

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

30 Shevat 5771

Vol. XIII — Issue III

WWW.JVHRI.ORG

February 4, 2011

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

Reliable Gold offers reliable, knowledgeable service

Gold, silver, fine china and more at the family business

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

“WHEN WE were first here [at 181 Wayland Ave., Providence] Wayland Square was the place to shop,” said Leonard Rotenberg, the former owner of Reliable Gold, Ltd., an intimate

retail store that sells estate and new jewelry, sterling silver, glassware and other one-of-a-kind pieces. “In 1958 [when the store relocated from its downtown Washington Street location], chauffeur-driven ladies would get delivered to the store.”

Of the stores that populate Wayland Square today, only Dorothy Williams, Mrs. Robinson and Rufful’s Restaurant were there when Reliable Gold moved to Wayland Avenue. “It was high-end shopping,” he said.

QUALITY, Page 36



/Nancy Kirsch

LEONARD ROTENBERG, at right, and RENA ABELES are a reliable father-daughter team. Abeles owns Reliable Gold Ltd., a store that her father and uncle owned for many years.

Pro-Israel groups face a dilemma

Should they discuss Egypt or not?

By RON KAMPEAS

WASHINGTON (JTA) — As Egypt convulses, pro-Israel groups and members of the U.S. Congress are seized by the ancient maternal



HOSNI MUBARAK

dilemma: If you have nothing nice to say, should you say anything at all?

Whether to stake a claim in the protests against 30 years of President Hosni Mubarak’s autocracy is a key question for the pro-Israel lobby and pro-Israel lawmakers because of their roles in making Egypt one of the greatest benefi-

EGYPT, Page 14



/Alisa Grace Photography

A MOMENT IN HISTORY

From left, former Rhode Island Governor Bruce Sundlun, Rhode Island State Senator Joshua Miller, United States Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, U.S. Representative James Langevin, U.S. Representative David Cicilline, Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts and United States Senator Jack Reed. In the rear are, from left, Providence City Councilman Sam Zurier, Providence Mayor Angel Taveras and Richard Licht, the director of the Rhode Island Department of Administration and the chairman of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. The group gathered for this photo after the community celebration at the Alliance on Jan. 30.

A standing room only crowd celebrates

Lay leaders, politicians applaud vision and dedication

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

TOGETHER, WE are stronger: A standing room only crowd of nearly 250 people — from infants to octogenarians and the generations in between — filled

the Social Hall of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island (the “Alliance”). They heard that theme echoed again and again, along with kudos and congratulations to our past leaders for building a strong and vibrant Jewish communal foundation; to our current leaders and staff, for their passion and commitment to their work and their vision in creating the Alliance; and to future leaders, who will continue this sacred and special work.

Before the formal afternoon program, individuals and young

families enjoyed arts and crafts, a PJ Library story hour and free exercise classes. One man wandered into this reporter’s office to ask, “Can you tell me what a Zumba class is?”

Lisa and Eric Shorr, co-chairs of the community celebration, interspersed their introductions of the speakers with personal stories of their commitment to the Alliance. Citing the example of his uncle, Joseph Shorr, who recently died, Eric said, “His devotion to the Jewish community extended

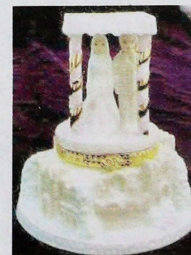
CELEBRATION, Page 19

An incomparable wedding story



/Karen Ness

Read this and other stories in our bridal section, pages 21 to 29.



At left, MARC PULLMAN holds the *huppah* under which Anna and Harold Brenner stand. The Brenners’ daughters, Rebecca Brenner (partially obscured) and Esther Pullman, are behind them.

What's Inside:

Bridal.....	21-29
Business.....	32-33, 36-38
Calendar.....	10
Community.....	2, 7-8, 12-13, 30
d'var Torah.....	36
Nation/Israel/World.....	3, 9, 11, 14-15
Obituaries.....	31
Opinion.....	4-6
Seniors.....	34-35
Simchas/We Are Read.....	39

Coming Next Issue:
JEWISH CAMPS



/Lauri Lee

Some people love our snow-packed winters... do you?

EZRA KISLAK-BROWN, left, and ARI STEINBERG, pre-K students at the Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island, romp in the snow-filled playground on Jan. 11.



/PHDS

A little chocolate, a little Torah study... even on a snow day

PROVIDENCE HEBREW DAY SCHOOL (PHDS) students enjoy hot chocolate and brownies on their optional day of learning on Thursday, Jan. 27. Although PHDS was closed due to the snow and parking ban, learning did not stop. In the morning, the middle school students who participate in an optional learning program each Sunday had an extra session, as they have had on every snow day thus far.



/Rock-a-Baby

ALISON WALTER, with her son, Ben-Zion Walter, at a Rock-a-Baby program

Rockin' with Rock-a-Baby

PROVIDENCE — Rock-a-Baby is an interactive, educational music experience for parents and their infants or toddlers (ages 4 months to 4 years); three energetic musicians and explore rock, pop, blues, traditional, and classical music by singing songs, playing games and instruments, and dancing. Each week, the program participants explore a different theme, with help from whimsical puppets —

Rhythm, Melody and Harmony.

Classes, 45 minutes in duration, are held at the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, at Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at 4:30 and 5:45 p.m. and Thursdays at 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.

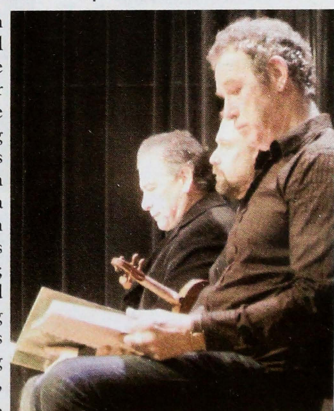
For more information, visit www.rock-a-baby.net or contact Stephanie Trachtenberg at 524-5120 or Stephanie@rock-a-baby.net.

AUREA weaves musical magic at Temple Beth-El



CHARLES SHERBA plays the violin and CONSUELO SHERBA plays the viola at Temple Beth-El.

PROVIDENCE — On Sunday, Jan. 30, classical music lovers filled the Temple Beth-El Social Hall to hear AUREA, a performance ensemble, present "Being Music." AUREA's performers for the evening's presentation were Rene de la Garza, a baritone; pianist Judith Lynn Stillman; violinists Charles Sherba and Alexey Shabalin; Consuelo Sherba, viola; and Nigel Gore, reader. "Being Music" weaves readings, songs and chamber music, including works of Tennessee Williams, Verlaine, Pushkin, Heine, Robert Schumann, Rachmaninov, Loeffler and Paul Bowles.



Performers with AUREA on the evening of Sunday, Jan. 31 at Temple Beth-El listen for their cues.

2010-2011 196TH SEASON

Handel

Haydn

HARRY CHRISTOPHERS
Artistic Director

EPIC STORYTELLING.
POWERFUL CHORUSES.

Handel ISRAEL IN EGYPT

SYMPHONY HALL, BOSTON

FRI, FEB 18 8PM	SUN, FEB 20 3PM
--------------------	--------------------

\$10 OFF
WITH CODE
EGYPT10B

Not valid for D-level seats.
Cannot be combined with other discounts.

Harry Christophers, conductor
Handel and Haydn Society Chorus
and **Period Instrument Orchestra**

Don't miss this imaginative telling of *Exodus*.
Come early for the pre-concert lecture,
stay after for the post concert Q&A
with conductor Harry Christophers.

Tickets start at just \$18! 617 266 3605 www.handelandhaydn.org

www.jvhri.org

PAGE 5:

Members of Temple Beth-El's Saturday morning *minyán* advocate for same-sex marriage legislation...

PAGE 8:

On Feb. 27 – 28, it's "All Things Israel" at the Alliance...

PAGE 11:

Sam Lehman-Wilzig, in his presentation at Temple Emanu-El, is divided about prospects for peace in the Middle East...

PAGES 15 – 16:

Food from the '50s, '60s and '70s...

PAGES 21 – 29:

Weddings, weddings, weddings – an abundance of advice, memoirs and stories – don't miss our bridal pages...

PAGE 34:

Losing your memory? Tema Gouse says it can be "a blessing or a curse..."

Eight questions for Congressman David Cicilline

A mostly light-hearted look at life in D.C.

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

WASHINGTON, D.C. – David Cicilline has moved from a practically palatial office in Providence's City Hall to fairly utilitarian digs in the Cannon House Office Building, from serving as the chief executive of a city to being one of 435 individuals in the U.S. House of Representatives, from having to worry about snow removal to....?

In a quick phone call with Congressman David Cicilline, a Democrat representing Rhode Island's First District, we learned some interesting FAQs.

Was this your first time at the State of the Union? No, as a newly minted mayor several years ago, he was invited to be the guest of Rep. James Langevin, a Democrat representing the Second District of Rhode Island. "It's very different to attend as a congressman," said Cicilline. "Listening to the president and recognizing that the work that lies ahead is work I'll be involved in... I understand the responsibility."

What things do you wish you could bring to D.C.? "The Italian tuna and eggplant from Tony's Colonial on the Hill... some of the square footage of my City Hall office and the views. I wish I had the views."

Will the collegiality exhibited during the State of the Union continue? "I hope so... it's too early to know," he said. "After the violence in Tuscon, people took a moment and paused. There will be big, passionate differences, but for the sake of the country, the sake of addressing big challenges, I hope it will extend beyond sitting together. The real measure is if we can work together."



DAVID CICILLINE on Election Night, 2010

What does he most miss from Providence?

Without missing a beat, he said, "My Dunkin Donuts coffee." For those who wonder, he takes it with milk and some artificial sweetener, and he buys it at the Dunkin Donuts on East Avenue in Pawtucket.

Has he found a gym, a place to live or a favorite restaurant?

Cicilline, who exercised regularly when he was Providence's mayor, has found a gym, Washington Sports Club, but hasn't yet joined. Still in temporary digs, Cicilline, ever the consummate politician, said, "Coming from Rhode Island, no restaurants will compare."

How is he applying his Jewish values to his new position?

"Our Jewish tradition requires us to be actively involved in our community," he said. "Seeking justice and creating a community that provides opportunities for people... is part of the work I did as mayor

and want to do in Congress. [My desire to] create a just and peaceful community informs a lot of the

"I hope it will extend beyond sitting together. The real measure is if we can work together."

work I do."

What keeps him up at night, now that someone else has to worry about snow?

"Recognizing that I was sent here to D.C. at a time of incredible challenge for Rhode Island – with the fifth highest unemployment, a national housing crisis – it's enormously difficult," he said. There's a "privilege in being sent here, and

I am trying everything I can... to have the greatest impact for people back in the [congressional] district."

He has been appointed to the Foreign Affairs and Small Business committees of the U.S. House of Representatives.

What's been the biggest surprise or adjustment?

Handling snowstorms ranked high on his list. "People were running out of [the Cannon House Office] building...it's totally shocking how people who live here weren't prepared," he said.

Cicilline, as mayor, had a driver and a car; not so, now. He's getting used to driving himself around, and getting to know the eight other freshman Democrats (and, perhaps, the 87 freshman Republicans) who came into office with him. "Working collectively as a part of a great team of really good people is one of the nicest things...", he said.

Candle Lighting Times for greater Rhode Island

Feb. 4 4:44
Feb. 11 4:53

Feb. 18 5:02
Feb. 25 5:11

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

DESIGN & LAYOUT
Leah Camara • lcamara@JFRI.org

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

COLUMNISTS: Dr. Stanley Aronson, Michael Fink, Tema Gouse, Sam Lehman-Wilzig, Yehuda Lev, Rabbi James Rosenberg, Joshua Stein, Daniel Stieglitz

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 only once.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT PROVIDENCE, RI POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to: Jewish Alliance of Greater RI,
401 Elmgrove Ave. Providence, RI 02906

EDITORIAL BOARD: Howard Tinberg, *Chair*, John Landry, Susan Leach DeBlasio (vice chair, Alliance board), Rabbi Amy Levin, Eleanor Lewis, Toby London, Rabbi Jacqueline Satlow, Richard Shein, Jonathan Stanzler, Joshua Stein, Ezra Stieglitz

BUSINESS COMMITTEE: Justin "Jay" Strauss, *Chair*, Everett Finkelstein, Toby London, Ken Schneider, Bob Starr, Joyce Starr

EDITORIAL CONSULTANT
Judith Romney Wegner

COPY EDITOR/PROOFREADER
Fran Cohen

CALENDAR COORDINATOR
Toby London

Published by the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island • Chair Richard A. Licht • Interim President Minna Ellison

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 Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.

401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906 • 401-421-4111 • 401-331-7961 (fax) • E-mail: voiceherald@JFRI.org

ADVERTISING: We do not accept advertisements for pork or shellfish. We do not attest to the kosher status of any product or the legitimacy of our advertisers' claims.

www.jvhri.org

FROM THE
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Revealing some secrets to our readers

BY NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

IN THE LAST ISSUE, I broke from my traditional column by strongly advocating for federal gun control. This column is another departure, as it attempts to answer some frequently asked questions that our readers pose to us. I hope that the information provided will offer some enlightening and meaningful guidance to our loyal readers.

• Why is the paper so big? Why does the paper size vary from issue to issue?

The paper's size – anywhere from a low of 28 to a high of 54 or more pages – is driven by the number of ads. (That's why, of course, the Sunday paper of a daily newspaper is so much fatter than its daily counterpart.) There's a ratio between ad copy and news copy that newspapers aim for, but ad copy can't exceed news copy without risking significantly pricier mailing costs. From our perspective, bigger is better – more ad revenue for the paper is positive and more ad revenue means that we offer more meaningful and newsworthy stories.

• Why didn't my newspaper get delivered?

I frequently hear from readers, "I used to get my paper delivered on Saturday and now it doesn't come until Monday or Tuesday. Why not?"

If you were receiving the paper before and your address didn't change, the delay is likely due to the U.S. Postal Service, which has closed some branches in a belt-tightening move. Bottom line: We're thrilled that people are eager to read the paper, but we can't speed up the delivery process. However, additional copies of the paper are at a wide array of locations throughout the state; our Web site, www.jvhri.org contains information on where to find the paper.

• Do you charge for obituaries?

No. Unlike other daily papers, which typically assess hefty fees for obituaries, we don't charge. While we welcome donations for obituaries – just as we appreciate donations throughout the year – we publish the obituaries free of charge as a community service.

• Why does the quality of the pictures vary so much?

That is an ongoing challenge – when people submit photos to us that are low resolution (photos from a cell phone, for example), we get low resolution, low quality photos. Those taken by professional photographers are the best, of course, but the quality of pictures varies, with multiple sources submitting the photos.

• How do you get your story ideas?

Story ideas come from several sources. When there's a significant Jewish communal event – a groundbreaking for a new Hillel, a major anniversary celebration for a synagogue, the reading of the

QUESTIONS, Page 6

IT SEEMS TO ME When ignorance is irresponsible

*A reckless disregard for
history is dangerous*

PRESIDENT OBAMA, in addressing the nation from the University of Arizona during a memorial service on Jan. 12 for the victims of the Tucson shootings, struck just the right tone: "I have come here tonight as an American who, like all Americans, kneels to pray with you today, and will stand by you tomorrow." And later in his speech: "Rather than pointing fingers or assigning

Rabbi Jim
Rosenberg

blame, let us use this occasion to expand our moral imaginations, to listen to each other more carefully, to sharpen our instincts for empathy and remind ourselves of all the ways our hopes and dreams are bound together."

As Obama spoke, I felt that I was listening not only to the president of the United States, but also to the father of two young daughters.

Earlier on that same day – set aside for mourning the victims of the Tucson shootings – Sarah Palin struck precisely the wrong tone when she released a video accusing her critics of being guilty of a "blood libel." Although I am certainly no fan of Palin, I would concur that it is manifestly unfair to blame her for the actions of Jared Lee Loughner, the deranged 22-year-old who is accused of murdered six and injuring another 14 people. Moreover, while I do not condone Palin's placing Gabrielle Gifford's congressional district in a gun's crosshairs on her map of Democratic targets and while I find her "reload" rhetoric abhorrent, I can see no direct link between Palin's words and Loughner's actions.

I am even willing to admit that Palin's politics stand squarely within the centuries-old American tradition of anti-elitism which expresses itself as anti-intellectualism; Palin speaks for all those who fear that they are being snookered by a self-selected, self-important group of experts who are out of

touch with our nation's mainstream.

Nevertheless, I do find Palin guilty of reckless disregard for historical fact. If she had exhibited even the slightest degree of intellectual curiosity, she might have wondered what the term "blood libel" means in its historical context. If she had bothered to investigate, she would have learned that the term is a stain of pain upon Jewish history; she would have chosen some other way of expressing her dismay at the admittedly ill-advised attempts of some left-wing critics to cast her as the "cause" of Loughner's alleged crime.

"Blood libel," as many readers know, refers

"The immensity of what we do not know will loom before us."

to the grotesque accusation – dating back to 12th century England – that Jews require the blood of Christian children to perform certain religious rituals. In many cases, the victims' blood is said to have been used in the process of making matzah for Passover.

According to historian Walter Laqueur, "Altogether, there have been about 150 recorded cases of blood libel (not to mention thousands of rumors) that resulted in the arrest and killing of Jews, most of them in the Middle Ages... In almost every case, Jews were murdered, sometimes by a mob, sometimes following torture and a trial."

Tragically, the blood libel accusation has not been confined to the Middle Ages. In 1913, for example, Menahem Mendel Beilis, of Kiev, was imprisoned on trumped-up charges of ritual murder; in the wake of international outrage at the cruel injustice of the Tsarist regime, Beilis was ultimately released. Indeed, updated versions of the blood libel have persisted even into the 21st century: In March 2002, the Saudi Arabian government daily, Al Riyadh, published a two-part expose, which explained in gory detail how Jews must use the blood of Muslim or Christian children to make "Purim pastries" – that is to say, *hamantaschen*!

Letters

Zelmor Levin: A kind and modest man of talent

THE OBITUARY OF Zelmor Levin in the Jan. 21 issue of The Voice & Herald inspired me to write.

Zel was a fatherly, gentleman; he took things as they came without going off the deep end. Much of the early form of the paper (The Federation Voice) such as it was, was reshaped by Zel from its rather primitive form, for he was the first who had professional background and train-

ing in journalism. So it was Zel who really was the first editor who began to shape The Federation Voice into a recognizable form of a paper. In addition, he was a kind, gentle, and modest man of talent.

Richard Shein
Providence

The chair of the editorial board during Levin's tenure, Shein is a member of The Jewish Voice & Herald's editorial board.

Providence resident appreciates kosher meals

AT ALMOST 98 years of age, I still read each issue of The Voice & Herald, with my magnifiers. In the Jan. 7 issue of the paper, I saw a request for volunteers to help deliver the kosher Meals on Wheels ("Kosher Meals on Wheels seeks volunteers").

I wanted to write to express what a ben-

efit Meals on Wheels is to me. I look forward to and appreciate the delicious hot meals and the volunteers. I want to thank Debbie Blazer [of Accounting for Taste] for cooking the meals and Neal Drobnis for organizing the program.

Greta Steiner
Providence

We are all ignorant. Over time, we may become less ignorant, but the immensity of what we do not know will always loom before us. Though I am an avid reader, I have managed to read only a tiny fragment of the world's great books. Though I now have lived long enough to carry a Medicare card in my wallet, I still know shockingly little about the intricate workings of my own body. I put my trust in doctors; yet even the most conscientious physician is condemned to remain relatively ignorant of those complex forces that make us sick and restore our health. Indeed, it is the wise doctor who knows what she doesn't know.

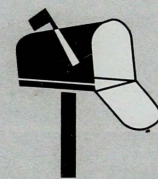
In general, we have no need to apologize for the depth of our unknowing, but there are certain circumstances in which we are culpably irresponsible for choosing to remain ignorant. A doctor who fails to keep up with the advances in his specialty may, through his willful disregard of current information, put his patients at risk.

Similarly, a politician who remains willfully tone deaf to the nuances of our English language, who remains indifferent to the facts of history, might well bring great pain – even though unintended – to the very citizens she is seeking to serve. To admit one's ignorance is an act of humility. To refuse to acknowledge one's ignorance is an act of arrogance. In the frequently fractious environment in which our nation's political discourse unfolds, ignorance is not bliss. Sarah Palin, you should know better.

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

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.

FROM THE OLD OLIVETTI

Criticism of Israel from the French left

Israel's new burden: The honorable man outraged

HOW DO YOU argue with a man who: helped author the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights; as a resistance fighter, managed to escape death at Nazi hands at least twice; in February 2008, denounced the French government's failure to make funds available to provide housing for the homeless; frequently urges younger generations to live by the legacy of the resistance, including its ideals of economic, social and cultural democracy; received the UNESCO/Bilbao Prize for the Promotion of a Culture of Human Rights?



Josh Stein

Here is a man who has dedicated his life to the well-being of his countrymen and to people around the world, particularly in Africa, which has received more than 20,000 hospital beds from a foundation he established.

Stéphane Hessel (born to a Jewish father and Protestant mother who fled to France to avoid the Nazis) has recently published an essay, *"Indignez-vous!"* ("Be Indignant!" or "Get Angry!") By year's end, 600,000 copies had sold; sales of 1,000,000 are anticipated. As he has before, he argues that the people

of France need to get outraged, as they were under German occupation. The new enemy is blasé acceptance; me firstism; materialism. He includes in his indictment the growing gap between the very rich and the very poor, France's treatment of its illegal immigrants, the need to re-establish a free press, the need to protect the environment, the plight of Palestinians and the importance of protecting the French welfare system.

Whoops.

How did calls to reform France get to include advocacy of Palestinians? Well, this is not Hessel's first venture into those waters. In August 2006, he made an appeal against the Israeli air-strikes in Lebanon – but the key here is in who sponsored the call – it was published in French newspapers on behalf of the French Jewish Union for Peace.

In January 2009, Hessel decried Israeli military operations in the Gaza strip: "In fact, the word that applies – that should be applied – is 'war-crime' and even 'crime against humanity.'"

We'll pause here for a moment for a necessary head count. All those in favor of con-

demning Palestinians to being perpetual victims of Israeli ruthlessness, please raise your hands. Seeing none, I'll proceed.

The problem with arguing with Hessel is less that he ignores the Arab slaughter of Jews, or that he seems not to understand that the Palestinian problem could have been resolved decades ago the same way the Jewish problem in Yemen and Iraq was, but that he brings to the discussion the perspective of a man whose genuine love of human-

"All those in favor of condemning Palestinians to being perpetual victims of Israeli ruthlessness, please raise your hands. Seeing none, I'll proceed."

ity, whose attitudes of social reform, of resistance to oppression are unimpeachable. He is not an anti-Semite; he is not pro-terrorist. In at least one way, he is not terribly off the Franco-Jewish mainstream. French Jews have historically never been ardently pro-Zionist. Initial reactions to the movement in the 19th century were that it was a

German-Jewish idea, not a French one. Yes, there was the Dreyfus Affair, but on the whole the Jews of France lived a good life with no need to emigrate. (At least one French Jew rejected Zionism wondering what would happen to the native Arabs.) Even after the Holocaust, there was no

mass migration of French Jews to Palestine/Israel. Any violent anti-Semitism in France comes from Arab immigrants, not traditional Frenchmen. I don't know how typical of French Jewish feeling it is, but Joel Schalit reports in his blog, "the-art-ty-Semite," on the conflict within the French Jewish community. "Coming on the heels of the formation of JCall (the French equivalent of J Street) and the conversion of such figures as JCall founder Bernard-Henri Lévy to routine criticism of Israeli policy, in all likelihood, more French Jews find themselves receptive to Hessel's words than not."

Sigh.

This is Israel's new burden. Add it to the list – the failure of Labor to keep the promises of the original leaders for an economically just society; the pressure to create a potentially hostile Palestinian state which would surround it; the possibility of an Iranian nuclear bomb aimed at Tel Aviv; Hezbollah in charge in Lebanon; Hamas in Gaza; chaos on the Arab street overturning pro-Western tyrannies (now, that was hard to type); Jews, some honorable such as Hessel, others whose motives are more obscure, ignore all the above and condemn Israel.

I can only tell the Israelis what Moses told my namesake. Be strong and resolute.

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

REFLECTIONS OF/IN ISRAEL

The neighborhood makes the woman

Can American Jews ever truly comprehend life in Israel?

ONE OF THE more widely told jokes in Israel goes briefly like this: During creation, God tells the angels that he will give his Chosen People a land overflowing with milk and honey, beautiful seashores, impressive hills and a mountain or two, gorgeous desert, terrific weather, magnificent lake, flora and fauna galore, etc. etc. The angels ask: "Isn't that a bit too much largesse to bestow on one people?"



Sam Lehman-Wilzig

To which God replies: "Just wait – I haven't told you about their neighbors..."

Certainly not "politically correct" by American standards, but that's precisely the point of this essay.

American Jewry, by and large, continue to support Israel, in principle. However, when you look at specific policy – especially regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict – it is clear that there's a growing gap between American Jews and Israeli Jews. Why?

I suggest that a major factor is the question: "Who is your neighbor?" This is another way of saying that your surrounding environment influences the way you see the world. That's true, but too general.

It is the human, social environment that has the greatest impact on a people's belief system. So let's look at the American and Israeli social milieus, where I believe one can see how the general "political cultures" of America and Israel are miles apart.

Israeli Jews have been literally fighting for their national existence since the State was established – and even well before that. Arab armies have invaded Israel repeatedly, and despite some diminution in external Arab antipathy, Israelis still have to wake up each morning to hear about some lunatic leader of 70 million people 1,000 kilometers away threatening to wipe the country off the face of the map – not to mention the heads of two quasi-national terrorist organizations on their northern and southwestern borders repeating the same invective and bile, with thousands of missiles already sent Israel's way to concretize the threat.

In such an environment, it is almost impossible to expect the Israeli-Jewish populace to take on a "liberal-tolerant" approach to peace, even with those neighbors (e.g. Fatah Palestinians) who at least are mouthing the right words.

Compared to this, American Jews are living in relative utopia. While anti-Semitism has not been totally expunged, it has become an extremely minor worry for the vast majority of American Jews, and correctly so. One would be hard put to find any other period or even specific country

in Jewish history in which Jews have been so fully accepted by their gentile neighbors, within the country and across the borders as well.

With professional representation in politics, academia, finance, the entertainment and journalism world, etc., well above their proportional numbers in the country, American Jews have not only "assimilated"

"The Israeli ethos and system is based more on emotion, theological 'evidence' and brute force."

extremely well socio-economically, but are flourishing like never before in Jewish history (including ancient Babylonia, the Golden Age of Spain, and a few other diaspora pockets of light).

In such an environment, it is little wonder that the American-Jewish mainstream has become "neighbor-friendly" – compared to almost any other neighbor in the past, American society is almost angelic! Thus, while many American Jews can perhaps "intellectually" understand the Israelis' situation, it is extremely hard for them to comprehend the visceral fear and suspicion vis-a-vis their neighbors that permeates Israeli society and, by extension, Israeli policymakers.

And, consider one other element. The American ethos and constitutional system is based on separation of religion and state, "rational discourse," and especially the idea of political compromise. As a result, Americans believe that any conflict can, in principle, be resolved by discussion and debate. The Israeli ethos and system – for better or worse – is based more on emotion, theological "evidence" and brute force. Here too, we can see their "neighborhood" as being determinative – for the Middle East is mostly driven by the latter ethos. Israelis thus find themselves following the credo of "do as thy neighbors do."

None of this is to say that American Jews are wrong and Israeli Jews are right – or vice versa. Rather, it is to explain that the two groups exist in two parallel neighborhoods: One of relative calm and mutual tolerance, the other of political thuggery and menace. The best we can hope for is that both these centers of the Jewish world understand why the other thinks as it does.

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

Mission of The Jewish Voice & Herald

THE MISSION of The Jewish Voice & Herald is to communicate Jewish news, ideas and ideals by connecting and giving voice to the diverse

views of the Jewish community in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts, while adhering to Jewish values and the professional standards of journalism.

READERS' PERSPECTIVE

This civil right is long overdue

Enact same-sex marriage legislation in 2011

By DEBORAH JOHNSON
AND ROBERT SERINSKY
Special to *The Voice & Herald*

JAY MICHAELSON, columnist for the Forward, recently wrote the following regarding same-sex marriage legislation: Civil rights movements that appeal to religion succeed. Those that do not, fail. Contrast the fates of the Civil Rights Act and the Equal Rights Amendment, or the way African-American civil rights was understood before and after Dr. King's religious message. ("Ten Reasons Why Gay Rights Is a Religious Issue," in the July/August 2010 issue of *Tikkun*) He goes on to prove, forcefully and eloquently, that people of faith, in general, and Jews, in particular, have a special, morally-predicated mandate to speak out against discrimination and intolerance wherever it is found; that Judaism, in particular, affirms the belief that all people are created *b'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of God, and that all people are equal recipients of God's love. In images of the civil rights struggle

of the 1950s and '60s, we see Jews standing prominently, shoulder to shoulder, with the black community in the fight for equality. They did so, quite simply, because it was the right thing to do, having been taught that God, too, stands on the side of justice.

It is for these reasons that the Reform Jewish movement officially supports full civil marriage rights for same-sex couples. In March 2000, the Central Conference of American Rabbis passed a resolution approving commitment ceremonies for same-sex couples. The resolution stated, in part "...that the relationship of a Jewish, same-gender couple is worthy of affirmation through appropriate Jewish ritual. The resolution also invoked a reaffirmation of "our commitment to upholding the integrity of the United States Constitution, particularly concerning its guarantee of equal protection for all citizens, its prohibitions against discrimination and its safeguarding of religious liberties." This is, of course, what makes marriage equality a civil rights issue. Sexual orientation is an immutable part of the individual; no person should be denied rights under the law for reasons of sexual orientation any more than for skin color. Reform Judaism has lived up to its highest ideals. Gay men and

lesbians are celebrating their marriages in ceremonies officiated by clergy in our movement all over the world. These marriages count in our community and count before God – but they do not yet count in Rhode Island.

When a heterosexual couple marries, they automatically receive

**"Judaism affirms
the belief that all
people are created
in the image
of God."**

more than 1,100 federal, and varying state, legal safeguards and benefits. Same-sex couples in committed relationships in Rhode Island are systemically denied access to rudimentary protections such as inheritance rights, tax rights, medical decision-making authority, the assumption of mutual parenthood, and the right to make spousal end-of-life decisions. Who can forget the recent, gut-wrenching story – featured in many media, including *The Voice & Herald* – of the gay man refused visits to his dying lifetime partner in a local hospital,

and his powerlessness to claim the body, which languished for weeks in the morgue?

Not all religions or clergy should have to recognize same-sex marriage, nor do they, but the government must give equal protection to its citizens. The fight for equality is not only uniquely tied to the history of this nation, it has defined it. From the American Revolution to the abolition of slavery, from the suffrage movement to the gay rights movement, we have worked vigilantly to assure equal rights as guaranteed by the founding visions of this nation.

On Jan. 11, State Representative Arthur Handy, D-Cranston, again introduced his annual bill to legalize same-sex marriage in Rhode Island. Twenty-nine lawmakers co-signed the bill, including House Speaker, Gordon D. Fox. State Senator Rhoda Perry (D-Providence) simultaneously introduced similar legislation in the Rhode Island Senate, despite threats to derail it. In marked contrast to his predecessor, Governor Lincoln Chafee has vowed to sign this, or similar legislation, into law.

This bill is fundamentally about the pursuit of justice for our children, relatives, neighbors and friends who are systematically denied rights because of who they

are. Enacting legislation that promotes loving and committed relationships is good for everyone. No one can be hurt by giving legal recognition to such a relationship.

Truly, how can two loving adults coming together to form a family harm, rather than affirm, family values? Are our families and communities so fragile that they are threatened by the love between two adults of the same sex? If so, those same families and communities are dangerously ill. In fact, marriage in the United States has failed miserably: nearly half of all heterosexual marriages end in divorce. Perhaps we would be better served by concern with what happens in relationships to cause failure, rather than with two people in love who want to legitimize their relationship.

Other signatories to this oped, from Temple Beth-El's Saturday morning minyan, are: Cecely Chambers, Stephen Chambers, Gloria Feibish, Katherine C. Haspel, Howard Rabinowitz, Ivy E. Rabinowitz, Laura Mason Zeisler, Rabbi Sarah Mack and Cantor Judy Seplowitz.

Drs. Deborah Johnson and Robert Serinsky are married and live in Providence. Contact them at DOCTORJ@PROVIDENCE.EDU.

Embrace change in Egypt or stay quiet

The riots are not about Israel

By LARA FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) – There is the old joke, "denial is not just a river in Egypt."

The Nile is the longest river in the world, along whose shores the Egyptian people continue their unprecedented protests, demanding an end to the Mubarak era. But denial also is the increasingly discordant notes sounded by some elements in the American Jewish community and in Israel seeking to attack and discredit the protests and lobby for a return to the pre-Jan. 25 status quo in Egypt.

On Sunday, Jan. 30, for example, Malcolm Honlein, the executive vice president of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, blasted Mohammed ElBaradei – one of the few faces to emerge as a "leader" in Egypt's ongoing protests – as a "stooge for Iran." The same day, Haaretz carried an article headlined, "Israel urges world to curb criticism of Egypt's Mubarak."

Panic at change in Egypt and what its impact will be on Israel simply cannot justify this kind of response.

Yes, everyone who cares about Israel is concerned about what

change will mean for security and stability in the region, especially for Israel. But only a fool could look at the ongoing developments and draw the conclusion that the best thing for Israel and friends of Israel to do is bash the protesters or stump for Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who has been in power for three decades.

Make no mistake, change is coming in Egypt – indeed, it has come already. Few serious observers believe there is even the remote possibility that Mubarak can hold on to power much longer. The longer he tries to hang on, the greater the likelihood that he will have to resort to more repressive (violent) measures to do so.

Denying the reality of change in Egypt does not help Israel; it only guarantees that Israel's future relationship with Egypt will be more difficult. It sends a message that Israel wants to hold on to the title of "the only real democracy in the Middle East" in perpetuity, even if this means directly engaging to frustrate the will of Arab peoples for democracy.

From a purely strategic perspective, this is not a message that Israel or friends of Israel want to send to the people of a nation that, when the dust settles, will still be Israel's most important neighbor and almost certainly will have a government that will be more populist in its approach.

Since Israel's birth as a state, regimes throughout the region have been non-democratic. This is not Israel's fault. Nor can anyone

**"Denying the
reality of change
in Egypt does not
help Israel."**

fault Israel for developing security and foreign strategies that capitalized on the overwhelming authority of these regimes. But the Middle East is changing, and the attitudes and approaches of Israel and friends of Israel must change, too – even if many still believe that an autocratic, but reliable, Arab neighbor is preferable to a democratic, but potentially unreliable, one.

The protests in Egypt have been mostly bereft of anti-Israel sentiment. The protests are genuinely about domestic politics – against poor governance, corruption, lack of democracy, etc. They are not about Egypt's foreign policy or its peace treaty with Israel. This should be a promising sign for the future, but it should not be taken for granted.

If Israel and friends of Israel unwisely insist on making what is

happening in Egypt about Israel, this could change. They may get their wish and see Egyptians begin protesting against Israel, too.

Fears that a post-Mubarak regime will be less friendly to Israel are understandable, but some of the people speaking out now from Israel and the U.S. Jewish community need to be aware of self-fulfilling prophecies. Their fears are only more likely to materialize if Israel and

its friends act foolishly during this transition period.

For Israel and its allies, there are two smart choices: Either embrace the change that is happening with the same good will that is being shown by the rest of the world, or keep quiet.

Lara Friedman is the director of policy and government relations for Americans for Peace Now.

QUESTIONS asked and answered

From Page 4

George Washington letter at Touro, for example – *The Voice & Herald* will, more likely than not, be there to cover the event. Other story ideas are generated by our interest in certain topics, such as stories we ran last year about postpartum depression and autism in the Jewish community and those occasionally run under the "*Tikkun Olam* Around the World" banner. Some stories are generated by what's on the calendar. But, as an expert communications strategist once said to me, "If newspapers stopped receiving press releases, there'd be no news."

We are a small staff, but each of you is likely involved in some aspect of Jewish life. You know

best what's happening in the agency, day school or synagogue with which you are involved. Know of a provocative new program at a Jewish day school? Heard about some extraordinary Jewish octogenarian accomplishing great deeds? Traveled around the world on a Jewishly-themed *tikkun olam* mission? Call me (421-4111, ext. 168) email me (nkirsch@FRI.org) or write me (Nancy Kirsch, *The Voice & Herald*, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906).

While we can't guarantee – or promise – that every idea or story submitted will be published, with your help, the paper will continue to grow in vibrancy and meaning.

Super heroes needed for Mitzvah Day

No superhero strength needed, just a commitment to serve

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voiceherald@JFRI.org

PROVIDENCE – On Sunday, March 13, the entire Jewish community of greater Rhode Island is invited to participate in the first annual Rhode Island Mitzvah Day. Coordinated by the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island – in conjunction with a wide range of groups and organizations – Mitzvah Day offers volunteers the opportunity to fulfill the shared Jewish obligation of *tikkun olam*, or repairing the world.

By leveraging the vibrancy and vitality of community volunteers – of all ages, genders, socio-economic backgrounds and geographic locales – we can make a difference to aid those in need, regardless of their race, religion or color. By participating in Mitzvah Day, we honor our neighbors, our long tradition of caring for the needy and ourselves.

The term “mitzvah,” derived from the Hebrew word for com-

mandment, has come to express any good deed. It's no surprise, then, that Mitzvah Day offers a wide array of opportunities to demonstrate one's commitment to repairing the world.

If food is your thing, Randy Rosenthal, the Alliance team leader coordinating Mitzvah Day, said, “You could participate in collecting non-perishable food for a food drive to benefit The Louis and Goldie Chester Full Plate Kosher Food Pantry, make and deliver sandwiches for Mobile Loaves and Fishes – a social outreach ministry for the homeless that was founded in 1998 – or bake *hamantaschen*, Purim desserts, at the Phyllis Sipershtein Tamarisk Assisted Living Center.”

If you prefer something more hands-on that doesn't involve kitchen work, you could conduct a bone marrow drive at the Alliance to benefit 30K Friends Foundation and Gift of Life or decorate shoes to help those in need through Gotta Have Sole Foundation, a local nonprofit organization that arose from a bar mitzvah project. Gotta Have Sole Foundation provides children living in shelters with brand-new



footwear. Although the list of participating groups and organizations grows on a daily basis, as of press time, Max's Lunch Bunch at Temple Am David,

“By participating in Mitzvah Day, we honor our neighbors, our long tradition of caring for the needy and ourselves.”

Judy's Kindness Kitchen at Congregation Beth Shalom, URI Hillel, Brown RISD Hillel, Providence Community Kollel, Jewish Community Day School, Gotta Have Sole Foundation, 30K Friends Foundation and Gift of Life, and the New England Region BBYO are signed up to participate in what should be an enriching and meaningful day.

“Please spread the idea of service and give back to the greater Rhode Island community,” said Rosenthal, “and join us on Mitzvah Day.”

If your group, agency or organization wants to be involved with Mitzvah Day, or if you want to be a sponsor, contact Randy Rosenthal at 421-4111, ext. 173, or rrosenthal@JFRI.org.

JCC Preschool at Temple Habonim

Program creates lifelong love of learning

By SARA FOSTER
Special to The Voice & Herald

BARRINGTON – The JCC Temple Habonim preschool offers an energetic, creative program that encourages children to be independent learners. The educational curriculum is designed to include the children's interests, with the teachers acting as facilitators. The program fosters in children a love of learning, creative thinking and the opportunity to problem solve at play.

The small student-teacher ratio (12 to 2) allows the teachers to reach each child at his or her developmental level using the style of learning in which he or she learns best. The program adheres to Rhode Island Early Learning Standards to ensure that children are ready to succeed as they enter elementary school. The Judaic components of the curriculum include holiday customs, traditions and teaching Jewish values through a program we call “Peer-K.” Through music, props, stories and lessons, the children are encouraged to be kind, respectful people who are part of a community. These values are universal to all and create a peaceful warm environment for children to grow.

The real difference created by this carefully and lovingly created environment is that the age-appropriate

curriculum instills a lifelong love of learning in our young students. Stacey Weiner, whose daughter Sophie is enrolled in our program, shared why she chose JCC Preschool at Temple Habonim for her child.

Q: How did you find out about our program?

A: We participated in events at Temple Habonim and learned that the JCC had a pre-school program there. We attended an open house and found it to be a very warm and nurturing environment. After looking around Portsmouth, Bristol and Barrington, we decided that this was the best fit for our family.

Q: How long has Sophie been in the program?

A: Sophie was almost 3 when she started the program and has been there for three years now. She has also attended and enjoyed the summer camps.

Q: What is your favorite thing about the class?

A: Sophie has been exposed to Judaism through the program at a level that she can retain it. Our daughter has developed well from this program.

Q: What does Sophie enjoy about the “Peer-K” program, which teaches values to young children?

A: Sophie enjoys the arts and crafts, which always have a theme that she tries to relate to. It is always nice to see her come home around the different holidays with a project that she has worked on and hear her describe it to us. Of course, she also enjoys simply playing with her



STACEY WEINER is surrounded by her children, Sophie, at left, and twins, Emily and Isabelle, at the JCC Temple Habonim preschool.

classmates.

Q: Do you find the program creative and able to meet Sophie's educational style?

A: The program has grown with Sophie over the years. You can really notice a difference throughout the three years she has attended. Each year, the program has adapted to the different stages of development. Sophie is always excited to go to school – an indication that she continues to find the program stimulating.

I plan to send our two younger daughters, Emily and Isabelle, to the preschool this fall.

Sara Foster is the program director at www.jvhri.org

tor of the JCC Preschool at Temple Habonim. Contact her at office@templehabonim.org.

The JCC Preschool at Temple Habonim offers different options for 3- and 4-year-old children. Early arrival, extended day and a kindergarten enrichment program are available. The preschool is currently enrolling for the 2011-2012 school year. For more information, call Sara Foster at 440-4376.

JCC Preschool at Temple Habonim is made possible in part by your donations to the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island Annual Community Campaign.

Annual Community Campaign matching grant still available

THERE IS STILL time to double the impact of your gift to the Annual Community Campaign. Thanks to a generous \$100,000 matching grant from a group of anonymous philanthropists in our community, all new gifts and gift increases will be matched dollar for dollar, doubling the impact of these donations.

To make your donation online, go to www.JFRI.org. Or, mail your check, made out to Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, to 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, RI 02906. Please write “Annual Community Campaign” in the memo line.

Jewish Federation, Jewish Community Center and Bureau of Jewish Education are now the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. Together, we are stronger. As of January 1, 2011, the Annual Community Campaign is administered by the Center for Jewish Philanthropy of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. Donations to the Annual Community Campaign fund more than 300 programs and services that support and enhance Jewish life here in Rhode Island, in Israel and around the world.

Alliance programs bring Israel within reach

Gift of Israel, Israel Desk offer resources and opportunities

By BRIAN SULLIVAN
bsullivan@JFRI.org

PROVIDENCE — Whether you're looking to plan years ahead or searching for just the right Israel travel experience now, the Gift of Israel and Israel Desk are here to help. Both programs share the same goal — to assure that an Israel experience becomes part of each student's Jewish education. Studies have shown that Jewish identity and leadership potential are enhanced through the vehicle of Israel travel opportunities that also offer fun, knowledge and memories.

The Gift of Israel is an incentive savings program in which families, congregations and the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island (the "Alliance") provide funds toward an educational program in Israel for participating students.

The Gift of Israel's purpose is to strengthen the Jewish identity of American Jewish youth and to foster the relationship between Israel and American Jewry.

A child is eligible to enroll in the Gift of Israel, beginning in third grade and ending in 10th grade. For those enrolling in third grade, each year the family will contribute \$150, the participating con-

gregation will contribute \$50 and the Alliance will contribute \$200. The annual \$400 contributions total \$3,200 after eight years — a 266 percent return on your investment annually, and an even greater investment on your child's Jewish identity. Students can participate in an Israel trip as early as their sophomore year of high school.

The Israel Desk oversees a diverse group of programs that work to match people to Israel travel opportunities. Along with administering Israel grants and scholarships, it provides information on other travel options such as

kibbutz programs, generally for youth, ages 15 – 25.

Teachers and schools affiliated with the Alliance may also seek information about stipends for educational trips to Israel.

The Gift of Israel and Israel Desk will participate in the Israel Cultural Weekend, on Feb. 26 and 27 at the Alliance, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. The weekend will include Israeli food, music and arts and crafts, as well as experts to answer all your questions about educational travel to Israel. See the accompanying story, below, for more details.

For more information on these programs or the Israel Travel Fair, contact Larry Katz at

421-4111, ext. 179 or lkatz@bjeri.org.

Gift of Israel and Israel Desk are made possible by the generosity of donor support to the Annual Community Campaign.



high school and college academic programs, volunteer opportunities, and winter/spring break programs. The Israel Desk promotes programs such as Birthright Israel, World Union of Jewish Student, Sherut La'am, Stagerim, Oztzma and



All things Israeli: A Taste of Israel

Israel culture and tourism weekend

By CHRIS PARKER
cparker@JFRI.org

MARK YOUR calendars for a free weekend of all things Israeli!

On Saturday, Feb. 26 and Sunday, Feb. 27, the Israel Desk and Community Relations Council of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, along with The Jewish Voice & Herald, have joined forces to create a weekend of events to celebrate all things Israeli.

On Saturday evening, starting at 7 p.m., "A Taste of Israel" offers a program for adults and families that will include Israeli food and music, crafts, art and tourism information.

Then, on Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the Israel Travel Fair, focused on educational travel for Jewish teens and young adults, ages 15-25, will give attendees a

chance to shop for and compare travel experiences in Israel offered by a variety of organizations. Come and meet representatives of travel companies, explore financial aid opportunities and have your questions answered by the experts.

Both events will be hosted in the Social Hall, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, and are free and open to the public.

For more information about A Taste of Israel or to be a sponsor for this event, contact Marty Cooper at mcooper@JFRI.org or 421-4111, ext. 171 or Tricia Stearly, tstearyl@JFRI.org or 421-4111, ext. 160.

For more information or to be an exhibitor for Israel Travel Fair contact Larry Katz, lkatz@bjeri.org or 421-4111, ext. 179.

Israel Desk, Community Relations Council and The Jewish Voice & Herald are programs of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. Israel Culture and Tourism Weekend is made possible in part by your generous donation to the Annual Community Campaign.

Save the Date! Sponsors and Exhibitors Welcome!

Join us for a weekend of all things Israeli!
Israel Cultural Weekend

Taste of Israel
February 26 • 7pm

Saturday night, February 26
experience Israeli culture through
food, music, art and crafts.

**Israel Educational
Travel Fair**
February 27 • 11:30am

Sunday, February 27
let the experts answer all your
questions about educational travel
to Israel.

**Both events are free and open to the public and will be held at the
Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island**
401 Elm Grove Avenue, Providence, RI 02906 • 401.421.4211

For sponsorship information, contact Tricia Stearly, Tstearyl@JFRI.org
For information on Taste of Israel, please contact Marty Cooper, Mcooper@JFRI.org.
To be an exhibitor for the Israel Educational Travel Fair,
please contact Larry Katz, LKatz@BJERI.org

Jewish Alliance
OF GREATER RHODE ISLAND
Together, we are stronger.
www.shalomri.org

**Israel
Desk**



Calling all cooking teams

PROVIDENCE — Team and volunteer registrations are now available for the second annual RI Kosher Chili Cookoff. Get ready to join the Jewish community of Rhode Island on Sunday, June 5 for delicious chili, live entertainment, family activities, a beer garden and so much more!

The Chili Cookoff is a community-wide event that will bring together the entire Rhode Island Jewish and non-Jewish community; secular, religious, affiliated and non-affiliated.

Twenty-five teams will compete for the bragging rights of making the state's best kosher chili. More than 500 people are expected to attend an afternoon of food, fun

and camaraderie all under the same festive tents. Live entertainment, activities for families, a beer garden and delicious chili are just a few of the exciting highlights of the day.

Proceeds from the profits will benefit family programming offered through the Jewish Alliance.

For more information about sponsorship, entering the team competition or volunteering, contact co-chairs, Bethany Sutton at 726-3560, bl_sutton@yahoo.com and Meredith Sinel at 263-3399, mereein@yahoo.com.

You can also register online at www.rikosherchilicookoff.com.

Errata

In Dr. Stanley Aronson's column of Jan. 21, "A Stein is a Stein is a Stein," the date of Gertrude Stein's graduation from Radcliffe was listed as 1997; it should have been 1897.

Much of the information from the Jan. 21 article by Myra Shays, "Hadassah has a rich history," came from a Dec. 24, 2010 article in the Forward.

The Jewish Voice & Herald regrets the errors.

Fire in Carmel

*Process of rebuilding,
reforesting underway*

BY VARDa SEGAL STIEGLITZ
Special to The Voice & Herald

ON THURSDAY, DEC. 2, a raging forest fire of unprecedented proportions burned out of control in the unusually lush Carmel Forest near the port city of Haifa. Although the winter season had officially started, the rains had not come, leaving the forest vulnerable.

Many observers termed this fire the worst in Israeli history. The Carmel blaze had scorched more than 12,000 acres, killed 41 people and injured scores. Firefighting equipment from many nations arrived to help in the disaster. Greece and Cyprus sent planes, and Switzerland sent three helicopters. Also, the Evergreen Supertanker, the largest aerial firefighting aircraft in the world, arrived from the U.S.

A meeting was scheduled to determine whether to launch a governmental investigation. Although Netanyahu was known to oppose the establishment of a government level probe, Israel's government is usually given authority to investigate those found to be culpable for systematic failures.

In this instance, Interior Minister Eli Yishai endured withering criticism for his role in managing the country's firefighting services, which apparently were sorely lacking in manpower, funds and equipment.

Meanwhile, the *Knesset*, by waiving the government's normal procedures for issuing tenders for rebuilding efforts, created a bureaucratic shortcut that helped those affected by the fire.

The government's goals are as follows: Rehabilitate fire-impacted communities, deal with evacuees, rehabilitate the forest in Carmel, establish a firefighting authority and set up an aerial firefighting force.

An interview this writer had in late January with Nehemya Raybi, the Megido regional mayor advisor, a Jewish National Fund (JNF) board member and *Knesset* candi-

date from the Kadima Party, was enlightening.

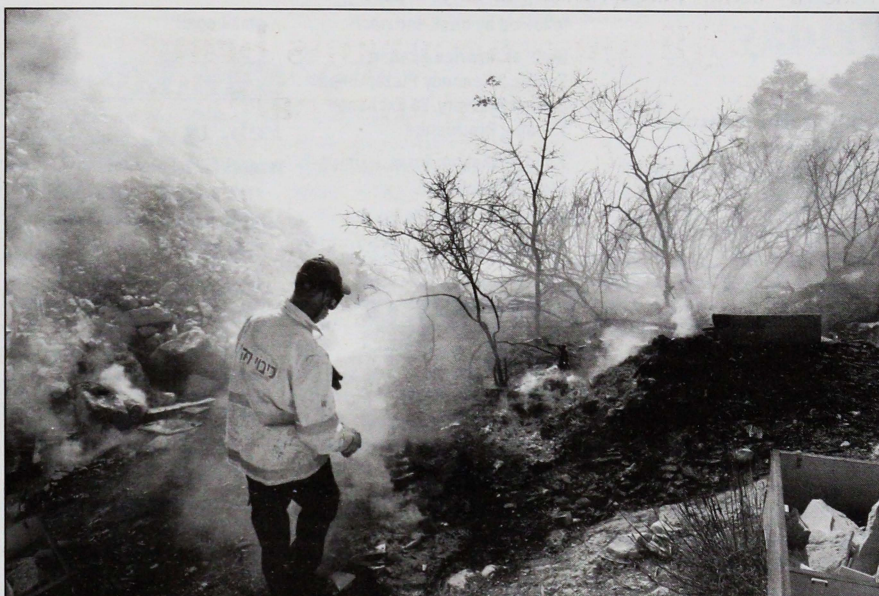
Closely involved in all aspects of the Carmel forest's restoration, he also facilitates dialogues between members of the local Arab and Druze villages and coordinates JNF activities. The JNF received a great deal of financial assistance in fire relief, said Raybi, from many Jewish federations around the world, including some in North America (including nearly \$5,000 from the Alliance).

When the fire broke out, the JNF began a rapid campaign of aid to the affected citizens and, later, to the revitalization of the forest. The forest, he said, will be able to restore itself within some number of years; already this winter, it is possible to see plants sprouting and tree seedlings – seedlings that will eventually grow to be large trees. Some of the trees that were incinerated, however, were hundreds of years old.

On Jan. 23, Raybi and the coordinators of the Fire Fighting Forces and Rescue Team met with Sheik Mufaka Tarik, the head of the Druze community on the Carmel, at the sheik's invitation. The Druze community wanted to express its appreciation to the firefighters for their selfless work in putting out the fire and rescuing inhabitants.

Nehemya Raybi, a JNF board member; Shimon Romach, representative of the firefighting forces and rescue team; Asi Levy, the chairman of the firefighting forces and rescue team in Israel; and other officers and commanders all attended this meeting. Sheik Tarik then expressed both condolences on the deaths of the firefighters who perished in the tragic blaze and the Druze community's blessings and thanks.

Although the fire in Carmel was tragic, it brought out the cooperative spirit of everyone in the country – many members of *kibbutzim* and *moshavim* helped by providing equipment and food to those fighting the fires. Raybi believes that, after receiving critically important financial and logistical help from the world over, Israelis are more upbeat and optimistic about the forest's future.



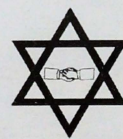
A FIREFIGHTER WALKS through the scorched Carmel Forest. /JNF



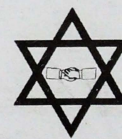
A FIRE DAMAGED house is nearly destroyed. /JNF

The cost to restore the forest is significant, he said, but JNF is doing incredible work in reforesting and rebuilding. And, he sees people coming in droves from throughout Israel to visit Carmel Mountain.

Varda Segal Stieglitz, who lives in Providence, is an educational consultant. She is retired from the Attleboro, Mass. school department. Contact her at varda823@hotmail.com.



**INTEREST
FREE LOANS**



We loan money

NO INTEREST OR FEES CHARGED

WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU

Rhode Island residents if you are having problems

LOANS UP TO \$2,400

For medical and dental bills, heating and electric bills, home and car repairs etc.

LOANS UP TO \$3,600

For schooling and educational purposes

**THE HEBREW FREE LOAN
ASSOCIATION OF PROVIDENCE**

(Gemilath Chesed)

Contact us at: 401-331-3081

or www.hflprovidence.org

*a peaceful setting +
loads of ruach*
= CAMP JORI, totally yours.

Worden's Pond • Wakefield, Rhode Island

website: www.campjori.com • E-mail: ronni@campjori.com

Call Camp Director Ronni Guttin at 401-463-3170

Friday

Feb. 4

Family Shabbat Honoring Debbie Friedman

Celebrate Friedman's musical legacy.

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

7 p.m.

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

Saturday

Feb. 5

Shabbat at Beth Sholom

Storytellers Adam and Eve Goldberg spin tales for children.

Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence

10 - 11:15 a.m.

More info: Elly Leyman at elly207@gmail.com

Sunday

Feb. 6

Blood Drive

Observe the mitzvah of *pikuach nefesh*, saving a life.

Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

More info: 785-1800

Monday

Feb. 7

Women's Association Board Meeting

The Miriam Hospital Women's Association board meeting.

Hurvitz Board Room 1, Baxt Building, 164 Summit Ave., Providence

10 a.m.

More info: 793-2520

Tuesday

Feb. 8

Fun with Friends at Tuesdays Together

Story time and hands-on activity. For children ages 2 - 4, with a responsible adult.

Jewish Community Day School, 85 Taft Ave., Providence

10 - 11 a.m.

More info: Lauri Lee at llee@jcdsri.org or 751-2470, ext. 16

Wednesday

Feb. 9

Alef List Skating Party

"Social Series" for young Jewish professionals; skating

followed by drink and *nosh*.

Bank of America Skating Center, 2 Kennedy Plaza; Union Station Brewery, 36 Exchange Terrace, Providence

7 p.m. - Skating; 9 p.m. - Union Station Brewery

\$6 entry, \$4 skate rental

More info: Wendy at 421-4111

Thursday

Feb. 10

Israeli Film Festival

"Precious Life" depicts a Palestinian infant treated in an Israeli hospital.

Avon Cinema, 260 Thayer St., Providence

6:30 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

Friday

Feb. 11

PJ Library Story Time

Story time, bubbles, crafts and a kosher snack.

Books on the Square, 471 Angell St., Providence

10 - 11:30 a.m.

More info: Nicole Katzman at 331-0956, ext. 180, or nkatzman@bjeri.org

K'Tantan Shabbat

Age-appropriate Shabbat service for families with very young children, followed by Shabbat dinner.

Herman L. Bennett Chapel, Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

5:30 p.m.

More info: 331-6070

Saturday

Feb. 12

Kiddush & Quidditch

Shabbat morning services, Quidditch tournament, for students in grades 5 - 12.

Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence

9:30 a.m. - Service, 1 p.m. - Games

More info: Rebecca Theise at rtheise@teprov.org

Israeli Film Festival

"\$9.99" is a stop-motion animated story about people looking for meaning in their lives. Q&A with the film's director, Tatia Rosenthal, and Amy Kravitz, a RISD professor.

MacMillan Hall 117, 167 Thayer St., Providence

7 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@

gmail.com

Sunday

Feb. 13

Israeli Film Festival

"The Secrets" is about two brilliant young women who discover their own voices in an Orthodox culture where females are forbidden to sing, let alone speak out.

Smith-Buonanno Hall 106, 95 Cushing St., Providence

2 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

"Everyone Has a Story to Tell" Panel Discussion

Congregation Agudas Achim hosts a panel discussion to examine stories of immigration and discussion of "The Bread Givers," by Anzia Yezierska.

Attleboro Public Library, 74 North Main St., Attleboro, MA

3 - 5 p.m.

More info: office@agudasma.org, www.agudasma.org or 508-222-2243

Israeli Film Festival

"Lebanon" is a 2009 Golden Lion winner for Best Picture at the Venice Film Festival.

MacMillan Hall 117, 167 Thayer St., Providence

7 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

Monday

Feb. 14

The Future of American Jewry

Dr. Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz discusses American Jewry.

American Jewish Archives, UMass Dartmouth, 285 Old Westport Road, North Dartmouth, MA

Noon - 1:30 p.m.

More info: Jacqueline Satlow at 508-910-6551 or jsatlow@umassd.edu

Israeli Film Festival

"The Syrian Bride" depicts a woman stuck in the middle of many conflicts.

Salomon 001, Main Green, Brown University, Providence

5 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

Israeli Film Festival

"Sweet Mud" is about a kibbutz in the 1970s, when someone must navigate between the kibbutz motto of equality and his mentally ill mother.

MacMillan Hall 117, 167 Thayer St., Providence

www.jvhri.org

7 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

Tuesday

Feb. 15

East Greenwich Lunch & Learn

Topic: "Did you Know 'Hello' is a Mitzvah?" Participants order from the menu and Rabbi Amy Levin leads the discussion.

T's Restaurant, 5600 Post Road, East Greenwich

Noon - 1:30 p.m.

More info: 785-1800

Israeli Film Festival

"Tel Aviv-Jaffa" is a documentary about the making of the city.

Salomon 001, Main Green, Brown University, Providence

5 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

Israeli Film Festival

"The Secrets" - See Feb. 13 listing.

MacMillan Hall 117, 167 Thayer St., Providence

7 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

Fate of Israel Lecture Series

Robert Satloff, executive director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, will speak.

Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence

7:30 p.m.

More info: 331-1616

Wednesday

Feb. 16

Senior Café

A documentary film, "Waste = Food," will be shown.

The Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence

Noon - Lunch, 12:45 p.m. - Program

\$3 lunch donation for 60+ and under 60 disabled

More info: Neal Drobnis or Lucy Flam at 861-8800, ext. 107

There is a meal site at this location every Wednesday and Friday.

Israeli Film Festival

"Sweet Mud" - See Feb. 14 listing

Salomon 001, Main Green, Brown University, Providence

5 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@

gmail.com

Israeli Film Festival

"The Syrian Bride" - See Feb. 14 listing

MacMillan Hall 117, 167 Thayer St., Providence

7 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

Thursday

Feb. 17

Temple Torat Yisrael's Crans-ton/Warwick Lunch & Learn

See Feb. 15 entry

Cozy Grill Restaurant, 440 Warwick Ave., Warwick

Noon - 1:30 p.m.

More info: 785-1800

Adoption Options Information Meeting

For those considering adoption.

Jewish Family Service, 959 N. Main Street, Providence

6 - 7 p.m.

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

JCDS Zimriyah

Annual Hebrew songfest at Jewish Community Day School.

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

7 p.m.

More info: 751-2470

Providence/Westbay Sr. USY Israeli Hip Hop Lounge Night

Learn about and listen to Israeli music and enjoy Israeli food; for teens in high school.

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence

More info: Rebecca Theise, youth coordinator, at rtheise@teprov.org

Israeli Film Festival

"The Matchmaker" tells of a teenage boy who, in 1968 Haifa, gets a summer job with a Holocaust survivor.

MacMillan Hall 117, 167 Thayer St., Providence

7 p.m.

More info: israelifilmfestival@gmail.com

Calendar Submissions

Please note: Our next issue of *The Voice & Herald* will be published on Feb. 18. Please send calendar items for that issue by Feb. 7. Calendar items for the March 4 issue are due Feb. 21.

Send all calendar items to nkirsch@JFRI.org with the subject line of "CALENDAR."

One Jew, two opinions

Professor is the first in a five-part series on Israel

By JONATHAN STANZLER
Special to The Voice & Herald

PROVIDENCE – With insight and clarity, Professor Sam Lehman-Wilzig explained to the audience at Temple Emanu-El on the evening of Sunday, Jan. 23, the paradox of “why reaching a peace treaty is close to impossible, but why it’s definitely possible to reach a peace treaty.”

Lehman-Wilzig, a political studies professor at Bar-Ilan University in Israel, a former visiting professor at Brown University and a JV&H columnist, was the first speaker in a five-part series on the politics of Israel and how they relate to the peace process.

Numerous forces prevent peace. The first such force, he said, is a “civil war” between two Palestinian factions – Fatah, which governs the West Bank under President Mahmoud Abbas, and Hamas, which governs the Gaza Strip. Unlike the more secular Fatah, Hamas says “no” to Israel as a sovereign Jewish state, given a religious belief that there is no place in Palestine for Israel or the Jews.

The second force, he said, arises from the issue of settlements: How do you uproot 70,000 to 100,000 settlers who live on territory that will not be part of Israel in a final settlement? The third force, he said, is Jerusalem, or “Al Quds,” as the Palestinians call it, which must be the capital of a Palestinian state. And yet another issue centers on who is entitled to govern the Temple Mount – one that Lehman-Wilzig called “a political and fundamental religious issue” between the two sides. The Dome of the Rock, one of the most sacred places of worship in Islam, is situated above the *Kotel*, or the Western Wall. Lehman-Wilzig said that it is impossible for the politically powerful Orthodox Israelis to agree to Muslim sovereignty in an area reserved for God’s “Third Temple,” just as it is impossible for the Muslim world to surrender sovereignty over such sacred holy places. This presents a quandary, he quipped, where everyone involved is “caught between a rock and a hard place.”

Other forces make a peace agreement impossible, such as the roles of Hamas and Hezbollah as proxies for Iran and Syria, Israel’s domestic politics and strong economy and, perhaps the most intractable of all, the millions of descendants of Palestinian refugees displaced by the 1948 War of Independence. Iran, Syria and their proxies “will not sit idly by while Abbas negotiates peace,” he said. Syria “won’t allow peace without the Golan Heights,” while Iran views Israel as a “bogyman that has to be forced off the map.”

Meanwhile, Israel, whose government is moving more to the right, with its relatively robust

“Unlike the more secular Fatah, Hamas says ‘no’ to Israel as a sovereign Jewish state.”

economy, booming stock market, recent discovery of a large reserve of natural gas off its coastline and dearth of suicide bombings in the last year, sees little pressure from voters to change peace process policies.

On the other, more optimistic, hand, under the right circumstances, he said, peace is “definitely possible.” Notwithstanding Israel’s right-wing government, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has agreed to a two-state solution. “Had he done that in Golda Meir’s

government in the early 1970s, she would have fired him,” he said. Today, Israelis are more willing to accept a two-state solution from a security-conscious right-wing government.

The Israeli public generally supports what its government does, if reluctantly, and Israeli law provides for a public referendum on any territorial concessions, offering political cover to the government. With the Arab world fearing the ever-growing influence of Islamic fundamentalism, and an international community tiring of a never-ending conflict, Israel and the Palestinians will be pressured to be more flexible and negotiate long-term solutions.

While a settlement would be costly, he believes the international community would be happy to pay the “tens of billions of dollars” required to help resettle Palestinian refugees and Israeli settlers. A peace treaty with the Palestinians would be followed by one with Syria, as well.

The biggest challenges, he predicts, will be the sovereignty of the Temple Mount, the refugee issue and the Hamas reaction to an Abbas-negotiated treaty. But Hamas will be the eventual losers, he said, as the Gazans’ economic progress will pale in comparison to that of their West Bank brothers

and the Gazans will want a piece of that growing West Bank pie.

Speaking several days before the Egyptian crisis erupted, Lehman-Wilzig addressed the Tunisian government overthrow. While he didn’t expect a rapid “domino effect,” most of the other autocratic regimes are secular, he said and “protesters should be careful what they wish for.”

Lehman-Wilzig believes that Iran is sending missiles to Hamas and Hezbollah and that the latter group, especially, is likely to use them in an attack on Israel to either prevent or retaliate against an Israeli strike on Iran.

As for the other speakers in the series, Lehman-Wilzig encouraged the audience to listen carefully, gauge how well they evaluate all sides of the conflict. “If they are totally certain, then what they’re saying is not true,” he said.

The Feb. 1 event was postponed, due to snow! Additional lectures will be held on Feb. 8, Feb. 15 and Feb. 22, all at 7:30 p.m., at Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. For more information about all these sessions, including the one to be rescheduled, contact 331-1616.

Jonathan Stanzler, an attorney in Providence, is also a member of The Jewish Voice & Herald’s editorial board. Contact him at jonstanzler@cox.net.

2011 Israeli Film Festival of College Hill February 10–17

http://students.brown.edu/Israeli_Film_Festival

All events are free and open to the public.
All rooms are located on the Brown University Campus (with the exception of the Avon Cinema).



THU
2/10

OPENING NIGHT PRECIOUS LIFE

6:30 pm | Avon Cinema | 260 Thayer Street

SAT
2/12

\$9.99

7 pm | MacMillan Hall 117

followed by Q&A with Director Tatia Rosenthal
led by RISD Professor Amy Kravitz

SUN
2/13

THE SECRETS

2 pm | Smith-Buonanno Hall 106

LEBANON

7 pm | MacMillan Hall 117

MON
2/14

THE SYRIAN BRIDE

5 pm | Salomon Hall 001

SWEET MUD

7 pm | MacMillan Hall 117

TUE
2/15

TEL AVIV-JAFFA

5 pm | Salomon Hall 001

THE SECRETS

7 pm | MacMillan Hall 117

WED
2/16

SWEET MUD

5 pm | Salomon Hall 001

THE SYRIAN BRIDE

7 pm | MacMillan Hall 117

THU
2/17

CLOSING NIGHT

THE MATCHMAKER

7 pm | MacMillan Hall 117

Treasures of Judaica Americana

John Carter Brown
Library is a rich
repository of
our history

By GEORGE M. GOODWIN
Special to The Voice & Herald

THE JOHN CARTER Brown ("JCB") Library, on the campus of Brown University, is one of the world's leading centers for the study of the Americas between 1492 and 1825. With a stunning and large collection of rare books, maps, manuscripts, and secondary references, it attracts scholars from throughout the United States and many parts of the world, including Israel. Many scholars have been fellows of the Touro National Heritage Trust, whose advisory committee is chaired by Bernard Bell.

In October, the JCB Library opened an unprecedented exhibition, "Jews and the Americas: 165 Years of Collecting Judaica Americana," which is free and open to the public during regular visiting hours, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The JCB Library's MacMillan Reading Room will be open on Sunday, Feb. 13 between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. so members of the Rhode Island Jewish community may gain an understanding of its remarkable Judaica holdings. The exhibition will close on Feb. 28.

Dr. Dennis C. Landis, the JCB Library's curator of European books, selected and displayed the



nearly 100 volumes (in an amazing variety of languages) for the exhibit. He will give a short introduction to the exhibition at 2:15 p.m. on Feb. 13 and will be available to answer questions.

The oldest book in the exhibition is Abraham ben Samuel Zacuto's "Almanach perpetuum," published in Venice in 1502. The author, one of the most important Jewish scientists during the late 15th century, analyzed celestial information that was helpful to Columbus on his initial voyage to the Americas.

The newest book is Pierre Jacques Benoit's "Voyage à Surinam," published in Brussels in 1839. This large pictorial work provides intimate glimpses of Jewish, African, Native American, and European life there.

Many of the exhibition's treasures were printed in Britain, British America, and the United States.

For example, "Prayers for Shabbath," printed in New York in 1766, is the first complete Jewish *siddur*, or prayer book, in the New World. Another example is Moses Lopez's lunar calendar, printed in Newport in 1806. The first Jewish calendar printed in the United States, it was studied in the 2009 issue of Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes.

Havurot and synagogue adult education groups are welcome to visit. The JCB Library is at the south end of the College Green, adjacent to George Street. Free parking is available in the Brown lot located west of the Green on George Street.

Dr. George M. Goodwin is a Temple Beth-El member and a leader of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association. For more information, contact him at 861-0636.

Support Hadassah's effort to help children

Foster children get something to call their own

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voiceherald@JFRI.org

PROVIDENCE — The Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah is sponsoring a drive to help foster children in Rhode Island who need belongings they can call their own — backpacks, stuffed animals, pajamas, school supplies, books, toiletries, card games and more. On Sunday, Feb. 6, Hadassah members will be at the Children's Museum at 3 p.m. to talk more about this project and collect donations (age and gender specific in any one backpack) for the initiative, Operation Comfort Pack.

Jessica Spellun, of Warwick, created this program here in Rhode Island, after volunteering at a pediatric psychiatry unit in a New York hospital during her senior year at New York University.

The majority of children there, she said, were in foster care or wards of the state. "They were at their best when they had the opportunity to be children," said Spellun, "to watch Disney movies, play with toys, read books or color. It struck me how much it means to a kid to have belongings of his own."

When Spellun moved to Rhode Island for a new job, she found herself missing the children she'd worked with in New York. She contacted the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) and discovered that there was a real need for caseworkers to provide kids with essentials

— pajamas, underwear and school supplies. From that phone call to the next — to the Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah — Operation Comfort Pack was born.

To date, through Operation Comfort Pack, 50 backpacks have been delivered to DCYF for children in foster care (from infants to age 18), but more are needed.

The child-friendly day of fun and learning at the Provi-



dence Children's Museum will include two speakers to briefly explain what Hadassah is doing to support children at risk and the positive impact these backpacks make on children in stressful and frightening times of transition.

Museum admission is waived for those who bring a backpack filled with age and gender specific new comfort items. These backpacks will be distributed to children under DCYF supervision. Door prizes will be raffled off to those who bring backpacks. For more information, contact 463-3636. To see the complete list of desired items or to donate even after Feb. 6, visit www.operationcomfortpack.bbnw.org.



KOLLEL
CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES

SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 6, 2011

JEWISH UNITY LIVE
Celebrating our past, present and future! **2011**

Bring Our History to Life

Morah Rivka Eskovitz
Medal of Jewish Unity awardee

Experience Jewish History like you never have before!

Save the date for a one-of-a-kind presentation that allows you to actually touch the weapons of ancient Israel, feel their clothing and read their writings.

7PM Dessert Reception, 8PM Presentation
Cost: \$36 in advance | \$45 at the door

THE RENAISSANCE PROVIDENCE HOTEL
VENUE | CORPORATE SPONSOR

Questions? 401-383-2786 | JUL@PROVIDENCEKOLLEL.ORG

www.jvhri.org

Frederick J. Harkins
AAMS, CRPC



Tel: 401.728.1728 | Fax: 401.728.1160
194 Hillside Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860
frederick.harkins@lpl.com
www.harkinswealthmanagement.com

Harkins Wealth Management

LPL WEALTH MANAGEMENT ADVISOR
Life. Money. Balance Both.

Securities offered through LPL Financial.
Member FINRA/SIPC.



EDITH AJELLO, left, and RHODA PERRY, are long-time state legislators.

NCJW visits Rhode Island Statehouse

PROVIDENCE – The National Council of Jewish Women's Rhode Island Section (NCJW Rhode Island) will hold a guided tour of the Rhode Island Statehouse on Wednesday, Feb. 9, at 2 p.m. After the tour, State Senator Rhoda Perry and State Representative Edith Ajello will explain the process of how a bill becomes a law and discuss upcoming legislation important to women, children and families.

After learning some advocacy strategies, attendees will visit both the Senate and House chambers before members of the General Assembly go into session.

The NCJW Rhode Island has other activities planned for later in the year, including studying in more detail important bills, attending legislative hearings and advocating

for or against key bills to elected officials. By maintaining a presence at the State House during the entire legislative session, NCJW demonstrates its commitment to social justice, peace and human rights.

On the afternoon of Feb. 9, NCJW will meet at 1:45 p.m., at the stairway leading up to the rotunda of the Statehouse.

For more information, contact Elaine Roberts at 884-3419 or Maxine Richman at maxinerichman@msn.com. NCJW is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

'Never Again Award'

HERC calls for nominations

PROVIDENCE – The Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island (HERC) seeks nominations for the "Never Again Award," presented to those volunteers whose actions inspire and support HERC but who have not been previously recognized. The award is presented annually to the volunteer(s) – an individual or a group – whose activities have made a significant contribution to HERC's mission.

That mission is to teach the history of the Holocaust to promote human dignity and justice, and to serve as a memorial to its victims. The agency's board of directors vote on nominations at the March board meeting and

the award recipient(s) are announced at a later date. No individual or group may receive this award more than once.

If you wish to nominate someone for the Never Again Award, please provide the following information to May-Ronny Zeidman, HERC's executive director, at mzeidman@hercri.org or HERC, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906: The name, address, phone and email of the person or group being nominated; describe why this person or group should receive the award – what actions support the HERC mission? The individual submitting the form must provide his or her name, address, telephone and email information. All nominations must be received by March 9.

HERC is a partner agency of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.

JERI hosts satellite office hours

PROVIDENCE – Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island (JERI), a program of Jewish Seniors Agency (JSA) will hold "drop-in" satellite office hours in February. The theme is "All About Jewish National Fund," and sessions will be held as follows:

On Thursday, Feb. 10, at Temple Shalom, 223 Valley Road, Middletown, from 10:30 a.m. to noon; Monday, Feb. 14, at Brightview Commons, 57 Grandville Court, Wakefield, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 17, at Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living, 3 Shalom Drive, Warwick, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 24, at Congregation B'nai Israel, 224 Prospect St., Woonsocket, from 9:30 to 11 a.m.; and

Monday, Feb. 28, at Sakonnet Bay Manor, 1215 Main Road, Tiverton, from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

JERI Director Susan Adler and Assistant JERI Director Ethan Adler will be available to counsel and advise seniors and their families on any issues or concerns. Ethan will also be available for pastoral counseling. Everyone is welcome.

For information or to set up an appointment, contact Susan Adler at 621-5374 or email sadler-jeri@jsari.org. For general information about the Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island, visit www.jsari.org.

JSA is a partner agency of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.



HOLOCAUST EDUCATION & RESOURCE CENTER OF RI

HOLOCAUST THROUGH THE ARTS 2011

Brundibar: Disguised Resistance

AN ORIGINAL PLAY

Sunday, February 27, 2011 11:00 AM

Monday, February 28, 2011 9:30 AM

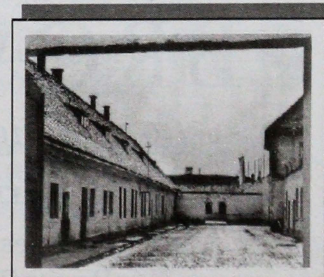
Tuesday, March 1, 2011 9:30 AM

Jewish Community Center
401 Elmgrove Avenue
Providence, RI

In 1941, Hitler turned Terezin into a camp for Jews, but it had a subversive purpose. It was built to hide the truth of the Final Solution, and was highly advertised by the Third Reich as the Ideal Community for Retirement, a resort-like community for resettled Jewish elderly and infirmed, later for whole Jewish families, including children. It was one of the greatest deceptions by Nazi Germany about their treatment of the Jews.

The 2011 Holocaust Through the Arts selection is a play focused on the truth of Terezin through the Children's opera performed there over 55 times, Brundibar.

The play, presented by HERC will present the story of Terezin and the Jews who lived there within the story of the performances of Brundibar. Within this play, the music of Hans Krasa will be heard again and this story of hope and justice will again ring out for all to hear.



This program is free and open to the public.

To make reservations call 401-453-7860 or email mzeidman@hercri.org

EGYPT: What's a neighbor to do?

From Page 1

ciaries of U.S. aid.

There is little consensus in pro-Israel Washington about how to treat the nation and its nascent revolution.

Competing claims were evident in the calls from figures known for their closeness to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, or AIPAC, the trendsetter in the pro-Israel community. Reactions to the unrest in Egypt crossed political lines, with some liberal and conservative commentators pressing the Obama administration to help topple the regime, and others stressing the need for stability.

Some called for assistance to Egypt to be contingent on whether the emerging government remained committed to coop-

"I understand the angst that exists in Israel, but we're not going to pick the next leader of Egypt."

eration with Israel. Others were emphatic in omitting Israel as a consideration, saying it was not the place of Israel or its friends to intervene.

Josh Block, AIPAC's former spokesperson who is still close to the organization, said the commitment to peace with Israel from whatever government emerges should be a critical element in considering whether to continue the



/Muhammad Ghafari

PRO-ISRAEL GROUPS are caught in a dilemma over whether to back Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak or his opponents, like those seen here gathering in Cairo on Jan. 25 to call for his ouster.

\$1.5 billion Egypt receives in aid, much of it in defense assistance.

"It's appropriate for the U.S. government to be reviewing U.S. aid to Egypt," said Block, now a senior fellow at the centrist Progressive Policy Institute and principal at the consulting firm Davis-Block. "No matter what, one of the top criteria Congress is likely to use is Egypt's approach to its peace treaty obligations with Israel."

That seemed to be the tack adopted by U.S. Rep. Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.), the ranking Democrat on the foreign operations subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee. She framed her

statement in the context of the 1979 Camp David peace accords with Israel, which is the basis for Egypt's status as one of the top recipients of U.S. aid.

"Ever since the historic Camp David peace accords more than 30 years ago, Egypt and the U.S. have been partners in seeking a just resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict," she said. "It is in the interest of the United States ... that Egypt remain a strong ally."

U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla.), the House Foreign Affairs Committee chair, said that U.S. assistance should be contingent on an election that allows only parties that recognize Egypt's "peace agreement with the Jewish State of Israel."

Such cautions are fueled by fears of the role the Islamist Muslim Brotherhood might play in a new Egypt. Other pro-Israel lawmakers notably omitted reference to the peace with Israel in their statements.

U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-N.Y.), the ranking Democrat on the House Middle East subcommittee, called for a sus-

pension of assistance to Egypt until Mubarak left – and then its renewal once a transitional government was in place, whatever its makeup.

"I believe the United States must suspend its assistance to Egypt until this transition is under way," said the statement from Ackerman, who is Jewish and a pro-Israel stalwart.

In an interview, Ackerman said the omission of an Israel reference was deliberate.

"I understand the angst and anxiety that exists in Israel, but we're not going to pick the next leader of Egypt," he said.

Instead, Ackerman said, the United States should use what he said was a closing window of opportunity, and side pronouncedly with the people and against Mubarak.

U.S. Rep. Howard Berman (D-Calif.), who is also Jewish and the ranking member on the Foreign Affairs Committee and the author of last year's sweeping Iran sanctions law, also kept Israel out of his statement.

Unlike Ackerman, however, he

said assistance should continue as a means of stabilizing the Egyptian military.

"So long as the Egyptian military plays a constructive role in a democratic transition, the United States should also remain committed to our ongoing assistance programs for Egypt, both military and civilian," he said.

Betting on the military was perhaps the only certainty in the current chaos, said David Schenker, an Egypt expert at the pro-Israel think tank, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. The Egyptian army is popular among Egyptians and, unlike the hated police, has taken steps during the uprising not to alienate the street.

"The arbitrator of this may be the military," Schenker said. "It doesn't want to cede power to a civilian power that's Islamist. The army has entrenched interests with this regime and likes very much its relations with the U.S. military."

Egypt's potential collapse triggered an intense "who's to blame" debate in Washington. One emerging theme was that more should have been done to use aid as leverage to nudge Mubarak toward democratization.

Pro-Israel congressional insiders said there had always been talk throughout the years of shifting funds from defense aid to democratization assistance, at times from unlikely bedfellows: Ros-Lehtinen and the Zionist Organization of America ("ZOA") had backed such a shift, but so had Rep. David Obey (D-Wis.), the former Appropriations Committee chairman and a frequent Israel critic.

Such initiatives were abandoned, insiders said, in Congress and the Bush White House after Hamas won elections in the Gaza Strip.

In a hearing on Egypt assistance in May 2006, just after the Hamas victory, Rep. Shelley Berkley (D-Nev.), the lawmaker who is perhaps closest to Israel, made this aside: "I am wondering if I need a change in the way I think about the Middle East and about democratizing nations that are no more ready for democracy than the

CRISIS, Page 15



BROWN

Continuing Studies

Spring 2011

Courses for Adults
Begin February 14Foreign Languages | Writing
Sciences | Humanities

For a full course listing and online registration visit:

www.brown.edu/continuingstudies

**first time campers +
third generationers
= CAMP JORI, totally yours.**

Worden's Pond • Wakefield, Rhode Island
website: www.campjori.com • E-mail: ronni@campjori.com
Call Camp Director Ronni Guttin at 401-463-3170

www.jvhri.org

Jewish Funds for Justice battle with Beck, Fox New

Rabbis join the fray

By BEN HARRIS

NEW YORK (JTA) – The 400 rabbis who took Glenn Beck and Fox News to task in full-page ads in late January did so under the name of a Jewish organization not generally known for policing the use of Holocaust imagery.

Jewish Funds for Justice (JFSJ), which paid for the same ad in two newspapers and whose name and logo appear at the top, is a social justice group that typically focuses

on poverty issues. But it has found its highest profile issue in an ongoing spat with Beck over his frequent use of Nazi comparisons to disparage his mostly liberal political opponents.

JFSJ reportedly paid in the six figures for the ad in the Jan. 27 edition of The Wall Street Journal, which was timed to coincide with International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The advertisement took the form of an open letter to Fox chief Rupert Murdoch asking him to sanction Beck. An identical ad also appeared in the Forward.

"We share a belief that the Holocaust, of course, can and should be discussed appropriately in the media," the letter said. "But that is not what we have seen at Fox News."

Fox dismissed the ad as politically motivated, and some in the Jewish community agreed. A fringe group calling itself Jewish Americans for Sarah Palin called the ad "highly partisan" for ignoring many other misuses of the Holocaust in public discourse.

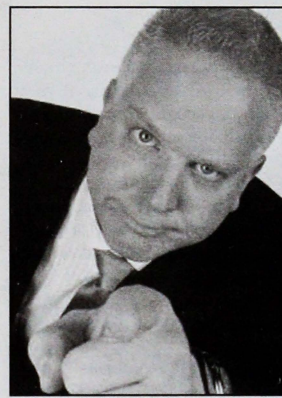
Even Abraham Foxman of the Anti-Defamation League called the ad "bizarre." In October, the ADL honored Murdoch with its International Leadership Award.

JFSJ and Beck have been trading media salvos for months, but the proximate cause of the ads was Fox News Chairman Roger Ailes' comment in November that there are "some left-wing rabbis who basically don't think that anybody can ever use the word 'Holocaust' on the air."

Ailes was defending a Fox expose on George Soros titled "The Puppet Master," which accused the Jewish financier of funding a conspiratorial "shadow government" and manipulating regimes and currencies to his own benefit. The broadcast was widely condemned by liberal pundits and some Jewish leaders.

Others, including Foxman, accused Beck of "ignorance and insensitivity" but stopped short of calling him anti-Semitic. Beck has insisted that he is "pro-Jew" and "pro-Israel," and his defenders note that he did not overtly link his conspiracy theories to Soros' Jewishness.

Following the Ailes' interview, JFSJ said it began casting about for ways to make a public statement at



GLENN BECK

the urging of rabbis.

"We didn't move forward with this until it was clear that there was a wide range of rabbis...they wanted to send a message to Murdoch," said Mik Moore, the JFSJ's chief strategy officer.

The rabbis who signed the statement include leaders of the main Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist institutions. No leader of a major Orthodox institution was asked to sign, and few individual Orthodox rabbis did.

In May, Beck attacked Simon Greer, JFSJ's chief executive officer, on his show after Greer, in a column urging that government engage in the effort to solve various social ills, called Beck a "con man" in the opening sentence. Beck said Greer was setting the stage for genocide.

"A Jew, of all people, should know that," Beck railed. "This is exactly the kind of talk that led to the death camps in Germany."

Greer says Fox agreed that Beck had crossed the line and promised to show more sensitivity to the use of Holocaust rhetoric. Fox disputes Greer's account, saying its officials made no promises and stood fully behind Beck.

Uncharacteristically, Beck has not spoken publicly since the ads appeared last week.

JFSJ says the only money it gets from Soros comes from the financier's Open Society Institute. Soros' funding is merely channeled through JFSJ and does not benefit the group itself.

"We'd be thrilled to get money from George Soros," Moore said, "but no."

CRISIS creates controversy

From Page 14

man on the moon."

The remark made headlines in Egypt.

Now some pro-Israel voices are saying that not pushing for democracy has disastrous consequences – including critics of the regime. The ZOA, which has frequently accused the Egyptian government of undermining peace and has pressed for reduced U.S. military aid, now calls for the Obama administration to keep the regime in place, with Mubarak or one of his associates in charge.

Obama "should show some loyalty to a regime with which we have had good relations for 30 years," ZOA President Mort Klein said. "If we have elections in the near future, you're going to have a result like in Gaza. Of course I want democracy, but I don't want democracy when the results support Islamic takeover."

Malcolm Hoenlein, the executive vice president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, told the Yeshiva World News that the United States should have been working more proactively to ensure an orderly transition to democracy.

Hoenlein warned against the emergence in Egypt of possible transition leader Mohammed

ElBaradei, saying he covered up Iran's true nuclear weaponization capacities while he directed the International Atomic Energy Agency ("IAEA"), the U.N. nuclear watchdog.

"He is a stooge of Iran, and I don't use the term lightly," Hoenlein said. "He fronted for them, he distorted the reports."

ElBaradei, who directed the IAEA from 1997 to 2009, returned to Egypt following his third term. Touted as a possible challenger to Mubarak, he has emerged during the protests as a consensus figure.

During his term as IAEA chief, ElBaradei said Iran was further away from a nuclear weapon than many in the West claimed and castigated Western powers, including Israel, for suggesting that a military option against Iran was increasingly possible. He made it clear in those statements that his posture stemmed from the U.S. failure to heed warnings from him and other weapons experts that Iraq did not have a nuclear weapons capacity.

ElBaradei also has been cool to Israel, however, and has infuriated Israel's military establishment by saying that Israel's alleged nuclear arsenal undercuts efforts to keep Iran and other countries from going nuclear.

www.BonnieSellsHouses.com

BONNIE KAPLAN



Relocation Specialist

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

#1 Coldwell Banker
Residential Brokerage Agent in
RI for 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2010

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

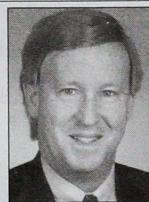
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Bonnie Kaplan
401-374-4488

'Let Bonnie's Experience Work for you in 2011'

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

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 or practice.

www.jvhri.org

Take the
"Brrrrrrrrrr"
away...
sign up for
**Summer
Camp 2011**
today!

June 27 - August 26

art • swim • sports • computer
specialty camps

9 weekly camps for ages 3-12
Counselor In Training (CIT) programs
for teens entering grades 8-10

For more information or to register, call
401.861.8800

stop by

401 Elm Grove Avenue, Providence
or visit us online at
www.jccri.org

all are welcome

The Jewish Community Center,
Jewish Federation and
Bureau of Jewish Education
are now

Jewish Alliance
OF GREATER RHODE ISLAND
Together, we are stronger.
www.jccri.org

Old cookbooks are treasure troves

What's old could be new again

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

WITH THIS issue's bridal theme, we thought a look back at some recipes of days gone by would be fun. While it's currently *de rigueur* to buy local, load up on fruits and vegetables and avoid fats, sugars and carbs, remember, weddings are special occasions. So, if you've been tapped to host a ladies' lunch or small reception for out-of-town relatives, why not "go retro?" Don't limit yourself; you could do the same for a mahjongg meeting or a book group gathering.

These recipes – appetizers, salads and desserts – come from some cookbooks that the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association graciously let us borrow.

APPETIZERS

Sweet sour meat balls

1 pound hamburger
3 teaspoons oatmeal
1/2 cup water
ketchup to taste
salt and garlic to taste
Sauce ingredients
1 can tomato soup
1 can water
1/2 can tomato sauce
1/4 cup brown sugar
3 ginger snaps, rolled (crushed)
fine
1/2 cup raisins

juice of 1/2 lemon
Method

Mix meat, oatmeal, water, ketchup, salt and garlic. If meat isn't soft enough, add more water, 1 tablespoon at a time. Make into meat balls.

Combine all the sauce ingredients in a pot over medium heat. When ingredients come to a boil, add meat balls. Cook at low bowl for 1-and-1/2 hours. Makes 20 to 30 meat balls.

The recipe, from "A Taste of Honey, Recipes from Yesteryear to Today" (compiled by Cranston-Warwick Hadassah and published by Cookbook Publishers, Inc., 1991), was attributed to Goldie Greene.

Is the lack of specificity about size of cans (soup, tomato sauce) even as recently as 1991 (when the cookbook was published) or is it that the authors of the cookbook assumed that their readers knew how to cook without such specific, detailed instructions? Women of earlier generations grew up observing their mothers cook; that's less true today. In fact, some well-known packaged food companies have chosen to "dumb down" the instructions on box mixes, for that very reason!

Cheese mixture

Ingredients

1/2 pound cream cheese
1/2 cup grated walnuts
12-15 stuffed olives
2 pieces pimiento

Method

Chop finely the stuffed olives and pimiento. Add cheese and grated nuts and work olives and pimiento into cheese thoroughly.

Add a dash of cherry liquor.

Although the recipe doesn't call for it, one would presumably serve this cheese mixture on crackers, bread or even matzah.

Unusual in that it came from a male contributor, Maurice Musler, the recipe is from "Recipes... Old and New, Recipes... Tried and True" (compiled by the Temple Beth-El Sisterhood).

No publication source or date is provided, but the cookbook harkens back to an earlier era – one when women were always referred to as "Mrs. husband's first name, husband's last name." For example, the chairman (not chairwoman!) heading the list of cooks in the cookbook is identified as "Mrs. William P. Weinstein."

Stuffed hard-boiled eggs

Cut eggs in half – lengthwise. Remove yolks and fill with any desired mixture. Use yolks for garnish, by ricing. Suggested fillings:

Tuna fish salad or paste
Salmon salad or paste
Chopped liver
Caviar with lemon juice
Cottage cheese, chives or onion juice – dash of Tabasco

Finely ground chicken or other meats, seasoned to taste.

If desired, place stuffed egg halves together and mold individually in aspic gelatin (i.e., plain gela-

tin with a dash of lemon juice).

This recipe, from Mrs. M. Pomerantz, New York City, appeared in the "Tasty Treasures" (cookbook compiled by the Sisterhood of the Cranston Jewish Center – the precursor to Temple Torat Yisrael – and published in 1958).

SALADS

Cranberry jello mold

Ingredients

1 cup ground raw cranberries
Rind of 1 orange
1 box lemon gelatin
1 cup crushed pineapple
1 tablespoon gelatin

Method

Drain pineapple, add enough water to juice from pineapple to make 2 cups.

Heat, pour over plain gelatin and lemon gelatin.

Stir until well dissolved. Add ground cranberries, drained pineapple and orange rind. Pour into mold and chill.

Ida Orenberg, of Texas, submitted this recipe which appears in "Tasty Treasures."

Beet salad

Slice cooked beets thin; sprinkle with chopped mint or parsley. Serve on lettuce with French dressing.

This recipe, from Mrs. Leo E. Cline, of Glen Falls, N.Y., appeared in "The Community Cook Book" (compiled and published by the Woonsocket Hebrew Ladies' Aid Society and Sisterhood of Congregation B'nai Israel in Woonsocket, 1947).

But for the French dressing, this recipe is so retro as to be "in" again. There's nothing like fresh beets, roasted and cooled in a salad. This reporter, who has never eaten canned beets, discovered – all too recently – just how delicious fresh beets can be, once they're roasted, peeled and cored. Toss them with some fresh salad greens and goat cheese...yummy!

Eggplant caviar

Ingredients

1 large eggplant
1 small onion, cut fine
1 tomato
1 apple
1/4 pound dried black olives
Salt and pepper
Little vinegar
Little sugar

Method

Bake the eggplant (the recipe neither includes an estimated time in the oven nor an oven temperature!). Peel. Scoop out the inside.

Chop with onions, tomato, salt, pepper, apple, vinegar and sugar. Use as a salad, sandwich spread or side dish.

This recipe, from Mrs. Samuel Markoff, comes from "Recipes... Old and New, Recipes... Tried and True."

ENTREES

Aunt Freida's on croquettes

Ingredients

1 (16 ounces) can salmon
3 eggs, beaten
1 onion, grated (reserve all liquid)
salt and pepper to taste
1 potato, grated (reserve all liquid)
1 carrot, grated
1/4 cup matzo meal
3 cloves garlic, crushed

Method

Drain salmon; discard liquid, skin and bones. Mash salmon and add all other ingredients.

Mix well and let mixture set for a few minutes. If there is a lot of liquid in the bowl, add more matzo meal.

Heat oil in a large skillet. Drop batter by large cooking spoonfuls (approx. 1/4 cup) into hot oil and fry on each side until a deep tan color (not brown). Drain on paper towels.

Can be frozen indefinitely! Reheat in oven (do not reify).

They are also delicious cold.

Recipe from "A Taste of Honey..."

Unstuffed Cabbage

Ingredients

1 cabbage, chopped
14 ounces catsup
24 ounces ginger ale
1/2 cup lemon juice
1 cup brown sugar
2 pounds of ground beef
1 handful raw rice
salt and pepper to taste
1 grated onion
2 eggs

Method

Pour first 5 ingredients into pot. Heat to near boil.

Form remaining ingredients into meatballs. Place raw meatballs into hot sauce.

Simmer for 1-and-1/2 to 2 hours.

Recipe, by Sheri Pollock, is from "A Taste of Honey..."

Chicken a la king

Ingredients

1/2 cup chicken fat
1/2 cup flour
2 cups chicken broth
1 cup mushroom juice
1 teaspoon salt
pepper to taste
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1 small can mushrooms
1 cup green beans
1 boiled chicken
1 small pimiento
2 green peppers

Method

Melt chicken fat. Stir in flour. When thick, slowly add chicken broth, stirring constantly.

Add mushroom juice, salt, pepper, and paprika.

When sauce has thickened, add mushrooms, green peas (liquid

286 Atwells Avenue is the Place to Be

"I'll cook for you or I'll teach you how..."

-Chef Walter

Chef Walter's International Cooking School

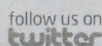
Recreational Cooking Classes
Corporate Events
Team Building
Couples & Brides To Be

Looking for a
unique gift?

Cooking Class Gift
Certificates are Available!



Cooking Classes result in great dinners!
Reserve a Seat at The Ristorante D'Italia
Bar for only \$20 and enjoy a cooking
class tasting! (space limited)



feedback@chefwalter.com • carmela@chefwalter.com

401-273-2652 • 800-344-6311

Find Our Upcoming Class Schedule at
www.chefwalterscookingschool.com or www.chefwalter.com

www.jvhri.org

RETRO recipes reveal our history

drained off), chicken which has been cut into small pieces, diced pimiento and green peppers, softened in boiling water and cut into small pieces.

Serve hot on toast or in patty shells.

Recipe, submitted by Mrs. Maurice Simon, of Franklin, Mass., is from "The Community Cook Book..."

Spanish steak

Ingredients

Steak (steak should be about 2 inches thick and enough for 6 portions)

- 1/2 bottle (small) ketchup
- 1/2 bottle chili sauce
- 2 finely diced green peppers
- 2 finely diced onions
- 1 clove garlic
- salt to taste
- 1 pound fresh mushrooms

Method

Place steak in an uncovered

baking dish (one that can be used the table). Cover steak with the ketchup, chili sauce, green peppers, onions, garlic and salt.

On top of the sauce, place 1 pound whole fresh mushrooms.

Bake in preheated oven 45 minutes in 450 degree oven. Baste several times.

Recipe, from Mrs. Lionel Albert, appears in "Recipes Old and New..."

DESSERTS

Marshmallow chocolate rolls

Ingredients

- 1 package colored miniature marshmallows
- 1 (12 ounces) package of chocolate bits
- 1 stick butter or margarine
- 1 cup walnuts
- 1 (8 ounces) package of coconut, optional

Method

Melt butter and chocolate bits in

pan. Cool, then add marshmallows and nuts.

Let stand for 10 minutes. Tear off 4 sheets of wax paper approximately 18 inches long.

Take 1/4 of mixture and place on wax paper and shape and roll mixture jellyroll fashion and tuck sides envelope fashion.

Continue to do the same for remaining mixture. You can put coconut on paper and place chocolate on top.

Refrigerate rolls for 1 hour.

Take out of refrigerator and reroll in clean wax paper. Freeze.

Recipe, by Rosalie Gilstein, appears in "A Taste of Honey."

Chocolate ice box cake

The recipe's name signifies how "ancient" the recipe is; what 21st century cook calls a refrigerator an "icebox?" Rather, it's a Sub-Zero, a Viking or, more simply, "the fridge."

Ingredients

- 1 package chocolate bits
- 2 tablespoons cold water
- 4 egg yolks
- 4 egg whites and 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/2 pint whipped cream and 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 layer cakes
- Nuts or coconut

Method

Melt bits in double boiler. Add cold water and cool, then add egg yolks, one at a time.

Beat egg whites plus sugar, fold



in chocolate mixture, then fold in whipped cream.

Cut layer cakes breadth-wise. Arrange on bottom of spring form so as to form crust. Alternate with filling three times, leaving largest

portion of filling on top. Sprinkle with nuts or coconut. Chill overnight.

Mrs. Hope Mellion submitted this recipe, which was published in "Tasty Treasures..."

A TASTE OF HONEY



RECIPES FROM YESTERYEAR TO TODAY
CRANSTON-WARWICK HADASSAH

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

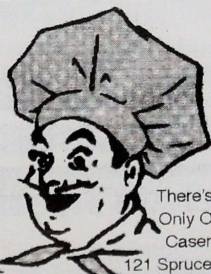
\$1.00 OFF

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



When Quality Matters for Your Dinner, the Quality of Your Wine Should Too.

Fine imported wines from around the world

HIGH SPIRITS

LIQUORS

401.274.4790

Hours: Mon-Sat 9-10, Sun 12-6

University Marketplace • 571 North Main St • Providence
Located next to Whole Foods

1 dozen roses
and a 19pc
Godiva Ballotin
for \$29.99

Sale runs from 2/10 through 2/14
While supplies last



Eastside Marketplace



A Providence Tradition

The supermarket that gives you a CHOICE ... traditional foods and whole food alternatives.

165 Pitman Street, Providence, RI 02906 • www.eastsidemarket.com • 401-831-7771

www.jvhri.org

“Through my work with the CRC,
I get to see Jewish values in practice
every day, making the world a kinder,
safer place for all of us. My name is

Marty Cooper.

I am the Alliance.”

<< Marty Cooper, Director of the Alliance's
Community Relations Council (CRC)



I am the Alliance.

We are Jewish tradition and values at work in daily life. We are social justice, lifelong Jewish learning, and loving kindness. We are a daily commitment to create healthier minds, bodies and community. We are *Tzedakah* and *Tikkun Olam*. Through the Annual Community Campaign, our donations fund more than 300 programs and services that support and enhance Jewish life in Rhode Island, in Israel, and around the world. We are the Alliance.

Jewish Alliance

OF GREATER RHODE ISLAND

Together, we are stronger.

401 Elmgrove Avenue Providence, RI 02906 www.Shalomri.org



CHILDREN AT PLAY

/Nancy Kirsch



MARSHALL EINHORN and his son, ARI

/Nancy Kirsch

CELEBRATION recognizes all who contribute

From Page 1

beyond the borders of Woonsocket. In Uncle Joe's honor, it is our mission to follow in his footsteps."

Amy Olson led the audience in singing "Hatikvah" and "The Star Spangled Banner," and Rabbi Joel Seltzer delivered a thoughtful *d'var Torah*.

Minna Ellison, the interim president of the Alliance, said, "This is your celebration...of past and future accomplishments. Our staff [members] are passionate about their work, steeped in tradition, diverse in our backgrounds and welcoming of all."

A video depicting many Alliance staff members introducing themselves and their work drew appreciative applause, as did Richard Licht, the ever-nimble chairman of the Alliance board, when he quipped – after the sound system temporarily failed – "It's clear we need a new sound system; if anyone wants to donate money to pay for it, we'd be glad to name it after you."

Confessing to past doubts about meeting the ambitious Jan. 1, 2011 deadline to merge Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, Jewish Community Center and Bureau of Jewish Education into the Alliance,

Licht said, "I never thought we would get here [by Jan. 1], but I'm glad I'm wrong."

After recognizing several people who made this vision a reality – Mark Feinstein (who chaired the Strategic Task Force that recommended the merger), members of the Integration Committee, Stuart Forman (the consultant who helped with the merger) – Licht gave special thanks to three people: Doris Feinberg, Doug Emanuel and Sharon Gaines. "They worked tirelessly... these three individuals who put aside institutional biases and concerns. They are forever in our

hearts and history." Of Gaines, who chaired the Integration Committee, Licht said, "She cracked the whip and kept us on deadline."

He also recognized and thanked other agencies' lay and staff leaders who attended the program.

We owe a debt of gratitude to those who came before us, said Licht, and thanks to them, we can build from their foundation.

When Licht's grandfather arrived at Ellis Island, lacking the \$10 he needed to stay, his first cousin wired him the necessary funds. When there were Jewish orphans, the Jewish community built the

Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island (JORI). And when Jewish doctors were denied privileges at other hospitals, the Jewish community built The Miriam Hospital. These and myriad other examples represent the strength of our committed Jewish community, a community that extends help and services to all in need, Jewish or not.

Those who came before us recognized the need to adapt and change, with changing times, as we are changing now. When there was no longer a need for a Jewish orphanage, JORI became a Jewish summer

ADAPTING, Page 20

Mutual Engineering Service Co.

A DIVISION OF THE PETRO GROUP



Want Comfort? The Feeling is "Mutual!"

• Heating • Air Conditioning • Heat Pumps • Roof Top Systems •

Keeping you comfortable since 1934!

We Provide Complete Gas Heating and Heat Pump Service and Installation – Residential • Commercial



A FULL IN-HOUSE DESIGN, INSTALLATION & SERVICE COMPANY

Call David Epstein at 401-351-3900

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

The Alef List: Happenings for Hip Jews presents

THE SOCIAL SERIES

Please join us for our first "Social Series" of get togethers for young Jewish professionals in their 20's and 30's.

Wednesday, February 9

Skating at Kennedy Plaza

Join Sam Lewis, Sports Programming Director for The Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, and other Jewish professionals in their 20's and early 30's for a night of skating and fun! Meet at the rink at 7:00 pm and skate until 9ish. Then walk over to Union Station Brewery for a drink and a nosh. The cost for skating is \$6 plus \$4 for skate rental. Bring your ID for student discount.

RSVP to Wendy 401.421.4111 or wjoering@jfri.org by February 4.



Events also listed on www.ShalomRI.org

Jewish Alliance
OF GREATER RHODE ISLAND

The Alef List is a program of

Together, we are stronger.

WE ARE THE ALLIANCE



/Nancy Kirsch

PENINA and RABBI JACQUELINE SATLOW



/Alisa Grace Photography

LISA and ERIC SHORR



/Nancy Kirsch

DOUG EMANUEL, SHARON GAINES, DORIS FEINBERG and RICHARD LICHT

ADAPTING is in our DNA

From Page 19

camp.

"Today, we're celebrating that we had the vision to adapt," said Licht. While these are challenging times, he said, they are no more challenging than in the past. "Today, we're celebrating that we assume the challenge to make Jewish life the best it can possibly be... collaborative, cooperative, transparent."

The entire Rhode Island congressional delegation (United States

Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse, and U.S. Representatives James Langevin and David Cicilline), Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts, Providence Mayor Angel Taveras and State Senator Josh Miller all lauded both Licht and the Alliance for their vision and dedication.

"No one in public life knows more about how to operate in government with integrity than Richard Licht," said Reed. "The Alliance is going to continue to sustain important work,

and it sets a powerful example for all of us."

Many of the political speakers had personal experiences with the Jewish community. Whitehouse said that his children learned to swim in the pool here and that he exercised, though "too infrequently" at the gym.

"This is the first time in eight years I've been here without a proclamation," said Cicilline, the sole Jewish member of the congressional delegation. "This is a great day

for all of us... it's a celebration and a reaffirmation of our commitment to Jewish activism and tikkun olam."

After explaining that his parents and grandparents raised him in this Jewish community, Josh Miller thanked the Alliance's Community Relations Council, for its engagement on social issues with the Rhode Island General Assembly.

Bruce Sundlun, a former governor of Rhode Island, and Providence City Council Member Sam Zurier, two other members of the

Jewish community, were also recognized.

"The *havdalah* candle symbolizes what we're all about," said Licht, after recognizing the new officers and directors of the Alliance. The excitement we feel about a new week is the same excitement we feel for a better Jewish Rhode Island, he said.

In closing comments, Lisa Shorr said, "These candles symbolize the start of our new community which was born out of great traditions."

Be a Jewish Superhero for a Day.

Save the date for the First Annual Rhode Island Mitzvah Day on Sunday, March 13, 2011. A variety of volunteer opportunities will be available for everyone. Have fun, help those in need and participate in *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world. Join us as we mobilize the Jewish community for Mitzvah Day. Details coming soon.



To learn more, please visit
www.Shalomri.org.

Jewish Alliance
OF GREATER RHODE ISLAND
Together, we are stronger.

www.jvhri.org

Anniversary party becomes wedding ceremony

*Long-married
Holocaust survivors
celebrate, at long last*

BY REBECCA BRENNER
Special to The Voice & Herald

CHICAGO – When my sister and I decided to celebrate our parents' 65th wedding anniversary on Oct. 10, 2010, we knew that it was important to invite the people who were meaningful to them. I arrived early (from my home in Rhode Island) to spend some quality time with my parents and to attend to any details still undone. This serendipitous occasion set off a new series of circumstances... circumstances that none of us expected.

Our parents met in difficult times, a time when formality and celebration were not possible; instead they lived with turbulence and persecution. Only despair prevailed. My parents – Anna and Harold – shared a common experience: that of surviving. With that came solace and a kind of comfort that provided each with a determination to push forward, together, enabling them to carve out a life together and build a future.

One evening, I pushed aside the things I needed to do and instead, had my parents go back in time. I asked one question after another, how they met, where they married. As young people in the storm of the Holocaust, there was little time to think, to plan. For them, it was disappearing into freedom that mattered. In my childhood, questions about their earliest days together were left unspoken. To speak was to remember. For some reason, this evening was different;



THE BRENNER FAMILY: Esther Pullman, Anna Brenner, Rebecca Brenner and Harold Brenner at Anna and Harold's 65th wedding anniversary party.

both my parents were engaged and ready to talk. The gates were open, the details clear, the worry of judgment finally gone – some 67 years after they met.

We learned that they had been in a protected camp in Kazon, Russia. These were practical times; the way to make a union legal merely required them to sign some documents in a government office. Later, upon arriving to a displaced persons' camp in Austria, they found a religious man who performed some blessings for them, helping to signify a Jewish union.

Here we were, about to honor my parents on the occasion of their

65th wedding anniversary, and something was not quite right, a memory was not fulfilled. With only a few hours of sleep, I awoke renewed and with great clarity. Our plans for a celebration were to be embellished. It was Friday, the party was Sunday, we had rented a restaurant, my sister and parents had chosen the menu and the table arrangements, and the guests were confirmed.

The rabbi at my parents' *shul* was relatively new. I had yet to meet him, but he was "a very fine young man," my parents said. He is "always ready and infused with a *sekhel* [understanding] and good humor." These attributes would be required for the task ahead. On Friday, a busy day for him, with Shabbat only hours away, we finally connected.

My request was simple, "Will you marry my parents?"

He paused, as rabbis do, and said, "This is a most unusual request, I have never done this before. But... why not? Yes." He told me that he greatly respected my parents and their perseverance and humility.

So now an anniversary celebration had turned into a wedding. Our parents deserved a Jewish wedding ceremony by an officiating rabbi, and that's what they got.

We thought that it was truly important to celebrate this milestone. On Oct. 10, 2010, we celebrated and honored this special day and, finally, after 65 years made it official! Family members – including sons-in-law, a grandchild and a cousin – held the *huppah*. Filled with emotion, my parents could barely speak their vows, but the words were said, prayers were given and the glass was shattered. Tears were shed and shared, tears of joy.

Mazel tov!

My sister and I made the *huppah* from an embroidered runner that

"Our parents deserved a Jewish wedding ceremony by an officiating rabbi, and that's what they got."

was one of the very few items my mother was able to keep from her past. It was given to her during one of the last times she saw her mother. Now, this object of handwork, from mother to daughter, was in its place of honor, shielding the heads of my parents. I watched them as the rabbi officiated; they were both speechless, but for their eyes that spoke the word of the day, "love."

Rebecca Brenner is a jewelry designer who lives in Pawtucket with her family. Contact her at rebecca-brenner1@gmail.com.



ANNA AND HAROLD BRENNER prepare to drink the cup of wine, as family members look on.

La Bottega



COLLECTIONS BY

MARISA BARATELLI

THEIA

Scavelli

Paula Varsalona

and more...

1310 Atwood Ave. Johnston, RI [10 min. from downtown]

www.labottigari.com Tel: 401-943-3227

Complimentary Alterations



From left, ANGUS ADAMS, SOPHIE ISENBERG, SADIE BOYES, and in front, MADISON OHLGREN, ponder the meaning of love.



From left, in rear, GRIFFIN GARDNER and REY WILLIER, and in front, from left, OLIVER ANGERT and HENRY EBERMAN think about love.

Out of the mouths of babes

What is love?

BY NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

WHAT IS LOVE? Sonnets have been penned, songs have been sung, memoirs have been memorialized...there are dozens of ways in which love has been studied, described and defined.

Here at The Voice & Herald – surrounded as we are by so many young children (at the J-Camp after-school program and Early Childhood Center) – we decided to query the youngest among us:

"What does love mean to you?"

Here, in their own words, are some definitions of love. From some of the kids in the J-Camp, we heard these words of wisdom:

- Eli Levy, who will turn 7 on Valentine's Day, said, "Your parents hugging – that's love."
- Leah Ribner-Martin, 9, said, "Love means living together and having fun."

- Max Schwartz, 8, offered some sage advice: "Find someone who you have a lot in common with; you want to find things that you like about each other."

- Max's sister, Abby, 5, defined love thusly, "Kissing and holding

each other."

- Bailey Toledo, 10, said, "Holding hands and kissing."

- Eli Landry, 7, said "Dancing together, and having compassion for people. (This reporter didn't

"The sign for love is a bow and arrow across the heart."

know that 7-year-olds knew the word "compassion!")

That question, posed to some of the children in the Sabra class

(of 4- and 5-year olds) of the JCC Early Childhood Center, sent some of the little boys into paroxysms of laughter and giggles, while others looked completely befuddled and bewildered. No surprise, they're boys!

- Griffin Gardner, 5, had a more personal perspective on love. "I love my mom and my dad, and even my little sister Grace."

- Henry Eberman, 4, said, "My mom and dad love each other. And I don't hit them."

- Madison Ohlgren, 4, defined love as "caring about someone when they feel bad. I would say to them, 'Don't feel bad, I don't want you to feel bad.' And, Madison

said, "I help my mom when she feels bad."

- Sadie Boyes, 5, said, "Love is when they share." When she was prompted to describe what might be shared, she said, "Wine, candy bars, chocolate pie!" She further elaborated, "My mom needs help cleaning up the house, so my mom's mom takes us for a walk."

- Sophie Isenberg, 5, described love as "giving them some help." Other proofs of love, from Sophie's point of view, included these: "My dad gives my mommy a ring. She brings him coffee all the time."

- Angus Adams, 5, said, "My dad chopped ice, so everyone would be safe. My dad says to my mom, 'That's a really good dinner.'"

- Julian Burke, 5, said, "My mom makes coffee for my dad, and my dad pours coffee for my mom."

- Oliver Angert, 4, said, "If someone is in love and they stayed like that forever, that would be perfect."

- Rey Willier, 5, said, "The sign for love is a bow and arrow across the heart."

So, readers, if someone makes – or pours – a cup of coffee for you, chops the ice so you won't slip and fall or shares their chocolate pie, that person just might love you! Turn to the youngest members of your family and ask what they think; their answers might surprise or move you.

Thanks to Shannon Boucher, who runs the J-Camp after school program, and Esta Yavne and Diletta Cambio, co-teachers for the Sabra class in the JCC Early Childhood Center, who helped make this article possible.

Marriott
PROVIDENCE DOWNTOWN

FREE WEDDING GIVEAWAY AT THE PROVIDENCE MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN

Submit your story and RSVP to the event at www.marriottprovidence.com/freewedding
Share your Story about Your Most Memorable Romantic Moment and Enter to WIN!
Winner will be Announced on February 24th at the Free Wedding Giveaway Celebration!



The most memorable story of romance will be selected to win a celebration of a lifetime! Submit your story today and you will be entered to win! For more information or to receive Free Wedding Giveaway Official Rules, please email esprovidence@marriottprovidence.com



Grestwood Country Club

Assuring you of the utmost attention at your reception

508-336-8582 x104 • Rehoboth, MA

Our professional staff is well versed in banquet preparation and presentation in ensuring that your wedding reception is our only priority as we specialize in one event per day.

We are a private country club located in scenic Rehoboth, conveniently located in Southern Massachusetts between Providence and Taunton and only a 45 minute ride from Boston.

PLAN YOUR SPECIAL EVENT WITH US

- Retirement Parties
- Business Luncheons
- Private Country Club
- Picturesque Water Views
- Specializing in only one Wedding Day
- Accommodate Weddings up to 200
- Wedding Receptions
- Rehearsal Dinners
- Bridal Showers
- Baby Showers
- Anniversary Parties
- Bar Mitzvahs, Bat Mitzvahs
- Golf Outings



Steve and Elaine Shapiro are married...again

Evening was a Nachas, Nuptials, Nosh and Nonsense' fundraiser

By SUE ABBOTSON
Special to The Voice & Herald

CRANSTON - What do Tiny Tim, a giant toothbrush, Nibbles (the Big Blue Bug), Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi, and Rabbi Amy Levin have in common? They all attended Steve and Elaine's wedding at Cranston's Temple Torat Yisrael last November - and, by all accounts, had a rollicking good time!

Steve and Elaine Shapiro have been happily married for the past 37 years, but due to some minor details regarding Elaine's birth, their wedding vows were not entirely kosher. So, to both reaffirm their love and commitment to one another, and to make the marriage cast-iron solid under Jewish law, they asked Rabbi Levin to marry them in a fully kosher wedding, with many friends at Torat Yisrael as witnesses.

Called "An Evening of Nachas, Nuptials, Nosh and Nonsense," it was a fun-filled fundraiser for the synagogue. The ceremony took place on a brisk November evening, but the wedding "guests" felt fully warmed by the antics of the wedding party and Charlie Hall and the Ocean State Follies.

When guests entered the synagogue's elegantly decorated lobby, they were greeted by the dulcet tones of husband-and-wife duo, Dave Wasser and this reporter, playing the ukulele and singing classic love songs. A collection of several generations of Shapiro family photographs graced a nearby table, as did a photograph of Steve and Elaine from their 1973 wedding.



STEVE and ELAINE SHAPIRO marry again.

ding. A large mat allowed guests to write messages to the bride and groom.

While Steve and Elaine's parents are no longer alive, their presence was felt throughout the wedding.

"Dave Wasser, the ring bearer, appeared dressed as Tiny Tim and crooned, 'Tiptoe through the Tulips.'"

A fussily mannered "wedding planner," courtesy of the Ocean State Follies, primped between guests, raising chuckles as he commented on the upcoming nuptials, and "Snooki," wearing a tight leopard print top, loudly complimented other people's attire.

The *becher*, or wine cup, belonged to Steve's *zaydie*, or grandfather, and

Elaine carried her mother-in-law's small Bible, which had been carried at Steve's parents' wedding and at Elaine and Steve's first wedding. Elaine wore her mother's watch, which had been a gift from her husband on their 25th wedding anniversary, and the wedding band the couple used was Elaine's father's. Steve wore his father's *tallit*. Elaine wore the same dress and headpiece she had worn in 1973.

All the members of the wedding party had their moment - and their song - as they trooped down the aisle before the bride and groom. Guests were caught by surprise as Dave Wasser, the ring bearer, appeared dressed as Tiny Tim and crooned, "Tiptoe through the Tulips," while this reporter, as the flower girl, spun down the aisle tossing rose petals to and fro over the guests!

Rabbi Amy Levin and Cantor Devon Goldberg waited patiently on the *bimah* to see who would appear next. Bridesmaids Susan Smoller and Beth Salk were accompanied by their spouses, David and Jeff, respectively, with Jeff pulling a selection of tools from his Ace Hardware tool belt as he skipped down the aisle. Richard Saltzman also appeared as a groomsman, wearing a yellow hardhat. A local dentist, Fred Lury, and his wife, Lois, appeared as Elaine's parents, with Dr. Fred distributing tubes of toothpaste and Lois wielding a six-foot long toothbrush.

Barbara and Billy Karetzky filled in as parents of the groom, with Billy brandishing a single white

glove. Steve strutted to the *bimah*, shaking his "Sugar Daddy" cane with a mischievous grin. Finally Elaine appeared, as beautiful as the first time she'd walked down the aisle in the same wedding dress. As the couple settled before the cantor and rabbi in preparation for their vows, the mood was mellowed by the "Hawaiian Wedding Song," sung by the ring bearer and flower girl.

The ceremony was brief, but emotional. The wedding party did a celebratory dance back down the aisle, as the guests were ushered into the Social Hall for more festivities. The hall looked beautiful, with silk floral decorations designed by Lois Lury.

While guests milled around the tables, reviewing the auction items and drinking a glass of wine or the specially designed cocktail of the evening, "The SHA-PEAR-O," the Ocean State Follies crew entertained with instant portraits, and volunteers from Johnson & Wales University set up food stations of Italian, Chinese, Mexican and Mediterranean cuisine.

The beautiful wedding cake was made by the temple's baker, Barry Kaplan, and our own DJ, Aaron Guttin, played dance tunes. While Anita Olinisky and Linda Weisman co-chaired the event, it required many volunteers' time and effort. All in all, it was a night to remember!

Sue Abbotson is a professor of English at Rhode Island College. Contact her at sabbotson@ric.edu.

Your wedding day...
overlooking Narragansett Bay!

Quidnessett Country Club

Picture Perfect Wedding Ceremonies and Elegant Receptions
Rhode Island's Premiere Wedding Specialists
950 North Quidnessett Road, North Kingstown, RI
401-884-1100 • www.Quidnessett.com

Providence Biltmore
A Rhode Island Tradition Since 1922

C A T E R I N G B Y

Cornerstone Catering

Elise Shatraw
Catering Sales Manager
Providence Biltmore Catering
by Cornerstone Catering
@The Providence Biltmore Hotel
Phone: 401-455-3021
Fax: 401-455-3040
eshatraw@providencebiltmore.com
www.providencebiltmore.com

www.jvhri.org

Embrace the process

Marriage is more than instant gratification

BY RABBI RAPHIE SCHOCHET
Special to The Voice & Herald

I RECENTLY HEARD a very wise man say, "The biggest problem facing American Jewry today is the need for instant gratification!"

On the surface, it seemed like an enigmatic statement but, upon further reflection, it really does encapsulate many of the challenges we face. The inability to embrace the process and build for the future is crippling.

I want to address this in the context of marriage and particularly a Jewish approach to marriage.

To understand or to advise about marriage, we need to first understand what marriage is all about. Marriage is not a partnership of two separate entities, a simple physical co-existence; marriage is a process of two people becoming a single spiritual entity, as is stated in Genesis 2:24, "...and he will cleave to his wife and they will become one."

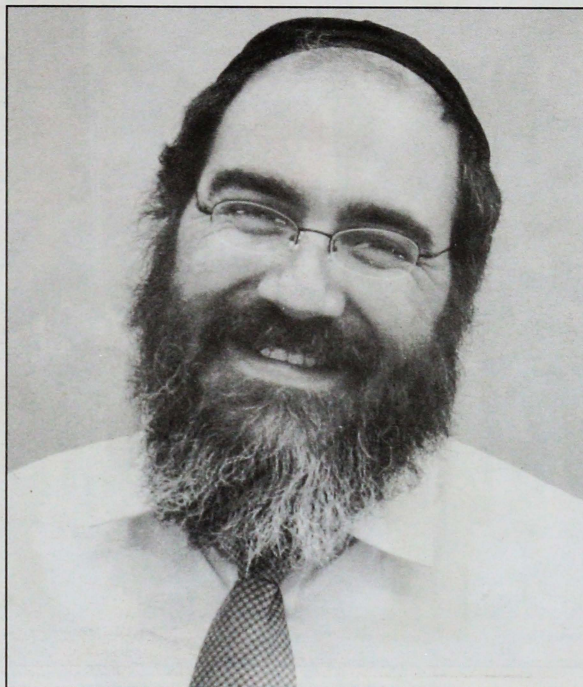
When the Torah describes something, it is defining it on all

levels – from the most elemental to the highest spiritual reality – marriage is about becoming one. The glue that makes that bond work is called love and getting to that deep seated, bonding, solidifying, all-encompassing reality of being in love is a process. It begins with chemistry, infatuation and passion, the physical parts of the process, but it has to be slowly nurtured, tended and grown until it reaches that essence of total envelopment that is love, some-

"A truly successful marriage is one where the bond, the love, grows and grows."

thing that is deeply spiritual; that is a true marriage. The nature of all physical things is that they eventually decay and die. Spiritual reality is infinite in its capacity for growth and expansion.

Is it any wonder that marriage today is in such a shambles? How many of us are willing to embrace the process? How many of us are willing to learn what it will take?



RABBI RAPHIE SCHOCHET

/Nancy Kirsch

There is a Jewish law that says that a husband and wife must spend the first year of marriage constantly in each other's company, seeking ways to bring

greater joy to one another. This is called "shana rishona," or "the first year." I have often heard it said by people who have been happily married for a while that they

would be able to do *shana rishona* much better after 10 years (and after 25 years they really know what it means). A truly successful marriage is one where the bond, the love, grows and grows. Fanned from chemistry to infatuation, infatuation to passion and from there to a truly deep spiritual reality called love – this is the process!

To understand how this process can be accomplished, let's examine what the root of love really is. The origin of the Hebrew word for love, *ahavah*, is *hav*, to give. The basis of all love is in giving! The more we give, the more we love. Some of the more mystical Jewish sources explain that what we give to becomes an extension of ourselves. Building and merging two entities into one, the goal of a successful marriage, requires constantly looking to give, to do, for the other. This is true love, this is the process, can we embrace it?

Rabbi Raphie Schochet and his wife, Tichyeh, the Judaic studies principal at NEAT, have been married for 15 years. They live in Providence with their seven children. He is the dean and director of Kollel: Center for Jewish Studies, a Jewish outreach and educational center serving all Rhode Island. Contact him at info@providencekollel.org.

Ray loves Sandra

Love story predates a long and rich marriage

BY BETH SURDUT
Special to The Voice & Herald

WHEN MY parents met in Providence, Raymond Jonas Surdut was a lanky 16-year-old and Sandra Elaine Cooperberg was 14, and by his account, gorgeous and smart. He told me that he came home and said to his mother, "I've met the girl I'm going to marry!" "Vey is mir!" she said. "You're going to get her pregnant and get married and never finish college!" She had some of the facts right, but certainly not the timeline or my legitimacy.

Despite my *bubbie* Mollie Surdut's predictions, Ray and Sandra graduated from Hope High School. Sandra

attended Bryant College and Ray graduated from Brown University. Ray went to Boston University Law School and Sandra worked in the law library during that time. They married on July

30, 1951, and I was born in 1953, the only one of three babies who survived to adulthood. The way my mother looks at my father in this photo on their wedding day is a look of love that I saw every day I was with them.

After my father earned his law degree, they lived in Rhode Island for all but six months of their lives. Sandra's sweet voice (the kind most of us use to talk to kittens and puppies) cloaked indomitable perseverance.

During their culturally active life together, she became a consummate fundraiser and general contractor for good causes. When she heard that disadvantaged kids had nowhere to play to cool off during the hot summers, she spearheaded the Sandra E. Surdut

swimming pool at the Dr. Patrick I. O'Rourke Children's Center in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood of

Providence. Later, The Ladd School in Exeter, may it rest in peace, came to her in need of not only a pool and equipment for special needs residents, but also a building to house it all.



SANDRA ELAINE COOPERBERG and RAYMOND JONAS SURDUT on their wedding day
/Courtesy Beth Surdut

I remember being squeezed in at our dinner table on Blackstone Boulevard with big-shouldered steamfitters and other union workers who donated their time, offering up their services if she ever decided to build a city. The idea for a new community blossomed and the Vision Unlimited Foundation was formed. With a board of experts,

Sandra developed the plans for Heliopolis, a community for everyone, barrier-free for those with disabilities. Asking advice of Buckminster Fuller and Paolo Soleri, she presented her vision to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington,

D.C., and at a 1985 World's Fair in Japan. Sandra, in tandem with Ray (who was developing a new blood pressure monitor),

tirelessly put forth her ideas, but death intervened.

When my mother died of pancreatic cancer in 1990 at age 60, my parents had been married for 39 years, celebrating life with avid curiosity. When we gathered at home after the funeral, people who had known my mother and father all those years came up to me, the women especially, to tell me that my parents' affection and love for each other was remarkable. My father, who died on Oct. 25, 2010, never returned to her grave. "I want to remember her alive," he said. I understood.

Beth Surdut is an artist and writer living in New Mexico. Contact her at info@bethsurdut.com.

'Instant family' doesn't deter Sam Kopel

*Second marriage –
and more children –
bring bliss*

BY VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voiceherald@JFRI.org

PROVIDENCE – After a disastrous first marriage, Sandra Kopel, of Providence, happily remarried. "The circumstances of our meeting were not unique," she said, "but serendipitous and heartwarming."

First married at 19 and a mother at age 20, Sandra was pregnant with their second child when the marriage was "on the skids." At the time, they were living in Los Angeles for her first husband's job. But, when things went from bad to worse, the pregnant Sandra and her firstborn came home to live with her parents in Rhode Island.

Later, after a relative came to visit Sandra's family (which now included a second child, 8-months-old) with her boyfriend, the boyfriend called Sandra to ask, "Can I fix you up with one of my friends?"

"Yes," was her response, though she was somewhat reluctant when the friend, Sam, called to ask her out for New Year's Eve. Leery about dating anyone at that point, she invited Sam to the party her family was having for the same evening. He came, and that was the beginning of the romance, she said, and they went out a few more times.

"I don't think he realizes I have two children [Eric and Keith]," Sandra said to her mother; indeed, Sam had never acknowledged that she had kids, then both younger than 3. When they went to a restaurant, Sandra told Sam about her children. "His



/Courtesy Sandra Kopel

THE HAPPY COUPLE, Sandra and Sam Kopel, in the mid-1980s

mouth fell open, he excused himself from the table and [later] came back.

When he took me home, he said, 'I'll call you.'"

Although it took Sam a few weeks to call her, he said, "Sandra, if you had 100 children, I'd still want to be with you." After that phone call, the couple later became engaged. The couple dated for about 18 months and Sam got to know Sandra's two boys.

Eager to adopt the boys so that they could all share the same family name, Sam received permission to do so. By the time the adoption proceedings occurred, Sam and Sandra had had their

first child together, a daughter named Lisa. "I'll never forget that day," said Sandra. "I was holding the baby girl and the judge said, 'This is the kind of thing I love to do.'" The family of five became a family of six when Sandra and Sam had another daughter, Sheryl.

When Sam died in 1996 – after 33 wonderful years – Sandra asked her sons if they wanted to get in touch with their biological father. Her older son said, "No, [Sam] is my father."

"If you had 100 children, I'd still want to be with you."

"He was a good, good husband and a wonderful father. I honor him by telling his story," said Sandra.

Sandra Kopel, a Providence resident, can be reached at sksekopel@gmail.com.



/Courtesy Sandra Kopel

ON THEIR WEDDING DAY: Sandra and Sam Kopel

Remarriage after death or divorce

Advice on next steps

BY ANDREA EPSTEIN LICSW
Special to The Voice & Herald

CONGRATULATIONS are in order when you find out about someone's upcoming nuptials. Indeed, it is a happy occasion when two people join in love and commit to spend the rest of their lives together.

However with the high rate of remarriage, whether due to divorce or death, the situation can be joyous, yet come with its own set of unique issues. A remarriage can be thought out, bringing together a couple and their families in a mindful manner, even with the vastly different situations that bring a couple to remarriage.

While thoughtful consideration is recommended for any of

life's decisions, there is no doubt that the experience of having been married before can bring certain wisdom. Knowing what you want from a relationship, from commu-

"Have honest conversations with yourself and your partner about finances and family dynamics."

nication to an actual wedding ceremony, can inform your decisions in your partnership and help you avoid misunderstanding and unrealistic expectations.

TAKE YOUR TIME

Make sure you give yourself time to grieve the end of your previous relationship. Looking at yourself and your relationship with your ex-partner may potentially offer tremendous insight into what you do and do not want in your subsequent relationships. Counseling may help you assess your situation and support you in making changes. Whether you seek counseling with a professional, in a group setting or with a friend, it is worth giving yourself time to heal from the loss of a partner, no matter the circumstances.

HAVE REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

After some time for assessment, it can be helpful to think about what may be reasonable to expect in a new relationship. No two people are the same – one person can neither take the place

of another nor be responsible for misunderstandings or hurts from a previous relationship. Understanding what you expect of your new partner and communicating these expectations can go a long way to entering your new marriage with shared understanding and intentionality.

TALK ABOUT THE HARD STUFF BEFORE THE MARRIAGE

Have honest conversations with yourself and your partner about finances, family dynamics, and anything else that has caused you stress in previous relationships. This overlaps with the idea of having realistic expectations. By approaching these issues circum-spectly, all parties, including children from previous relationships, have time to process and transition into new relationships.

REMEMBER TO ENJOY ONE ANOTHER!

Finding love after loss is a fantastic thing. By being deliberate and candid ahead of time, you can relax and maximize your time spent together... and spend your time thinking about where you will go on your honeymoon.

Andrea Epstein is a licensed clinical social worker with Jewish Family Service. Contact her at andrea@jfsri.org.

If you are considering remarriage and want to speak to someone about it, Jewish Family Service (www.jfsri.org or 331-1244) has supportive counselors available. Your rabbi or other spiritual leader may also be a good source of support and guidance.

Jewish Family Service is a partner agency of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.

May 25, 2010 was a day to remember

*Couple marries,
surrounded by love,
in bucolic setting*

BY EMILY DAVIS AND
APRIL PETERS

Special to The Voice & Herald

WEST GREENWICH – Wine bottles covered in kissing cows decorated the long tables inside, while outside was alive with kickball, karaoke and laughter. This was our day, made perfect not by the cloudless sky, but by the loved ones surrounding us. Neither one of us had grown up wanting a wedding. It seemed too fancy and traditional. Still, when we met each other, something about our relationship made us want to celebrate it in a special way.

Neither of us felt bound by a lot of wedding traditions. Instead, we wanted to have a fun gathering, with music and togetherness – a gathering reflective of us. We spent the day with our guests on the Alton Jones Campus of the University of Rhode Island at its Environmental Education Center enjoying nature, each other and

the fantastic snacks the caterers provided. Finally, after many songs, hikes and games, we all headed inside for a dinner of vegetarian chili, cornbread and the fixings.

After that, we only had to change clothes and wait for the rabbi to arrive.

Rabbi Andy Klein had come into our lives serendipitously when he was hired as the rabbi at Temple Habonim in Barrington. He had been very supportive of our decision to have a ceremony and had met with us many times during the months before that day to ensure that we were ready and that the ceremony was just what we wanted.

On this day, after the *ketubah* signing, Andy, with enthusiastic assistance from our niece, nephew and best friends' children – all excited to show off their Hebrew School knowledge – led us all in a *havdalah* service. With our brothers holding the *huppah* and friends and family close by, Rabbi Klein began the ceremony under the *huppah*, blessed the wine and led us in the exchange of the rings we had made for each other. April's



Courtesy Emily Davis and April Peters

EMILY DAVIS, at left, and APRIL PETERS on their wedding day

Hebrew tutor read the *ketubah* aloud while we read the translation and Rabbi Klein spoke very per-

sonally about us individually and as a couple. Our friends read the *She'va B'rakhot* and then everyone yelled "mazel tov" while we ran off

to one of the cabins for a moment to ourselves.

Before we returned to rejoin

**"We wanted to have a fun gathering,
with music and togetherness."**

sonally about us individually and as a couple. Our friends read the *She'va B'rakhot* and then everyone yelled "mazel tov" while we ran off

our families and friends for champagne and dessert, we thought for a moment about the day. In many ways, it was the same as other

Matchmaker... make me a match...

*The real estate maven
makes marriages, too*

BY NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@JFRI.org

PROVIDENCE – Sally Lapides makes deals. While many people know Lapides, president and chief executive officer of Residential Properties Ltd., as a "real estate deal maker," a smaller cohort of people know her as a "matchmaker."

Lapides, responsible for bringing at least 20 weddings to fruition, has been matchmaking since she was in her early 20s. Then single, she'd be fixed up with someone

and, when the chemistry didn't feel right after one or two dates, she'd call the man to say, "This isn't right for me, but I've got a friend for you. Are you interested?"

Those she contacted, she said, "trusted that I was a good listener" – a skill that serves both a real estate agent and a matchmaker in good stead.

As a young landlord, she fixed up a divorced tenant with someone she knew from her work, a divorced woman. Their common attributes – both were parents, smart and sad (post-divorce) – led Lapides to introduce them. Thirty years later, they are still married and no longer sad!

"I was like Dolly Levi [the

matchmaker in "Hello, Dolly!"]," said Lapides. "I would ask people, 'What are you looking for?'"

Lapides, a guest at all the weddings that came about due to her matchmaking, said, "They all toast me."

Active in gay and lesbian issues in Rhode Island, Lapides is as eager to fix up same-sex couples as she is heterosexual ones.

**"You're both
athletic and smart...
and recovering
from broken hearts.
I figured you
had something in
common."**

"What did you think we had in common?" That was the question she heard in two separate phone calls – one from Dr. Anne DeGroot (an adjunct associate professor of pediatrics at Brown University, a professor and director of the Institute for Immunology and Informatics at the University of Rhode Island and co-founder of EpiVax, a vaccine design company), and another from Deb Norman (the owner of Rue De L'Espoir, a restaurant on Providence's East Side; Rue Bis, a breakfast and lunch bistro in the Jewelry District of Providence; and Baker Street Rue, another bistro, which will open in February) – after Lapides hosted a

www.jvhri.org

dinner for the two of them.

"You're both athletic and smart, you're both dear friends [of mine] and you're both recovering from broken hearts," Lapides told them. "I figured you had something in common."

The couple "with nothing in common" celebrated their wedding on June 6, 2006!

Whether you sell real estate or fix people up, strong listening skills – and knowing the market – are essential, she said. "What you can't predict is the chemistry; you have to guess at the chemistry." But, she said, if there are enough ingredients (that you want) and desire to buy a house or have a relationship, it often works.

Although the inventory of singles is thinner than it was when Lapides started matchmaking, she often finds people in transition – relocating to a new city or buying or selling a house, post-divorce – given her work in real estate.

In fact, Lapides met her second husband, Art Solomon, through a real estate deal. Not surprisingly, a bit of Jewish geography came into play, as well. Although Lapides' uncle, Jim Lapides, was a close high school friend of Solomon, a real estate developer with

weddings we have attended over the years, but it also felt like it was only ours. We agreed that, with a perfect day, the love of our families and friends and the guidance of Rabbi Klein, we had gotten exactly what we wanted.

Nothing, not even the ice cream and monster chocolate chip cookies we had for dessert, tasted any sweeter than the ceremony we had and the love that surrounded us.

That night we did not head for our honeymoon – we had something bigger in mind. One month after our wedding, we would leave our jobs, our apartment and our old lives to truly begin our journey together: We would be spending the next year in Israel – April in rabbinical school and Emily volunteering. A grand honeymoon indeed.

April is currently in her first year of rabbinical school at Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem. Contact her at april.a.peters@gmail.com. Emily is volunteering at the Jerusalem College of Engineering, The Jerusalem Biblical Zoo and the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. Contact her at edavis3081@yahoo.com.



/Residential Properties Ltd.

SALLY LAPIDES

offices in Waltham, Mass., he wasn't responsible for connecting the couple. Rather, Solomon said to her after their initial meeting, "Lapides – that's an unusual name. Do you know a Jim Lapides?"

Married since May 2005, Lapides and Solomon never let a day go by without laughing together.

Asked what she calls essential for a good marriage, Lapides said, "At my age, laughter is #1. Intellectual stimulation, a sense of humor, similar values and an emphasis on family are the core values of a good marriage."

Solomon, she said, is "the man of my dreams."

**Let us take the worry and
stress out of your next event...**

event planning specialists, l.l.c

Personalized Party Planning

(Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, Anniversaries, Corporate Events)

Wedding Consultations

Balloons (Centerpieces, Sprays, Arches)

Themes

Welcome Baskets

And Much More...

P.O. Box 1922, East Greenwich, RI 02818

Laurie G. Robinson, Owner/Consultant • Maureen C. Faiola, Consultant

401-523-5107 • EPSlgr@aol.com

www.epspecialists.com

Folia gives brides the 'hands-on' experience

Boutique offers more than just wedding invitations

By TORI HITCHINER
Special to The Voice & Herald

SOUTH DARTMOUTH, Mass. — With January, February and March the busiest time of year for wedding planning, Folia's business is in full swing.

"One word of advice; don't order online. You can't touch it, feel it or have someone walk you through it."

In the beginning, Folia started as a wedding planning business

in the home of its owner, Wendy Joblon. "I wanted to be able to service all of my clients with their [invitation] needs and only a few companies would sell to a home-based company. So I took the plunge and opened up a cute little store in Padanaram, South Dartmouth, Mass. around seven years ago." Now she is able to offer a wider range of services and brands to her growing clientele.

Joblon has been in the party planning industry for more than 15 years, so she is familiar with the many aspects of weddings and wedding planning. She explains that, with so much experience, she can provide brides-to-be with help in making decisions. "I take my time with everyone and I make sure every last bit of etiquette is followed."

No two orders are alike, as Joblon explains the many varied requests she receives for invitations. "In the beginning it was classic and plain, now there are layers, ribbons," she says. Grooms are also getting involved in the

process, adding their personal touch and helping to create a finished product that represents not only the bride. Folia offers a large variety of brands for invitations, including William Arthur, Lallie and Vera Wang.

BUSINESS PROFILE

Joblon explains that customers should be wary of Internet shopping for invitations. "One word of advice; don't order online. You can't touch it, feel it or have someone walk you through it." Her stories of happy customers are a testament to this advice. A current employee of Folia had initially started out as the mother of a bride-to-be. She enjoyed her experience with Joblon and the store so much that she later started working there.

Folia is not limited to just wedding invitations. Joblon can create paper items, such as save-the-date requests, wedding programs, menus and place cards. Additionally, Folia offers many other per-



/Angela Greenlaw Photography

THIS IS JUST ONE of the many items that Folia offers brides-to-be.

sonalized gifts for brides, other members of the wedding party or guests, including jewelry, cocktail napkins, travel bags and gifts for kids. "It's one-stop shopping," Joblon says.

Folia is at 354 Elm St., South Dartmouth, MA. Call 508-992-

2950, or visit www.folia.biz.

Tori Hitchiner is a journalism major at the University of Rhode Island. Contact her at tori.hitchiner@gmail.com.

This is one of an occasional series of articles about our advertisers.

Newlyweds of any age may benefit

Financial tips

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voiceherald@JFRI.org

YOUNG COUPLES without significant financial assets or liabilities aren't the only newly married folks who could benefit from financial planning advice. Previously married individuals who are considering remarrying and those individuals entering marriage with significant financial resources could also find value in these financial planning tips.

DISCUSS YOUR MONEY PERSONALITY

An important first step, says Michelle Cortes-Harkins, of Harkins Wealth Management, a wealth management and financial planning firm on the border of the East Side of Providence and Oak Hill in Pawtucket, is to have a discussion about money personalities. "Everyone has a way of thinking about finances and money based on their past life experiences and habits," she said. "Communicate about whether you are a spender, a saver or in the middle." It's much better to discuss this at the beginning of a relationship rather than when you are surprised — perhaps when your bank account is overdrawn.

Different individuals tolerate different levels of financial risk, as well, said Cortes-Harkins. Some individuals have a very high tolerance for volatility, while others would rather leave money in a savings account. That conversation, she said, is especially important if a couple enters the marriage with some assets already accumulated

and they decide to manage their money together.

PREPARE A BLUEPRINT

Making a plan, said Ryan Lax, of Halperin & Lax, a financial services firm in Warwick, is important whenever a couple marries. He advises young couples without significant assets to sit down with a financial planner to "make a blueprint." Figure out how much money they can allocate to savings for future needs, for retirement and for a new home. Consider buying a life insurance product that would benefit them for their future.

Asked whether term or whole life is best, Lax said the choice would depend on financial situation, but term insurance is good to get started. Lock in term insurance at a young age that offers death benefits for your spouse; buy from a solid insurance company that offers conversion options, so you can convert the life insurance policy later to one with more options. In planning for college tuition and retirement, especially in a second marriage, it's best for the couple to sit together as a team and talk through issues.

Planning is a bit trickier, said Lax, for older and more established couples or those entering into a second marriage. Updating wills and trusts is essential to make sure the prior spouse doesn't get the money.

SAVING MONEY, SPENDING MONEY

Lax encourages clients, especially young people, to invest in the stock market, even if only in conservative mutual funds. It'll add up over time, he said, and, "conservative bond funds will always beat the bank [interest rate]."

Debt is also an important dis-

cussion. Studies have shown that debt has a tremendous impact on how much newlyweds argue about money, said Cortes-Harkins, and is also strongly correlated to higher divorce rates. She recommends that couples share their credit reports and build credit both jointly and individually. On the opposite end of the spectrum, building assets can help protect marriages. "It isn't fail safe, but it is difficult to leave a marriage with assets built as a couple."

UPDATE BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS

Many couples, said Cortes-Harkins, forget to update beneficiary designations after they marry. Updating this information is particularly important if either partner is marrying for the second time. As a new partner to a marriage, don't automatically assume that you will be the beneficiary — the children from a first marriage are often named as beneficiaries. These conversations help prevent future misunderstandings and disagreements.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

It's important for both parties to know what's involved with the finances, Cortes-Harkins and Lax both said. Lax is concerned when one spouse — often the wife — says, of financial matters, "My husband will handle it..." That's not a good idea. Both spouses should meet with their financial planner at least once a year, though others prefer more frequent meetings. Both should know where to find all the policies and important documents, he said, and the names and numbers of the couple's accountant, lawyer, financial planner, etc. "Have a system," urges Lax.

A couple should consider sharing the bill paying, budgeting and investment responsibilities, Cortes-Harkins said, so that they create a more unified and solid approach.

In budgeting, she said, discuss whether to establish a ceiling spending limit of \$25/\$50/\$100 — any purchase more expensive than the mutually agreed upon amount would require the buy-in of both individuals.

"A healthy financial relationship is all about clear understandings and communication," she said.

For more information about Halperin & Lax, contact Ryan Lax at 738-7776 or www.halperinandlax.com.

For more information about Harkins Wealth Management (Financial planning and securities offered through LPL Financial. Member FINRA /SIPC), contact Michelle Cortes-Harkins at 728-1728 or www.harkinswealthmanagement.com.

Our mission is

To portray the

Beauty, Passion, and Style

That characterize

Special moments

In people's lives.



Ryan Kenner Photography

Weddings.RyanKennerPhotography.com

Call for a free consultation: 401-486-8465

Tribulations create remarkable memories

Guests and wedding party members weigh in with advice

BY VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voiceherald@JFRL.org

WHO AMONG us hasn't suffered through the nightmare of attending a disastrous wedding reception or a prenuptial dinner populated with boorish guests? To help brides and grooms avoid some of those pitfalls, we've rounded up some words of wisdom.

Wendy Joering, the community concierge for the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, had her bridesmaids choose their own dresses. Her only prerequisite was that they be black formal gowns. "With five bridesmaids who had five different body types, I wanted them to feel comfortable and be able to wear the dress again," she said. Be sensitive to the expenses bridal attendants must incur; don't be a "bride-zilla," she cautioned. "I knew that the cost of travel, a hotel and [other items] were expensive," she said. "I didn't want to impose on them."

Joering also offered some tips to brides on taking the longer view; after all, it's not just about the wedding! "Stand back for a few minutes, grab your groom and just watch. Talk to each about the actual moment and what you're seeing. It just flies by faster than any other experience."

In an effort to make sure everyone was included, she and her husband created new traditions. "We didn't stress out when we had more than two people sign the *ketubah*,



or marriage contract. You can make your own traditions," she said.

A groomsman or best man 13 times, Pawtucket resident Harris Weiner, shared some of the most memorable moments with *The Voice & Herald*. "I once gave a best man's toast in Oakland, Maine for my pal, Rick Anicetti, in Italian, which absolutely no one in the room understood." Weiner learned that the primary job as a member of the wedding party—based on his experience—is to keep the most obnoxious usher, usually someone's fraternity brother, away from the bride's often homicidal parents. Do whatever the bride's father tells you to do and try to bond with him because you may need him to bail you out of forced custody (often by

waiters, desk clerks or an elderly security guard) later that evening," he said. "Stay away from the bride's mother who is likely to go nuclear at the slightest provocation, such as expressions of humor or... removing your tie too early in the festivities."

Weiner participated in some remarkably creative wedding venues. He wrote, "Perhaps the most uncomfortable day of my life was spent in a vested wool tuxedo at a horse farm during a heat spell in July. The perfectly coiffed bride arrived in a magnificent horse-drawn carriage after the melting guests were treated to a dressage show. The flies completed the scene. Despite eating and drinking incessantly for the entire weekend, I dropped six pounds."

Given this winter's weather systems, it's difficult to forget that weather can wreak havoc on the best laid plans, including those for a wedding. This story—which also features a bride in a horse-drawn carriage—from Ellen Weinberg, of Aspen, Colo., tells it all.

"It was a beautiful late fall day with a setting high in the Rocky Mountains. A brilliant blue sky and shimmering gold leaves set off the venue, a refurbished 100-year-old castle. After the bride arrived in a horse-drawn carriage, she

and the groom recited their vows, on a bluff overlooking a spectacular valley. Champagne toasts and

"Keep the most obnoxious usher away from the bride's parents."

an outdoor dinner were planned, until.... a tremendous storm front blew in with high winds and torrential rain. Everyone rushed to the old castle only to find that there was no 'backup plan.'

"Some guests pitched in to help the befuddled staff. Just as it seemed that order might be restored, there was a huge explosion outside—and the transformers had blown—and chaos ensued: No power to cook the food or light to see or electricity for the band. Guests behaved like kids out of school; women removed their stiletto pumps and smoked cigarettes, the men drank shots of whiskey and smoked cigars.

"With all decorum gone, the party morphed into a fantastic time. Somehow, a dinner was served and the guests serenaded the newlyweds for their first dance.

Instruments were assembled and the band played the old-fashioned way. The party lasted late into the night until every drop of alcohol was consumed. The wedding—with pictures and story—was memorialized in an issue of *People Magazine*."

Read on to find out what happened to Randy Rosenthal, a staff associate at the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, when he combined two goals—a trip to see a former co-worker, Kevin, in Tampa, Fla. and to attend the wedding of a college friend, Scott, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

"We made a last-minute decision to pack up everything and head down to St Petersburg for the wedding. We were in a huge rush; we rushed to check into the hotel, quickly put on our dress clothing with 20 minutes before we were supposed to be next door for the wedding," he explained. "In our rush to pack in Tampa, I forgot to pack my shoes for my suit, leaving only sandals or sneakers to wear with a dark suit."

What to do? Rosenthal drove to store after store to find black shoes. "Store after store didn't have anything and I didn't really know where any stores were. So finally, I found something that would work, and rushed back to our hotel, parked the car and ran to the wedding."

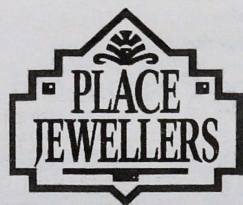
When Rosenthal finally arrived at the ceremony, sweaty and hot from the heat and his run to arrive on time, he was greeted by his wife, laughing at the only pair of shoes he had found—four sizes bigger than what he normally wears.

The wedding photographer took a picture of "my clown shoes in the aisle because they were so big," said Rosenthal. "We still laugh about this day with our friend Scott and his wife."

Nancy Kirsch, executive editor of *The Jewish Voice & Herald*, offers some very brief words of wisdom, applicable to all social functions. Don't leave your car keys or cell phone in your coat, she recommended. It's far too easy for someone to inadvertently take the wrong coat, especially at a crowded function. And, here's one of her pet peeves: "At a very fun, very crowded party, I introduced myself to a woman who joined our group of people, saying, 'Hi, I'm Nancy Kirsch.'"

"She shook my hand and said, 'Oh, we've met before,' but didn't re-introduce herself to me. Without knowing her name, I couldn't comfortably converse with her."

Kirsch's advice: "If someone introduces herself to you, she either doesn't remember you or she's having a senior moment and is too embarrassed to say so. When that happens, just smile and say, 'Of course, and I'm (insert your name here).'"



**BUYERS, SELLERS AND APPRAISERS OF
ESTATE JEWELRY
RODNEY P. BARIL ~ GEMOLOGIST**

**Insurance
Cash Redemption**

**Divorce
Probate**

Gem Identification

We Buy Gold and Diamonds

**We will Advise the most lucrative Method of
Disposing Your Unwanted Jewelry!**

Free Consultation

401.738.0511 800.910.4869

3228 Post Road, Warwick
Apponaug Village

www.placejewellers.com

lic#92365

Paper Moon Invitations

fine stationery & unique gifts

invitations favors guest addressing scrolls
personal service private studio on-site printing

mon - fri 10 am - 5:30 pm wed 10 am - 7 pm sat 10 am - 4 pm

call for evening appointments

401-943-1123

995 oaklawn avenue, cranston, rhode island 02920

www.papermoonstationery.com

www.jvhri.org

Birth announcements, wedding invitations and more

By TORI HITCHINER
Special to The Voice & Herald

CRANSTON – In the heart of Cranston, there sits a printing company that has served the community for more than 60 years. When they saw a need that wasn't being met, Bernie and Miriam Levy started Crosstown Press in 1948. "With their attitudes and the way they worked, it was never about money – it was about giving good service," explains their son, Steve Levy, who now owns the company.

After spending decades in the industry and working within the community, Crosstown Press has developed a loyal clientele that they get to see through the life cycles. "It starts at bar mitzvah and bat mitzvah [celebrations] and, before you know it, these people grow up fast and we're doing their wedding invitations," Levy said with a smile. These years of experience also make Levy's staff, Margo, Donna and Lynn, excellent consultants. Chances are there's nothing a customer can throw at them

that they haven't seen, as they have all worked there for more than 25 years. "I wouldn't be here if I didn't love it," Margo says.

While the business offers many kinds of paper, themes and accessories, it is most known for its rela-

BUSINESS PROFILE

tionship with the brides, grooms, and families with whom they work. "It's all about the customer service aspect. When you call us, we answer the phone," says Donna.

Margo explains that many customers will keep in touch with staff and send pictures and updates. "You really get to know them," she says.

Recycled paper for the invitations, and "Out-vites" for gay and lesbian commitment ceremonies are some unusual options that Crosstown Press offers. "Everyone feels comfortable here," Levy adds.

With onsite printing machines, customers save both time and money on their invitations or other paper goods. All engraving, dye cutting and hot stamping is done on the premises. As it has saved all its machinery, Crosstown Press can offer everything from old-fashioned handset type to very modern computer digital imaging.

The use of the Internet has been far more helpful than the



From left, craftsmen Jamie and Skip consult with owner Steve Levy.

/Tori Hitchiner

company could have anticipated. Clients choosing their wedding invitations now have more creative ideas in mind, and come to Crosstown Press to put their images in print. "The Internet certainly has changed the business," Levy says. "Customers are definitely a lot more sophisticated and knowl-

edgeable, and that's a good thing."

Crosstown Press is at 829 Park Ave, Cranston. Contact the company at 941-4061 or visit www.crosstownpress.com.

Tori Hitchiner, a journalism major at the University of Rhode Island, is an intern with The Voice & Herald.

Contact her at tori.hitchiner@gmail.com.

This is one of an occasional series of business articles about our advertisers.

Advice from the experts

Married couples offer their recipe for success

By BEN SACK
Special to The Voice & Herald

AT JEWISH weddings, it is customary for the groom to shatter a glass, but how do Jewish couples keep their relationships from shattering? To find out, I interviewed five, happily married couples from the greater Rhode Island area whose relationships have survived the test of time.

Herb and Gloria Spivack of East Greenwich – the longest married couple among the interviewees – will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this month. The two, who met at Nantasket Beach near Boston, have two children and one grandchild. Gloria Spivack, noting the importance of keeping a "balance going" in the relationship, said that sometimes one must "succumb to being a yes person." Marriage requires ebb and flow, give and take, to be successful. When the Spivacks disagree, they talk out their issues and ultimately, "one has to give in to the other," she said. Who gives in depends on the situation.

At the other end of the marriage-length spectrum are Rabbi Joel Seltzer of Temple Emanu-El and his wife Eliana, who met as campers at Camp Ramah in the Poconos. They have been married more than five years and have one daughter

and another due soon. The rabbi said that he turns to religion to keep his relationship strong: "One of my most important tips for a good marriage is utilizing the power of Jewish ritual," said Rabbi Seltzer. "Because of Judaism, we are guaranteed to have one day each week dedicated to rest and quality time with one another. We find time to count our blessings together when we bless our daughter on Friday night, and we have a richer relationship because of the cycle of the Jewish year."

Rabbi Seltzer emphasized the need to "try your hardest to understand the other's point of view, to sympathize with their needs and emotions. You must try to recognize that being in a relationship is always about the nexus of two individuals."

Professor Richard Goldstein and his wife Donna, of East Greenwich, met at a singles dance in Cranston and were engaged two weeks later. The couple, who have two children, will celebrate their 32nd wedding anniversary this August. The key for them, Donna Goldstein said, is in knowing that "a happy marriage consists of two mature adults committed to each other for the long haul." They sort out their problems by talking through issues during long walks together.

Dena Babin and Stuart Levine, both dentists, reside in Barrington where they raised their three children.

The two met during Dena's first year of dental school at Case West-

ern Reserve University; they have been together for 35 years. She offered four tips for a happy marriage: Working together, working through hard times, communication and enjoying family.

Mark and Linda Karnes, of Warwick, have been married for almost 21 years. They have two children and coincidentally met at a wedding in Rhode Island. For a happy marriage, Linda Karnes encourages people not to push an argument. Being forthright is the way to go, she tells women: "Tell [your husband] what you want; he's not a mind reader." She also encourages couples to choose their battles and try not to argue about little things. As do the Spivacks, Mark and Linda Karnes resolve problems with one person conceding, talking about the problem and then leaving it alone.

There seem to be many common attributes in the marriage secrets of these Jewish couples: The importance of communicating, taking turns, respect, Jewish ritual and family values cannot be over-estimated in producing long and happy marriages.

Ben Sack, of East Greenwich, is a student at the Harry Elkin Midrash Community High School and an occasional contributor to The Voice & Herald. Contact him at sackfamily@cox.net.

Simply Invitations

by appointment

Rhonda Marzetta
(401) 353-1502

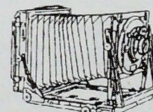
simplyinvitations@cox.net

wedding
bar / bat mitzvah

www.mysimplyinvitations.com

ZACKS CAMERA REPAIR

791 Hope Street
Providence, RI 02906



(401) 2-REPAIR - 273-7247
FAX: (401) 490-8212

MICHAEL F. ZACKS, C.P.C.

zackscamerarepair.com
info@zackscamerarepair.com

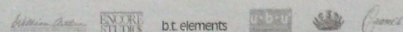
Video and Audio Transfer
Tapes • LP's
Digital & Film Camera Repairs

folia

invitations, stationery
& great gifts
by Wendy Joblon

Specializing in wedding, rehearsal dinner, bridal shower, bar/bat mitzvah and birthday invitations, custom stationery, baby announcements, pad sets, cocktail napkins and other personalized gifts for every single one of life's special occasions!

And new...a great selection of retail gifts!



364 elm street, south dartmouth
508.992.2950 www.folia.biz



CROWDS FILL TEMPLE SINAI at the Celebrations 2011 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Expo on Sunday, Jan. 30.

'Celebrate good times, c'mon....'

Temple Sinai's expo draws big crowd

BY VOICE & HERALD STAFF
voiceherald@JFRI.org

CRANSTON – More than 200 people *noshed* and shopped their way through Temple Sinai, home to the Celebrations 2011 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Expo, on Sunday, Jan. 30. The expo, an annual affair, offers parents and families shopping for bar/bat mitzvah vendors one-stop services, all at no charge.

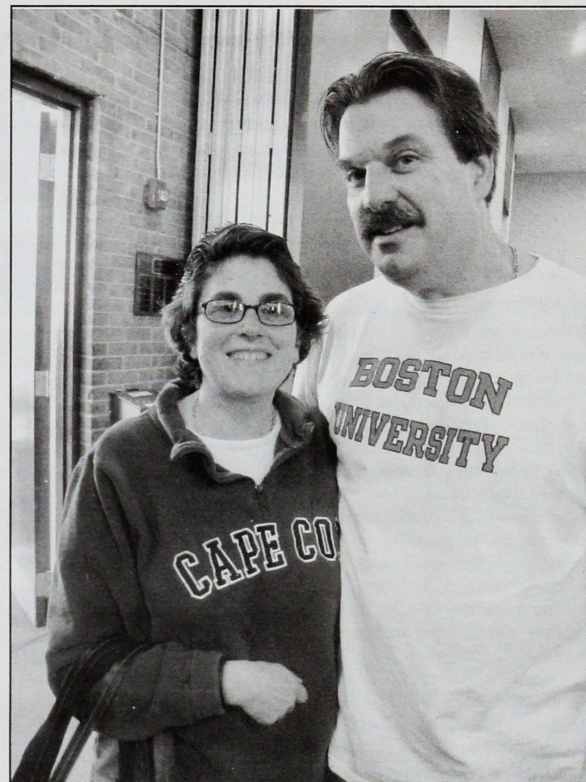
Parents – and kids – can visit vendors offering a wide array of goods and services, sample their wares and compare notes with others in the same bar/bat mitzvah boat. While the focus was on the bar/bat mitzvah celebration, many of the vendors' goods and services are ideally suited, as well, for other *simchas* – weddings, anniversary parties, etc.

The expo, again chaired by Temple Sinai members Paul and Ellen Knasin, and sponsored by Temple Sinai and The Jewish Voice & Herald, brought new and

returning vendors. From "B" (for beauty treatments and banquet rooms) and "C" (for caterers and chocolate fountains) to "E" (for event planners and entertainment) and "P" (for photographers and printers), more than 30 vendors greeted the crowd, answered questions and offered free samples of their wares.

Rabbi Peter Stein was present, as the synagogue rabbi, but also to check out the goods. His daughter's bat mitzvah, he said, is "50 weeks away...and counting."

The Paper Moon won the free ad raffled off by The Voice & Herald; everyone who provided a business card or contact information was entered into the raffle. Congratulations to Paper Moon.



ELLEN AND PAUL KNASIN co-chair the event.




BONNIE AND JERRY GOLD work together at Gold Events, an event planning business.

Patricia Raskin Positive Radio
www.patriciaraskin.com
Pollinating Positive Principles



Listen to our shows:
"Patricia Raskin Positive Living"
WPRO-630AM, 99.7FM & 630wpro.com
Sundays 12noon to 2:00pm
"Positive Business"
WPRV-790am & 790business.com
Fridays 3:00pm-5:00pm
On the internet:
"Patricia Raskin Positive Living"
voiceamerica.com Mondays 2pm
blogtalkradio.com on demand

 Patricia Raskin Positive Radio

"Positive Business" WPRV - AM790 - February 11 - 3PM
Russell Raskin, bankruptcy attorney for a monthly feature on debt solutions.
"Patricia Raskin Positive Living" WPRO-AM630 & 99.7FM - Feb. 13 and 27
James Greenblatt M.D. psychiatrist - feature on nutritional interventions for depression
Marcy Shimoff on Feb.13 author Happy For No Reason. & Love For No Reason

Positize your life today!

Share the "buzz" that feeds the soul



lifelong friends + experienced counselors
+ a summer filled with opportunities
= CAMP JORI, totally yours.

Worden's Pond • Wakefield, Rhode Island
website: www.campjori.com • E-mail: ronni@campjori.com
Call Camp Director Ronni Guttin at 401-463-3170

OBITUARIES

Anna Blankstien

PROVIDENCE — Anna Blankstien, a longtime resident of Lincoln, died on Jan. 16 at Epoch Eastside in Providence. Born in Woonsocket, she was the daughter of Israel and Rose Blankstien. She was the sister of Irene.

She taught English and was a guidance counselor at Woonsocket High School until her retirement.

Donations may be made to Congregation B'nai Israel Synagogue, 244 Prospect St., Woonsocket, RI 02895.

Irene E. Cohen

WEST WARWICK — Irene E. Cohen died on Jan. 26. She was the wife of the late Murray J. Cohen.

Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late David and Eva (Karklin) Sock; the mother of Harvey S. Cohen and wife, Penny; Elaine Shatz and her late husband, Frank; and the sister of Nathaniel and Sheldon Sock. She was predeceased by her siblings, Rose Sock, Lillian Sarat, Beatrice Zeman and Joseph, James and Philip Sock. She was a grandmother of nine, great-grandmother of nine and the aunt of several nieces and nephews.

Eleanore Gaber, 82

POMONA, N.Y. — Eleanore Gaber died on Jan. 26, surrounded by her family after a long and courageous fight with cancer. Born in New York City to Bertha and Harry Gerson, she was involved with Autism Speaks, the American Cancer Society, and the American Heart Association. She was a member of Temple Beth El of Spring Valley, N.Y. She enjoyed cooking and entertaining her family and friends.

She leaves her daughter, Stacie Haber, and son-in-law, Steven Haber, and her grandchildren, Michael and Sara; her son, Bart Gaber, and daughter-in-law, Helen, and her grandchildren, David and Ali. She was married to Seymour Gaber for 39 years. She also leaves her sister, Janet Gerson Gutterman, of Cranston; her nieces, Bonnie, Lisa and Suzanne; and her great-niece Avery. She was predeceased by her brother-in-law Don Gutterman.

Donations may be made to Autism Speaks in her memory, Ronsco Inc., 24 West 25 Street, 6th floor, New York City, N.Y. 10010.

Kenneth I. Goldblatt, 61

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Kenneth Goldblatt, a former resident of Warwick, died on Jan. 3, in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He was the father of two children, Erin MacIntosh and Andrew Goldblatt, and the grandfather of Ava and Macie Goldblatt. He was a retired captain in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Born in Providence, son of the late Benton Goldblatt and Shirley Kotlen, he relocated to Florida for the last several years of his life.

He is greatly missed by all who knew him.

Celia (Leinov) Greenstein, 89

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — Celia Greenstein, of New Bedford, Mass., died on Jan. 22. She was the wife of the late William Greenstein.

Joseph Shorr, 95

WOODLAND HILLS, Calif. — Joseph Shorr, honorary president of Congregation B'nai Israel and the former circulation manager of *The Woonsocket Call* died at home in Woodland Hills, Calif., on Jan. 21.

He is survived by his wife, Frances; his son, Irwin J.

Shorr, of Olney, Md.; his granddaughter, Dr. Sloane Sevrin, of Calabasas, Calif.; his two great-grandchildren, Bryce and Hunter; his daughter, Ellen Sevrin, of Woodland Hills, Calif., with whom he lived, and his brother Sanford Shorr, of Meriden, Conn.

Born in Woonsocket on March 4, 1915, he was the son of Isaac and Rachel Shorr. He attended Woonsocket schools and received his bachelor's degree in 1939 from Northeastern University. He wrote his thesis on "Magazine Circulation from the Independent Wholesaler's Point of View" and later worked for The Woonsocket News Co., where

he started his career in charge of the magazine department and then became the manager.

He was married August 26, 1944 to the former Frances Blankstein, also of Woonsocket. They celebrated their 66th anniversary last August.

In 1964, upon the death of his brother Morris, he took over The Woonsocket Call's circulation department. In 1974, he was elected president of the New England Association of Circulation Managers. In 1981, he was appointed international chairman of the International Circulation Managers Association, holding that post for four years.

He retired in 1985, concluding a career in printed media distribution that spanned more than 50 years. His retirement concluded a 60-year period during which a member of the Shorr family had been associated with The Call. Under his leadership, the circulation of increased dramatically, bringing the newspaper into second place in the state, during a time when the circulation of other newspapers was declining.

His involvement in the Woonsocket Jewish community began when he was young; he served as president of Woonsocket Chapter AZA, a B'nai Brith youth group; District 1 AZA; and the Woonsocket Zionist District.

Prominent in synagogue activities, he served two terms as Congregation B'nai Israel's president and as a board member for 20 years; he served five years as chairman of the Hebrew School Committee and many years as chairman of the Ritual Committee.

The secretary of Chevra Kadisha, the congregation's burial society, he was named B'nai Brith's Man of the Year, in 1964, after serving as president. In his honor, the B'nai Brith chapter established the Joseph and Frances Shorr Endowment Fund.

In 1978, he was elected honorary president of Congregation B'nai Israel. He was a strong and bright man and a pillar of his community. He shared his love of the Red Sox and the Celtics with his great-grandson, and was positive that his great-granddaughter would someday be Miss America. He loved and was proud of his entire family.

Contributions may be made to Congregation B'nai Israel, 224 Prospect St., Woonsocket, RI 02895.

Evelyn (Evie) Silberman, 62

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Evelyn Silberman died on Jan. 9 at San Diego Hospice. Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Sumner and Rebecca (Fuchs) Silberman.

She is survived by her stepmother, Libby Silberman, and her sister, Sonya (Hank) Kowalski. She was the stepsister of Judy Lalley, Sandra Feit and Dr. Harris Finberg. She is also survived by her extended family and many friends.

"I want my friends and family to know that I had a wonderful life. Thanks to all of you it was a great ride."

Contributions may be made to the San Diego Humane Society, 5500 Gaines St., San Diego, CA 92110 or the San Diego Hospice, 4311 3rd. Ave., San Diego, CA 92103.

Rachel "Rae" (Sugarman) Spector, 81

ELSEWHERE — Rachel Spector died at home in Boston, on Jan. 30. She was the wife of Stanley Spector. Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Max and Estelle (Rubin) Sugarman. Dividing her residency between Massachusetts and Florida, she owned the former Handbag Bazar in Natick, Mass. for more than 18 years. She was known by generations for her famous brisket.

Besides her husband, she is survived by her children, June Spector, of Boston, Mass.; Richard Spector, of Sharon, Mass.; and Marc Spector, of Greenwich, Conn.; and her brothers, David Sugarman, of Goulsboro, Maine, and Louis Sugarman of Bristol. She leaves her grandchildren, Alyssa, Amanda, Max, Sam and Kelly; and her nieces and nephews, Daniel, Elizabeth, Kari and Jill. She was the sister of the late Calvin and Mitchell Sugarman.

Donations may be made to the Arthritis Foundation.

THE EULOGIZER Remembering those we've lost

BY ALAN D. ABBEY

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Eulogizer highlights the life accomplishments of famous and not-so-famous Jews who have passed away recently. Write to the Eulogizer at eulogizer@jta.org.

Edgar Tafel, architect with Wright

Edgar Tafel, the last surviving member of storied architect Frank Lloyd Wright's original Taliesin Fellowship that began in 1932, died Jan. 18 at 98.

On his own, Tafel designed 80 houses, 35 religious buildings and three college campuses, among other projects. In recognition of his achievements, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's School of Architecture created an Edgar A. Tafel chair in architecture in his honor.

Milton Levine, ant farm creator

Milton Levine, who turned a childhood memory of industrious ants into the novelty toy Uncle Milton's Ant Farm — and then used it to build a multimillion-dollar business — died Jan. 16 at 97.

Levine was at a Fourth of July picnic in Southern California in 1956 when he saw a parade of ants and remembered his time on an uncle's farm collecting ants in jars. Today's product is essentially unchanged from the 1956 original, which cost \$1.98.

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

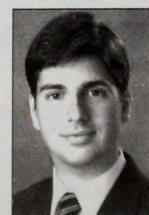
Member of the Jewish Funeral Directors of America
Certified by the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis
Call for a free preneed planning guide.



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

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

Business and Professional Directory

ANTIQUES

ANTIQUE ACQUISITIONS **STU ALTMAN**
401-331-SOLD (7653)

ESTATE ANTIQUES WANTED

BUYING:

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

BAR/BAR MITZVAH/WEDDINGS



Take the Oy Vey Out of
Planning Your Big Day

Capture your Simcha
in a professional DVD from
R.I. Video Pro

We specialize in preserving
Jewish wedding memories.

Call David Ladin :: 401-741-6387 :: riveidopro.com

CPA



Larry B. Parness

Thinking outside the box

Full service accounting firm providing
business/individual
consulting
Tax Preparation

401-454-0900 • parnessl@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.

ARCHITECT



George S. Burman, Architect
NCARB, AIA RI, MA

66 Highland Road
Bristol, Rhode Island 02809
Tel 401.245.9195
www.burmanarchitects.com
burmanarchitects@fullchannel.net

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

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

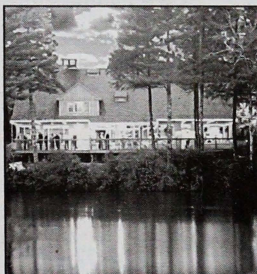


**FREEWAY DRIVE
CRANSTON, RI
401-467-0200
800-838-1119**

bathsplasshowroom.com



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



• 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.

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

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

401-861-7640

**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

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



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

INSURANCE

Brier & Brier

Personal Service...Insurance Professionals

245 Waterman Ave., #5 | Providence, RI 02906
401-751-2990 | JGBrier@aol.com

www.brier-brier.com

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 — FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK

Small business disaster loans available

Small businesses and nonprofit organizations may benefit

ATLANTA, Ga. - The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced that federal economic injury disaster loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives and most private non-profit organizations in Bristol, Newport and Providence counties, due to the excessive heat that occurred between June 1 and October 15, 2010.

Under this declaration, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program is available to eligible farm-related and non-farm-related entities that suffered

financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. With the exception of aqua-cultural enterprises, farmers, ranchers and agricultural producers are not eligible to apply to SBA.

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with a 3 percent interest for non-profit organizations, 4 percent for small businesses and terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

Disaster loan information and application forms may be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for people with speech or hearing disabilities) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Standard Time or by sending an e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can be downloaded from the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. For more information about

the SBA's Disaster Loan Programs, visit www.sba.gov. Those affected by the disaster may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than September 19, 2011.

Voice & Herald CLASSIFIEDS

CALLING ALL SNOW SHOVELERS

Mid-winter treat - First-timers: Come in for a one-hour deep tissue massage for those overdone muscles and get a FREE 1/4 HOUR. "Best of Boston." Since 1993. For appointment, call 401-808-0837.

JOB WANTED: CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT

Job wanted: C.N.A. 20 years' experience with the elderly. Personal care, light housekeeping, meal prep & errands. Companion. Immediately available for any hours, ALWAYS available


weekends! Strong professional references. Call Maria at 228-6035 or 944-0642.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD, contact Tricia Stearly:
tstearly@jfri.org or 421-4111, ext. 160.

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD Business and Professional Directory

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Interior • Exterior
FREE Estimates within 24 Hours



QUALITY PAINTING CO. • Professional & Reliable
• Licensed & Insured
• Excellent References
Paul Abreu
401-252-9577
Falo Português — REG# 23444

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

SALON SERVICES

Salon 888

**First time customers
Receive a 20% discount
with this ad.**

Not to be combined with other promotions

888 Smith Street, Providence - 401-331-4888

PLUMBING & HEATING

**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

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: 401-973-4642 • Mobile: 617-633-6062
www.rentamensch.us RI. Reg. #29694

REACH 22,000 READERS FOR ONE FULL YEAR

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD IS PLEASED TO PRESENT OUR **GUIDE TO JEWISH LIVING IN RHODE ISLAND**

Reserve early for premium ad placement!

The Guide will be mailed to every known Jewish household in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts with our September 30, 2011 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	1,250
Full page 4-color glossy	1,000
Full page 4-color	825
Full page spot color	670
Full page black	780
Half page 4-color glossy	500
Half page 4-color	450
Half page spot color	410
Half page black vertical or horizontal	360

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

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 COLOR: Add \$110
MECHANICAL INFORMATION: 1 column width 2.25" • 2 column width 4.525"
Ad Deadline August 22, 2011 • Publication date September 30, 2011

Better Than a Billboard

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

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

Call or e-mail today!

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

AS WE GROW OLDER

Memory loss can be a blessing or a curse

Forget the hurts
of the past

THE SUBJECT of this treatise is amusing. Before I started typing, I wasted 40 minutes trying to find the list of subjects I had dreamed up on nights when I woke during the night and did not immediately return to sleep. The



Tema Gouse

list was, of course, exactly where it belonged — on my desk.

There are no more threatening phrases for elders than “memory loss” or “Alzheimer’s disease.” I am amused by the assumption of many that I am a semi-authority on this subject, given my education and my work as a clinician. Well, they are not all wrong. But as real mavens can tell you, knowledge is more utilized for others than it is for oneself.

Memory retention is a quandary and applies itself selectively. I can give you the names of childhood friends, but have a harder time recalling the names of college classmates. I can tell you the family phone number we had when I was a child, but cannot remember the phone number of the hospital where I worked for 26 years. Along with diminishing memory, the ability to disguise your loss is ever on the increase.

So, how does all of this impact aging citizens? Well, in many ways that depends on your life situation. It depends primarily on the state of one’s mental and physical health. How severe is the degree of memory loss? What supports are necessary?

And (don’t laugh) how secure are you financially? Can you afford to pay for things you can no longer

manage?

But thank God, if you are fortunate enough to have retained your sense of humor and do not get depressed, memory loss may not be so defeating. Those fortunate enough to still have their marriage partner or a loving relative are assisted in coping with the frustrations of memory loss. You can develop some techniques for retaining normalcy in most instances.

Amongst the saddest side effects of diminished memory are withdrawal and embarrassment. If a light approach is adopted, life is not quite so difficult. My husband’s Aunt Bessie could never remember who my mother-in-law (her sister) was or who I was. But she boasted to me that, despite those memory losses, she was still capable of correctly signing her own checks!

Memory loss brings multiple inconveniences. You have been to a store 20 times and now you can’t remember how to get there. Or you remember the nice place that had affordable shoes, but not its name. You attend a social function, but are embarrassed when you cannot remember the name of a lifelong friend. You know what her father did for a living and where she went to college — but you are stuck on her name.

There are increasing resources for coping with this problem that will not get better and probably will get worse. Some remarkable research is being done on the problem of memory loss. I try to forget that its full realization will come too late for me.

I sit here trying to dream up positives for the individual who unsuccessfully struggles to recall. Although we are not in complete control when we have memory loss, we can still enjoy physical comfort, good food and family. It is a small compensation, but with loss of recall, we forget many shortcomings

that life has dealt us.

We develop a greater tolerance for previous annoyances. As a dying woman once told me, “Tell everyone I forgive them. It is nice not to remember why I was angry at them.”

Memory loss due to aging does obliterate many negatives. Grudges are forgotten. Unfortunately, kindnesses are also frequently gone from consciousness.

Many years ago on a visit to Chicago — my hometown — a former neighbor from my childhood years sat down next to my sister and me

in a restaurant. I recognized her immediately and we started talk-

“If some light approach is attainable, life is not quite as difficult.”

ing about other neighbors and our extended families. We ended up

chatting and reminiscing for nearly an hour. Then we said goodbye and as she walked away, I heard her say to her daughter, “Who was that nice young woman I was just talking to?”

Memory can be a blessing or a curse, and loss of memory can be a blessing or a curse. I am sure I should say something else about it, but what it is just slips my mind.

Tema Gouse is a retired social worker. Contact her at nbgtpg@cox.net.

Finding success in one’s own way

Choosing Judaism

By ROSIE PEGUEROS
Special to The Voice & Herald

Editor’s Note: Pegueros, who is married to Yehuda Lev, wrote a piece about turning 60. Because of its length, we chose to publish the piece in two parts; the first part appeared in the Jan. 21 issue. The newspaper thanks Pegueros for allowing us to reprint the essay.

IDID NOTHING heroic; I just refused to give up. My culture taught me that to look directly into the eyes of authority would be seen as defiance. What I refused to do was to accept the secondary role prescribed at that time for Latinas. This relegation to second-class status is also what led me to leave the Catholic Church: I simply could not accept that women could be nuns, but not priests; that they could serve, but not lead; that our lives and our bodies were to be controlled by men. No, not me. I would not conform. I left and eventually found comfort in a liberal wing of Judaism. I don’t think of myself as being confrontational but I realize that others may see me that way, particularly if I ran up against their expectations of me. I just kept going.

For me, choosing Judaism was a profound experience. Judaism values intellectualism and so I moved into a world where being bookish was normal. Judaism is not monolithic; there is no Pope and no absolute hierarchy like there is in the Catholic Church. One can choose to be Orthodox or can choose a more liberal branch of Judaism, as I did. Judaism values nonconformity; one might say that the entire history of Judaism is a study in nonconformity because Judaism has persisted in maintaining its identity in spite of powerful cultures trying to force it to assimilate. Although I was unaware of social classes when I converted at 19, my education and adherence to Judaism, as well as my

subsequent marriage to a journalist, propelled me into a higher social class. It took me years to understand the meaning and consequences of those choices.

One important element of my success has been the kindness of strangers. From my seventh grade teacher, who gauged my potential and sent me to after-school classes for gifted children, to my college algebra professor, who obtained a scholarship for me because he saw me working so hard, to the librarians who got me the job at the library that paid my college tuition, and to supervisors and bosses who believed in me, I have been blessed by people who offered a hand. I have had the good fortune to have failed at some things but had enough leeway to recover and start over, and to learn from my mistakes. Many people don’t get second chances.

Even though I was born in this country, and have leaped from the working-class Latino rung of society into the upper-middle-class elite as a university professor, I still carry an uneasy sense of being on the margin. As only one of 15 Latino professors, most of whom are in the sciences, out of 574 continuing tenured/tenure-track faculty at the University of Rhode Island, I still feel that I exist on the edges of society, perhaps because I am not part of a cohort. I realize now is that the clock is running and I may never get to some accomplishments. But I know that in working with Latino/a students, I have changed lives, and that matters to me very much. I know that my mere presence in the classroom represents possibilities for them.

For non-Latino students to study with a Latina professor changes their perception and expectation of higher education and prepares them to accept a Latino/a in positions of responsibility in the rest of their lives. My personal task is to learn to value what I have accomplished, yet still push forward to see how much I can achieve before my final act.

Raising a daughter to be a caring person and a conscientious citizen of the world is my greatest achievement.

“Even though I was born in this country, I still carry an uneasy sense of being on the margin.”

ment. Watching her succeed in the world makes me feel more at ease with myself. She has had the advantages of growing up in an intellectual household, being the child of a college professor and a journalist, and going to private schools. Soon she will have as many degrees as I do; never did she feel as out of place anywhere as I did everywhere.

Success is different from fame, and harder to measure. First, you have to agree on the yardstick and that may be the toughest thing of all. Some people are famous for being famous: Paris Hilton, for example; others because they are beautiful and talented, like Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. Some achieve fame because they rise to power in the political arena like President Barack Obama; and some because they are artful and rebellious, like Madonna. Money and power define success in many arenas.

What about the quietly successful? In 60 years, I have had moderate success in living my own life in my own way. They say that that is the best success.

Dr. Rosa Maria Pegueros, J.D., Ph.D., an associate professor of history and women’s studies at URI, published this piece: <http://www.mylatinovoice.com/politics-and-us/23-education/2542-reflections-on-turning-sixty.html>. Contact her at pegueros@uri.edu.

NEW BEDFORD
NBJCH

Jewish Convalescent Home
Kosher facility for short or long-term care

- Skilled nursing care
- Hospice care
- Medical services
- Pain management
- Wound care
- IV therapy and hydration
- Rehabilitative services
- Restorative therapy

A Kosher Jewish facility

New Bedford Jewish Convalescent Home
200 Hawthorn Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
508.997.9314 • Fax: 508-996-3664

SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

The hazards of growing a beard

An assignment for those who are patient

THE THOUGHT OF growing a beard is not to be confronted lightly or exercised negligently.

Laden with both spiritual and secular implications, it is a decision that should not be made frivolously during the intermission of the Super Bowl.

Tradition tells us that a beard is a mark of piety, majesty and maturity; a sign that its bearer is capable of

assuming the many responsibilities of an adult member of society. The presence of the beard signifies that its bearer is among those sufficiently wise to ponder baffling questions and imponderable mysteries.

Growing a beard is a time-consuming enterprise – and the time saved by forgoing a daily shave is not trivial. If but six minutes each day are saved by growing a beard (and thus not shaving), then the accrued time in a mere 20 years amounts to 730 hours, equal to about 91 eight-hour days.

Ponder for a moment the potential of a gratuitous gift of 91 days: Alexander the Great vanquished the Persian Empire in but 60 days. Napoleon conquered all of Prussia – and Josephine – in fewer than 70 days. Jules Verne described a feasible encirclement of the globe in but 80 (pre-avionic) days. Learned textbooks have been assembled, and immortal books of sonnets composed, in less time. Neither Rembrandt nor Rubens ever invested more than 30 days in any of their immortal portraits. And a substantive beginning in talmudic lore can be achieved in 91 days of intensive study. Indeed, the gratuitous accomplishments achievable in but 91 days are incalculable, even if that precious allotment of time were employed solely in meditation – and all by forgoing the joys of quotidian

shaving.

Growing a beard is neither a destiny nor a destination; it is a tedious journey requiring much thought along the way. And in that variable interval between the contemplation of a beard and its fulfillment, there may be weeks of faint hope and manly pride, admixed with rueful embarrassment and even remorse. Relatives may cringe while whispering to one other about your diminishing sanity; little children may retreat in terror to their mothers' skirts; compassionate friends may join wallets to purchase a guitar for you; and strangers may ponder on the absence of an alms cup.

The path is long, the straits are

"Growing a beard is neither a destiny nor a destination."

toruous; in the process, one's outer appearance may resemble evolving vagrancy more than advancing maturity. But there is a goal, reachable by commitment, steely resolve and tenacity.

Can the Scriptures aid us in clarifying our thinking concerning beards? Early on, we were enjoined neither to shave nor even to trim our beards (Leviticus 19:27), lest we be like the pagan Canaanites. Herodotus, the great historian of antiquity, declared that heathens shaved their faces and heads as a sign of grief or defeat in battle. Shaving the beards of captured enemies symbolized their shame. And slaves, in the Scriptures, were compelled to shave their beards as a token of their servitude. The Psalmist had declared the virtues of an untamed beard and numerous stories in the Bible attest to the enduring merit of the full beard, and at sorrowful times, "the shaven beard as a token of imminent destruction of the Temple." (1 Samuel 21:13; Jeremiah 48: 37; Ezekiel 5:1)

The beard, to the Hebrews, was more than a mere ornament signifying manhood. It represented a ceremonial part of one's self. It was

an object of respectful salutation (touching one's beard in greeting a peaceful stranger) and grasping one's beard when swearing an oath.

In modern times, the beard has assumed the secular mark of maturity, of a person capable of reliable leadership. But its presence is qualified, to quote the Psalmist: "The hoary beard is a crown of glory if it be found in the way of righteous-

ness." Thus the beard, by itself, is a meaningless conceit unless its bearer acts in the paths of righteousness. Otherwise, according to an old Greek proverb, "A beard signifies lice, not brains."

Edward Lear (not to be confused with the Bard's Lear) once wrote that beards may indeed serve modest, secular functions:

There was an old man with a beard.

*Who said: "It is just as I feared!
Two Owls and a hen,
Four larks and a wren,
Have all built their nests in my beard."*

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



Dr. Stanley Aronson

Chabad of West Bay, JLI offer classes

WARWICK – The Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) will present "Toward a Meaningful Life: A Soul-Searching Journey," the institute's new six-session winter 2011 course that will begin during the week of Feb. 6.

Rabbi Yossi Laufer of Chabad of West Bay will conduct the six course sessions. The Monday classes, which begin on Feb. 7, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., will be held at Chabad, 3871 Post Road, Warwick; and Tuesday classes, which begin on Feb. 8, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., will be held at Tamarisk, 3 Shalom Drive, Warwick.

The course was prepared by Rabbi Simon Jacobson, head of the Meaningful Life Center in New York City and author of the best-selling book, "Toward a Meaningful Life."

"The objective of this course is to teach and empower individuals of all backgrounds with new life skills based on traditional Torah thought,

thereby enabling them to transform the way they view their daily lives," said Rabbi Zalman Abraham of JLI's headquarters in Brooklyn, in a statement released by JLI. "The course provides newfound energy and exhilaration in taking on challenges, and offers practical strategies for developing a deeper sense of joy and satisfaction."

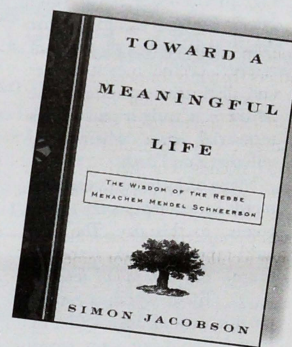
Each lesson will conclude with a toolbox of exercises and guidelines to help students make full use of the ideas and strategies discussed.

"Day after day, life can be a treadmill, as we go through the motions without asking why or seeking what really matters to us," said Abraham. "This course offers recipes, tips and techniques for not only discovering where your true meaning lies, but in actually making it a part of your daily existence."

"Toward a Meaningful Life" is designed to appeal to people at all levels of Jewish knowledge; all

JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with any house of worship.

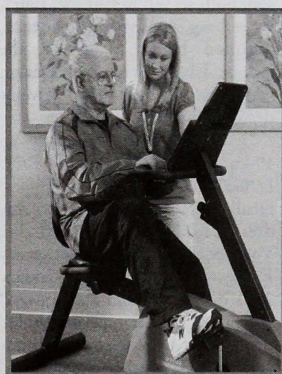
Interested students may call 884-7888 or visit www.myJLI.com for registration and other information. JLI courses are presented in Rhode Island in conjunction with Chabad of West Bay.



Our Circle of Care Revolves Around You

Summit Commons

Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center



State of the art Transitional Care Unit offering Orthopedic and Post Surgical Rehabilitation 7 days per week

New Pulmonary Reconditioning Program

New Candlewood Unit, Specialized Care for Alzheimer's and Related Memory Impairment

Long Term, Respite and Hospice Care

Located on the East Side.

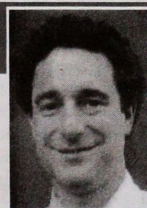
Call us today for more information or a personal tour.

Summit Commons Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

99 Hillside Ave, Providence RI 02906 • 401-574-4800 Fax: 401-278-4937

www.RadiusHealthCareCenters.com

www.jvhri.org



Dr. David Kahn

Psychiatrist MD

Very Personalized Psychiatry

Group or Individual Therapy

Medication When Necessary

Email Me: Kahn@Feelings.com

Listed on <http://psychologytoday.com>

182 Butler Ave., Providence, RI

401-455-0860

D'VAR TORAH

Create a sanctuary
in your home

Parashat Terumah

Exodus 25:1-27:19

BY RABBI SARAH MACK
Special to The Voice & Herald

WITH *Parashat Terumah*, our Torah text shifts from the narratives of Genesis, and most of Exodus, to matters that comprise what modern biblical scholarship calls the "priestly corpus." This begins with a detailed description of the *Mishkan* (the portable Tabernacle in which, so the Torah tells us, the Aaronide priesthood conducted the worship of God during the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness). Verse after verse goes into minute detail describing its brilliant colors, specific measurements and distinctive materials. The *Mishkan* is truly a marvel – a terrestrial space where God will dwell on Earth.

Many of its features are mirrored in contemporary synagogues to this day: The *aron* (ark) the *menorah* (candelabrum), the *ner tamid* (eternal light). These Torah passages provide us with instruction on how to build our own sacred spaces.

The rabbis (and, so I have noticed, my own bar/bat mitzvah students) are eager to read meaning into every detail of the *Mishkan*. Rabbi Obadiah Sforno (a 16th-century Italian scholar) comments extensively upon the Ark in the wilderness, which, so the Torah tells us, housed the stone tablets of the Decalogue and eventually (according to Deuteronomy 31:24ff), the Torah text itself. Angelic winged creatures known as cherubim (reminiscent of the visions of Isaiah and Ezekiel) were perched atop the Ark; their gaze was directed downward, says Sforno, to remind us that Israel's focus should be on the Torah. The curtains surrounding the Ark were woven together, to teach

that all Israel should be united in the service of God.

One *hasidic* commentator draws our attention to the plainest part of the structure. For all the gold, scarlet, purple and blue inside the Tabernacle, from outside it appears as a simple tent made of goat's hair. This is to teach us that internal beauty is more important than external beauty.

If we try hard enough, we can read a moral lesson into almost every detail of the *Mishkan*.

The rabbis' focus on these details goes beyond an attempt to infuse meaning into an otherwise obscure text. The rabbinic analysis teaches that our buildings should reflect

"Create a *mikdash me'at*, a miniature sanctuary, within our homes, so that the *Shekhinah*, the Divine Presence, will truly dwell among us."

our values, both internal and external. This raises important questions for the contemporary Jewish community. Do our institutions reflect the Jewish values we hold dear? Is Torah really at the center? Or is it all flash and no substance? Do we try to be inclusive of all Jews?

The same holds true for each of our individual homes; *parashat Terumah* teaches us how to create a *mikdash me'at*, a miniature sanctuary, within our communities and within our homes, so that the *Shekhinah*, the Divine Presence, will truly dwell among us.

Rabbi Sarah Mack is the associate rabbi at Temple Beth-El. Contact her at rabbimack@temple-beth-el.org.



RENA ABELES embraces Hinda Semonoff, a long-time customer.

/Nancy Kirsch

QUALITY merchandise and personal service fill the bill

From Page 1

THREE GENERATIONS
IN THE BUSINESS

Rena Abeles, Rotenberg's daughter and the current owner of Reliable Gold, explained that, during the Depression, the company focused on buying and selling silver and gold. Then called Reliable Gold Buyers, the company was founded in 1934 by Rotenberg's wife's uncle, Henry Limer. Although Henry Limer died a mere few years after Abeles was born, she remembers his scratchy beard.

During World War II, Rotenberg and Harry Limer, Limer's son, both served in Europe. Later, Rotenberg, a native of Providence, returned home to attend the Rhode Island School of Design where he studied – not jewelry design – but architecture.

"I came to the company in 1946. I [had] married [Ruth Limer] and needed a side job," recalled Rotenberg, impeccably dressed for his interview with The Voice & Herald on a recent snowy Friday. (Haven't all our January 2011 days been cold and snowy?) "I had two choices – my wife's uncle owned the jewelry business and my wife's father was in retail men's clothing."

Rotenberg, who expressed no regrets about his 65 years in the business, called Reliable Gold's clientele "some of the most interesting... and finest [people] in the state."

Rotenberg and the younger Limer, who joined the company soon after Rotenberg arrived, bought the business in 1948. "We

were one of the biggest gold sellers in the state and melting most of the gold and silver. But, then I felt the jewelry [pieces] were too pretty to melt down."

When her father and uncle owned the business, Reliable Gold became more of a retail operation, Abeles said. In making the move from downtown to Wayland Square, Reliable Gold continued to sell estate jewelry and silver; a gift department offering china and glassware was added when the store relocated.

Abeles, who left the world of theater [including performing on the national tour of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown"], returned to Providence in 1987 to work with her father and uncle. "My parents were wonderful, and terrific to me," she said. "I didn't really think I would come back [to Providence or Reliable Gold], but I thought it was the right thing to do at the time. I'm thrilled to be back – Providence is a wonderful city."

Rotenberg, 86, who only retired about five years ago, focused on customer contact, and Harry Limer tended to the business end. "They both had wonderful rapport with their customers," said Abeles. "I learned from each of them and they both bought [goods]. My father was very knowledgeable about silverware and estate purchases." Harry had worked in the business until his death, about 15 years ago. "It's hard to believe how fast time has gone," said Abeles.

THIRD GENERATION
TAKES THE REINS

Today, under Abeles' owner-

ship, Reliable Gold has a more open layout; while still an intimate space selling beautiful estate and original works, it's evolved with the times. Abeles' buying and selling reflects societal changes. Today, sales of silver service and flatware are much softer than in Rotenberg's day; he remembers selling complete sterling silver service for 36 place settings to Reliable Gold's customers. As customers' tastes change, Reliable Gold's inventory reflects those changes. For example, the once highly popular Chinese porcelain isn't especially desirable these days, so Abeles doesn't focus on it.

The biggest change for her business and that of many other merchants in Wayland Square, said Abeles, is the Internet. People are shopping differently, but Abeles believes that it's difficult to buy goods such as those she sells via the Internet. "With jewelry, you must touch it, feel it, wear it," she said. Customers want to see how something looks on or they want to feel the weight of the piece – that's hard to do with the Internet.

The soft-spoken and petite Abeles employs her careful skills of observation to help clients find just what they want, something especially helpful with new customers. "We build a picture of what they look at," said Abeles, "and sometimes what jewelry or clothing they're wearing [give us clues]."

Abeles is pleased that her customers, who "don't need the false confidence that comes with wearing a designer name," want

SERVICE, Page 37

Visit our web site:
www.jvhri.org

www.jvhri.org



THESE PIECES are among the many in Reliable Gold's inventory.

/Nancy Kirsch

SERVICE with a smile

From Page 36

something unique, a personal statement. For that reason, the jewelry stores in Providence Place Mall have not had much of an impact on her business, she said.

LOYAL CLIENTS

Given the store's longevity and deep Providence roots, it's no wonder that many generations of families have shopped there.

When Hinda Semonoff, a longtime Reliable Gold customer, brought in some jewelry for repairs, she and Abeles embraced in a warm and loving hug. "We have customers who are the children and grandchildren of my dad's customers; it's delightful," she said. "I love when a young couple comes in to buy an engagement ring and we get to know them. Then their kids are born, we see them go through school and then they grow up and marry..."

Each of the owners brought in jewelry that was contemporary for their time, said Abeles. "My contemporary [jewelry] is very different from what theirs was."

With a reputation for selling estate jewelry, Reliable Gold

purchases through a variety of sources, including dealers, large international jewelry shows and, in at least once instance, a doctor who makes jewelry. How did she come across the jewelry-making physician? "She was a customer," said Abeles.

SAGE ADVICE

With years of experience under her belt, Abeles advises customers to buy – and wear – what they love. Early in her career, she sold a piece to a big dealer, thinking that she would impress him with her good taste. "He didn't hesitate to buy it immediately," she said. "But I loved that necklace – it was the prettiest necklace I'd ever seen."

Along with learning from her father and uncle, Abeles furthered her knowledge of jewelry through courses at the Gemological Institute of America in diamonds and colored stones.

The biggest challenge is having enough time to do all that needs to be done, she said. As for the best part of the business, Abeles seems to share her father's point of view. "The best parts of being in business in this location are the customers. We have magnificent

customers and we keep adding new ones." New physicians, professors and students moving into Providence, she said, bring a "fabulously interesting clientele." The sellers, frequently family members selling estate jewelry to Reliable Gold, are also tremendously interesting.

Whether either or both of Abeles' two grown children will do what she did – and return to Providence to assume the helm of Reliable Gold – is an open question. Perhaps her genuine enthusiasm for the city could do the trick. "I didn't come back to Providence until I was almost 39; I love this city now and wouldn't want to live anywhere else." With

GOLD, Page 38

VOTED BEST IN RHODE ISLAND Gregory's Optical

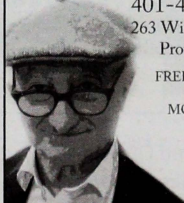
Unique and Vintage Frames

Oliver Peoples J.F. Rey
L.A. Eyeworks théo
Alain Mikli Tag Heuer
Face a Face and much more

High Technology Lenses

401-421-4770
263 Wickenden St.
Providence

FREE PARKING
OPEN
MON. - SAT.



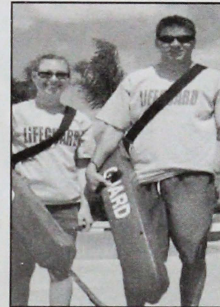
www.jvhri.org

SHMUEL TAITELBAUM CERTIFIED MOHEL



Providence-Based • Recommended by Local Physicians & Rabbis

861-1403



New England Lifesaving Academy

Life Guard Classes

Locations in Providence Newport Warwick

Re-certifications welcome

Authorized by the American Red Cross

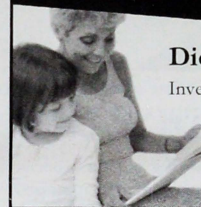
CPR • First Aid • AED

www.nelifesaving.com

Contact Brian of the New England
Lifesaving Academy 401-391-1970

providence public library

the library



Did you know?

Investing in the Library rather than a bank can yield better benefits for you while also allowing you to enrich the lives of others for generations.

To learn more about a charitable annuity, call 401.455.8003 or visit www.provlib.org.

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

Alan Shawn Feinstein YOUR GREAT KIDS!

Sat. 10 A.M. & 12 Noon

Sun. 10 A.M. & 6 P.M.

PBS 36 / Cox 8 / Comcast

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JVHRI



Find us on
Facebook

Dirtyblinds.com
of Southern NE

"If your blinds are not becoming to you...they should be coming to us"

Ultra-Sonic blind cleaning removes dirt, dust, allergens
mini blinds • cellular shades • pleated shades • vertical blinds
Silhouettes • Luminettes • Duettes • Vignettes

a division of American Wallpaper & Design
44 Troy St. Fall River, MA 02720 • 800-672-3751
www.amwall.com • Leah and Kenny Hersh



Rena Abeles shows some of Reliable Gold's glassware.



'And this diamond ring can be dreams that are coming true...'

"We have customers who are the children and grandchildren of my dad's customers; it's delightful."

GOLD, diamonds or glassware: It's all available to purchase

From Page 37
her abiding affection for arts, she finds Providence offers an abundance of good music and good theater.

If you're shopping for an

engagement ring or other special gift or you need an item appraised or repaired, rely on Reliable Gold.

Reliable Gold Ltd., 181 Way-

land Ave., Providence, RI 02906. Contact them at 861-1414 or visit www.reliablegoldltd.com. The store is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Editor's Note: This is one in an occasional series of articles about Jewish-owned multi-generational family businesses in greater Rhode Island.

If you want your family's company (of three or more generations of ownership) to be profiled, contact us. Email: nkirsch@JFRI.org with subject line.



The Rhode Island Shriners Imperial Room At One Rhodes Place

The Rhode Island Shriners Imperial Room at one Rhodes place is a beautiful banquet facility, centrally located in the edgewood section of Cranston.

The imperial room is available year-round for bar & bat mitzvahs, as well as for all types of special events!

We offer low minimums and rental fees, affordable in-house catering (a large selection of menus are available, or we will customize a menu to fit a particular theme or budget), plentiful free off-street parking, complimentary event planning, and fully handicapped accessible facilities.

All are welcome!

The Imperial Room

AT ONE RHODES PLACE

One Rhodes Place • Cranston, Rhode Island 02905 • 401-467-7102 Sales & Information
401-383-9413 Fax • imperialrm@ishriners.necoxmail.com

www.jvhri.org

Awards

AT ITS ANNUAL meeting on Jan. 18, Butler Hospital's president and chief executive officer, Dr. Patricia R. Recupero, and Charles R. Repucci, chairman of the board of trustees, presented the annual Robert J. Westlake Award for Physician Excellence to Dr. Martin J. Furman of Providence.



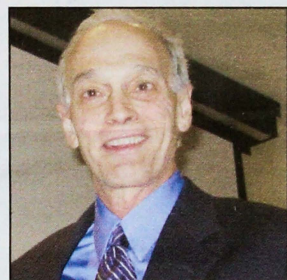
DR. MARTIN J. FURMAN

Furman, the associate medical director of medical staff affairs, is chief of the hospital's Intensive Treatment Unit and director of the Electroconvulsive Therapy Program.

The Westlake Award is given to a physician in recognition of outstanding personal achievements and contributions to the mental health of the people of Rhode Island and to patients at Butler Hospital.

Furman was cited for always being willing to take on the most difficult cases and for his communication skills with patients' family members. He was also recognized for his work with psychiatric resi-

AT ITS ANNUAL meeting on Jan. 18, Butler Hospital's president and chief executive officer, Dr. Patricia R. Recupero, and Charles R. Repucci, chairman of the board of trustees, presented a 30-year service award to Michael Klein, a Pawtucket resident. Recognized for having worked in every treatment unit at the hospital, Klein, a social worker, was also congratulated for his skills working with families and willingness to share his years of experience supervising social work interns.



MICHAEL KLEIN

Currently working on the Kent Unit, Klein was honored with an award for excellence in patient care two years ago by the Northern Rhode Island Community Mental Health Center.



ARI ALEXANDER

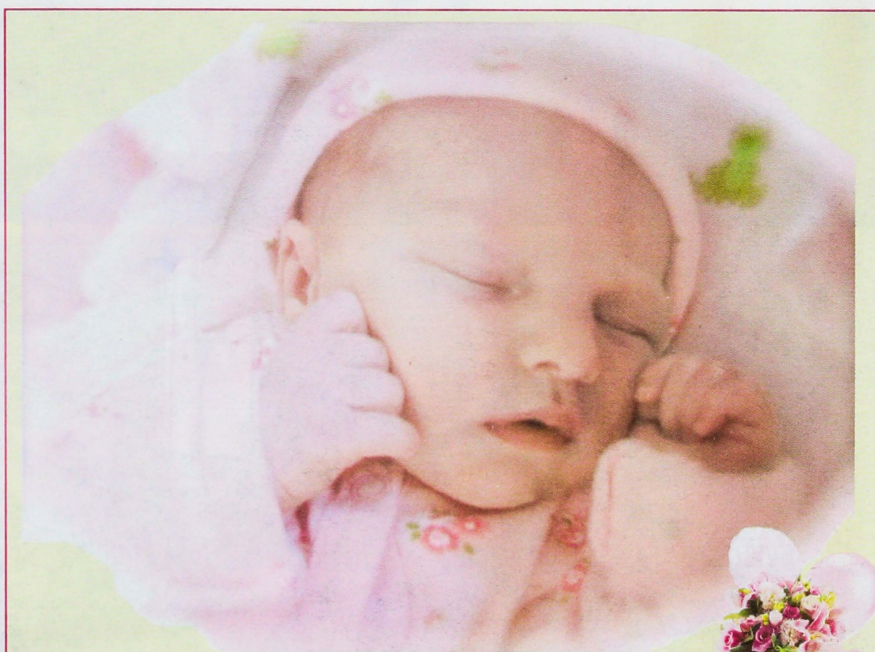
ARI ALEXANDER, the deputy director for the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Center for Faith-Based & Community Initiatives and the coordinator of global engagement, was one of five political appointees honored by President Barack Obama on Monday, Dec. 6. The individuals were recognized for making positive changes not only within their own agencies, but across the federal government. Alexander was nominated by an agency senior personnel committee and selected by the White House Presidential Personnel Office. He met with the president in the Oval Office.

Alexander, who joined USAID in December 2009, was asked by USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah

to help the new Bureau for Food Security in adopting a comprehensive public engagement strategy to support the President's Feed the Future initiative.

Alexander, the son of Dr. Paul and Sheila Alexander, of Providence, was recognized for his leadership in reforming USAID's procurement policies to build more sustainable local capacity. Realizing that there was an absence of baseline data, Alexander assembled a team of researchers and then created and managed a data analysis exercise that involved the detailed coding of hundreds of thousands of pieces of data. The data his team discovered gave USAID leadership the evidence and baseline it needed to set ambitious reform targets.

Editor's Note: Efforts to obtain a picture of Alexander with President Obama were unsuccessful!



ABIGAIL ("ABBY") MCKENZIE ZASLOFF

Birth

ABIGAIL ("Abby") McKenzie Zasloff was born on Nov. 25, 2010 - Thanksgiving Day. She is the first child

of Lori and Zac Zasloff, of Somerville, Mass. Abbie's paternal grandparents are Etta and the late Frank Zasloff, of Hope Valley, and her maternal grand-

parents are Belinda and William Woofert, of Oak Island, N.C.

Abbie weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and was 19-and-1/2 inches long at birth.

We are Read



ELLY and DAVID LEWIS

ANTARCTICA

DAVID AND ELLY Lewis, Providence residents, onboard the National Geographic Explorer in Antarctica. Elly is a member of The Jewish Voice & Herald's editorial board.

Geographic Explorer in Antarctica. Elly is a member of The Jewish Voice & Herald's editorial board.



www.jvhri.org

YOUR ONLY

RHODE ISLAND JEWISH NEWSPAPER ONLINE.

VISIT IT OFTEN.

If you could, would you...



help **secure** a Jewish family's nutritional well-being?

help **ensure** our elderly Jewish neighbors are not forgotten?

help an oppressed family **discover** their Jewish heritage?

If you could, would you help **impact** the lives of Jews here in Rhode Island, in Israel and around the world?

Here's your opportunity.

Your donation to the 2011 Annual Community Campaign will support more than 300 programs and services that **better Jewish life** for children, teens, adults and seniors here in Rhode Island, in Israel and around the world.

Making your gift through the Annual Community Campaign provides **the greatest impact** for your dollar. Your money will go where it's **most needed** and be delivered through programs that are monitored to ensure results.

No single gift can **touch more Jewish lives**, in more meaningful ways, than your gift to our Jewish community's Annual Community Campaign. **Make a difference. Donate Today. To learn more, please visit www.JFRI.org.**



a better brighter world because of YOU.