The Act includes neither death panels nor a government takeover of health care in the United States."

3,000

or more sites across the nation. The new funding will enable CHCs to care for more than 30 million people, or about 10 percent of the U.S. population, and may become the backbone of a national health service that can care for all Americans.

The Act includes neither death panels nor a government takeover of health care in the United States. Instead, it increases funding to U.S. health insurance companies, as it brings health insurance to more Americans, and intends, by so doing, to decrease the number

Perhaps the Act's most significant change is increasing funding to community health centers (CHCs) by \$11 billion, and increasing funding of the National Health Service Corps, by \$1.5 billion. These two programs together

Top 10 tips to stay healthy

By MICHAEL FINE, M.D.
SPECIAL TO THE VOICE & HERALD

- **Don't smoke.**
- **Take a walk.** Or lots of walks. Exercise 60 minutes a day, and know that the easiest exercise to do is exercise that is part of life. So walk places, work in the garden, split wood, walk up College Hill or ride a bike to work. Walk up stairs — elevators are evil.
- **Kill your refrigerator.** Get a tiny cube refrigerator for milk and eggs — and then shop every day. There won't be leftovers around to eat at night, and you'll see your friends, family and neighbors more, which is more important for your health than you think.
- **Go fishing.** Or swimming. Or read a book. Just do something that isn't working. Work is, er, work. It's not supposed to be fun. That's why they have to pay you to do it. No one ever reaches

age 70 and wishes they had worked more. Playing hooky is good. Email is also evil.

- **Turn off the TV.** Just do it. You can. No one ever died from not watching TV.

- **Share meals.** You don't need more than about 1100 calories a day.

- **Eliminate starch from your diet.** It has no nutritional value, as long as you can eat fruits and vegetables. So eat fruits and vegetables. You don't need much, though.

- **Have Shabbat dinner with friends,** and walk home a little tipsy

on a warm spring night.

- **Ignore most of what you read about how to stay healthy.** Most of that advice comes from someone with something to sell, and is there to make you anxious and buy things. Living a life worried about how to not die of a dread disease may well cause you to develop a dread disease, and if it doesn't, worry will keep you from enjoying yourself, your family and your friends. Not enjoying what has been given to you — is a dread disease.

- **Think about how to keep the peace,** and how to create a more just society. This is not "leftist" nonsense. People who live in fair, equal, safe and secure societies live longest and are happier than those who live in places where there is conflict and mistrust. It turns out that democracy is good for your health, so get out there and make it work.

'Around town' health and beauty suggestions

No medical guarantees, just tried and true practices

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voicemail@jvhri.org

PROVIDENCE — Here are some randomly collected tips of the trade from colleagues, and an occasional reader. Some are men, some are women, some are in the under-40 cohort, while others are, well, significantly older! Take what you like and leave the rest:

- I believe exercise and diet are key — not dieting, but a healthy diet as part of your lifestyle. I eat five to six mini-meals throughout the day, rather than three big meals. I also avoid soda, as it is especially bad for women — the increased potassium can deplete calcium, something particularly important for women.

- I add flax seed and wheat germ to everything — cold and hot cereal, yogurt and fruit, sprinkled on sugary ice cream. They both have so many health benefits; and a jar of wheat germ and bag of flax seed last a long time in the

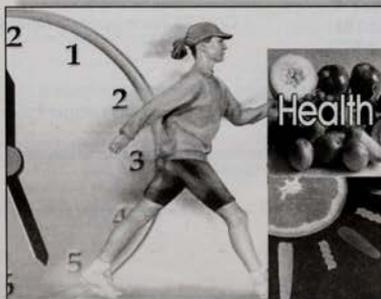
refrigerator and are not expensive, especially considering how long they last.

- I add a pinpoint-size drop of Retin A (a prescription from a dermatologist) under my eyes, and underneath my concealer. I wear an SPF lotion. I don't want wrinkles or skin cancer!

- I walk, walk, walk. There are many bike paths in the state and now that the good weather is here, you can get out even at night and have a good free workout. People can form walking clubs and set goals. My friend and I look kind of foolish, but we do a set of elbow to knee crunches at each half mile marker on the way up and back on the East Providence path and end up doing about 180 of them in addition to the four-mile walk.

- Walking is also a social activity. You recognize the people you see, and even if you are not near a bike path you will see people out in their yards. It's a good de-stresser. It's hard to maintain a grumpy mood when you're out in the fresh air, sweating and get-

See HAPPINESS, Page 29



INDEPENDENT: *Minyanim* offer novel approaches for communal prayer

From Page 2

allows them to dispense with frequent fundraising and other less compelling aspects of temple life. The groups have managed to attract large numbers of people in their 20s and 30s, the very people that institution-based professionals have struggled to reach.

For all his enthusiasm, even Kauner understands that his model works only in big cities with large Jewish populations. The efforts of running even just a biweekly *minyan* require dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers. There's a reason that congregations with enough money moved toward paid staff. (See sidebar, "Empowered *minyanim* in greater Rhode Island")

His main goal is not that these *minyanim* sprout up across North America (and Israel), but that they inspire congregants to seek and demand more participation in synagogues. Kauner wants clergy and other staff to be less the performers in Jewish life, and more the teachers and facilitators so congregants can do most of the work themselves. Like his father, who co-founded what became the Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island, he puts enormous emphasis on education.

After all, he says, 'rabbi' simply means 'teacher,' and before the 20th century, ordinary people took on the main duties of Jewish life. Many Orthodox congregations still operate this way, with weekly services and minimal paid staff, so it's certainly possible.

Still, if the old empowered ways were so powerful, why did most people give them up as soon as they had the resources to hire leaders? A convincing argument for a new approach to congregational life would need a detailed look at the history of Jewish congregations in America. In the meantime there's surely much to learn and appreciate from the impressive work of these independent *minyanim*.

John T. Landry is a member of The Voice & Herald's Editorial Board and participates in the Shabbat morning minyan at Temple Beth-El in Providence. Contact him at jtlandry@verizon.net.

Empowered Judaism: What Independent Minyanim Can Teach Us About Building Vibrant Jewish Communities, by Rabbi Elie Kauner, *Jewish Lights*, 2010.

Empowered *minyanim* in greater Rhode Island

By JOHN T. LANDRY

Special to *The Voice & Herald*

PROVIDENCE — While I couldn't find any independent *minyanim* in Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts, some congregations have lay-led services. There isn't room to cover them all in this space, but here are three noteworthy examples.

Not surprisingly, the closest equivalent of Rabbi Elie Kauner's independent, non-Orthodox, Shabbat *minyanim* is at his boyhood congregation, Temple Emanu-El in Providence.

Naomi Stein, a co-founder of this "*Minyan Hadash*," says the group started mainly because a number of congregants preferred a full Torah reading and a less formal, lay-led service. Service leaders and Torah readers rotate among the group, and its smaller size and cohesiveness make it easy to introduce new melodies and promote participation.

Launched four years ago, the group meets in the chapel at the same time as the regular morning service, so congregants run everything. Four to six people usually take turns leading each service or reading the Torah. Two other activities are hosted in homes, each once a month: a Kabbalat Shabbat service and potluck dinner, and a text study with an invited teacher on Shab-

bat afternoons.

Stein says she and other founders benefitted enormously from Mechon Hadar's advice and resources in preparing to run the service. But unlike participants in independent *minyanim*, they view themselves as full Emanu-El members. Not only did the clergy support their efforts, but Kauner's father, Alvan, now retired, is among the service leaders. The service runs on the second and fourth Saturdays of every month, except during the summer, and it skips the service when it conflicts with a festival service or major temple event.

Minyan Hadash is not the only alternative service at Emanu-El. There's also "Soulful Shabbat," a contemplative service with silence, chanting, and stretching in addition to traditional prayer and Torah study. It meets on the morning of the third Saturday of the month. Soulful Shabbat, started several years ago by Rabbi Alan Flam after he retired from Brown Hillel, is led completely by volunteers.

An earlier lay-driven *minyan* started at Temple Beth-El in 1994. Back then, aside from the daily *minyan* in the summer, the only Shabbat morning service was for a bar or bat mitzvah. A small group of congregants wanted a more inclusive service in the morning, and one that incor-

porated more of the traditional prayers and Hebrew than the usual Reform service. Howard Rabinowitz, a co-founder, says that, with help from then-Associate Rabbi Sidney Helbraun, the group launched a service in the chapel that eventually became weekly. (I have been involved with this service since the late 1990s.)

During the next few years, the associate rabbi and the cantor began leading the service most weeks. With its 9 a.m. start time, it finishes well before the 11 a.m. bar or bat mitzvah service. Although the service is no longer lay-led, congregants step in when either or both of the clergy are away. They also lead a Torah study after each service that complements the associate rabbi's D'var Torah.

Perhaps reflecting their continuing congregational ties, the members of these three *minyanim* tend to be older than the 20-somethings predominating at most independent *minyanim*. Regardless of participants' ages, these groups do expand the options for worship and study. As are the main weekly services at their synagogues, these *minyanim* are open to the public.

Box Office
Now Open!

Four fabulous musicals!



A Chorus Line
JUNE 2-JUNE 20
Groundbreaking Pulitzer Prize winner



Hello, Dolly!
JUNE 23-JULY 11
SPONSORED BY Citizens Bank
Tony Award-winning family classic



Little Shop of Horrors
JULY 14-AUGUST 1
Funny, touching and out of this world!



The Full Monty
AUGUST 4-AUGUST 29
SPONSORED BY MERIDIAN PRINTING
The grin and bare-it-all hit musical



BILL HANNEY PRESENTS
THEATRE BY THE SEA



FOR TICKETS CALL (401) 782-TKTS (8587)
OR VISIT US ONLINE ANYTIME AT
www.theatrebythesea.com

ALL SHOWS PRODUCED BY OCEAN STATE THEATRE COMPANY, INC., A NOT-FOR-PROFIT 501(c)(3) ORGANIZATION



The 25th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

May 17, 2010

TPC of Boston

sign up today!
www.jccri.org

contact Lisa Mongeau at
(401)861-8800 or lmongeau@jccri.org
for more information and to learn about
sponsorship opportunities.

A warm and welcoming Reform congregation

Finally, the search is narrowed down

BY NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRL.org

BARRINGTON – From the oldest *bubbie* to the littlest Religious School student, members of Temple Habonim love, admire and respect James Rosenberg, the rabbi emeritus, and Rabbi Andrew Klein.

In fact, three generations of congregants participated in a play, "The Rabbinical Dream," that celebrated the Reform congregation's 50-year history and depicted the synagogue's two-year search to replace the outgoing Rosenberg.

Written by Joe Shansky and Bob Kemp, both long-term synagogue members, the production was staged on the evening of Saturday, May 2 and again on the morning of Sunday, May 3. It humorously and affectionately depicted the synagogue's search for a new rabbi when Rosenberg, in February 2005, issued an unexpected proclamation: "I am going to retire in 2007, not 2009, as initially planned." Adopting the theme of an old-time radio show, the play included characters portraying key figures, including long-time secretary Marjorie Blowers; Linda Silverman Levine, the synagogue's education director; Rosenberg and his wife, Sandy; and, of course, Klein.



CONGREGATION HABONIM CELEBRATES paying off its nearly \$500,000 mortgage in December 2009 with a mortgage-burning bonfire party.

And so, the search began. The mission was clear: Find someone who could fill Rosenberg's very big shoes. He was the rabbi, the cantor and the director of the Religious School all rolled into one. He shoveled the snow and responded to the middle-of-the-night alarms. As the lay leadership proclaimed, "We need a rabbi with the patience of Job, the singing voice of Pavarotti, the child appeal of Elmo, the wisdom of Solomon, the charisma

of Obama and the compassion of Mother Teresa."

Finally, the search is narrowed down to four finalists, all of whom are eerily evocative of Elvis, sometimes with a Southern accent. How much theatrical liberty Shansky and Kemp took with the play – well, only Habonim members know for sure!

Appearing on "Rabbinical Idol," the actors portraying Rabbis *Alef, Bet, Gimel* and *Daled* – represent-

ing the four final candidates – strut their stuff, while someone from the Central Conference of American Rabbis described itself as the source of "rabbinical dating services in the digital age."

Joy and jubilation reign when Klein, then an assistant rabbi in Great Barrington, Mass. (the symmetry – Barrington, R.I. and Great Barrington, Mass. – can't go unacknowledged), is chosen. The match was perfect, as "Klein just wanted a shul of his own."

"Everyone thought it would be difficult to replace someone who had been there for so long and who was so well-loved," said Harold Foster, a former temple president and a 25-year member. "It was

"We need a rabbi with the patience of Job, the singing voice of Pavarotti, the wisdom of Solomon, and the compassion of Mother Teresa."

a credit to Rabbi Klein that the transition went so smoothly."

YEAR'S WORTH OF CELEBRATION

The play was the last of a series of celebratory events commemorating the Reform synagogue's 50th year. The synagogue had a big gala dinner dance in mid-November and, said Klein, "In December, we finished our capital campaign and paid off the mortgage, so we had a mortgage-burning party."

The mortgage – of nearly \$500,000 – is just one factor demonstrating the synagogue's growth and expansion. "The building is a 150-year-old Civil War school building," Klein said. "Later, it was turned into a school administration building; about 30 years ago, we bought it, and six or seven years ago, it was renovated. That's when we got the mortgage."

Nearly 51 years ago, when Habonim's predecessor, Eastward Jewish Center, was established, its annual budget was not to exceed \$2,000! In September of 1963, some members of the Eastward Jewish Center established the

See HABONIM, Facing Page

CAMP JORI

ON WORDEN'S POND



www.campjori.com

- New features for Day camp
- Transportation from Providence and Warwick
- Two week sessions starting June 29 through August 17
- Increased activity choices
- Wednesday night overnights
- Getting ready to step into overnight camping
- Spirited family style meals in our dining hall
- Dietary laws observed
- Programs provided by our Israeli staff
- Ropes Challenge Course
- Shabbat Experience

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION CONTACT:
CAMP JORI, 1065 Worden's Pond, Wakefield, RI
CALL: 401-463-3170
Email: campjori@hotmail.com



www.jvhri.org

SPECIALTY PROVISIONS

Grilling Season is Here!

Celebrate with our super summer

Glatt Kosher specials

Beef Skirt Steak	approx 1 lb. pkg	\$7.99 / lb.
Bnls/Sknls Chicken Cutlets:	2-3 1/2 lb. package	\$3.99 / lb.
Chicken Patties:	approx 1/4 lb. each	\$1.99 / 2-pack
Specialty Turkey Burgers:	approx 7 oz. each	\$3.89 / 2-pack
All Beef Patties:	1/4 lb. patties	\$4.49 / lb.
All-Beef Specialty Burger:	1/2 lb. patty	\$2.49 / each
Family pack Hot Dogs:	2 lb. pkg	\$7.99 / pkg

Serving MA, ME, CT and now Rhode Island!
Order online at specialtyprovisions.com
or by phone at (617)-455-8384

Specialty Provisions

124 Newmarket Sq. Boston MA.

pick up at our USDA warehouse and receive a 5% discount





/Rafi Wolfson

THE FOUR RABBIS – or Elvis impersonators – from left, are Jerry Katz, Karri Parola, Diane Minasian and Bob Kemp.

HABONIM: Celebrates golden anniversary

From Page 24

Barrington Jewish Center that eventually morphed into Temple Habonim, originally in a small home on County Road. It has been in its present location – a bucolic setting overlooking the Barrington River – on New Meadow Road since about 1980.

A YOUNG CONGREGATION

The brightly colored three-speed bicycles festooning Habonim's parking lot prove that this suburban site is an easy bicycle ride away for many children. Shansky said, "We're getting younger families. Years ago, I was one of the student teachers at the preschool. These days, we have more students, more teachers and more programs."

Rosenberg concurred. "One reason I decided to retire," he said, "was that I was beginning to feel my age. I felt we needed someone with more energy to reach out to younger members. Rabbi Klein has been very good with the younger families – you could feel that in the play. He's been a great asset to the synagogue."

The Religious School has 150 students in K-10th grades and this year's b'nei mitzvah class has 20 students, said Klein. Ten students will be confirmed at Shav'uot.

Some of the youthful actors eagerly offered their opinions about Habonim. "Family services are fun," said Abby Kaplan, age 10.

Her younger sister, Meredith, 8, said, "I like all the teachers. My Hebrew school teacher, Mr. [Joe] Friedman makes funny voices, and he's fun."

LOCAL AND GLOBAL SOCIAL ACTION

Klein, who thinks of himself as a rabbi who is gay, rather than a gay rabbi, was delighted with the welcome he received. "I fell in love with this place – it's small, intimate and with many young families. It has a very stable history, as Rabbi Rosenberg had been here for 33 years."

This fall, Klein said, the Barrington schools will be closed for Rosh Hashanah – a first for the community. "Jim did something great in establishing a very strong relationship with interfaith clergy and interfaith community. When the [synagogue's] founding members came to Barrington 50 years ago, there were restrictions on where Jews [could buy property]."

"Thanks to all the work that Jim did here, we've made progress here, coming from where we were 50 years," said Klein. "The Jewish community here is vital and thriving, with so many families and young kids."

"I was the first Rhode Island rabbi to travel to the Soviet Union, Rosenberg said. "As a result of that trip – in 1988 – we led the state in reaching out to Soviet Jews. We sent medical supplies to Jews in Belarus."

Working through the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's Community Relations Council, Habonim helped some Russian Jewish refugees who settled here, said Foster. Working with them, "we got a pipeline of medical supplies and equipment (outdated here and state-of-the-art there) going from Rhode Island to a clinic in Belarus. Maxine Richman and Renee Vogel helped in this initiative. We'd ask people traveling

there to take a suitcase full of supplies."

WARM AND WELCOMING

"From the first time we walked into Habonim, we knew it was a special place," said Foster. "It's a very welcoming synagogue."

A 41-year synagogue member, Helena Friedmann has taught there for 24 years – sometimes Religious and Hebrew classes, and now just Religious School. This is, she says, her last year teaching.

"When I became a member, there were 50 families and now there are about 200," she said. "It was so homey and comfortable – and you know everyone." Raised with an Orthodox background, Friedmann found deep satisfaction in being able to participate in the service and appreciated the changes that Rabbi Rosenberg implemented. She was in the first b'nei mitzvah class – an initiative that Rabbi Rosenberg helped organize. Rabbi Klein's weekly lunch and learn sessions so congregants can discuss the parashah of the week have been wonderful, she said.

What will the next 50 years bring for Temple Habonim? The next generation of writers, photographers and playwrights will tell that story.

UNFORGETTABLE FUN, INCOMPARABLE SURROUNDINGS

Camp Jori has been part of the RI Jewish community since 1937



beautiful, newly developed campus
72-acre site
magnificent waterfront
sailing, canoeing, kayaking
spacious cabins
comprehensive programming
expansive rec hall
sports fields and courts
dining hall with an inspiring view
two swimming pools
protected environment
highly skilled, caring staff
warm, friendly atmosphere
family feeling

Located in
Wakefield, RI.
Kosher dietary
laws observed.

Ropes Challenge Course

Expanded Theater Programs



Reaching up

A program for children with special needs

Two - two week sessions

Ages 11 - 14

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION CALL:

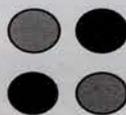
401-463-3170

WEB: WWW.CAMPJORI.COM

E-MAIL: CAMPJORI@HOTMAIL.COM



CAMPJORI
ON WORDEN'S POND



PRAT COMMUNICATIONS

Press releases • Grant proposals
Personal correspondence
Web Publications
Editorial Services

Solutions@pratcommunications.com
www.pratcommunications.com

We're read cover to cover!

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

YOUTH: Learn the benefits of acceptance

From Page 3

there."

Yet, when plans for a "twinning" exchange with a (yet unnamed) Providence public high school were announced, Cooper called the students' reactions "mixed," with some students clearly discomfited by the concept.

Ayers, for one, is clearly delighted by students' enthusiasm for the Tolerance Team, with many students volunteering to serve next year. "If you can get a critical mass of youth who are well-trained as good facilitators and have started to work together as a team with adult support," she said, "you can build within the school. What they did [to address this bullying head-on] was courageous and very rare. How many schools have taken this issue to heart and made a public commitment?"

One of the first things we're planning is training, said Dr. Ruth Anderson, the school psychologist. "Faculty identified training as something they really need - so that will begin in the high school and middle school early next year."

According to Sarah Laidler, the school's student assistant counselor, RIC will provide some, if not all, of the training.

WHERE WILL THE MONEY COME FROM?

Sipala has committed, said Laidler, to pay for faculty training, and another local group - the Narragansett Prevention Partnership - has made a donation to help train the students.

"It's no different than focusing on [an academic subject]," said Warner. "It's not an either-or situation; if we create a culture

that's accepting and tolerant, academics will be impacted [positively]."

When freshman students start Narragansett High School next fall, they'll have a day of orientation that explains the Tolerance Team and the school's expectations. "Freshman and senior advisories [small groups of students who meet daily with advisors] will meet together on a regular basis so that seniors can model good behaviors and serve as mentors to the freshmen," said Warner.

"Kids come to our school doors with a lot of ideas from home. It can be a tough task to challenge these ideas and get kids to think differently," Warner said. "It [bullying] used to be the 'elephant in the living room.' At Narragansett High School, we're trying to make bullying the exception. If students feel good about school, they'll be more focused on learning."

There are so many different kinds of bullying, said Laidler. "Bullying starts in the early grades, so we're looking at this as a district wide approach. It's definitely a culture change."

Cooper said, "The all-school assembly was held a full 12 months after the anti-Semitism was first reported and acted on - that's how long it took to investigate, follow-up and develop worthwhile programming. We hope that the students at Narragansett High School will see a positive impact from this program now and in the future and that similar programs will be adopted by the Middle School."

For more information, contact Marty Cooper, CRC director, at 421-4111, ext. 171 or mcooper@jfri.org.

Check out these Youtube videos:

(Be forewarned: The Hebrew Mamita video has some profanity; others may as well.)

- Anti-bullying ad (redhead): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWJut7KQhI4>

- Hebrew Mamita: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ubdGjzzJjVs>

- Girl Bullying (The Secret Life of Girls 2): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFFADD3UrXU>

- Kitchen Cyberbullying: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjKaWNGZNYI>

- Think Before you Speak-Cashier: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uEpBYKO3ys>

- How to Tell Someone They Sound Racist: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0Ti-gkjiXc>

- Words Hurt: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lj6YA03hm4k&NR=1>



COMMUNITY CHILDREN MARCH in the Lag Ba'Omer parade on Sunday, May 2 on Hope Street in Providence. The event, sponsored by Chabad of Providence, commemorates the holy day of Talmudic sage, Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai.

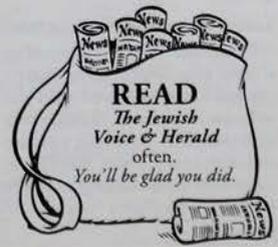


SWEETS FOR THE LIBRARIANS

ON BEHALF OF the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS), Alisa Kotler-Berkowitz, left, and her children, Sivan '16, Lev '16 and Matan '13, presented muffins and a thank you card signed by the JCDS students to Mary Ellen Scott, librarian, and Tom O'Donnell, director of the Rochambeau Library. During National Library Week (April 11-17), Karolyn White, the JCDS librarian, chose to honor the Rochambeau Library, as the school's students are frequent visitors to the library. The David C. Isenberg Family Foundation funded the Isenberg Family Children's Library at Rochambeau.

Stephen F. Schiff, M.D., F.A.C.S.
MOHEL
 CERTIFIED by Jewish Theological Seminary and the Rabbinical Assembly
 CERTIFIED by the American Board of Urology
401-274-6565

providence public library
the library
 The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit.
 Nelson Henderson
 Include Providence Public Library in your will. One of the most enduring acts of your lifetime. To learn more: 401.455.8050 or www.provlib.org



SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

Law, order and a spot of dried blood

Forensics, medicine both benefit from research

ANCIENT COURTS OF law based their judgments upon three categories of information: The past history and probability of both the defendant and the accuser; the weight of independent evidence, such as written contracts or tangible objects; and the sworn testimony of witnesses.

Objective evidence, and its analysis, as we know it today, was uncommonly employed and rarely decisive until recent decades; judgments in courts of law had therefore been determined principally by the word and verity of witnesses.

A witness was defined as one of sound mind who sees or knows by personal presence or perception a happening of critical importance for the rendering of justice. We learn further from Mosaic law

(Numbers: 35, 30) that there must be two or more such witnesses, in essential agreement, before a defendant may be convicted of a capital crime. "But by the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death." (Deut. 17, 6). Thus, giving false witness was a high crime.

In biblical times, witnesses were, more often than not, those who had been aggrieved, who had undergone personal injury, by the crime under evaluation.

The Greek word for witness, "martyrs" has evolved slowly to the current word, "martyr," now meaning one who undergoes suffering rather than renounce his faith in his witnessed declaration.

The elucidation of occasional crimes had rested – and continues to rest – upon the discovery of a brownish stain near the scene of a crime, possibly representing dried blood.

A sequence of investigative questions now inevitably arises: Is it dried blood? If yes, from which vertebrate species was it derived? Human? Or alternatively, animal? If human, does it possess any objective attributes, chemical or physical, to indicate the identity of its human source? In other words, can the source of the blood spot be

narrowed to a reasonable number of suspects by virtue of its biochemical characteristics?

Many of the early 20th century scientists interested in the biochemical composition, physiologic role, immunologic attributes and genetic characteristics of vertebrate blood were Jewish. And three of these research hematologists – one from Austria, one from Russia and

laboratory typing of human blood, solving the enigma of why blood transfusions were perilous ventures rarely if ever attempted in clinical medicine. He discovered, at the turn of the past century, that each human possessed one of four major antigenic types of blood, labeled by him as O, A, B and AB. Further, these blood types were inherited from one's parents in a Mendelian pattern. These far-reaching investigations explained why certain blood specimens were perceived by the immune systems of transfusion recipients as containing a foreign protein and thus allowing the recipient's system to destroy the donated blood leading, often, to a hematologic tragedy.

The first safe transfusion of blood, employing the Landsteiner tests (and thus ensuring transfusional compatibility) was at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York in 1907.

Landsteiner moved to the United States in 1919 and established his research laboratory at the Rockefeller Institute in New York. In 1937, he and a young investigative associate, Alexander Weiner, M.D. sought to further identify the proteins linked to human red blood cells. Their investigations brought them to the blood of Rhesus monkeys where

they discovered a unique protein that they called the Rh factor. Weiner then went on to characterize the genetics of the Rh protein demonstrating it existed in 85 percent of humans. Philip Levine carried the Rh finding yet further, showing that it was the basis for a generally fatal disease of infancy called erythroblastosis fetalis or Rh factor incompatibility. And Weiner then devised the life-saving exchange transfusion for the disease.

Weiner, working in Brooklyn, and Levine, working in New Jersey, then broadly expanded the field of red blood cell immunogenesis, furthering the understanding of a wide range of diseases causing various forms of anemia. Independently, Wiener created a laboratory in Brooklyn specifically to aid the police.

From a forensic point of view, the recognition of the existence of numerous variant blood cell proteins, amenable to relatively simple laboratory recognition, now allows a police laboratory to identify a dried spot as human blood of a specific sub-type thus singling out (or excluding) a specific human as the source of the spilled blood.

Stanley M. Aronson, M.D. is dean of medicine emeritus at Brown University Medical School. Contact him at smamd@cox.net.



Dr. Stanley Aronson

"The elucidation of occasional crimes continues to rest upon the discovery of a brownish stain near the scene of a crime, possibly representing dried blood."

one from Brooklyn – eventually came together in joint research endeavors at the Rockefeller Institute in New York City to further the global understanding of the constituents of blood.

The greatest advance in understanding the complexities of this biological fluid called blood stems from the monumental studies of a shy physician from Vienna named Karl Landsteiner, MD (1868 – 1943). Landsteiner devised a system for the reliable and rapid

REMEMBER THE PAST

From the Archives of the R.I. Jewish Historical Association

Bella Gorin Banks: A woman of courage and compassion

A daughter's remembrances

BY ZELDA BANKS FELDMAN
Special to The Voice & Herald

BELLA WAS BORN in 1890 in Kowel, Poland. Although lacking in formal education, she had native intelligence and natural talent. Since girls were not sent to "cheder," she would stand outside the window of the local religious school and learned to read prayer book Hebrew. She also became a master seamstress. At age 11, she went to the homes of families who wanted her to sew custom made clothes.

Eight years later, Bella married Peretz Boim, a soldier in the czar's army. She described him as very handsome in his uniform. A year later, their son Abraham was born.

Peretz left for the United States in 1910. The family was reunited in Providence in 1921. Peretz was, by then, Peter Banks, and the owner of a men's shoe store. Another son Hyman and then a daughter (me) rounded out the family.

Although they never learned to read English, Peter and Bella insisted that only English be spoken in the house. My brother Hyman had to learn Yiddish so that he could write them when he was drafted.

As soon as she was able, Bella purchased a sewing machine. In addition to caring for her family and working in the store, she used



R.I. Jewish Historical Association
Bella Gorin Banks

her talents to sew most of our clothes, slip-covers, duvets, curtains and window shades. We were always renters, and wherever we lived, the flat was meticulously maintained and beautifully decorated. Wherever we lived, our neighbors became family, and Bella was known as "Mama Banks" to children other than her own.

to send to their family members and was a friendly visitor at the Jewish Home. Wherever she went, she took a streetcar or a bus. She never drove a car.

Bella knew how to embroider from an early age. Later in life, she taught herself how to crewel, needlepoint and crochet. She never used a pattern but could visualize what

"Peter and Bella insisted that only English be spoken in the house. Hyman had to learn Yiddish so he could write them when he was drafted."

Bella was a quiet but effective volunteer, whether in the Jewish community through Pioneer Women, Hadassah, The Miriam Hospital, the Jewish Home, or in the wider community. She was honored in 1944 by the American Red Cross for five years of service making surgical dressings. She helped make costumes for school plays at the Workmen's Circle School where I learned Yiddish, made dressing pads for cancer patients, went to the prisons to write letters in Yiddish for Jewish inmates

she wanted to do. Many of these skills she mastered in her 90s, when she would go to the day care at the Jewish Home to make things for "the old people."

Bella and Peter never saw any of the members of their families after they came to the U.S. With the exception of one niece, all perished in the Holocaust. Their greatest loss within their American family was that of Staff Sgt. Hyman Louis Banks, their son, killed in Germany in 1944.

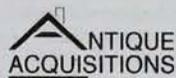
Bella was a widow for 30 years. She was a great inspiration to her four grandchildren, especially to my two sons, Howard and Peter, whom she considered "hers."

Bella died two weeks after her 97th birthday.

Zelda Banks Feldman, a resident of Cranston, wrote this piece for Mother's Day for The Jewish Voice & Herald.

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD Business and Professional Directory

ANTIQUES



STU ALTMAN
401-331-SOLD (7653)

DOWNSIZING ? FORECLOSING ? MOVING ?

BUYING:

ADVERTISING, BOOKS, CLOCKS, FOUNTAIN PENS, GLASS LAMPS, LIGHTERS, MILITARY, PAINTINGS, PAPER, PHOTOS, POTTERY, RADIOS, SILVER, SPORTS, TOYS, WATCHES, ETC.

BUSINESS BROKERS



Vested Business Brokers
THE BUY-SELL PROFESSIONALS

DAVID COHEN - New England Managing Director

CONFIDENTIAL - NO FEE UNLESS SUCCESSFUL
CALL TODAY FOR A FREE VALUATION

www.vestedbb.com
phone: 508-863-9768

dcohen@vestedbb.com
fax: 401-293-0029

GENERAL CONTRACTING

WILLIAM HIRSCHON Cell (401) 996-1312
Fax (401) 421-6254

BUILT-RITE CONSTRUCTION

General Contracting

All Types of Home Remodeling & Repair
Kitchens & Bathrooms
New Construction

RI Reg# 30842
Insured
Quality Service
Satisfaction Guaranteed

BAR/BAR MITZVAH/WEDDINGS



WHISPERING
PINES
CONFERENCE
CENTER

University of Rhode Island
W. Alton Jones Campus
West Greenwich, RI

(401) 397-3361 ext. 6056
www.uri.edu/ajc/wpines

The natural beauty of Whispering Pines provides an intimate setting for a ceremony and reception for as many as 180

COINS

WE BUY COINS & JEWELRY



WE BUY & SELL RARE COINS,
BULLION & GOLD JEWELRY

- GOLD COINS
- RARE COINS
- CURRENCY STAMPS
- GOLD JEWELRY & WATCHES
- ANTIQUES, STERLING SILVER
- COINS & BARS
- US AND FOREIGN
- PCGS-NGC authorized

BEST PRICES

NOW AVAILABLE
Eagle Silver Dollars,
Gold Coin, & Estate
Jewelry and Silver,
Proof Sets, Coin &
Stamp Albums

PODRAT COIN EXCHANGE, INC.

Serving banks, attorneys, estates and the public for over 40 years.

769 Hope St., Providence
SAME LOCATION SINCE 1969 - LC 8041

401-861-7640

HOME IMPROVEMENT

The Largest Bath
Showroom in Rhode Island
Style at Discounted Prices®

Fall River, MA
1-508-675-7433

Plainville, MA
1-508-843-1300

Hyannis, MA
1-508-775-4115



1 FREEWAY DRIVE
CRANSTON, RI
401-467-0200
800-838-1119

bathsplasshowroom.com



COMPUTER REPAIR & SERVICE



EMERGENCY SERVICE

Networks • Installation • Repair
Network Video Surveillance
Virus/Spyware Removal
Macintosh Repair
On-Site Service • Remote Support



Call Eric Shorr 331-0196
Toll Free 800-782-3988

SONICWALL Microsoft

110 Jefferson Blvd., Suite C • Warwick, RI • www.pctrouble.com

**Cornerstone
Restoration, Inc**

Mason Contractor

Chimney repair, stairs, walkways,
waterproofing patios, cement work,
pressure washing.
New construction & repair work.
Quality Workmanship/Insured

Bradford M. Doyle
Office: 401-247-9070
RI License # 18262

3 Palisade Lane
Barrington, RI 02806
cornerstonerestoration@cox.net

Chuppah Rental

Local delivery
and set-up

Ready to Decorate

rentachuppah@gmail.com

401-728-3528



CPA



Larry B. Parness

Tax Preparation • Financial Planning
Business Consultant

401-454-0900 • parness@ix.netcom.com

128 Dorrance St. • Suite 520 • Providence, RI 02903

You've known me for your taxes...
Now see me for the rest of your financial story.

ADVERTISE

in The Jewish Voice & Herald
You'll be glad you did.

Contact TRICIA STEARLY

401-421-4111, ext. 160

tstearly@jfri.org

FOR BUSINESS DIRECTORY, WEB AND DISPLAY ADVERTISING CONTACT:

TRICIA STEARLY: 401-421-4111, ext. 160 - tstearly@jfri.org

READ US ON-LINE WWW.JVHRI.ORG

www.jvhri.org

HAPPINESS: Is good for you

From Page 22

ting your heart rate up. And take the dog!

- Gardening is a great workout. And, planting vegetables and fruits offers fresh produce for a minimal dollar investment – so it's both healthy and cost-effective.

- Brew sun tea at home, it's very good for you, and gets you away from sweetened, carbonated drinks.

- Good health is the best beauty tip. Get plenty of sleep. Relax! Everyone over-schedules themselves and their kids. Hang out in your yard in the sun with a lemonade. Kick off your shoes. Read a book or the paper, have a cookout.

- Your skin will show what you eat. I lost 55 pounds in eight months by eating plenty of grains, salads and fruits. I stay away from white foods and stick with whole

wheat.

- Don't do what I did several years ago. While working 80 hours a week on a political campaign, I lived – literally – on Diet Coke and miniature candy bars. While I lost eight pounds in 10 weeks, I did a real number on my digestive system!

- I stretch all my large muscle groups shortly after I wake up. Gentle stretching each morning helps get your blood moving, and that better nourishes your entire body, as red blood cells carry food and oxygen to the organs and tissues.

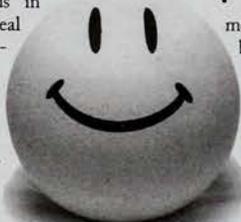
- Fish is full of protein and rich in Omega 3 oils. Eat fish three times a week.

- Engage in brain games like Sudoku or crossword puzzles, a hobby or other non-work activity. You will use different parts of your brain, which will help keep it alive and active.

- Use good body mechanics. When lift, bend at the hips, not at the waist. This helps distribute the weight more evenly through your muscles and not just on your back muscles.

- Learn proper ergonomic mechanics when keyboarding and doing other repetitive work. Take a break by walking or stretching for every hour you sit and work.

- Smile! Happiness shows on your face.



CLASSIFIEDS

POSITION WANTED: CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT/ NANNY

Certified nursing assistant/nanny; private for your loved ones, 30 years of caring, CPR

certified. Dependable, with excellent references. Nancy, 401-265-5661.

NEEDED:

Pleasant woman with air-conditioned, fragrance-free car to take Warwick woman on errands and to appointments. Call 681-4268 between 11 am. and 8 p.m.

CONTACT TRICIA STEARLY
401-421-4111, EXT. 160
TSTEARLY@JFRI.ORG
TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

Business and Professional Directory

HOME IMPROVEMENT



MEDINA
Painting & Remodeling Co., Inc.
 INTERIOR & EXTERIOR

For All Your Painting & Restoration Needs!
 Specializing in water problems, repairing roofs, gutters and basements
 More than 20 years experience in Historical Homes

Fully Insured R.I. Reg. #7320

Call Al Medina 401.438.8771

MEDICAL



ORTHOPEDIC GROUP, INC.

WWW.OGI-DOCS.COM
 Toll Free 800-725-3037

588 Pawtucket Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860
 (401) 722-2400 • FAX: (401) 728-3920

16 Hillside Avenue, Attleboro, MA 02703
 (508) 222-4450 • FAX: (508) 226-6465

6 Blackstone Valley Place, Suite 530, Lincoln, RI 02865
 (401) 334-3700 • FAX: (401) 334-3414

PLUMBING & HEATING

F.G. LEES & SON
PLUMBING & HEATING
 INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL

161 ADMIRAL STREET
 PROVIDENCE, RI 02908
 401-421-1358

Neal Lund David Lund

OPTICAL SHOP

Spino's Eyeglass Gallery
 LUCIEN M. SPINO, Registered Optician

145 Wayland Avenue
 Providence, RI 02906

Phone: 831-7353

Hours: Mon - Fri: 9-6, Sat: 9-2
 Email: Spinos.eyeglass.gallery@gmail.com

Prescriptions filled ... Designer eyewear ... Sunglasses

Established in 1979

R, K & Son

Plumbing & Heating, LLC

PLUMBING REPAIRS • WATER HEATERS • SUMP PUMPS

SEWER DRAIN CLEANING

SPRINKLER SYSTEMS: Installed • Serviced • Repaired

401-265-9752 • 401-233-4882

Fully Insured
 Licensed #8269



Working in the
 Jewish Community
 Since 1990

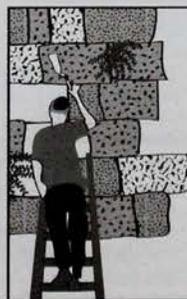
HORÁCIO PIRES
PAINTING
 INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
 FREE ESTIMATES

For A Better Job Call
 H. PIRES

(401) 438-1072
 Phone and Fax Number

Quality Makes the Difference

SERVICES FOR SENIORS



It's a Mitzvah to
RENT-A-MENSCH

Specializing in Service for Seniors
 to keep you safe and secure in your home.

- Property Maintenance and Management
- Safety Inspections and Upgrades to:
 - minimize fall risks
 - maximize convenience, efficiency and safety
- Improve security
- Driving and other services available

Wayne Rosenberg
 Tel: 401-273-4642 • Mobile: 617-633-6062
 www.rentamensch.us R.I. Reg. #29694

Interior • Exterior
FREE Estimates within
24 Hours

QUALITY PAINTING CO.
 Paul Abreu
 401-252-9577

- Professional & Reliable
 - Licensed & Insured
 - Excellent References
- Falo Português — REG# 23444

Better Than a Billboard
FOR LESS THAN \$26 PER ISSUE, YOUR
BUSINESS CARD CAN BE HERE!

Call or e-mail today!

• Tricia Stearly •
401-421-4111, ext 160
tstearly@jfri.org

D'VAR TORAH

Our time in the desert represents a remarkable metaphor

*Numbers: 1.1-4.20
Parashat Bamidbar
offers us direction for
a better lif*

BY CANTOR RICHARD PERLMAN
Special to The Voice & Herald

This Shabbat we begin reading the Fourth Book of the Five Books of Moshe, known by the Hebrew name, Bamidbar, literally means, "In the Desert." This is a great description of the 40 years that the Children of Israel wandered in the desert, as that is what the Fourth Book describes.

More importantly, the period the Children of Israel spent in the desert sets the tone, and represents

a remarkable metaphor for most of our very rich Jewish history. How can we forget that we spent almost 2,000 years as a Jewish people forced to suffer the homeless wandering from place to place? How can we forget the Inquisition, the pogroms, the Holocaust? It was not until 1948, when the Jewish state of Israel was created and recognized by the world that our people were finally allowed to stop our aimless wandering. And now, for the first time in 2,000 years, most of the world's Jewish people live in Israel once again. Our people are centered in Israel, and those of us who choose to remain in the wilderness will see our Judaism change in ways none of us can predict.

As we study Bamidbar this Shabbat, let us consider that the root of the word from which

"midbar" comes is "dabar," which means "leader" or "shepherd." This is an extremely powerful word, as there were few respected occupations that came before shepherding. Being a leader or a shepherd in the desert is significant, as the desert is actually the most important place for a flock of sheep to be led by a shepherd. After all, sheep do not need much shepherding when there is plenty of land that is covered with rich vegetation. But in the desert, a shepherd has to lead the sheep from oasis to oasis so that they can find enough food and water to sustain life.

Interestingly, the root not only means "leader" or "shepherd," but also means "word." Perhaps "shepherd" and "word" are both derived from this root because a shepherd leads the flock along by using specific sounds and words.

Similarly, a successful leader of people must also have the ability to lead through the use of words. To be most effective, a leader of people has to be able to inspire and lead through the use of verbal messages that communicate ideas and directions that are required for the people to understand and act.

In all of history, there are "Ten Words" that have changed the world. These most important "Ten Words," known as the "Aseret Ha-Dibrot," or the "Ten Commandments" were given by the leader of all leaders to the children of Israel as they wandered through the Sinai. Those "Ten Words" have lived on all these millennia and are the basis of all the laws used by most of the Western world to this very day.

Next week is Shavu'ot, the festival when God gave the words of

Torah to our Jewish people. I hope and pray as a leader in our community that together, we can see through these difficult times as many people once again are aimlessly wandering looking for direction. We must learn, through our very rich Jewish history, through lessons taught to us in the budding and beautiful blossoms of God's "words" the path which will bring us together as one, to flourish as a cohesive people once again.

Cantor Richard Perlman, the spiritual leader at Temple Am David in Warwick, is also a member of the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis. Contact him at cantorrick@templeamdauid.org.

TORAH TRIVIA

The Book of Numbers

*Sacrificial offerings
abound in Torah's
fourth book*

BY JUDITH ROMNEY WEGNER
Special to The Voice & Herald

ON MAY 15, we begin reading in synagogue the fourth book of the Torah. Its Hebrew name, *B'midbar Sinai*, "In the wilderness of Sinai" (from its opening verse) is customarily abbreviated to *Ba-Midbar*, meaning simply "In the wilderness."

The English title "Numbers" translates Greek and Latin names given to the book by the early Church (Arithmoi in the Septuagint, Numeri in the Vulgate) because it opens with an Israelite census conducted in the second year of the wandering in the wilderness. This includes an amazing assertion (Num. 1:46) that the Israelites numbered 603,550 adult males – not counting women and children! Modern scholarship notes the implausibility of so large a group wandering in a barren desert for 40 years, sustained by an occasional oasis; nor has a single archeological trace of this "Israelite Odyssey" ever been found. So "600,000" may well be an exaggeration characteristic of myths of origin.

The early Church Fathers who divided the Torah into books, chapters and verses separated Numbers from Leviticus (even though virtually every priestly reference to Levites occurs in Numbers, not Leviticus!). Moreover, most of Numbers simply gives us more of the interminable priestly rules and regulations that commenced at Exodus 25 and contin-

ued throughout Leviticus.

Lists are a prominent stylistic feature of the priestly text, which likes to classify things in an orderly fashion. The census (Numbers chs. 1-2) reflects the importance assigned by the priesthood to sorting out Israelite bloodlines. Genealogies are listed for all 12 tribes – even though when the Torah was redacted in the 5th century BCE only the southern tribes of Levi and Judah remained – the northern tribes having been "lost" three centuries earlier following the Assyrian invasion in 722 BCE.

Another reflection of priestly concern with the bloodline is the "trial by ordeal" (Num. 5:10-31) ordained for a wife suspected by her husband of adultery – which she may or may not have committed (see Num 5:14). Notably, this is the only example of trial by ordeal found anywhere in the Hebrew Bible – just as the Torah's only instance of punishment by mutilation likewise victimizes a woman (Deut. 25:11-12).

Other topics treated in Numbers include more of the sacrificial rules we saw in Leviticus 23; Numbers 28 amplifies instructions about sacrifices to be offered in the Temple on weekdays, Sabbaths, New Moons and festivals. Sacrifices could be brought for other reasons also; and the priests' "salaries" comprised specified portions of the offerings brought by individual Israelites. This presumably explains why the rules explicitly permit women as well as men to become nazirites, who were required to bring an offering at the end of their nazirite term. Numbers 6:1-21 specifies the ascetic requirements of a nazir or nezirah (abstention from wine and from cutting the hair) and encourages nazirites to pledge more than the minimum offering (6:21)!

(Nazirite, by the way, should not be confused with Nazarene, which comes from a completely different Hebrew root meaning "inhabitant of Nazareth.")

The Redactor intersperses priestly rules in Numbers with many narratives culled from other, sometimes conflicting, biblical traditions. Three important stories are: (1) the excursion of the Twelve Spies to explore the Promised Land (chs.13-14) – which reflects political tensions between the tribes of Levi and Judah; (2) the Korahite rebellion (ch. 16) – which reflects political rivalry between the priesthood and the lay leadership, as well as between two branches of Levites who strove for control of the priesthood; and (3) the fascinating story (chs. 22-24) of the pagan prophet Balaam – one of very few characters in the Torah whose historicity is actually corroborated in non-biblical sources. Hired by Balak, King of Moab to curse the Israelites, Balaam blesses them instead – in a famous passage later incorporated into the liturgy for recitation on entering the synagogue: *Mah tovu obaleykha Ya'agov, mishk'noteykha Yisra'el!* "How lovely are your tents, O Jacob, your dwellings, O Israel!" (Num. 24:5).

The Book of Numbers concludes with the death of Aaron (Num. 33:38) followed by the encampment of the Israelites beyond the Jordan (ch. 33:49), waiting to enter the Promised Land. Chapter 34:1-12 defines the boundaries of what rabbinic Judaism would later identify as *Eretz Yisra'el*.

The traditional account of the death of Moses was postponed by the Redactor and appended instead to the Torah's fifth book, Deuteronomy, to be discussed in the final installment of the present series.

Judith Romney Wegner is a lawyer and a retired professor of Judaic Studies; she has taught at many colleges and universities in New England, including Williams, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Smith, Brandeis and Connecticut College. In the annual cycle of weekly Torah read-

ings, the reading of the Book of Numbers begins on May 15. The Voice & Herald will feature one more piece by Prof. Wegner, discussing the fifth and last book of the Torah that remains to be read during 5770.

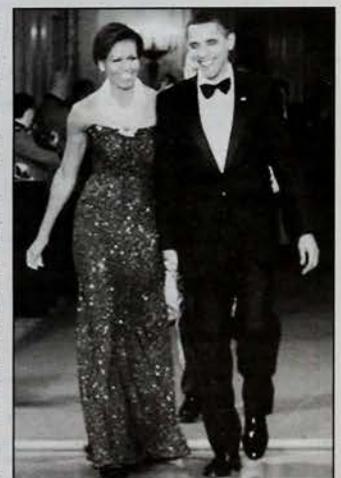
Jewish Heritage Month reception

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Thursday, May 27, President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama will host the first ever White House reception in honor of Jewish American Heritage Month.

The reception serves as an opportunity to highlight and celebrate the range and depth of Jewish American heritage and contributions to American culture, with guests representing the many walks of life that have helped weave the fabric of American history. Invitees include a range of community leaders and prominent Jewish Americans from Olympians and professional athletes to members of Congress, business leaders, scholars, military veterans, and astronauts.

Since taking office, President Obama has continued the tradition started under the previous Administration of proclaiming May Jewish American Heritage Month.

In this year's proclamation, President Obama said, "The Jewish American story is an essential chapter of the American narrative. It is one of refuge from persecu-



tion; of commitment to service, faith, democracy, and peace; and of tireless work to achieve success. As leaders in every facet of American life – from athletics, entertainment, and the arts to academia, business, government, and our armed forces – Jewish Americans have shaped our nation and helped steer the course of our history. We are a stronger and more hopeful country because so many Jews from around the world have made America their home.

OBITUARIES

Rose (Silk) Aidinoff, 97

MIDDLETOWN – Rose (Silk) Aidinoff, formerly of Greene Lane in Newport, died on May 1. The daughter of Russian immigrants, she was born on Dec. 12, 1912, in Fall River, Mass.

She died on the 25th anniversary of the death of her husband, Max, who died in 1985.

Since moving from her home of 70 years in Newport, she has resided at Blenheim-Newport in Middletown. She was known to many throughout the community as the co-owner of Aidinoff's Wine & Spirits for 45 years until the business was sold.

She leaves her two daughters and her son-in-law, Elaine Edelberg, of Farmington, Conn., and Cheryl and Kenneth Chernack of Natick, Mass. She also leaves four grandchildren, Arthur Zieky, Linda Ahern, Pamela Messing, and Elizabeth Chernack, and five great-grandsons, Max, Ben, and Sam Ahern, and Jack and Joshua Messing.

She lived an active life and kept her mind sharp, enjoying travel, reading, writing and knitting; she was an accomplished bridge player. Her favorite times were shared with family and friends. She loved her summers at her cottage at the shore. She held a lifetime membership in The Newport Preservation Society, and was involved with the Newport Havurah.

Contributions may be made to The Newport Preservation Society, 424 Bellevue Ave., Newport, RI 02840.

Ronald H. Beck, 69

COVENTRY – Ronald H. Beck died on May 9. He was the husband of Joan (Skidds) Beck for 47 years.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Max and Lillian (Abrams) Beck, he had lived in Coventry for 45 years. He was the co-owner of G & B Automotive in West Warwick, a submarine mechanic for Electric Boat and, most recently, worked for BJ's. He was a graduate of Central High School, Class of '58 and a member of Congregation Beth Shalom.

He was the father of Joseph F. Beck, of Cranston, and Melissa L. Kearney and her husband Steven, of Hope; and the grandfather of

Michael and Victoria Beck and Madison, Gavin and Hayden Kearney.

Contributions may be made to Congregation Beth Shalom, 275 Camp St., Providence, RI 02906.

Larry E. Morse, 57

JOHNSTON – Larry E. Morse died on April 30. He was the husband of Lori (Grasso) Morse. Born in Providence, a son of the late Stanley "Babe" and Marilyn (Kaufman) Morse, he had lived in Johnston for five years, previously residing in Exeter.

He had founded several successful businesses, including Advanced Marketing, Inc.; Docu-Print, Inc.; Morse Graphics and The Larry Morse Group (Spencer Cole Realty). In addition to being a successful entrepreneur, he was active in the small business community. He was elected as a delegate to the 1995 White House Conference on Small Business, co-founded the Rhode Island Small Business Alliance and served as its chairman until 2007. In 1997, he was appointed as the first Rhode Island representative on the National Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board for the New England region. In 2002, he received the Rhode Island SBA District Director's Award.

An avid hobbyist, he enjoyed life as a small aircraft pilot, fisherman, boat captain, motorcycle enthusiast and falconer.

He was the father of Benjamin Morse and his wife Tara, of Island Park, N.Y. and Jessica Northup and her husband Benjamin, of Putnam, Conn.; the grandfather of Benjamin "Cole" and Spencer Northup; and the brother of Paul Morse, of James-town and Debra Rosen, of Boca Raton, Fla. He was the grandson of Anna Kaufman, of Warwick; and the stepfather of Kevin, Jonathan and Kayla Flynn, all of Johnston.

Contributions may be made to Home & Hospice Care of RI, 1085 North Main St., Providence, RI 02904.

Estelle E. Mossberg, 89

WARWICK – Estelle E. Mossberg died on May 6. She was the wife of the late Alfred Mossberg. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late

David and Mamie (Schendel) Deluty, she had lived in Warwick since 1954.

A 1939 graduate of Hope High School, she was a manager for Popular Club Plan in Cranston for 20 years, retiring 25 years ago. She was a founding member of Temple Am David and its Sisterhood, a member of Cranston Senior Guild and the former Majestic Guild and a life member of Hadassah. She was the mother of David Mossberg of Warwick, with whom she made her home, and Sheldon Mossberg, Esq. and his wife Marjorie Golden-Mossberg of Columbia, Conn.; the sister of the late Hilda Goodman and Sally Lowe; and the grandmother of Benjamin and Sarah. She also leaves many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Contributions may be made to Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick, RI 02888.

Dr. Reevean J. Novogrod, 93

PROVIDENCE – Reevean J. Novogrod, a former resident of Providence and Bristol, died on May 10. Born in Providence, he was a son of the late David and Lillian (Asher) Novogrod.

He earned a B.A. from Brown University and a Ph.D. from New York University. He was a professor of criminal justice at Long Island University, Brooklyn, N.Y., and, after retirement, he taught in a peer-led adult education program at Brown University.

The brother of the late Esther Weisberg, he is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Tobia (Toby) Siegel, 99

WARWICK – Tobia (Toby) Siegel, died on May 2. A native New Yorker, she lived at Shalom Apartments from 1984 to 2008.

She is survived by her son Sylvan (Kenny) Siegel and his wife Gail. She also leaves her grandchildren, Beth and Chip Mosher and Lara Siegel.

She will be put to rest next to her late husband, Bernard Siegel, at New Montefiore Cemetery in New York.

Contributions may be made to Chabad of West Bay, in Warwick, or Cedar Crest Nursing Home, in Cranston

Stanley F. Turco, 85

CRANSTON – Stanley F. Turco died on May 11. He was the husband of Adele (Paul) Turco. They were married for 60 years.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Abraham and Rose (Sheiner) Turco, he had lived in Cranston for 55 years. He was owner of Turco Associates for 50 years.

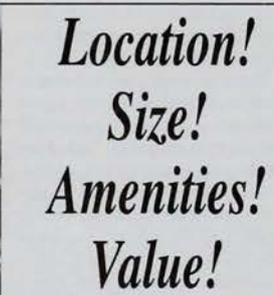
He was a World War II Navy veteran, serving in the Pacific. A former member of Temple Sinai, he was a member of the Jewish Committee on Scouting, past president of the Narragansett Council on

Scouting, past president of the Cranston Rotary Club and a member of the Over-the-Hill Gang.

He was the father of Howard Turco and his wife Barbara, of Warwick; Bruce Turco and his wife Stephanie, of Cranston; and Judie Desmarais and her husband Emil, of Warwick; and the grandfather of Nicholas, James, Jacob, Michael and Christopher.

Contributions may be made to Boy Scouts of America, P.O. Box 14777, 10 Risho Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914.

Location! Size! Amenities! Value!

Convenient Location
(Wayland Square)

Spacious, One-level living
(1,518 - 2,400 SF)

Only 11 distinctive residences
Terraces & Balconies

Underground Garage
Heated

\$645,000 - \$1,150,000

The Residences at
77 SOUTH ANGELL
Model Open 11-3 Wed. - Fri.; Sat. & Sun. 12-2 & by appointment
401.421.7772 • 77southangell.com

Continuing our century-old tradition of service to the Jewish community.

Locally operated to meet your personal needs with compassion and sensitivity

SUGARMAN SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL

458 Hope Street, Providence, RI
(401) 331-8094 • 1-800-447-1267
Fax: (401) 331-9379

Ira Jay Fleisher, Funeral Director
Jill E. Sugarman, Funeral Director

Member of the Jewish Funeral Directors of America
Certified by the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis

Call for a free preneed planning guide.



www.jvhri.org

The Only Family-Owned Jewish Funeral Home in Rhode Island



Michael D. Smith
Licensed Funeral Director



Adam G. Smith
Licensed Funeral Director

1100 New London Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920
Tel.: 463-7771
Toll-free: 1-877-463-7771

Certified by the R.I. Board of Rabbis

Pre-Need Programs Available
Wheelchair Accessible

MARCH: Is a transformative, life-changing event

From Page 1

the means of learning go in a new direction? What happens when teens are brought into the very camps in which many were beat down and murdered? When they're brought face-to-face with the blue stains of the gas chambers while arm-in-arm with a survivor of the concentration camps? What happens to such a learning experience when you are able to see and experience the atrocities of the camps and the war? In schools, students are taught to recognize what has happened. On March of the Living, they are brought not only to a realization, but also to a state of spirituality, gratification, and self-empowerment.

The two-week trip included a week in Poland where we visited such sites as Warsaw, Krakow, old temples that remained, and seven death and concentration camps. During our week in Israel, we visited synagogues in Jerusalem and Safed, and we went to the Dead Sea, Mt. Masada, and the Kotel.

In each country, we participated in the March of the Living; in Poland, we marched with around 10,000 other Jewish teens, staff and Holocaust survivors, from Auschwitz to Birkenau. In Israel, we marched with about 4,000 other Jewish teens from the Safra Square to the Kotel.

Simply put, there is no way to describe the sense of unity, freedom, and belonging that encompassed us all during the marches and as we continued our journey.

From linking arms as we marched into Birkenau Auschwitz,



MEAH POLLOCK, left, Micah Moskoff and Chloe Edmonds, all of Temple Beth-El in Providence, wait in the Warsaw airport to board their flight to Israel.

to singing "Hatikvah," the Israeli national anthem, while the plane landed in Israel, the New England

March of the Living group used our two weeks during this trip to bond, and be joined together.

The Nazis tried to take us apart. They tried to take our religion, our freedom and our spirit, but through this year's March of the Living, all of us were able to prove they had not succeeded in destroying our religion, our spirits or us.

We all went into this journey for

different reasons, but left with the same sense of friendship, belonging, inspiration and responsibility.

of Israel, we now have a place to go, and so we will never forget to be proud of who we are.

"When you see 10,000 other Jewish teens and survivors marching into Birkenau with Israeli flags strapped to their backs, you cannot help but be proud, too. Never forget. Never keep silent."

We are Jews, and I am proud of that, and when you see 10,000 other Jewish teens and survivors marching into Birkenau with Israeli flags strapped to

their backs, you cannot help but be proud, too. Never forget. Never stop speaking. Never keep silent.

A resident of East Greenwich, Chloe Edmonds is in the 12th grade at Temple Beth-El's Religious School.

LOOKING: To the future offers exciting opportunities

From Page 19

The baseline to address all these obstacles, he said, is trust. "Don't tell me, show me, that you are trustworthy."

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

After Doris Feinberg called the meeting to order, students from the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS) choir led the audience of some 140 people in singing "The Star Spangled Banner" and "Hatikvah."

Rabbi Elyse Wechterman of Congregation Agudas Achim in Attleboro, Mass., gave the D'var Torah, and former JFRI Board President Herb Stern installed the officers and board members of both the Wom-

en's Alliance and the JFRI.

Education, leadership and service awards were given to several community members for their exceptional contributions. (See the story on page 9 for more on the award recipients.)

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

Carrying on the theme of looking back and looking ahead, Feinberg reminded audience members of some community milestones, including caring for our elderly - first at the Jewish Home for the Aged and more recently, through Jewish Elder Care of Rhode Island, nursing home programs, Tamarisk and Meals on Wheels; constructing the JCCRI building; providing social services to

those in need and educating children and adults. Looking ahead, Feinberg described a community with seamlessly delivered services based on defined communal priorities with less duplication more efficiency and greater impact.

The new allocations process, with its focus on meeting communal needs, along with agencies consolidating and integrating, will help ensure the success of this new community model, said Feinberg.

Feinberg recognized the JFRI leaders who came before her and those agency leaders - both lay and professional staff - who will guide their agencies in the coming months and years.

Ed Feldstein, on behalf of his law

firm, Roberts, Carroll, Feldstein & Pierce, accepted a plaque of appreciation from the JFRI for their many hours of pro bono legal advice the firm has provided the agency. And, Nechama staff and volunteers, as well as community volunteers, were recognized with citations from Governor Carcieri for their extraordinary dedication and commitment in helping flood-ravaged victims - Jewish and Gentile.

CEO'S REPORT

The community is making significant progress in achieving many of the goals identified in the strategic plan, said Silberfarb. He pointed to the success of Shalom RI, which has engaged over 1,000 Rhode Islanders, particularly young families and

By Max Feldman

Weary, through the fire and sand, we dragged our naked feet.

To bitter skies we cast our eyes, in search of something sweet.

The promised land was in our sight and gleaming through barbed wires,

But Nazi sticks and solid bricks did cut our last desires.

Where grapes don't grow, a wine was made - the spilt blood of our brothers.

The Germans filled 'til their glasses spilled, and wasted all the others.

Today the rain has gone away, and though the ground looks dry,

The souls below still scream in pain, and starving children cry.

Can you remorse for them today as folks had done before?

For we must vow not to waste our tears, at the gates of Sobibor.

Max Feldman, a Connecticut resident, was on the New England March of the Living trip.

Anniversaries-Menopause Birthdays-House Warming



Personalized Rituals

Judith Kaye

(401) 751-8665

www.PersonalizedRituals.com

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs Retirement Empty Nest-Adoptions

RESOLVE BAD CREDIT!

BANKRUPT? Need a Loan?

- We offer loans up to **\$500,000**
- We help you re-establish your credit
- We are open 24 hours

1-877-367-0130

www.jvhri.org

newcomers. Silberfarb also noted the success of the Young Leadership Network in engaging young adults and the Jewish Volunteer Connection and the Board Leadership Institute for helping to promote volunteerism and develop leaders. Silberfarb acknowledged that the campaign is down 15 percent \$600,000, from 2008. While placed by the \$80,000 raised locally for relief efforts in Haiti and Chile and to help RI flood victims, he said, "The community's future is tied to the success of the Annual Campaign. The community depends on each of us, and each of us depends on the community. We all need to participate as generously as we can - more generously than we are." The format of the meeting, which reflected a change from past meetings, was the first with a panel of independent speakers. As the meeting ended and the audience retired to the JCCRI lobby for refreshments, it was evident from the buzz that new format was an overwhelming hit. Said one community leader, who confessed to attending more than two dozens annual meetings, "This was, by far, the best JFRI annual meeting I have ever attended."

FLAM: Issues a clarion call for action, not solely prayer

Voice to Reduce Poverty Conference," on May 11 at Roger Williams Park Casino.

Ironically, the 200+ participants represented age, religious and ethnic origin diversity. Religious leaders, physicians, social workers and lawyers were out in full force to learn more about the group's ambitious, yet laudable, goal - reducing poverty by 50 percent within 10 years.

"Do the math," advised Sister Anne Keefe, a Coalition member from St. Michael's Catholic Church in South Providence. "We only have eight years to go. I won't suggest panic, but urgency - urgency is a different matter," she said.

The morning tabletop discussions on sacred texts enabled strangers to bond with one another and, in other cases, old friends to reunite. More similarities than differences exist in sacred texts' commentary about children in poverty - whether the text came from Judaism or Hinduism, Catholicism or Islam. "Healthy, secure and well-educated children represent a brighter future for us all," said one participant.

TOO MANY CHILDREN LIVE IN POVERTY

Some 36,000 children in the state (or 16 percent), live at federal poverty levels (defined as an annual household income of no more than \$17,300 for a family of three), said Maxine Richman, a Coalition co-chair and CRC member. "That is simply unacceptable. We want people to leave here ready to take action."

Elizabeth Burke Bryant and Linda Katz, of Kids Count and The Poverty Institute, respectively, spoke about poverty's impact on children. Noting some areas of progress, they referenced the need to restore programs and funding for children. Although RItE Care, Rhode Island's nationally recognized health care program for uninsured children, provides high quality, low-cost medical and dental care for children, Bryant warned that it is "on the firing line" when budget cuts are discussed. Asked later whether the Coalition has made progress toward its goal, Katz explained that 2009 and 2010 data aren't yet available.

Issuing a clarion call to action that brought the audience to its feet, Rabbi Alan Flam warned those who volunteer, perform acts of loving kindness or pray to avoid complacency. "Our passivity in the public square allows for the passage of laws, the appointment of judges, the enactment of policies that adversely impact every one of us, and will continue to affect us for decades to come."

Flam called for more than acts of loving kindness: "By opening our hands, our hearts and our minds, and by raising our voices in the public square, we have the opportunity to repair the world... a passionate and enlightened world in which justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."

GUBERNATORIAL PANELISTS

And, onto the six white men, who each responded to questions that the

Coalition provided to them last week; Reverend Dr. Donald Anderson, director of the R.I. State Council of Churches, moderated the forum.

The candidates - Democrats: Frank Caprio (current R.I. General Treasurer) and Patrick Lynch (current R.I. Attorney General); Republicans: Victor Moffitt (a former state legislator and businessman) and John Robitaille (he had worked for Governor Carcieri); Independent Lincoln Chafee (a former U.S. Senator); and Moderate Party Ken Block (a business owner) - were asked four questions.

Although each candidate professed support for RItE Care program, Robitaille said, "It's a sad scenario that we have to be here today. Lyndon Baines Johnson declared a War on Poverty more than 40 years ago." He'd like to see RItE Care include more wellness program; access for social services should be streamlined and coordinated. "Children's needs are high on [my] priority list, but there's no appetite for raising taxes," he said.

Rhode Island's economic problems imperil the state's ability to care for its most vulnerable, said Block. If we don't fix our tax and pension problems, and get people back to work, he said, no one will want to move here. Block's comprehensive economic plan calls for the development of high tech jobs, akin to what exists in North Carolina's Research Triangle.

Asked how he would keep Rhode Island's poorest children safe and secure, Chafee said, "A budget is the most important policy document," and referenced his experiences in Washington, D.C., when he successfully worked with members of his own party, even as he voted against the party's initiatives. As governor, Chafee said he'd focus on education, childcare assistance (especially for children of single mothers) and tax credits for distressed communities.

For Moffitt, God comes before family, business and politics; he called unemployment our state's biggest problem. His plan to create new jobs is two-fold: Reduce the sales tax to compete with Massachusetts and Connecticut and grow the retail job market; and create the world's biggest aquarium that, he believes, would lead to the need for new hotels and restaurants, and serve as a vital tourist attraction.

As treasurer, Caprio said that he's saved millions of dollars by focusing on priorities, strategic plans and results. Just think, he asked, what monies we'd have for social services if every state agency did that?

Robitaille called the absence of fathers in children's lives the "500 pound gorilla. I don't know if government can solve that problem, but we have to be part of the solution. We have to stop putting band-aids on symptoms."

"The economy and unemployment," said Lynch, "are on everyone's mind. But it's about leadership - who's prepared to stand up [and make tough choices]?" Lynch emphasized the need to "stand up," such as when he took on lead paint companies - the



RABBIS ALAN FLAM, Amy Levin and Peter Stein converse.

only Attorney General in the country, he said, to successfully sue for monetary damages to compensate children affected by lead exposure.

Asked about the achievement gap between urban and suburban students, Moffitt called for regionalizing the 36 school systems into four. We would save on transportation and union contracts, and towns would stop competing for educational dol-

lars, he said.

Caprio, whose wife teaches in an urban school system, said that parents have to be more involved. We have to focus on the students, not the adults, though schools may need to provide resources and assistance to parents.

Both Lynch and Block cited the lack of a fair and equitable state funding formula for education as one of the key stumbling blocks to improv-

ing education. Challenging Moffitt's claim that he was the sole candidate pushing school regionalization, Lynch said he, too, has called for schools to regionalize.

Chafee wants to address the high teen pregnancy rate; he'd also allow undocumented teens to pay in-state, rather than higher out-of-state, tuition to attend schools. Knowing they can't afford the more expensive tuition fees at area colleges, many of these students simply think, "Why bother finishing high school?"

During lunch, Deborah Gist, the state's education commissioner, spoke of the need to make Rhode Island's education system "the best in the country." Our state's Hispanic population has the nation's highest dropout rate, a fact Gist "finds appalling." In the afternoon, participants attended one of three workshops: Legislative advocacy, opportunities for youth, and faith and community partnerships.

For more information about the Coalition, contact Marty Cooper, director of the CRC, at 421-4111, ext. 171 or mcooper@JFRI.org.



One Quality Provider. Two Great Choices.

EPOCH Assisted Living on the East Side and
EPOCH Assisted Living on Blackstone Boulevard . . .
Serving Providence Seniors Since 2000.

In times like these, you want a senior community that has stood the test of time. Only one provider on the East Side has been consistently taking care of Providence area seniors for a decade - EPOCH Senior Living.

With two great communities to choose from, EPOCH offers the full spectrum of healthcare and lifestyle options in one of the most charming and historic neighborhoods of Providence.

Assisted Living • Skilled Nursing • Short-Term Rehabilitation
Memory Care • Respite • On-Site Fitness Center

Call today for more information or to schedule a personal visit.

EPOCH®
ASSISTED LIVING
on the East Side

Next to Eastside Marketplace
One Butler Avenue • Providence, RI
401-275-0682

EPOCH®
ASSISTED LIVING
on Blackstone Boulevard

353 Blackstone Boulevard
Providence, RI
401-273-6565

The Residence of Choice for Seniors
www.epochsl.com

Jerusalem

PROVIDENCE STUDENTS (formerly at the Jewish Community Day School) who now attend the South Area Solomon Schechter Day School (SASSDS) in Norwood, Mass., visited Israel in March on an eighth grade school trip. SASSDS students pose with *The Voice & Herald*, at the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

The students brought a mural, made of 36 tiles, to install at the Ironi Middle School in Haifa. Each tile, wrote parent and mural conceiver Laura Mernoff, was made by a student. When the tiles are fitted together, they complete a passage from Psalm 34: "Who is someone who desires life, and loves many days, that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking lies. Depart from evil, and do good. Seek peace, and pursue it."

None of the tiles broke on their long journey to Israel except tile #18, she wrote. It was easy to fix, though Mernoff had an adventure buying Israeli tile adhesive: The shopkeeper spoke no English and her Hebrew is very limited.

Ironi Middle School students, scheduled to visit the SASSDS later this month, will bring their tile mural to install at the Norwood, Mass. school.



Mother and son in Israel

DYLAN ABRAMS (holding *The Jewish Voice & Herald*) and Betsy Singer Cable are at a site overlooking the Old City in Jerusalem. Singer Cable was visiting her son Dylan in April during his semester of study through the TRY program, the Ramah Jerusalem High School.

FILM: Newly defines 'family'

From Page 16

Avery at the school where Avery was a student and Opper was a teacher. "Avery charmed me immediately," said Opper who responded to questions via email from Mexico where she is working on another documentary. "I wondered what it was like for her to be one of the only African-American students at school. Was she proud to be unique, as her (adoptive) brother Rafi once said about himself? Or was she pressured to be the ambassador of her race at such a tender age?"

"My curiosity only grew when I finally met her family - two white Jewish moms - and Rafi, her Puerto Rican and black brother, and a younger Korean brother," wrote Opper. "As a gay woman who has always been interested in adoption, I saw myself in this family. With so much of America increasingly identifying as multiracial or multicultural, their story was one we needed to hear."

Yet, "Off and Running" (the title refers to Avery's champion track abilities) is neither preachy nor sentimental. And there are no heroes. When their only daughter decides to seek out her birth mother in Texas, Tova and Travis react

with intriguing passivity. Are they really this laissez-faire? When Avery's choice of friends and activities put her on a pathway to trouble, you want these parents to spring into action. But they remain oddly quiescent.

Opper follows Avery's progress with a non-judgmental camera. At times, the intimate observation of the teenager's mistakes is unnerving, yet always riveting. The film's message is simple, sublime and uplifting: Family is family - wherever a child is rooted and loved.

"Off and Running: An American Coming of Age Story" premieres in Rhode Island on Sunday, May 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the Blackstone Valley Visitors' Center, 175 Main St., Pawtucket. Tickets cost \$10. Please call 331-1244 to pay for and reserve your seat.

Monica Collins, a writer and communications consultant does freelance work with Jewish Family Service, has been a media critic for the Boston Herald, TV Guide and USA Today.

Jewish Family Service is a partner agency of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

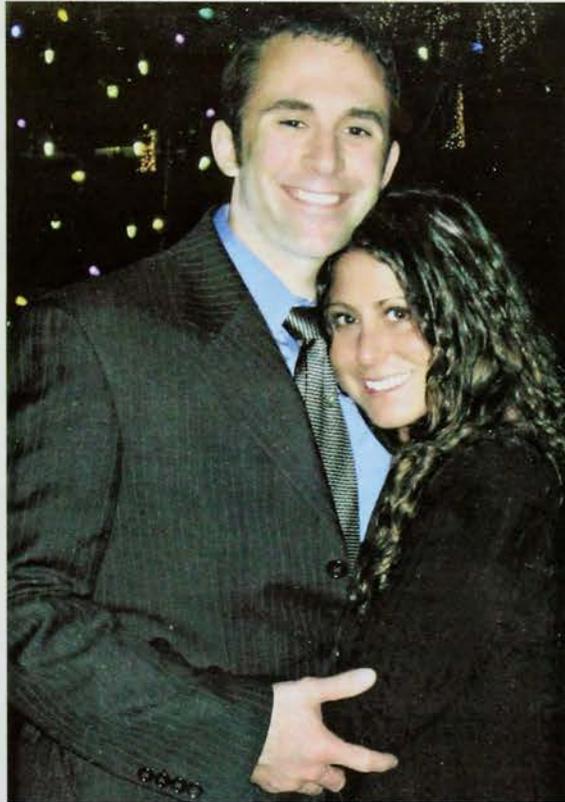
Wedding Announcements



ELIZABETH BENZ and MATHEW HOGBERG

Patrice and Terry Benz, of Cranston, announce the forthcoming wedding of their daughter, Elizabeth Benz, of Warwick, to Matthew Hogberg, of Warwick. Elizabeth is the granddaughter of Patricia and Robert Benz and the great-granddaughter of James Quinn. Matthew is the son of Amy Quinn, of Cranston, and Jon Hogberg, of Cranston; and the grandson of Sandy and Jay Strauss, of Cranston, and Libby and Dan Hogberg, also of Cranston. He is the great-grandson of Jenny Luci-

ano and Ida Paster, all of Cranston, and the late Leonard Paster, and the late Minna and Allen Strauss, of Cranston. The bride, a student at Boston University School of Dental Medicine, graduated from Providence College. The groom, a Rhode Island College graduate, is a roofing contractor with Eagle Cornice Co., Inc., in Cranston. The couple, who plan to honeymoon in Australia, will marry on May 22 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Newport.



ROSS CURNETT and JAMIE GOLFIN

Ross L. Curnett, the son of Jeff Curnett, of Summerville, S.C., and Monika Curnett, of Cranston, will marry Jamie Golfin, the daughter of Robert and Cheryl Golfin, of New Hartford, Conn., in April 2011. The groom's grandparents are Jolanthe Szykarski of Cranston (and originally from Berlin, Germany), and the late Henry Szykarski, a Holocaust survivor. The groom graduated from Ross College of Charleston and the Medical University of South Carolina, where he earned a doctorate in physical therapy. He owns and operates Atlas Physical Therapy in Summerville, S.C. The bride, a graduate of the College of Charleston, is a properties manager in the Charleston area. They make their home in Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Recognition



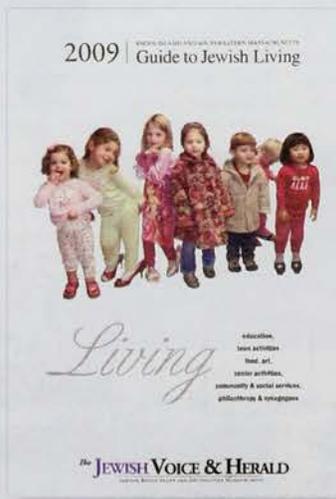
GEORGE E. LIEBERMAN

George E. Lieberman, a partner with the Providence law firm of Vetter & White, has been again recognized as one of the best lawyers in America in the field of Commercial Litigation by *Best Lawyers In America* in its 2010 edition. Lieberman has also been named again as a "Super Lawyer" in the area of Business Litigation by the *New England Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2010 ed. A past president of the Federal Bar Association, Rhode Island Chapter, Lieberman, a resident of Barrington, currently serves on its Executive Committee and, on the national level, as Vice President for the First Circuit. He is also a member of both the Federal Bench Bar and Superior Court Bench Bar Committees, Rhode Island Bar Association, and serves as Chair, CLE Subcommittee, Federal Bench Bar.

New Publication Date: October 1 | Materials Due: August 15

2010 GUIDE TO JEWISH LIVING IN RHODE ISLAND!

Be part of the only publication that reaches 22,000 Jewish readers for a full year.

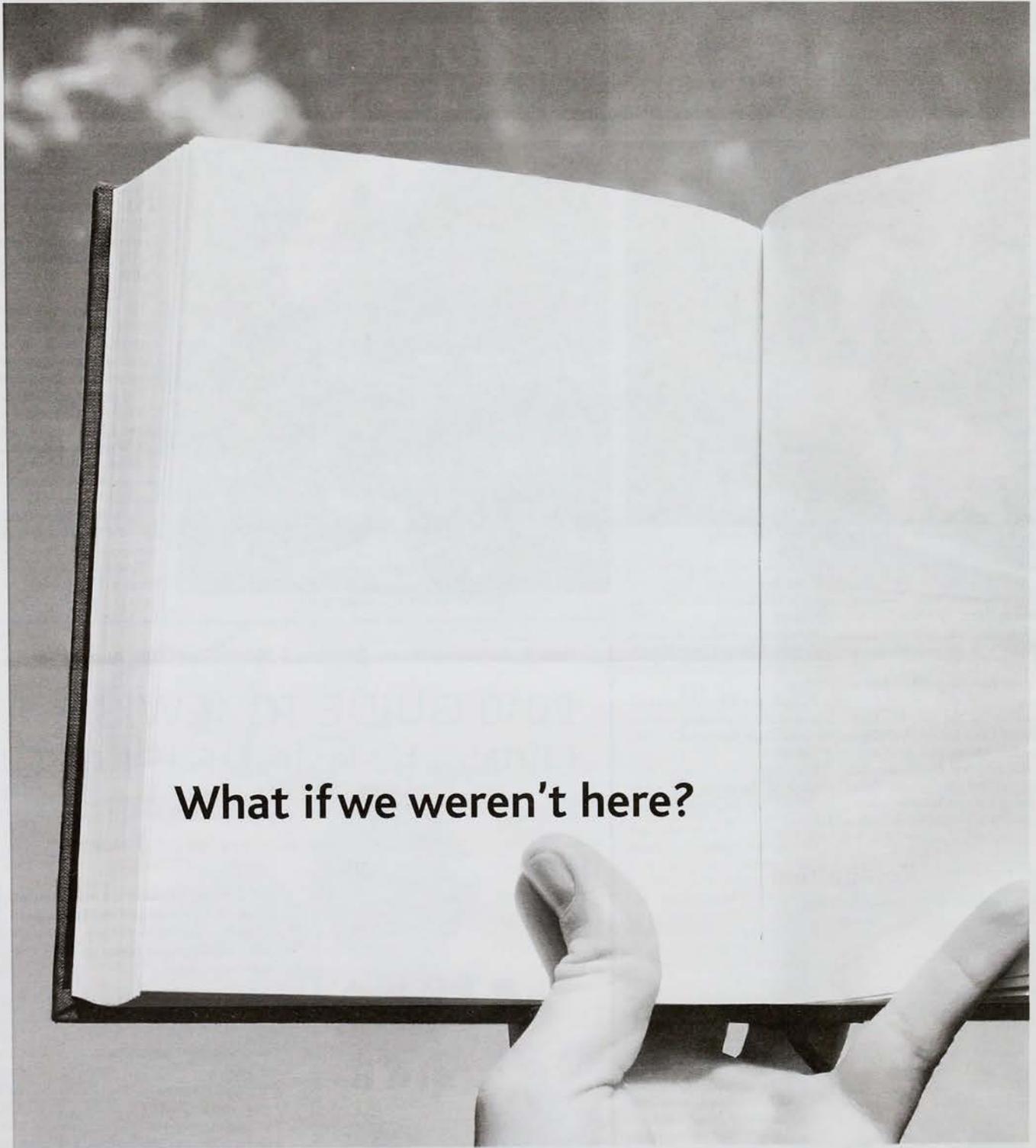


This Guide will be mailed to every known Jewish household in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts with our October 1, 2010 issue of *The Jewish Voice & Herald*, publisher of this informative handbook.

Rates	Price
Back cover glossy stock, 4-color.....	\$1,475
Inside front or back cover, 4-color.....	\$1,325
Full page 4-color glossy.....	\$1,000
Full page 4-color.....	\$825
Full page spot color.....	\$670
Full page b&w.....	\$780
Half page 4-color glossy.....	\$500
Half page 4-color.....	\$450
Half page spot color.....	\$410
Half page b&w vertical or horizontal.....	\$300

Open rates: \$20 per column inch
Special rates: \$15 per column inch for full-year advertisers of *The Jewish Voice & Herald* newspaper (25 insertions)
Color: 4-color: Add \$150 Spot: Add \$110
Mechanical Info: 1 column width 2.25" 2 column width: 4.625" 3 column width: 7" Full page: 7" x 10"

Advertising Deadline: August 15, 2010
 Contact: TRICIA STEARLY
 401-421-4111, ext. 160
 Cell: 401-441-1865
 tstearly@jvri.org



What if we weren't here?

PJ Library provides free Jewish books, music, social and cultural events to almost 800 children and their families, fostering Jewish identity and literacy in the earliest years.

Your contributions to the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island make this possible. And it makes all the difference in the world.

The PJ Library is just one of the reasons to support the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's 2010 Annual Community Campaign.

Give. www.JFRI.org



alisa grace photography



It's our story.