

# The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

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August 5, 2011



IRENE (RENEE) RUDNICK /Lauri Lee

## JCDSRI acts to improve financial footing

*In filing for receivership, school anticipates no day-to-day changes*

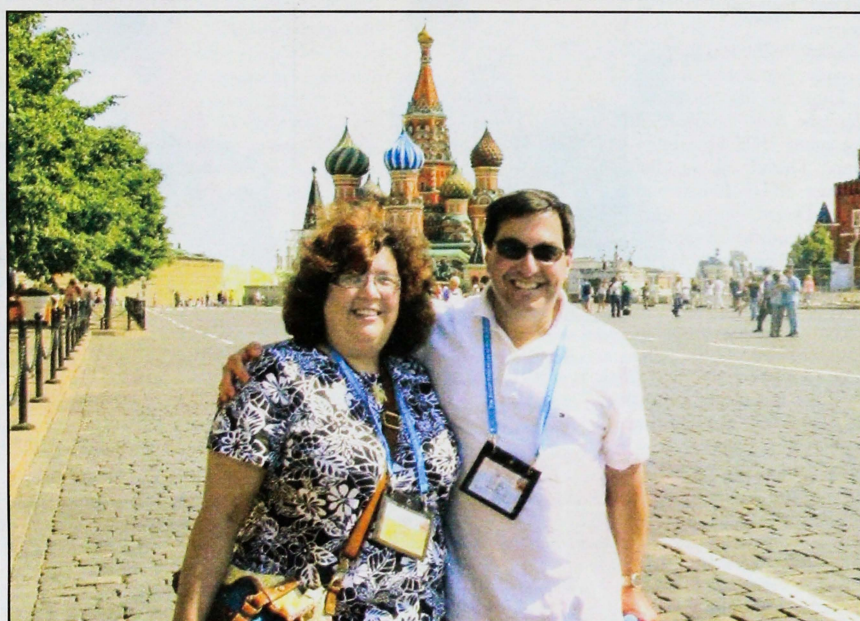
By NANCY KIRSCH  
nkirsch@shalomri.org

PROVIDENCE — On Friday, July 29, the Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island (JCDSRI) filed for receivership in Rhode Island Superior Court, with the express goal of getting out from under its debt.

As we go to press, a community meeting is being held on Wednesday, Aug. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at JCDSRI, 85 Taft Ave., in Providence. (Information about that meeting will appear online at [www.jvhri.org](http://www.jvhri.org) before the next print edition of Friday, Aug. 19.)

In a written communication released to the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island (the Alliance),

SCHOOL, Page 13



SHARON GAINES and JEFFREY SAVIT in Moscow. They are in Red Square with St. Basil's Cathedral in the background, on their first day in Russia. /Sharon Gaines

## Savit reflects on his recent mission

*Connecting with those in need in Russia, Israel*

By JEFFREY K. SAVIT  
jsavit@shalomri.org

SOMETIMES PEOPLE receive gifts via the mail or in person and often at the most unexpected times. And sometimes people receive gifts when they did not realize that presents were being bestowed upon

them.

Indeed, I have received two extraordinarily meaningful gifts during the past few weeks. My first

### COMMENTARY

gift was beginning my position as the president and chief executive

officer of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island (the Alliance) on July 5. I could not have received a warmer welcome from everyone in the community whom I have met; I look forward to meeting and collaborating with all of you — those I've met and

GIFT, Page 8

## Israelis seeking revival of welfare state

*Young people demand a new social contract*

By LESLIE SUSSER

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The wave of protests sweeping Israel is about much more than the lack of affordable housing: It's a grass-roots demand for the major redistribution of the nation's wealth.

In social terms, protesters are

calling for a more caring government attuned to the needs of young,

### NEWS ANALYSIS

middle-class citizens who serve in the Israeli Defense Forces, pay heavy taxes and provide the engine

driving the country's burgeoning economy.

In economic terms, it is a call for the reversal of nearly three decades of fiscal conservatism at the expense of social services such as education, health and welfare, as

PROTESTS, Page 29



BRUCE G. SUNDLUN

## Bruce G. Sundlun's lifetime of legacies

*A complex, demanding, stubborn and colorful businessman, civic leader and two-term governor*

By NANCY KIRSCH  
nkirsch@shalomri.org

PROVIDENCE — "What a man, what a life," said U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D - R.I.). Whitehouse, of course, was speaking of former Governor Bruce G. Sundlun, who died Thursday, July 21 at his Jamestown home.

Sen. Whitehouse was the most prominent of several individuals who eulogized Sundlun, the state's second Jewish governor (the late Frank Licht was the first) before hundreds of people at his funeral on Sunday, July 24 at Temple Beth-El in Providence. Whitehouse had served Sundlun from 1991 - 1994,

PRINCIPLED, Page 26



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## Rhode Island Hadassah hosts and Robin Kall MCs authors' luncheon

*'Books on the Beach' features local writers Ducoff Belkin, Hood and Nathan*

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF  
voiceherald@shalomri.org

AS THE KICKOFF event in celebration of Hadassah's centennial year—in 2012—Rhode Island Hadassah will sponsor "Books on the Beach," a book and author luncheon on Tuesday, Aug. 16 at the Atlantic Beach Club, 55 Purgatory Road, Newport.

Guest Master of Ceremonies Robin Kall, host of the 920 WHJJ talk show "Reading with Robin," will introduce area authors Lynn

Ducoff Belkin, Ann Hood and Joan Nathan, who will speak about their latest books and sign books purchased at the event.

Ducoff Belkin was inspired to write her book, "Home in Time for My Birthday," after she was hospitalized as a young child for a brain tumor. Ducoff Belkin, the daughter of Dr. Robert and Diane Ducoff, wrote about her book and the experiences of her childhood surgery in an article "Offering hope to ill patients," which appeared in The Jewish Voice & Herald in 2010 (<http://bit.ly/mRcLp5>).

Award-winning author Ann Hood, of Providence, will speak about her novel, "The Red Thread," the story of six couples adopting babies from China and the mothers who were forced to give up baby girls; Hood and her husband adopted a baby girl from China several years ago.

Joan Nathan will speak about her most recent cookbook, "Quiches, Couscous: My Search for Jewish Cooking in France," and about the Jewish community she met as she



acquired the recipes.

The luncheon is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., at the Atlantic Beach Club. The cost is \$50. Parking is free. RSVP is required by August 10. Send the tear-off sheet at the bottom of the Books on the Beach advertisement (on page 15) in this issue and your check to: Author luncheon RI Hadassah, 122 Nanci Karen Drive, Warwick, RI 02886, call 463-3636 or email [hadassahbooks@hadassah.org](mailto:hadassahbooks@hadassah.org) for reservations. Payment options to purchase books on the day of the event are cash or check; an ATM machine is on the premises.

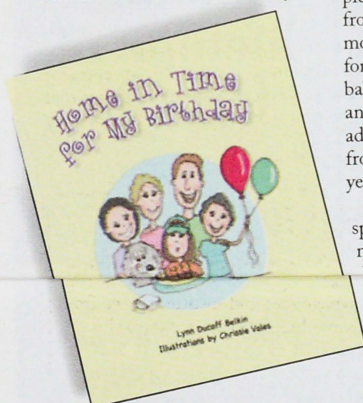
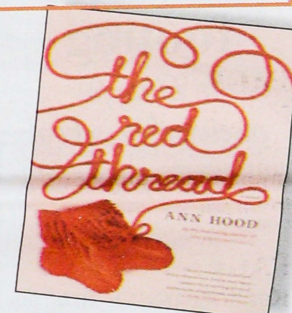


/Nancy Kirsch

### An early reader?

NIKO SALA found the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island's (the Alliance) air-conditioned building the perfect environment for "reading" on a blistering hot July day. The 23-month-old Niko, who attends the Alliance's Early Childhood Center, is absorbed in his book.

"Books on the Beach" is a fundraiser for the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower in Jerusalem, Hadassah Medical Organization's newest facility; the Hadassah Medical Organization is the largest medical center in the M.D.J. East. Hadassah hospitals treat 1,000,000 patients annually without regard to religion, race or nationality.



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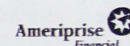


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Check the Web site for updates on JCDSRI's community meeting...

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Readers' photos are delightful...

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Tema Gouse offers sage advice for the future...

## Look at behaviors, not ideologies

*Security experts weigh in with lessons learned*

By RON KAMPEAS

WASHINGTON (JTA) – Focus on behaviors common to all extremists: That's the advice security experts are offering in the wake of the recent attacks in Norway by a perpetrator who appeared to be anti-Muslim rather than an Islamist.

In the U.S., the attacks in Oslo and on the island of Utoya are prompting government officials and those advising the Jewish community on security to look for lessons that can be applied to America.

The Secure Community Network (SCN), funded by the Jewish Federations of North America, set up a recent conference call for Jewish summer camp officials with a top Homeland Security Department official. Most of the 77 people killed in Norway died in a shooting attack at a youth camp on Utoya.

Anders Behring Breivik has claimed responsibility for the Norway attacks but has pleaded not guilty, saying the killings were justified.

Whether one is a right-wing or Islamic extremist, the telltale signs of a possible attack in the works may be the same, a senior Homeland Security official told JTA.

The likely attacker is "an individual becoming increasingly vocal and visible in their anti-American, anti-Jewish community, anti-government rhetoric" – whatever the provenance of their beliefs, said the official, who spoke on condition of not being named.

That was true, the official noted, of Faisal

Shahzad, the Islamist convicted of attempting to set off a car bomb in Times Square in May 2010, as it was of Richard Poplawski, the white supremacist on death row for killing three Pittsburgh policemen in 2009.

Past and current U.S. government security

noted, but not made an issue of, his legal weapons purchases as well as his propensity for anti-government, racist and anti-Semitic rhetoric.

The Homeland Security official said the department was examining the Norway attacks and assessing the information, just as it had previous attacks.

After an attack, the official said, "we look at events that occurred, what people had observed, whether community members, family members saw something that was present that would have forewarned" of an attack. Those reports are then forwarded to local authorities so "they're more sensitized to it."

Another element is educating the target community, said SCN director Paul Goldenberg. The Homeland Security Department's recently launched "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign in the Jewish community is critical, he said.

Goldenberg said that potential assailants tend to look at previous attacks for inspiration, which is what made Breivik's assault on the Labor Party youth camp so exceptional. Some of his victims were as young as 14.

The Homeland Security official identified patterns of behavior around synagogues and other Jewish community buildings that merit reporting to the authorities: "multiple instances of appearances" by a stranger "in an entrance or exit area, parked cars that are in places that unusual – places that people walk past as they

SECURITY, Page 24

**IF YOU SEE  
SOMETHING,  
SAY  
SOMETHING.**

BE SUSPICIOUS OF ANYTHING UNATTENDED.

officials laid out three interlocking strategies for prevention: Getting family and acquaintances to report such behavioral changes; getting others in the community to note suspicious behavior around likely targets; and making sure such reports are streamlined so that local and federal authorities are able to coordinate a response.

"We seek through intelligence and information-sharing to better inform local authorities and community members to recognize the behaviors associated with violence," the Homeland Security official said.

In reports after the Pittsburgh shootings, friends and family of Poplawski said they had

## If you see it, report it

*Community Relations Council addresses security issues*

By MARTY COOPER  
mcooper@shalomri.org

**M**ANY ATTACKS OF terrorism and domestic violence have been reported in the past 60 days. In addition to the Norway tragedy, there was the gruesome and brutal murder of a Jewish child in New York City, allegedly carried out by a Jewish neighbor.

While we tend to focus on terrorism, we should also be vigilant of telltale signs surrounding our community. Such signs include suspicious behavior of a person or group of people who are loitering near a place that doesn't typically instill such behavior.

Another sign is someone wearing heavy, out-of-season clothing, especially in very hot weather. Extra vigilance should occur at the schools, synagogues and institutions we frequent. If something seems out of the ordinary to you, report it to the police or at least to someone in authority, such as a supervisor or manager.

Vigilance, however, should not instill panic or undue concern about your surroundings. Terror incidents promote fear and alarm in the community at large. Unfortunately a terrorist attack, wherever it might occur, often brings panic to those near and far – exactly the terrorist's objective. So, we must make reasonable and responsible appraisals about stopping possible acts of violence; however,

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Back to School  
Family Pages



**Candle Lighting Times**  
for greater Rhode Island

August 5..... 7:39

August 12..... 7:30

August 19..... 7:20

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FROM THE  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

## We all have choices

By NANCY KIRSCH  
nkirsch@shalomri.org

**I**DON'T HAVE anything to write about in my column," I whined once again to our crackjack graphic designer, Leah Camara.

Leah, a good friend and excellent sounding board, simply rolled her eyes at me. "You say that every single issue and you always find something to write about."

"I don't know what to write about in my column," I complained to my family as we drove to Newton, Mass. to have dinner with friends.

Their well-intentioned suggestions met with a fast and perhaps unnecessarily severe reply, "No, I don't think so." Then, as I was cleaning out my car, it hit me – not the car, but my idea!

In my car's clutter, I found a copy of an email that my primary care physician was kind enough to share; in turn, I share a slightly edited version of it with you.

*"A Native American boy was talking with his grandfather."*

*The boy asked, 'What do you think about the world situation?'*

*The grandfather replied, 'I feel like wolves are fighting in my heart. One is full of anger and hatred; the other is full of love, forgiveness and peace.'*

*The boy asked, 'Which one will win?'*

*To which the grandfather replied, 'The one I feed.'*

Given the world situation – our national politicians incapable of acting like the adults they are supposed to be, economic crises, famines and wars devastating the populations of too many countries to count, the ongoing evidence of man's inhumanity to man (consider Oslo, Norway on a large scale and the horror of one Orthodox man accused of murdering a fellow Jew in Brooklyn on a smaller scale, among others) – it'd be easy to sink into despair and depression, right?

After all, as some teenagers have said to me, "You gave us a really '@%&\*'-ed up' world. Thanks."

"We all inherit a '@%&\*'-ed up' world. All we can do is our small part to make our corner of it a little bit better," is my response.

As I am attempting to practice the philosophy of "feed the wolf that is full of love, forgiveness and peace," I was particularly humbled when an elderly Russian man came to see me recently.

In short, he expressed deep appreciation for a recent article (merely an edited press release from a local hospital) about strokes and cardiac care. It had, he said, motivated him to seek necessary medical treatment.

With the Rupert Murdoch scandal – another piece of our "@%&\*'-ed up' world – I'm even more moved to realize that our community newspaper touches people's lives in ways that may surprise us. I am grateful for the man's kindness, his restored health and his overt expression of thanks.

A caveat – I am attempting to practice the philosophy – and fully expect to fall short, so bear with me.

In the meantime, which wolf do you plan to feed?

## Strong and diverse voices add, don't detract

**K**ENAN MALIK, a British writer and broadcaster, contributed a grimly prophetic op-ed piece to the July 7 issue of The New York Times under the title "Assimilation's Failure, Terrorism's Rise." According to Malik, "[m]ulticulturalism has become a fraught



Rabbi Jim Rosenberg

issue throughout Europe in recent years" in such countries as Great Britain, Germany, France, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and the Netherlands; he adds that the attack on multiculturalism is a coded way of attacking immigration and immigrants – especially, of course, Muslims.

Central to Malik's sophisticated and compelling analysis is his contention that "multiculturalism has come to have two meanings that are rarely distinguished. On one hand, it refers to a society made diverse by mass immigration, and on the other to the policies governments employ to manage such diversity. The failure to distinguish between these meanings has made it easier to use attacks on multiculturalism as a means of blaming minorities for the failure of government policy."

Some European nations have devised multicultural programs that divide their citizenries into "ethnic boxes"; in such cases, echoing the manner in which medieval European rulers dealt with their ghettoized Jews, today's European governments have chosen to deal not with the needs of individual citizens but rather with "so-called community leaders, often the most conservative voices, who [owe] their position and influence to their relationship with the state."

## IT SEEMS TO ME

## Salad bowl citizenship

It is no accident that such official approaches towards "solving" the problem of multiculturalism have been self-defeating, sowing the seeds of massive social discontent. Unfortunately, to this very day no European country has discovered an effective way "to reject multiculturalism as a political policy while embracing the diversity that immigration brings."

The horrifying events in Oslo just two weeks ago underline the timeliness of

from someplace else. To see the upraised arm of Lady Liberty, torch in hand, in New York Harbor, to hear the words of Emma Lazarus, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free..." touches our deepest sense of what it means to be an American.

When I was a high school student in the early '60s, I was required to read Carl N. Degler's "Out of Our Past" (1959) for my American history class. At that time Degler's book helped me, a questioning teenager, to grasp some of the subtleties of our immigrant identity. Degler argued that we are not – or we should not be – a melting pot but a salad bowl. The task of the immigrant is not to assimilate – to permit one's ethnic identity to be melted down into some formless glob; on the contrary, the task of the immigrant is to acculturate – to add the unique flavor of one's ethnic identity to the rich salad of American life. We Jews, it is safe to say, have not renounced our Jewish identity in order to become Americans; rather, we have enhanced the flavor of the American social salad with the tasty particulars of our own heritage.

The process of acculturation does not happen overnight; generations must come and go before immigrant sons and daughters feel completely at ease with their salad bowl citizenship.

It is no easy task to learn English, to absorb the peculiarities and complexities of American culture and American politics. Nevertheless, in contrast to Europe's troubling experience with multiculturalism, for us Americans multiculturalism, if properly nourished and nurtured, is a gift that keeps on giving. Listen carefully, and even now you will hear the strong and diverse voices of Americans singing.

James B. Rosenberg is rabbi emeritus of Temple Haborim in Barrington. Contact him at [rabbiemeritus@templehaborim.org](mailto:rabbiemeritus@templehaborim.org).

## "We Americans understand ourselves to be a nation of immigrants."

Malik's discussion of the failure of European multiculturalism. In his 1,500-page rant, Anders Behring Breivik, a 32-year-old native Norwegian, justifies his murder of no fewer than 76 innocents by claiming that a horde of non-European immigrants is threatening the heart and soul of Norwegian identity: "This irrational fear of nationalistic doctrine is preventing us from stopping our own cultural suicide as the Islamic colonization is increasing annually."

For the past couple of years a few members of our local Jewish community have been telling me of their fears that the influx of immigrants onto our soil – especially Muslims and Hispanics – is threatening "our American way of life." It seems to me that such concerns – while understandable to some degree – are largely unfounded. Our American experience with immigration is far different from that of the European nations, because in many respects we Americans understand ourselves to be a nation of immigrants; with the exception of Native Americans, our forebears all come

## Letters

### Heed the message in adoption story

**T**HANK YOU FOR sending me the wonderful article, "More than one baby in the house," by Nancy Kirsch in the July 22 issue, about the Klitzner family and their adoption of Baby Adam.

I hope that their heartwarming story will encourage more families to become foster parents and adoptive parents.

Lauren D'Ambra  
Associate Justice,  
Rhode Island Family Court

### Newport history has much to offer

**T**HE JEWISH VOICE & Herald's section on Newport in its July 22 issue was fascinating. As a transplanted Bostonian, I feel a connection to some of the history. No, my forefathers were not part of the Sephardic settlers. I am a Mason. My Blue Lodge, the lodge from which I was inducted into the Masons, is the Michael Moses Hays Lodge in Massachusetts.

Hays, who moved to Boston in 1780, was the Grand Master of Masons in Boston. He

was a founder of the Massachusetts Fire & Marine Insurance Company that later became the Bank of Boston. He introduced the Scottish Rite Masonic Order to the United States. My induction into the Scottish Rite was named for Moses Michael Hays.

When Isaac Touro died, Hays raised Judah Touro, his nephew, as his own. There is so much more history of these families.

Cliff Lander  
Fall River, MA

### Stein correctly analyzed Ephraim Sneh's peace plan

**J**OSH STEIN WAS right on the money with his column, "Proposed peace plan is off the mark," in the July 22 issue of The Jewish Voice & Herald. Ephraim Sneh has an interesting pedigree. As his father was the founder of the Israeli Communist Party, Sneh had to tap dance around that tune for a long time. That may help to explain in part his many inconsistencies. Nevertheless, he has had a positive career in the Israeli military.

Sy Dill  
Providence

### Mission of The Jewish Voice & Herald

**T**HE 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.

## SEND US YOUR LETTERS....

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& Herald, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906. Letters must be signed and may be edited for content and length.



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# FROM THE OLD OLIVETTI Norway and the Jewish problem

**T**IME HAS MADE the joke acceptable. Frequent usage has made it unnecessary to tell the whole thing, short enough as it already is: "Other than that, Mrs. Lincoln, how was the play?"

On a recent Friday my wife, third son and I drove down to Scarborough Beach. It was a glorious day. We arrived a few minutes before high tide. The waves were



Josh Stein

crashing in, rolling one after another to the shouts of children and adults who threw themselves head-long into cresting waters or turned their backs, trying to time perfectly when to jump towards land so that the water would catch and propel them forward. Over and over and over again we did one or the other in the great ocean that had seemed so frigid when first we entered but after moments, was merely cool against our skin. Eventually, we returned to our blanket and chairs and soaked up those rays capable of penetrating the slathering of SPF 70 sun block my wife insisted we wear while we read, raided the food locker and talked and laughed and enjoyed each other and the day.

On the ride home we listened to the news on the radio and heard the shocking

reports out of Oslo and Utoya Island. The joy was sucked out of the car as the grim reports came through – more and more and more dead, most of them children, the Oslo bombing probably merely a diversion so that Anders Behring Breivik could operate his death machine uninterrupted on the island. "Other than that, Josh, how was the day at the beach?" It loses something in the immediacy, doesn't it?

Breivik, his lawyer tells the world, is insane. This is either a legal strategy or statement of belief, possibly both. I'm sure that future historians will wade through Breivik's 1,500 page on-line manifesto, which announced his intentions and provided his motivation. I've not yet begun the task, leaving it to others for the moment; but it has become apparent that there are elements in it that smack of pro-Zionist sentiments.

The Jews of Norway are nervous about the perception that Breivik's anti-Muslim sentiments are couched in pro-Israeli terms. (He warns, "If Israel loses in the Middle East, Europe will succumb to Islam next.") This in a country whose ambassador to Israel, Svein Selvig, was quoted in Maariv as saying, "We Norwegians consider the occupation [of the West Bank and Gaza] to be the cause of the terror against Israel." It doesn't really matter that Arab terrorism long preceded the Six Day War, the war which brought these territories under Israeli control; that's

apparently the way Norwegians, certainly the government, see it.

Local Jews are quick to point out that just because some "whacko" murderer says positive things about Israel doesn't mean that Norway's Jews are pro-"whacko" or that they do not mourn the senseless slaughter of children. They know that just the previous day those same children discussed a boycott against Israel and pressed the country's foreign minister to recognize a Palestinian state. But what of it? Whether we agree with

go together." (In another piece she sees the massacre as an assault on feminism.)

The on-line edition of The Jewish Journal of Greater L.A. has a long riposte arguing that while Breivik often speaks of the importance of defending Israel, what he wants to defend is not the Israel of Zionism. "It certainly isn't any of the values associated with Israel by those liberal Zionists [Breivik] frequently demonizes: democracy; open political discourse; the rule of law." Rather, Breivik seems to perceive Israel as the front line in a war all Muslims are waging against Jews and Christians.

My day at the beach ended when I heard the tragic news out of Norway. The children of Utoya Island had their lives snuffed out by an ultra-nationalist who has taken Israel hostage in his madness. Back in May 1974, Palestinian ultra-nationalists took more than 115 people (including 105 children) hostage in Ma'alot, Israel – eventually killing 25 hostages, 22 of whom were children.

Rest in peace, children of Israel and children of Norway. When the über-nationalists come calling, gone is your innocence, gone is your youth, gone is your life, gone is our hope.

Joshua B. Stein is a professor of history at Roger Williams University. Contact him at [jstein@rwu.edu](mailto:jstein@rwu.edu).

**"Rest in peace, children of Israel and Norway... gone is our hope."**

these ideas or not (and many Jews do) they are legitimate areas of discussion and should not diminish our grief over the slaughter of the innocents.

Michelle Goldberg (who, I assume, is Jewish) comments in The Daily Beast that, "Breivik's embrace of Israel, far from being unique, is just the latest sign of a great shift among the continent's reactionaries. Indeed, in European politics, fascism and an aggressive sort of Zionism increasingly

## REFLECTIONS OF/IN ISRAEL

### Tish'a B'Av: A tale of narratives

*What lessons can modern Jews learn from this sacred day?*

**T**HERE IS VERY little in Israel that has not become politicized to one degree or another. One would think that at least the most important commemorative day of the Jewish year, the Ninth of Av, would be part of a consensus. Think again!

It's not that the facts are in dispute; there are no "destruction-deniers" in the Jewish State. True, many Israelis have little understanding of the historical significance of Tish'a B'Av – for a very banal reason that would be laughable if it weren't so sad: Since this day never occurs during the school year, no one bothers teaching it! So pupils in the secular public school system



Sam Lehman-Wilzig

have a vague idea that some "not nice things" happened in the past, and that many people fast on Tish'a B'Av, but for many Israeli adults there's little comprehension of its historical significance.

Then there's the "that was then, this is now" crowd. A substantial segment of the Israeli population has some basic knowledge regarding the more lachrymose elements of Jewish history, but fails to see the relevance of that history to current events. After all, the U.S.A. is not Rome, and nuclear Israel is not weak Judea. Why commemorate historical disasters when the very existence of the modern State of Israel is a rebuke (and

perhaps repudiation) of Jewish history? Their motto: "It's time to move on..."

Nevertheless, two important camps in Israeli society do take Tish'a B'Av seriously for its historical lessons. Unfortunately, they are in serious disagreement – not about the "what," but about the "why." How did the Jewish people come to suffer the destruction of two Temples? Why did other national disasters occur – such as the Bar Kokhba debacle, which, at least from the standpoint of Jews slaughtered, well outnumbered those killed during the destruction of the Second Temple? What lesson can be learned regarding this sacred (though not technically "holy") day?

**"Tish'a B'Av is also about the Jewish people's remarkable resilience in the face of national trauma and tragedy."**

For those situated on Israel's right wing, the lesson is obvious: Gentiles are always out to "get the Jews," so we have to maintain vigilance at all times. Moreover, Tish'a B'Av is not merely about devastation – it is also about the Jewish people's remarkable resilience in the face of national trauma and tragedy. Much like the "bop-a-mole" carnival activity, we keep bouncing back up – at times stronger than ever (e.g., from the Holocaust to the State of Israel). So while Tish'a B'Av is a very sad day, for many Jews it has a positive subtext: *Am Yisrael Hai* – the Jewish people live

[forever].

For those on the left side of the political divide the message is quite different. Instead of focusing on how to survive devastation and keep on flourishing, we should be concentrating on how to avoid it. For those who look carefully at the historical record (in this case, the Prophets' statements regarding the First Temple period and those of Josephus for the Second Temple era), it is clear that Jewish zealotry is what brought about the demise of the First and Second Jewish Commonwealths – and the fall of Jerusalem twice. The dire predictions of the prophet Jeremiah (from whence we derive the term "jeremiad") warned the Jews in the 6th century BCE not to fight the Babylonians but rather to come to terms with the rising superpower. Several centuries later, the revolt against Rome was even more suicidal – and the Jews defied Rome twice, thereby increasing the loss of Jewish life. Indeed, when one looks at Israel's kings and other later rulers in *Eretz Yisrael* throughout most of the first millennium BCE, the Jews suffered least harm when they were internally ruled by "diplomatic" leaders rather than by "warrior" types. Even God

suggested as much – according to the rabbis, the Almighty banned King David from building the First Temple because he had too much blood on his hands. That would have to wait for his "Solomonic" son...

You don't have to be a biblical scholar – or a Ph.D. in political science – to understand where each camp is coming from, or (more germane to contemporary events) where each camp wants Israel to be headed in the peace process today. Should we avoid drawing facile historical parallels? Should we steel ourselves to the rocky fate of the Jewish people, not backing down even in the face of overwhelming odds? Or should we learn from the mistakes of past extremism and zealotry?

These are the three tales of Tish'a B'Av that resonate in contemporary Israel. Let's hope that we don't wait for another national disaster before deciding whose narrative is most relevant today.

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](http://www.profskw.com).

## Our editorial policy

**W**E WANT OUR opinion pages to represent our readers' vibrant diversity of ideas and opinions. Thus, our editorial policy is as follows: The Voice & Herald may publish thoughtful and informative contributors' columns (op-eds) and letters to the editor on issues of interest to our Jewish community. At our discretion, we may edit pieces for publication or refuse publication.

Letters and columns, whether from our regular contributors or from guest columnists, represent the views of the authors; they do

not represent the views of The Jewish Voice & Herald or the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.

Send letters (250 words, at most) and op-eds (700 words or shorter) to Nancy Kirsch at [nkirsch@shalomri.org](mailto:nkirsch@shalomri.org) (Subject Line: OPINIONS) or Nancy Kirsch, The Voice & Herald, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, RI 02906. Please include your name, city of residence and (not for publication) a contact phone number or email.



## READERS' PERSPECTIVES

## Reduce colon cancer risk

## Jewish values encourage accepting effective treatments

By HERBERT RAKATANSKY, M.D.  
Special to *The Voice & Herald*

JUDAISM TEACHES US that human life is the highest value. All Jewish laws except the prohibitions of murder, idolatry and sexual immorality may be, and indeed must be, violated if necessary for the purpose of saving life. Thus, treating disease is obligatory for the doctor, and acceptance of effective treatment is obligatory for the patient.

But preserving life also requires proactive action to maintain health before disease sets in. Jewish tradition recognizes the importance of preventive medicine and the responsibility and obligation of each individual to stay healthy by utilizing available resources. As was pointed out in an Internet reprint of an article that originally appeared in *Emanah Magazine* (Yosef ben Shlomo Hakohen and Richard H. Schwartz, Ph.D., "Prevention: Torah Perspectives on Preserving Health" in the fall

1995 issue, at 44-46), a noteworthy biblical reference to preventive medicine appears at Exodus 15:26: "[if you will heed the LORD...] giving ear to His commandments, and keeping all His laws, I will not bring upon you any of the diseases that I brought upon the Egyptians...I the LORD am your healer."

The authors point out that the medieval commentator Rashi (1040-1105) comments on this verse by making an analogy between God and the physician as healers: "I the LORD am your healer' ...[meaning that] I teach you Torah and commandments in order that you may be saved from [these diseases]. This is like a physician who says to a man: 'Do not eat this thing lest it bring you into danger from this disease.'"

In his biblical commentary, the Mishneh Torah, the medieval philosopher and physician Maimonides (1135-1204) interpreted the doctor's role as follows: "Therefore, we learn that the ability of a physician to prevent illness is a greater proof of his skill than his ability to cure someone who is already ill."

The Scriptures also allude to each individual's primary responsibility

for his or her own care. Commenting on Deuteronomy 4:9 ("Take utmost care and watch yourself scrupulously"), the 19th-century founder of Modern Orthodoxy, Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch (1808-1888), wrote as follows: "Do not ruin yourself! Do not endanger

**"Had our ancient sages known about screening colonoscopy, they would have created a pithy quote advocating its widespread use."**

yourself! Do not weaken yourself! Preserve yourself!" (S.R. Hirsch, Horeb, Soncino Press, 1962, p. 298)

We all accept the preventive value of diet, exercise, annual check ups, etc., even if we are not always diligent in pursuing them. We worry about our cholesterol

and take our pills. We appreciate that clean water and air are essential to maintaining good health and we advocate for these causes.

But colonoscopies are another matter! Of colonoscopies (as of gifts) one might say, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." There are many reasons why persons avoid a screening colonoscopy. There is fear of the preparation and the discomfort of the procedure. The "thought" of the procedure is discomfiting to some. Sedation, however, prevents much memory of any of this. Money is another issue. Commercial insurance and Medicare cover screening colonoscopy, but there is a large uninsured population. And not all doctors suggest this procedure for their patients. For these and other reasons, about one-third of eligible persons (ages 50-75 and healthy) have not been screened.

The American Cancer Society estimates that about 141,000 new cases of colorectal cancer will be diagnosed this year in the United States, and more than 49,000 deaths will ensue. It is the second leading cause of death from cancer that affects both sexes.

Most colon cancers start as benign polyps. By removing the

polyps during the colonoscopy, cancer can be prevented. The average person (ages 50-75) has a 30 - 50 percent chance of harboring a significant polyp. Not all polyps will become cancers - but we at least can be sure that the ones we remove will not. It is estimated that screening colonoscopy reduces the death rate from colorectal cancer by 77 percent over 10 years.

I am confident that had our ancient sages known about screening colonoscopy, they would have created a pithy quote advocating its widespread use. So if rational thinking has not yet motivated you to have a screening colonoscopy, perhaps the Jewish imperative to take care of oneself and be proactive in disease prevention will nudge you to add colon cancer prevention to your list. As the ubiquitous ads on TV repeatedly urge us: "Ask your doctor if this is right for you."

*Herbert Rakatansky, M.D. is a retired gastroenterologist and clinical professor of medicine emeritus at Brown University. Contact him at herbrak1@cox.net.*

## Letter

## Ambassador Avital offered mutually beneficial proposal

THANKS TO MARTY Cooper of the Community Relations Council (of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island) and J Street for a most insightful analysis of the current Israeli Palestinian controversy which was presented by Ambassador Colette Avital in Providence ["U.S. involvement in peace process is essential," by Jonathan Stanzler, in the June 24 issue]. Avital emphasized the urgency in the need to achieve a lasting peace and security between Palestinians and Israelis as a two-state solution for two peoples.

The starting point is to set borders on the 1967 lines with mutually agreed swaps and security provisions. Avital emphasized that this was a position accepted by a majority of American Jews and should be the one our own government presents in its role as negotiator between the two parties.

**Ira and Alice Gross**  
Kingston

Ira and Alice Gross are members of J Street

## Correction

The July 22 story, "More than one baby in the house," contained incorrect contact information for Jill and Dean Klitzner; the correct email is dklitzner@cox.net.

## Down, but not out

## Planning, collaboration and 'Hope' are keys to prosperity

By MARTY COOPER  
mcooper@shalomri.org

IN JULY, I met a 10-year-old boy, one who volunteered in a community garden, as part of a children's "Summer in the City" program. He, like the other children, looked hopeless. Perhaps you have seen it - the glazed eyes and lethargy.

If they have a home, it is most likely in a decaying part of town where crime runs rampant and the sound of gunfire is an everyday occurrence. If they are lucky, they do not go to bed hungry; their food will have been purchased from the corner grocery that sells outdated and inferior products.

When they return to school this fall they'll use out-of-date textbooks; the school is likely to have poor heating and ventilation and broken windows.

Where do these children live? They live in America - Newark (N.J.), Cleveland (Ohio), Baltimore (Md.), Philadelphia (Pa.), Providence, Detroit (Mich.) and even rural Iowa, among other places.

In July, Scott Libman, chair of the Community Relations

Council's Civil Rights & Anti-Semitism Task Force; Jim Vincent, president of the Providence chapter of the NAACP; and I attended a mission in Detroit. Sponsored by the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA), the mission focused on civil rights and poverty.

Detroit is America's poverty epicenter. Once a thriving metropolis, Detroit is fighting a battle of survival that goes back to the 1960s. Since then, it has lost almost 1 million people - about the population of Rhode Island.

We saw Detroit's poverty. With more than 40,000 vacant lots, homes and buildings in decay, the situation is grim. Many vacant homes are burned shells next to occupied homes, and commercial buildings are gutted. The Detroit train station lies in ruin - a rat-infested, decaying edifice that serves as a reminder that the once vibrant city is in dire straits.

Manufacturing left Detroit, as it did Rhode Island; as a result, the city has lost more than 24 percent of its population and jobs since 2000. Housing values during the same period have fallen by 41 percent. Almost 40 percent of the residents of Detroit proper are at risk of poverty.

Today, both Detroit and Rhode Island face challenges - and field opportunities. There are politics at every level, inevitable federal government reductions in funding state and local programs in

human services, job training and education. Job growth - good jobs that pay more than a minimum wage - is essential. But, the biggest challenge is the attitude of its citizens.

We met a cohesive group in Detroit who embrace the challenges associated with turning the city around. Rhode Islanders can learn from some of Detroit's community leaders, including the children we met who worked in the "Summer in the City" community garden.

We must do what we can to remove the mask of poverty. We visited several human service agencies in Detroit, most of which had roots in the faith-based community. One example was Focus: HOPE, an organization dedicated to intelligent and practical solutions to the problems of hunger, economic disparity, inadequate education and racial divisiveness.

The Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries serves more than 1,400 men, women and children each year by offering shelter and a soup kitchen to those who are homeless.

Rhode Island, too, has outstanding facilities, which face massive funding cuts. We must work together to ensure these organizations can meet the growing needs of Rhode Island's citizens.

We must re-invent our community. Detroit is doing so in

multiple ways. Community leaders, including young adults, have definite visions that they have begun to implement.

New Detroit, a private, non-profit, tax exempt coalition of leaders, for example, works to positively impact issues and policies that ensure economic and social equality. Think tanks and entrepreneurial micro-labs have been set up throughout the city, to give new, small businesses a fighting chance to thrive. Many non-profit organizations are accessing the now vast open spaces of the city to create gardens dedicated to providing nourishing, fresh food to inner-city residents.

Perhaps the most important contribution to eradicating poverty is keeping young adults in place, whether that place is Detroit, rural Iowa or Providence.

We returned to Rhode Island both humbled and energized. As poverty and civil rights issues often go hand-in-hand, if we work together to achieve civil rights for all, we may be able to overcome some of poverty's impact.

Working together, we can prosper. We have Hope, Rhode Island's state motto, on our side.

Marty Cooper is the director of the Community Relations Council. Contact him at mcooper@shalomri.org.

For a picture of Cooper's trip to Detroit, see page 18.



## The Voice & Herald seeks your help!

*Guide content being finalized, your input is invaluable*

**I**T MAY BE difficult to believe, but we're finalizing the content of the 2011-2012 Guide to Jewish Living that will be distributed to our readers with the Sept. 30 issue of The Jewish Voice & Herald.

We implore you – please check the written description of your agency, school, synagogue or community group and let us know whether changes need to be made or not. Changes in an organization's mission, personnel, address or phone number, for example, will need to be reflected in revised language in The Guide to Jewish Living.

Don't know what last year's

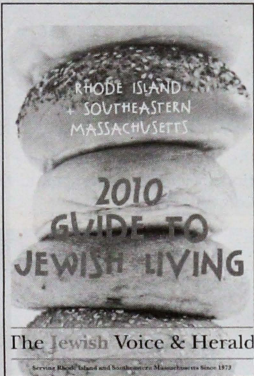
entry was? It's easy enough to find out, even if you don't have a copy of The 2010 Guide to Jewish Living at your fingertips. Go to [www.jvhri.org](http://www.jvhri.org) and look for the Guide to Jewish Living legend. Click on it and the entire guide opens for you; then search for your entry(ies).

Whether you've been contacted... or not, and whether you have changes or not... please take a few minutes to review the description about your organization in the Guide and email us, if you haven't already been in touch with us.

**Contact**  
Nancy Kirsch  
at [nkirsch@shalomri.org](mailto:nkirsch@shalomri.org) (email is preferable) or 421-

4111, ext. 168, **as soon as possible**. Your help will save us – and you – plenty of *tsuris* (and reduce the likelihood of errors!) in the near future.

Thank you!



/Clayton Roth/JSA

**ETHAN ADLER**, at rear, assistant director of Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, a program of Jewish Seniors Agency, leads a tour of Israel in his monthly computer class for participants in the To Life Center programs.

## Respite available at To Life Center adult day services

BY SUSAN ADLER  
*Special to The Voice & Herald*

**PROVIDENCE** – Are you feeling stressed and overwhelmed by taking care of a loved one? According to research released in late July by Penn State and Virginia Tech, adult day services significantly reduce the stress levels for family members who care for older adults with dementia.

The To Life Center, a program of the Jewish Seniors Agency, serves just that purpose, providing respite to a caregiver and offering activities and programs

suitable for elderly individuals, with and without dementia through adult day services. "Family members who care for dementia patients are susceptible to experiencing high levels of stress," said Steven Zarit, professor and head, department of human development and family studies, Penn State. "One way of alleviating that stress is through the use of an adult day care center, which allows them a predictable break from care-giving responsibilities."

*If you are a caregiver who needs some respite, contact To Life Center*

adult day services at 100 Niantic Ave., Providence. Come for a tour to see the spa services and activities and meet the staff. Call Susan Adler at 351-2440 for a personal tour or with any questions.

Susan Adler is director of To Life Center Adult Day Services and Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island both programs of Jewish Seniors Agency ([www.jsari.org](http://www.jsari.org)).

The Jewish Seniors Agency is a partner agency of The Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.

## Tifereth Israel Congregation to celebrate 90 years

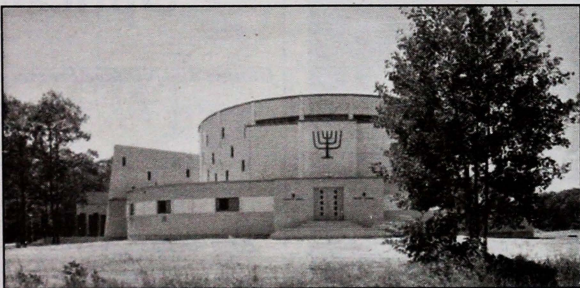
*Former members and offspring invited to attend*

**NEW BEDFORD, Mass.** – In conjunction with Tifereth Israel Congregation's upcoming 90th-anniversary celebration in November 2011, the synagogue in New Bedford, Mass. seeks former members and their descendants.

The schedule includes a service and *oneg* on Friday, Nov. 11, a

regents have scattered across the country and beyond, announced its plans to host a reunion that epitomizes "the more, the merrier" approach. If you were a synagogue member or the descendant of a member, the synagogue wants to hear from you.

The release continued, "With the blessing of our years being five times *chai*, we hope to commemorate this momentous occasion together. Help us share fond memories, reminiscences, and hopes for the future. *L'bitra'ot!*"



Shabbat service and Kiddush luncheon and later a cocktail party and story time on Saturday, Nov. 12, and a breakfast honoring the past, present and future on Sunday, Nov. 13.

In a recent release, the synagogue, acknowledging that its con-

**Contact Tifereth Israel Congregation**, 145 Brownell Ave., New Bedford, MA 02740, 508-997-3171, [mgoodman@tinewbedford.org](mailto:mgoodman@tinewbedford.org) or [www.tinewbedford.org](http://www.tinewbedford.org).

**Don't miss this opportunity of a lifetime!**

### Pacesetters' Mission to Israel

**November 1-10, 2011**

#### Highlights include:

- ~high level briefings from Israeli leaders
- ~meet with Israeli entrepreneurs
- ~explore cultural sites
- ~wine, dine and interact with the people of Israel

For more information please contact  
Jeffrey Savit, CEO & President  
Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island  
at 401.421.4111 ext. 158

*This mission is in support of our  
2012 Annual Community Campaign*

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## GIFT of journey to Israel is life-altering

From Page 1

those I've yet to meet – during the weeks and months ahead.

The second present that I received was the opportunity to travel to Moscow and Jerusalem in early July with Sharon Gaines, vice chair of financial resource development for the Alliance, as part of the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) Campaign Chairs and Directors Mission.

I participated in this mission to witness first-hand how the money we raise locally in our greater Rhode Island Annual Community Campaign directly benefits and impacts Jewish citizens and communities internationally.

As a story in the May 27 issue of The Jewish Voice & Herald ("Alliance to disburse almost \$2.8M," by Nancy Kirsch) indicated, the Alliance will disburse \$1.146 million and \$1.404 million to overseas and local programs, respectively, for this fiscal year (July 2011 – June 2012), from funds received from the Annual Community Campaign.

In Russia, it's no surprise that the two most vulnerable sectors of the Jewish community are the elderly and the very young.

On our second day in Moscow, Sharon and I met Marx, 78 and isolated. Suffering from terminal cancer, he lives alone in a cramped, suffocatingly hot, run-down, tiny

apartment unit. Marx, a former engineer for the government (who actually has a cousin living in Lynn, Mass.; Jewish geography is universal, it seems!), receives a monthly pension of \$300 that is devoured by his rent, utilities and other sundry expenses. Marx has no savings.

Were it not for the efforts of one of our international partner agencies, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (the JDC), Marx would not receive the services of a personal care assistant three times a week, as well as a food stamp card. Fortunately, the work of the JDC and the Alliance, through our international contributions, provides Marx with those personal care services and the food stamp card, through which he receives cancer medications and the special foods he needs. Marx was so grateful for our visit that he received us with hugs and kisses, as he pointed us to the copy of the Bible prominently displayed in his bookcase.

Touring Red Square and the Kremlin was sublime, but seeing that the dollars that we donate to our Annual Community Campaign directly pay for, inter alia, the food, medical and personal care of our Russian seniors so they can remain at home and independent, as well as summer camps serving roughly 6,000 Jewish children, was profoundly gratifying.

ALLIANCE'S, Page 9



SHARON GAINES, second from left, visits women at the Hesed Chamah, a senior citizen day center partially funded by the Jewish Federations of North America and the Joint Distribution Committee.



JEFFREY SAVIT, right, and other first-time visitors to Israel recite the *Shehechyanu*, a prayer of gratitude, at the Southern Wall in Jerusalem.

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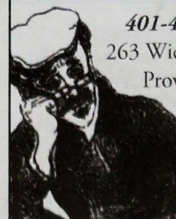
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JEFFREY SAVIT at the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

/Sharon Gaines

## ALLIANCE'S international partners serve those in need

From Page 8

In Russia, Jewish individuals have become so assimilated that they identify themselves first and foremost as Russian citizens. However, our dollars and the work of our international partner agencies, such as the JDC and the Jewish Agency for Israel, enable our brethren to celebrate their Judaism with one another, and create Jewish communities where none previously existed.

Visiting Moscow was merely the appetizer for the banquet that is Israel. Words do not adequately express the emotions I experienced upon landing at the Tel Aviv Airport for my very first time, especially as our flight included several Russian Jews leaving their homes to make *aliyah*. I have so many memories: viewing the Old City from the balcony of my gorgeous room at the David Citadel Hotel, walking through Jerusalem's historic streets and alleys on Shabbat morning, singing and dancing with my JFNA group at the Davidson Center's archaeological gardens in the Southern Wall area during our Kabbalat Shabbat ceremony, reciting Kaddish in memory of my beloved father at the Kotel as

Shabbat came, experiencing the magic of a Taglit-Birthright "mega-event" with 3,000 deliriously happy young Jewish adults from around the world, meeting and taking pictures of recently arrived Ethiopian Jewish children at their Jerusalem Absorption Center...In all those experiences and others, I was enchanted, exhilarated, awe-struck and inspired.

We were spellbound by the

**"Visiting Moscow was merely the appetizer for the banquet that is Israel."**

speeches of Natan Sharansky and Rabbi Daniel Gordis, who impressed upon us how vital our American financial and emotional support is to the existence of Jews worldwide and to the state of Israel specifically.

And I was equally captivated by the swarms of teens joyously celebrating the end of Shabbat at the

outdoor cafes, clubs and restaurants of Jerusalem, while the rest of us were purchasing as much jewelry and Judaica as we possibly could in the stores on Ben Yehudah Street during that one memorable Saturday evening. I departed Tel Aviv on July 18 transformed and energized to return to Rhode Island.

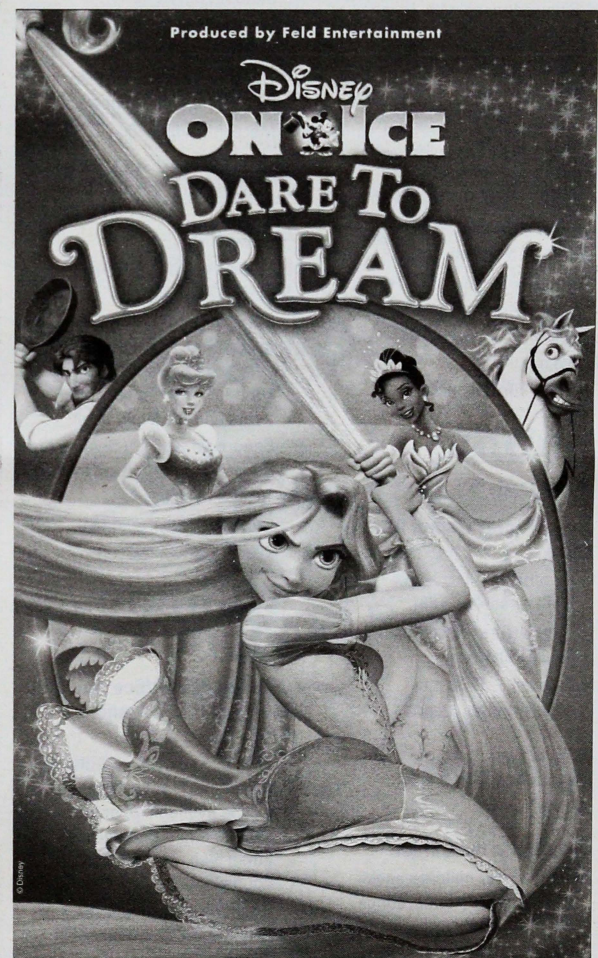
It gives me great pleasure to know that I will return to Israel to visit both Jerusalem and Tel Aviv as part of a Pacesetters' Mission that the Alliance will host. The highlights of this Nov. 2 - 10 mission will include high level briefings from Israeli leaders, meetings with Israeli entrepreneurs, exploring cultural sites throughout Israel, and exquisite wining and dining throughout our trip. This Mission is in support of our 2012 Annual Community Campaign. How lucky I am to return to Israel in four short months. May I be so lucky to continue receiving such wonderful gifts throughout my life.

For more information about this Pacesetters' Mission, please contact Jeffrey Savit at 421-4111, ext. 158 or email him at [jsavit@shalomri.org](mailto:jsavit@shalomri.org).



/Sharon Gaines

Sharon Gaines visits a young girl at an absorption center for Ethiopians in Israel.



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## What do our readers say?

**"THE JEWISH VOICE & HERALD** just keeps getting better and better. The executive editor's column, the contributing columnists, special reports, local news and personalities and special inserts...great! When The Jewish Voice & Herald appears in my mailbox, everything else waits until I read the paper.

Keep it coming... Happy in Fall River"

**Cliff Lander**  
Fall River, Mass.

Lander received two **Block Island Ferry** tickets from The Jewish Voice & Herald as a token of thanks for sharing his good words about the paper.





## Friday

Aug. 5

### Senior Café Learn and Lunch at Am David

Enjoy dance therapy with Bella Donna Christafulli.

Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick

11:15 a.m. – Program; Noon – Lunch

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

More info: Elaine or Steve, 732-0047

*This location hosts a meal site every weekday.*

### Kabbalat Shabbat in Narragansett

Enjoy services with Jennifer Kanarek, the guest cantor. Congregation Beth David of Narragansett, 102 Kingston Road, Narragansett

8 p.m.

More info: Rev. Ethan Adler, eadler3@cox.net or 486-0110

### United Brothers Synagogue Sabbath Service

*Oneg* will follow service.

United Brothers Synagogue, 205 High St., Bristol

8 p.m.

More info: 253-3460

## Sunday

August 7

### Temple Torat Yisrael Blood Drive

Observe the mitzvah of *Pikuah Nefesh*, saving a life.

Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

More info: 785-1800

## Tuesday

Aug. 9

### "Giggles in the Garden"

Program for children ages 2-4; includes stories, songs, snacks and playground time. A responsible adult must accompany children; siblings are welcome.

Jewish Community Day School of RI, 85 Taft Ave., Providence

10 a.m.

More info: 751-2470

## Thursday

Aug. 11

### Summer Boutique Supports HERC of Rhode Island

Jewelry from Myrna Aronson's Carmel Creations and Bonnie Kleinman's Tiffany Trinkets and handbags from Sally Steltzer's Bonnie's Loft are on sale at a private home. A portion of

the proceeds will be donated to the Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island for educational programming.

Home of Sandy Bornstein, 600 Blackstone Blvd., Providence

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

More info: 453-7860

## Friday

Aug. 12

### Summer Boutique Supports HERC of Rhode Island

*See entry on Thursday, Aug. 11*

### Temple Torat Yisrael's Shalom to Shabbat

Unwind and *nosh* before Shabbat Services

Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

7 p.m. – Wine and cheese; 7:30

p.m. – Shabbat Service

More info: 785-1800

## Saturday

Aug. 13

### PJ Library Story time & Shabbat Activity

Guest storyteller Ruth Forstadt tells stories to children 5 – 9 years old. Siblings welcome; younger children must be accompanied by an adult.

Congregation Beth Shalom Kids Room, 275 Camp St., Providence

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

More info: Elly Leyman, elly207@gmail.com

## Monday

Aug. 15

### JERI Satellite Office Hours: Topic is "Wisdom and Proverbs"

JERI Director Susan Adler and Assistant Director Ethan Adler will be available to counsel seniors and their families. Ethan also provides pastoral counseling.

Brightview Commons, 57 Grandville Court, Wakefield

1 – 2 p.m.

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

## Tuesday

Aug. 16

### "Giggles in the Garden"

*See Aug. 9 entry for more information.*

### Hadassah's Books by the Beach

An author's luncheon supports Hadassah's initiative in Israel.

Atlantic Beach Club, 55 Purgatory Road, Newport

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

\$50



More info: Karen Asher at kasher2@cox.net or 463-3636

*See story on page 2 for more information.*

### American Friends of Magen David Reception

Guest speakers Kelly Ann Smith, head of press and political affairs to the Consulate General of Israel to New England, and Gary Perl, AFMDA Northeast regional director, discuss why Magen David Adom saves lives of anyone, anytime, anywhere in Israel.

2 Linden Drive, Providence

7:30 p.m.

More info: Burton Klein, 617-916-1827 or burtonklein@gmail.com.

## Thursday

Aug. 18

### Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island's Summer Teacher Workshop

Stephanie McMahon Kay, coordinator of the Desk for International Seminars, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, Israel, presents "May Your Memory Be Love."

Amica Insurance Company, George Washington Highway, Lincoln

8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

\$65 (includes light breakfast, lunch, snacks, book and movie)

More info: 453-7860

### JERI Satellite Office Hours

*See Aug. 15 entry for more information.*

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

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

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

### Adoption Options Informational Meeting

For those considering adoption and interested in hearing about available options.

Jewish Family Service, 959 N. Main Street, Providence

6 – 7 p.m.

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

## Friday

Aug. 19

### Senior Café Lunch and Learn at the Alliance

Peter Filippi provides music at the celebration of those with August birthdays.

Jewish Alliance of Greater RI, 401 Elm Grove 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, 861-8800, ext. 107

*This location hosts a meal site every Wednesday and Friday*

### Special Sizzlin' BBQ for New, Current and Prospective Members

Enjoy entertainment, food, activities for children and an ice cream social *oneg*.

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

\$5 per person for members of the synagogue; no charge for non-members

5:30 p.m.

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

### Teddy Bear Shabbat

Children are invited to bring their favorite stuffed friend to help them celebrate Shabbat.

Congregation B'nai Israel, 224 Prospect St., Woonsocket

6:15 p.m. – Dinner outside;

7 p.m. – Interactive family service and dessert.

\$8 per adult, \$5 per child age 3 – 12, no charge for children younger than 3

More info: 762-3651

### Shabbat Under the Stars

Outdoor service includes singing, stories, and summertime *oneg* Shabbat

treats. Children with summertime birthdays will also be honored.

Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence

7 p.m.

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

## Sunday

Aug. 21

### Am David Open House

Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

More info: 463-7944

### George Washington Letter Reading

Annual reading of the George Washington Letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport.

Touro Synagogue, 85 Touro St., Newport

1 p.m.

More info: 847-4794, ext. 30

### Stand-Up Comic Rabbi Bob Alper

Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick

2 p.m.

\$18 in advance; \$22 at the door

More info: 463-7944

### "Screen on the Green"

Pack a picnic, fly a kite and then hunker down on a blanket for an evening of adventure and excitement with "The Muppets Take Manhattan."

Sessions Park (behind the JCC), 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence

7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

More info: Stephanie Markoff Cohen, scohen@shalomri.org or 861-8800, ext. 108.

## Monday

Aug. 22

### JERI Satellite Office Hours: Topic is "Despair and Hope."

*See Aug. 15 entry for more information.*

Sakonnet Bay Manor, 1215 Main Road, Tiverton

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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

## Calendar Submissions

**Please note:** Our next issue of The Voice & Herald will be published on August 19. Please send calendar items for that issue by August 8. Calendar items for the September 2 issue are due August 22.

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



# Anna Solomon, artist-in-residence, headlines 'One Book, One Community'

*Readings from and  
music about  
'The Little Bride'*

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF  
voiceherald@shalomri.org

PROVIDENCE – Are you a music fan or a book lover who wants to support local artists? If so, mark your calendar for the first in a series of events titled "One Book, One Community," at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 15 at the Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, 154 Angell St., Providence.

Anna Solomon is the author of "The Little Bride," the story of a Jewish mail order bride who comes to the American West in the 1880s. Too, Solomon is the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island's artist-in-residence from September 2011 through March 2012.

As part of the "One Book, One Community" programming, the entire community is invited to read "The Little Bride," an historical novel which touches powerful themes of women, Jews, immigrants and family myths, and then attend the different programs being planned, including a film showing and discussion.

On Sept. 15, Solomon, author



ANNA SOLOMON  
/Nina Subin

of "The Little Bride," and Clare Burson, musical creator of "A

**"Treat[ing] audiences  
to a musical-literary  
performance that  
heightens the power of  
the written word and tells  
an unforgettable story  
through music."**

Little Suite for The Little Bride," will headline an interactive evening of readings from Solomon's debut novel, which will be released in September 2011, and songs that Burson said were

inspired by "The Little Bride."

Sponsored by the Alliance, Brown RISD Hillel and Brown University's English, History and Music departments, the event is the first in a series of "One Book, One Community" themed events; the second, sponsored by the Alliance, is a Q&A session with Solomon on the evening of Thursday, Nov. 17 at the Alliance, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Later events,

currently tentative, include a workshop for teen writers in January 2012 and a panel discussion on immigration issues in March 2012. All these events will be led by Solomon.

Although they didn't know one another at Brown, Solomon, a 1998 graduate, and Burson, a 1997 graduate, met through their husbands, also Brown alums, after college. As students, Solomon studied literature and Burson

was immersed in music and history. Just as Burson "absolutely devoured "The Little Bride," Solomon found a kindred spirit in Burson's folk album, "Silver

and Ash," a collection of songs that explores Burson's maternal grandmother's childhood in Germany from her birth in 1919 through her escape in 1938.

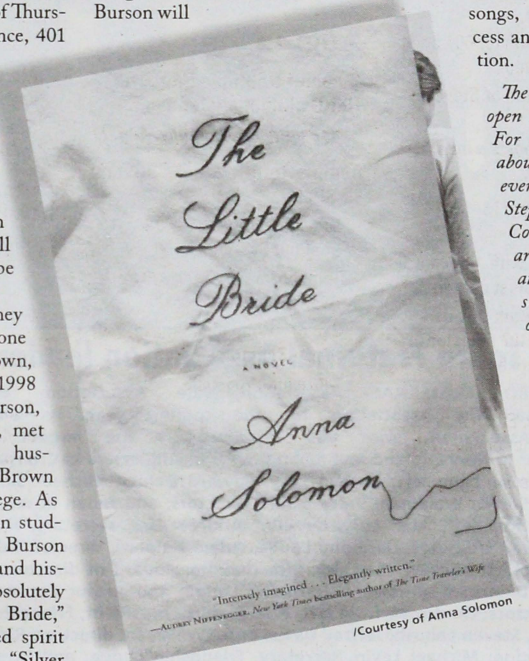
Through the interplay of readings (with musical accompaniment), songs, and projected images, Solomon and Burson will

treat audiences to a unique and seamless musical-literary performance that heightens the power of the written word and tells an unforgettable story through music. At the end of their performance, they will take questions from the audience – about

Solomon's book, Burson's songs, the creative process and their collaboration.

*The events are free and open to the community. For more information about this or upcoming events, contact Stephanie Markoff Cohen, director of arts and culture at the Alliance, at scohen@shalomri.org or 861-8800, ext. 108.*

*Visit Solomon's Web site at [www.annasolomon.com](http://www.annasolomon.com); Burson's Web site at [www.clareburson.com](http://www.clareburson.com).*



## 10th Annual

### JCC at the Alliance

### 10th Annual 5k Road Race

and

### East Side Pediatrics Youth Races

and

### Epoch of Providence 1.5 Mile Walk

Sunday  
September 11, 2011

For more information regarding sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, and to register, log on to [www.shalomri.org](http://www.shalomri.org) or contact Carlene at 401.861.8600 or [cbarth@shalomri.org](mailto:cbarth@shalomri.org).

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## How do you celebrate Jewish holidays?

**W**ITH ROSH Hashanah and Yom Kippur approaching all too quickly (at least for editors of Jewish newspapers, who must think ahead for future issues!), we'd like to hear from you.

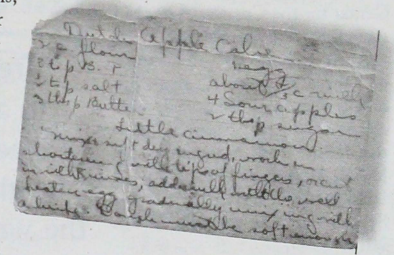
What traditions, artifacts, rituals or recipes did you "inherit" from your parents, grandparents or other relatives that you incorporate into Shabbat, the High Holy Days or other Jewish holidays? Are there Kiddush cups, table linens, candlesticks, baking or cooking utensils or rituals that you remember from childhood which you have blended into your family's celebrations?

Do you and your family adhere to traditional ways or have you adapted them to create new traditions? What memories do you recall when you use those inherited or passed down Kiddush cups, table linens or candlesticks for Shabbat or other Jewish holidays? How do you envision passing

on these traditions and artifacts to your children or grandchildren?

Please share your stories and photos with other readers of The Jewish Voice & Herald.

Send stories and photos, if possible, to [nkirsch@shalomri.org](mailto:nkirsch@shalomri.org) or Nancy Kirsch, The Jewish Voice & Herald, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, RI 02906, subject line: HOLIDAYS, or call 421-4111, ext. 168. Please include a daytime phone number where we can contact you with questions. If you



want mailed materials returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



/Michael Skorski

### Touro Fraternal Association leadership

THESE TOURO FRATERNAL Association (the Association) officers and directors will lead the Association for the coming year, its 94th year in operation. The Association, with 600 members, is the largest independent Jewish fraternal order in New England and maintains its headquarters in Cranston at 45 Rolfe Square. Seated, first row, from left, Nathan Lury, Edward Deluty, Michael Smith, Milton Bronstein, Jed Brandes, Steven Waldman, Barry Schiff, directors; and Judah Rosen, Association chaplain; second row, from left, Alan Lury, director; Andrew Liss, secretary, Harmony Lodge; Manocher Norparvar, treasurer, Harmony Lodge; Adam Halpern, director; Robert Miller, chairman, board of directors; Andrew Lamchick, vice chairman, board of directors; Rodney Locke, director; Norman Dinerman, president, Harmony Lodge; and Arthur Poulten, chairman emeritus, board of directors; third row, from left, Ried Redlich, president, Friendship Lodge; Barry Shaw, Steven White, Stevan Labush, Jeffrey Davis, Bruce Weisman, directors; Richard Cohen, treasurer, Friendship Lodge; Michael Levin, secretary, Friendship Lodge; and Howard Wasser, director. Not pictured are Marc Gertsacov, Association secretary; Lester Nathan, vice president, Friendship Lodge; and Jeffrey Padwa, vice president, Harmony Lodge.

## Alliance building offers weather shelter

BY VOICE & HERALD STAFF  
[voiceherald@shalomri.org](mailto:voiceherald@shalomri.org)

PROVIDENCE – It was a blistering hot day in late July when a local TV news station camera crew arrived at the doorstep of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island (the Alliance), at 401 Elm Grove Ave., in Providence.

When curious staffers won-

dered why a reporter was there, they learned that the building is a "cooling center," offering temporary respite to people who might be suffering from the extreme heat.

In fact, the building housing the Alliance (and earlier the Federation) has long been an emergency weather shelter for people who need it, said Carol

Gualtieri, executive assistant to Vin Kilbridge, the interim director, Center for Jewish Life and Learning, at the Alliance. "We're not just a cooling center; if it's really cold out, people can come in, too," she said. "We've been that way for many years."

Although Gualtieri isn't aware of people accessing the building to escape extremely inclement weather, those who do so may access the WiFi in the second floor lobby or purchase drinks or snacks from the vending machines by J-Fitness, she said.

### Organization announces

#### Camp(aign) initiative

PALMER, Mass. – Generation after generation, children return to Camp Ramah in New England (CRNE) for a summer of fun, making lifelong friends and strengthening their Jewish identities. "One of the most important things Camp Ramah does is prepare the next generation of Jewish leaders," says Scott Glickman, incoming board president, in a press release issued in late July by CRNE.

On Sunday, July 24, CRNE held a groundbreaking ceremony

for a new multi-purpose center, the *Bet Am Gadol*, or big house of the people. As part of a strategic plan for the future, this building will allow CRNE to build on its programs and sustained impact.

As CRNE approaches its 60th birthday, the camp is embarking on Camp(aign) Ramah, the most ambitious capital campaign in its history, supporting an array of projects designed to improve community space, dining and residential areas and the overall camp beauty.

"People often describe CRNE as the pinnacle of their Jewish experience," says Rabbi Ed Gelb, camp director. "Every summer, more than 1,000 members of our community experience in Palmer, Mass. We want the summer experience to be a springboard for a lifetime of engagement, and we need facilities that will fully support and enhance immersion in Jewish life."

For more information about CRNE, visit [www.campramahne.org](http://www.campramahne.org).

## THEATRE BY THE SEA 2011 Children's Festival

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NEXT! August 26: KEITH MUNSLOW PRESENTS

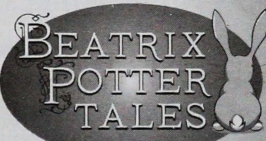
### Songs & Stories / Cartoons & Comedy

The popular award-winner combines music, storytelling, visual art and improvisation.

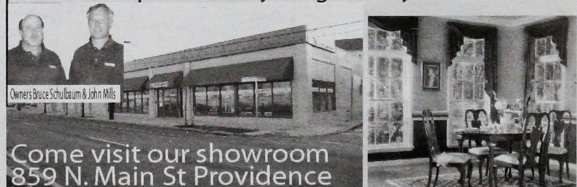
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## SCHOOL acts to resolve outstanding debts

From Page 1

Dan Gamm, board president, and Renee Rudnick, head of school, advised the community:

"On behalf of the JCDSRI Board and Administration, we are writing to you, as a valued member of our community, to inform you about steps that the Board is taking this summer to ensure the financial well-being of the school.

"Currently, the operating budget of JCDS is solidly in balance. That is to say, the school receives enough revenue – from tuition, donations and grants – to cover its expenses. It is hard to run a balanced budget in these tough economic times, but we are doing it. Despite this accomplishment, the school still faces a financial challenge that must finally be resolved.

"Several years ago, JCDSRI accumulated debt that the school has been carrying on its balance sheet. This debt has been a drain on the school's ability to focus on its continuing progress. It is imperative that we address this past debt and resolve it. Following consultations with attorneys, financial experts, and community leaders, we have decided to pursue a receivership plan as the best option for resolving this debt.

"We expect the school to be in receivership for one or two months. *We expect no changes in the day to day operations of our school* (emphasis in original) – in staffing, salaries, tuition, financial aid, operating budget, educational program, and so on... When the process is complete, the school will emerge more financially secure.

"We want to reassure the school community – parents, faculty, staff, donors – as well as the entire Jewish community of greater Rhode Island, that we expect the school will open at the end of August with the resources and continued dedication to fulfill its mission.

"For the past 33 years, this school has been a vital institution in this community. Our commitment has not wavered, and our goal is to emerge even stronger for the decades to come. With your continued support, we will meet that goal."

Steven Boyajian, an attorney in private practice, has represented JCDSRI for approximately one year exclusively on this issue.

In the case of a receivership, he explained, the receiver (an attorney in private practice, Tom Hemmendinger, was appointed as the temporary receiver by Superior Court Justice Michael Silverstein) decides how best to liquidate the assets of the entity in receivership. In the case of a nonprofit organization, as JCDSRI is, the receiver is obliged both to pay the creditors and serve the interests of those being served by the nonprofit organization – in Boyajian's mind, students and parents. He confirmed that the school's endowment, managed by a separate corporation, is not subject to administration by the

receiver.

Richard Licht, chair of the Alliance board, said, "This action was undertaken in order to solidify the financial base of the school by extinguishing its accumulated debt. The Alliance will continue to work with the leadership of JCDSRI to keep the school running smoothly as Jewish day school education is crucial to our community."

In an Aug. 2 phone call with this paper, Gamm explained that the school "went back several times to Bank of America [its lender]; at the end, on advice of everyone – including counsel and community leaders – we decided [that receivership was the] best course of action."

In addition to the \$600,000 the school owes Bank of America, Gamm confirmed that other creditors are Avi Chai, a national nonprofit foundation, which is owed \$140,000 and Temple Emanu-El, which is owed \$100,000 for past rent and utilities. While those fig-

plete, Gamm said, the school will emerge as a new corporation with a new tax identification number.

Anticipating questions from parents and faculty, Gamm and Rudnick prepared a list of "Frequently Asked Questions," including these:

### • What is receivership?

"Receivership is a process by which an organization's debts are restructured. A judge appoints a receiver who pays the organization's creditors out of its assets. This process typically lasts one to two months, after which the organization emerges from receivership."

### • I'm a parent. What does this mean for my family?

"Families can expect JCDSRI to open as usual at the end of August, with no changes of any kind (emphasis in original). Operationally, the process should be seamless for families. To reiterate, the operating budget of JCDSRI is in balance, with enough income to cover all our expenses. This includes financial aid. The purpose of undergoing receivership is to put the school on more solid long-term financial footing by removing the burden of old debt."

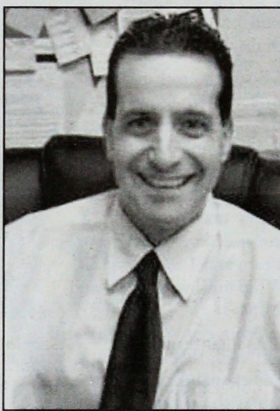
### • I'm a member of the faculty or staff. What does this mean for me?

"JCDSRI is planning *no changes* (emphasis in original) to any aspect of the staffing plan in place for next year. The school's operating budget is in balance, meaning that we have the income we need to cover all our operating expenses, most importantly, payroll."

### • Where did the debt come

from?

"Around five years ago, JCDSRI borrowed money in order to make improvements, expand staffing, and build capacity. The hope was that higher enrollment would bring in enough revenue to repay the loans. Subsequently, faced with a challenging overall economic environment and lower-than-anticipated enrollment, the school worked with the Jewish Federation, streamlin-



DAN GAMM

ing its budget to bring overhead and tuition back to sustainable levels."

### • What about the school's endowment?

"The school has an endowment, but the funds are controlled by a separate legal entity. Most of the funds are donor-restricted to specific purposes. The income from these funds is used to help balance the school's operating budget, but the endowment principal cannot

be used to repay this debt. Consequently the endowment will be maintained post receivership."

### • What is the JCDSRI Board?

"The Board is made up of school parents (current and former) and community members who are charged with maintaining the financial health of the school, both current and long-term. Among other duties, the Board has a fiduciary responsibility to ensure the strength of JCDSRI for present and future generations."

The school continues to operate in accordance with the Healthy School Model, part of the strategic plan that the school adopted in 2009, said Minna Ellison, senior vice president for community planning and programming at the Alliance. The Healthy School Model includes such key factors as keeping tuition in line with cost per student, controlling cost per student, charging a rational tuition price, allowing financial aid to grow at a measured rate and fundraising to keep pace with the costs needed to provide a high quality education, Ellison said.

As of Gamm's Aug. 2 interview with the paper, the "responses from parents and members of the community have been more supportive than I expected," he said. "People are encouraged that the school will be stronger."

*The Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island is a partner agency of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.*

**"The experts involved are confident that it will be a successful transition."**

ures are approximate, Gamm also said the school borrowed \$500,000 from its \$1.7 million endowment, leaving \$1.2 million in the restricted endowment.

"I've never been through this [a receivership] before," said Gamm. "I trust the experts. It's been going quickly and the experts involved are confident that it will be a successful transition."

When the receivership is com-

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Blackstoneparksconservancy.org

www.jvhri.org



*Book is filled with personal narratives, tempting recipes and evocative photos*

By NANCY KIRSCH  
nkirsch@shalomri.org

WHEN A colleague sent me a beautiful new cookbook, "Recipes Remembered, A Celebration of Survival," I eagerly paged through it and quickly became intrigued. I promptly emailed the author, June Feiss Hersh, for permission to reprint some of the recipes and photos within; just as promptly, she gave me permission. As a side benefit, proceeds from the sale of the book benefit the Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust.

With more than 170 recipes, the book offers meaningful glimpses into the lives of Holocaust survivors and their resilience and fortitude, all with an overlay of delicious recipes. Contributors don't merely share their recipes; they also share their individual stories of surviving the Holocaust.

#### Asparagus pudding

Excerpted from "George Lang's Cuisine of Hungary" (Wings Book s, New York, 1994).

Feiss Hersh wrote, "In his chapter on vegetables, Mr. Lang writes, 'In Hungary, vegetables are not just cooked, they are prepared. The difference between an American vegetable dish and a Hungarian one is similar to the difference between plain boiled meat and a meat stew.' The following recipe is George's tribute to the simple stalk."

#### Ingredients

1 pound fresh young asparagus  
salt  
1 roll  
1/2 cup milk  
4 tablespoons butter  
4 eggs, separated

4 tablespoons sour cream

#### Method

Peel the asparagus and cut slantwise into 1-inch pieces. Place in a saucepan with 1 cup water and 1 teaspoon salt. Cook until done, but it should be almost crunchy and not soft. Drain.

Soak the roll in the milk, then squeeze. Thoroughly butter a pudding mold with 2 tablespoons of butter.

Whip the rest of the butter until foamy. Add the roll, egg yolks, sour cream and 1 teaspoon salt. Whip until well mixed and fluffy.

Whip egg whites until stiff and fold them in gently with a rubber spatula. Combine the mixture with the cooked asparagus; do it very carefully so as not to break the egg-white foam.

Pour the mixture into the buttered pudding mold. Do not fill mold more than 3/4 full. Put on a tight-fitting top.

Fill a 4-quart pot half full of hot water. Set pudding mold into the pot and cook, with the cover on, for 1 hour.

*Variation. To serve this as an appetizer, sauté 1 cut bread crumbs in 1/4 pound butter until golden brown; pour crumbs on top of pudding or spoon a little over each slice. You may also combine the bread crumb mixture with grated cheese.*

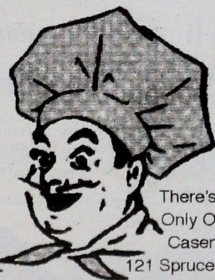
Makes 6 servings.

#### George Lang's Anyám cseresznyés lepénye, my Mother's cherry cake

Excerpted from "George Lang's Cuisine of Hungary."

He writes, "Summer luncheons of my childhood often ended with this dessert. This cherry cake is all that a cake should be."

Makes 10 to 12 pieces.



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## Holocaust cookbook is a treasure



erty... His pride and joy for nearly 35 years was New York's legendary Café des Artistes, which he bought in 1975."

#### Ruth Tobias' peperonata - bell peppers

The author writes, "This flavorful and colorful recipe was influenced by Ruth's adopted home, Italy. It makes a lively side dish or delivers a wake-up call for your taste buds as a sizzling starter. Try tossing the vibrant peppers with rigatoni or ziti for a sizzling hot dish, or chilling the peppers and pasta for a fiery summer salad."

#### Ingredients

1 red onion, sliced  
4 tablespoons olive oil  
1 garlic clove, crushed  
2 medium red bell peppers, about 1 pound, cored, seeded and cut into chunks

2 medium yellow bell peppers, about 1 pound, cored, seeded and cut into chunks  
1/2 cup tomato sauce or 2 ripe plum tomatoes, peeled, seeded and diced

kosher salt  
freshly ground black pepper  
basil, for garnish

#### Method

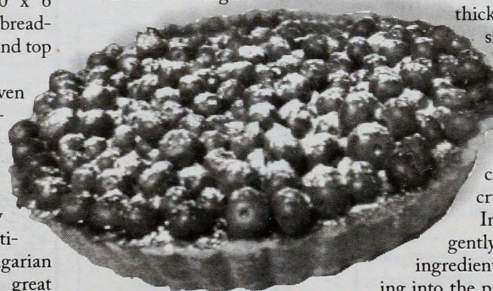
Heat the oil in a large skillet, cook and stir the onions over medium heat until lightly browned, about 10 minutes

Add the crushed garlic and cook for 5 minutes longer.

Stir in the peppers, tomato sauce, salt and pepper, reduce the heat to low, cover and cook for 15 minutes.

Uncover the skillet and cook 30 minutes longer. Garnish with fresh basil leaves.

Makes 4 servings.



Born in Italy to Polish parents, Ruth Goldman Tobias went with her family to an internment camp. She wrote, "Growing up in an internment camp seemed normal to me. There, I played with friends, lived simply but comfortably and remember cooking with my mother." Later, she writes, "I know my upbringing was far from conventional, yet...I learned many things. I am very family-oriented because I felt so isolated growing up..."

#### Sabina Goldman's bursting with blueberries tart

The author writes, "There are two kinds of blueberries, those

that are shy and withdrawn and not really worth eating, and those that are so ripe with blueberry flavor that they are ready to burst out of their own skin - those are the blueberries you want for this simply divine tart. Ruth's Mom, Sabina, added vinegar to the crust, which acts as a stabilizer and adds a subtle bite to balance the buttery flavor. The blueberries bubble and create their own sweet syrup.

#### Ingredients for the crust

2 cups all-purpose flour  
pinch of salt  
3 tablespoons sugar  
1 cup (2 sticks) cold butter or margarine

2 tablespoons white vinegar

#### Ingredients for the filling

4 cups fresh blueberries  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour

#### Ingredients for garnish

2 cups fresh blueberries  
confectioner's sugar

#### Method

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

In a medium bowl or in the bowl of a food processor fitted with the metal blade, combine the flour, salt and sugar.

Using a pastry blender or in the processor, cut the chilled butter and pulse or blend to form a crumb-like consistency. Allow bits of butter to remain visible, they melt and create steam during the baking process for a very tender and flaky crust. Sprinkle with vinegar and blend until you have created a soft dough.

With lightly floured hands, press the dough into a 9x2-inch spring form pan, or a 9x1-inch pie pan with a removable bottom. The crust should be about 1/4-inch

thick on the bottom; the sides should be a little thinner and come up about 1-inch (you might have some dough remaining). You can refrigerate the crust until ready to fill. In a separate bowl, gently toss the remaining ingredients. Spoon the filling into the pan and bake, on the lower rack, at 400 degrees for 1 hour. When the tart cools, garnish with blueberries and a sprinkling of confectioner's sugar.

Makes about 8 servings

All recipes and materials from "Recipes Remembered, A Celebration of Survival," by June Feiss Hersh, and published in 2011 by Ruder Finn Press, in association with the Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust.

Hersh explained that the book is available through most on-line book-sellers and may be ordered directly through the Museum of Jewish Heritage, at [www.mjhm.org/recipes](http://www.mjhm.org/recipes). All proceeds benefit the museum.



## A transformative trip to Israel

*Experiences are a 'game changer' for bar mitzvah boy*

BY ELI LEDERBERG  
Special to The Voice & Herald

**H**AVE YOU EVER wondered what it's like to go to Israel? Well, after my experience in the Holy Land with my family, my perspective of Israel will never be the same. After listening to the news and reading The Providence Journal's international pages for an entire week before I left, I was extremely nervous about going to Israel. When my family and I landed at Ben Gurion Airport, I was surprised that I did not see a lot of security guards.

"Huh," I thought to myself. "I guess it's not as bad as I thought." After spending several days relaxing in Tel Aviv, my family began a 12-day tour of Israel. Each day, as we explored something new and learned more about Israel's history, my first thought of Israel – I guess it's not as bad as I thought – kept coming back to me and I began to realize it really is a great place.

We got to see the ancient city of Caesarea and then walk through the aqueducts that provided water to the city throughout its history. Those aqueducts still have water, although they don't provide water to Caesarea today. I was able to ride through the Golan Heights in an open jeep and see all the abandoned Syrian buildings and mines that were left behind after the Yom Kippur War. I spent an afternoon digging for ancient pottery and bones in caves where the Edomites used to live 2,000 years ago! I also sweated atop Masada and floated in the Dead Sea, just like many other tourists.



THE BAR MITZVAH of Eli Lederberg at the Western Wall

/Tobias Lederberg

In addition to the traditional activities that I did, I also had some very special experiences on this trip that most tourists don't get to have. Near the end of our trip I celebrated a second bar mitzvah ceremony and read from the Torah at the Western Wall, the world's holiest site for Jews. Even though I had already become a bar mitzvah at Temple Emanu-El in Providence and celebrated with friends at my party, this was a very meaningful experience in a different way. My father's uncle and his family, who live in Jerusalem, were able to attend my ceremony in Israel. While I was becoming bar mitzvah all around me were

other students also becoming *b'nei mitzvah*. It made me feel a special connection.

One of the other special things I did in Israel was to spend a morning in a soup kitchen. First, we saw a film about all of the work that Hazon Yeshaya does, including feeding the hungry at its building, delivering food to people who cannot get out and job training. After the film, we were put to work in the kitchen preparing lunch.

I have never spent time before in a place that helps people who have no food. My first community service was working as an intern at Big Nazo puppets (I still am an intern there), but that is a very dif-

ferent kind of community service. Now, every once in a while, I help

my mom bake and cook different foods. However there was something different, much different about volunteering in a big and busy kitchen to help feed other people. Something about that experience – helping cut peppers and peeling carrots and cucumbers side by side with Israeli soldiers and other regular Israelis to help people in need – brought me closer to Israel. That is what *tikkun olam*, repairing the world, is really about.

My trip to Israel was a very special experience. I cannot wait to go back to Israel again in the future. Who knows? We might go back for my brother's bar mitzvah. And if we go I won't hesitate, check the news updates every hour or the Providence Journal's international news every single day or even ponder about the trip. Instead, I will simply remember my last thought of Israel when we took off from Ben Gurion Airport. "I guess this really is a special place."

Eli Lederberg, the son of Tobias and Michele Lederberg of Providence, visited Israel with his family this July. Contact him at [yellowdude8@gmail.com](mailto:yellowdude8@gmail.com).



/Tobias Lederberg

ELI, OREN and RISA Lederberg take a break during a jeep ride in the Golan Heights.

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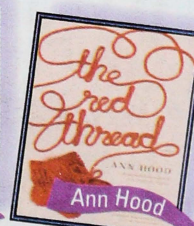
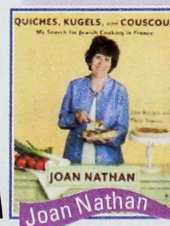
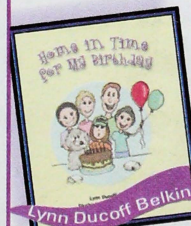
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## Accentuate the positive, indeed

### *A fashionable show for the Holocaust Education and Resource Center*

By VOICE & HERALD STAFF  
voiceherald@shalomri.org

SEEKONK, Mass. – Clothing modeled by four members of the Jewish community drew appreciative oohs and aahs from the predominantly female crowd at a luncheon on Wednesday, July 27, for the Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island (HERC).

Approximately 120 people attended the "Accentuate the Positive!" luncheon fundraiser at Ledgemont Country Club in Seekonk, Mass.; proceeds from the event will support the educational efforts of HERC, a nonprofit organization that teaches the history of the Holocaust to promote human dignity and justice and to remember the victims. The organization carries its message of "For only through education is there hope" through survivors' visits to schools, annual presentations to and programs with middle and high school students and annual student writing and art contests.

Executive Director May-Ronny Zeidman believes that, while the organization's mission is serious, its events can be fun and light-hearted.



MODEL BUD FRANK, DALE SUDACOFF and models DOTTIE LAMPAL and RANDI BERANBAUM pause for a pose before the fashion show begins. Model Nancy Kirsch is not pictured.

In that vein, they recruited four "models" – Randi Beranbaum, Bud Frank, Nancy Kirsch and Dottie Lampal – who, but for Frank, were treated to professional hair-styling and makeup applications before donning their fashionable attire.

The female models had met earlier in the week with Dale Sudacoff, a New York City-based clothing consultant, to select clothes from Dorothy Williams,

a high-end clothing store in Wayland Square; Sudacoff helped Frank pull together an outfit from his closet.

Maybeth Lichaa, event chair, offered opening and closing comments; Myrna Aronson, who chaired the Unique Events Committee, also lent her original jewelry to the models. Jay Strauss, HERC president, spoke, as did Accentuate the Positive Committee members

Ellie Frank, Toby London and Selma Stanzler.

In the spirit of reaching out to underserved women, table centerpieces were actually large and beautifully wrapped baskets of personal care items for women who are homeless. Some 16 baskets were donated to Crossroads, a shelter for men, women and families who are homeless; an outreach worker from the agency spoke to the audience, as well.

Although some expenses are still outstanding, Zeidman estimated gross proceeds of approximately \$6,000.

For more information about the Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island, call the office at 453-7860 or visit [www.hercrri.org](http://www.hercrri.org).

The Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island is a partner agency of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.



SANDY STRAUSS, left, and JAY STRAUSS, president of the Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island, listen to JUDY ROBBINS as she gestures with enthusiasm.



SELMA STANZLER, left, and Ellie Frank, past presidents of Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island, speak at the luncheon.



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## Our readers celebrate life with love and laughter



A wedding that's going to the dogs

CARYL FREEDMAN wrote, "Miriam Ross and Gary Kaufman, the owners of Bailey, a Goldendoodle, and Mark Freedman and I, the owners of Brady, a Labradoodle, realized that romance was imminent on Dock 4 a few years ago. Fast forward to this summer, when they shared the joy of their upcoming 'nuptials' with the residents of EPOCH Assisted Living's BRIDGES in Providence on July 12. Brady, a professional pet-assisted therapy dog, visits Bridges regularly. "Brady and Bailey will exchange 'bow-wow vows' on Dock 4 later this summer as a fundraiser for the Providence Animal Rescue League."



'Nothing' for dessert may mean a surprise!

WARWICK RESIDENT Phyllis B. Solod wrote, "This is a picture of a friend of mine, Barbara Flynn. Four friends were on vacation together; after one dinner, the waiter asked us what we would like for dessert. Barbara said 'nothing.' The waiter brought her a dish with 'nothing' written on it in chocolate."



Four generations celebrate

FOUR GENERATIONS of family members celebrate Elijah Field's third birthday party in April 2010 at Slater Park Carousel in Pawtucket.

From left, are Elijah's father Adam Field, his grandmother Sheryl Moran, the birthday boy - Elijah Field - and his great-grandmother Miriam Snell. Elijah's mom Diane Field is not pictured. Elijah, whose birthday is April 14, and his family live in Franklin, Mass.



Three lovely ladies in Bulgaria

SANDI GARBER, left, ALICE EICHENBAUM and RHEA DEWINSKY FRASER reunite. Garber and Fraser, who used to live in Rhode Island, now live in Bulgaria and Israel, respectively. Eichenbaum, of Providence, was a good friend of their mothers.



## Our readers travel the world



Pork for some, but not all, in Segovia, Spain

**N**ANCY KIRSCH, second from right, wrote, "On our last night in Segovia – and the group's penultimate night in Spain – we gathered for a closing dinner at a restaurant whose house specialty is a roasted pig. At tableside, the restaurant owner uses a plate, rather than a knife, to cut the meat into individual portions to show how tender the meat is. Then, in an elaborate and enthusiastic gesture, the owner throws the plate to the floor, where it shatters into pieces. Only then are the plates of pork served; I dined on bread and wine!"

### Celebrating a 60th birthday in Italy

**D**EBORAH JOHNSON of Providence wrote, "This is the crew of family and friends who joined us in Cortona, Italy last June to celebrate my 60th birthday. We rented a gorgeous old farmhouse for several weeks in the most breathtaking landscape imaginable, snuggled into the notch of a hilltop valley overlooking miles and miles of Tuscany. The photo was taken on our front porch where it abutted olive and fruit groves, and where we could pick our breakfast off the trees."

In the front row, from bottom left, are Barbara Feibelman and Ken Orenstein of Providence and Manoel Gehrke Ryff Moreira and Rocio Alvarez of Barcelona, Spain; in the second row, left, are Quiana Salazar-King of Dallas, Texas, Niki Lefevre of Boston, Mass., and Maria and Wolfgang Denk of Zurich, Switzerland; in the third row, left, are Chloe Serinsky of New York City, Leah Serinsky of New York City, Elana Kimbrell of Washington, D.C., and Lauren Blair of Boulder, Colo.; in the top row, left, are Katrina Amaro of New York City, Bob Serinsky and Deborah Johnson of Providence, and Diane and Gary Glick of Boca Raton, Fla.

"Katrina was the photographer," added Johnson, "and she pieced this photo together from separate shots she took of all of us at separate times!"



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**M**ARTY COOPER, at left, Scott Libman and Jim Vincent are among those who attended a mission in Detroit. They visited the Heidelberg Project, located in Detroit's African-American "Black Bottom" section, which was created in 1986. The Heidelberg Project was created as a demonstration against urban decay by artist Tyree Guyton. Homes and vacant lots are colorfully painted and decorated with items salvaged from abandoned houses in the neighborhood.

[www.jvhri.org](http://www.jvhri.org)





## A family reunion

**S**YD BANDER, 83, right, of Boynton Beach, Fla., and his sister, FRANCES PRIEST, 89, who resides at Tamarisk in Warwick, visit one another on July 26 at Tamarisk. It had been nearly five years since they had seen one another.



## A Yom Ha-Atzma'ut BBQ

**S**USAN and HOWIE BROMBERG celebrated Yom Ha-Atzma'ut at a BBQ in Jerusalem. They were hosted by one of greater Rhode Island's former emissaries, Hadas Naky, third from right, and her family.



## Blustein family celebrates a bar mitzvah

**O**N THE BIMAH at Temple Sinai in Cranston, the Blustein family, daughter Rachel, mother Amy, son Mitchell – who became a bar mitzvah – and father Howard, on Dec. 4, 2010.

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## On vacation in New Hampshire

**D**AVE ALTMAN of Providence recently visited the Isadore and Lucille Zimmerman home in Manchester, N.H. Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, it is now owned by the Currier Museum and is open for tours.

Altman wrote, "Next time I'll bring my copy of The Jewish Voice & Herald."



## A little singing, a lot of celebration

**T**EMPLE SINAI'S VOLUNTEER chorus, Shireinu, got together on Sunday, July 17, at the home of Ellie and Marvin Wasser to celebrate Ruth Snyder's 85th birthday with some songs. "It was a fun day for all," wrote Ellie Wasser.

## Sheryl Moran wins four Block Island ferry passes

**T**HANKS TO ALL our readers who shared pictures of their (non-simcha) celebrations with The Jewish Voice & Herald. We entered everyone into a random drawing for the four Block Island ferry passes.

Congratulations to Sheryl

Moran, of Cranston, who sent in the picture of a birthday celebration for her grandson, Elijah Field. The Jewish Voice & Herald staff members wish Sheryl and those she brings with her to Block Island a fun and festive time there.

We've heard that Block

Island residents – not visitors – refer to leaving the Island as "Going to America." With that, we wouldn't be surprised to see a picture of Sheryl holding a copy of The Voice & Herald on Block Island!



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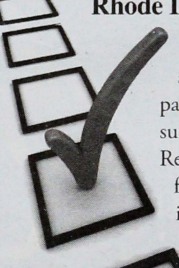
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## Purim Pranksters



### JCDS students celebrate Purim

JOD SHEER is one of the many Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island students who enjoyed the festivities of Purim this past March.



### Three generations gather in Narragansett

ON SATURDAY, JULY 16, first cousins of the Rabinowitz family and their children gathered at the summer home of Esta Rabinowitz Avedisian, in Narragansett.

In addition to Esta, who resides in Cranston and Narragansett, other family members included her brother Warren Rabinowitz, Joanne Reichen Goodwin, Merton Sirota, Merton's sister Wilma Sirota, Judith Rabinowitz-Hammer and Judith's brother Brad Rabinowitz.

Esta is the only one of her generation still residing in Rhode Island, and the cousins who attended the reunion represented five states. Esta's father Ben had seven siblings: Jacob, Tex, Perry,

Dave, Louis, Ida and Sarah.

Esta wrote, "The gathering more than met the expectations I had when I was planning the event. It was wonderful. Saturday was a day of storytelling, looking at old photos and eating."

"Our children and their children met and became acquainted and friends. We met again on Sunday morning for brunch and good-byes, with hopes to do it again."

Mel Rabinowitz, his sister Wilene Rabinowitz, Albert Reichen, Neil Rabinowitz, Irene Rabinowitz, and her brother Martin Rabinowitz were unable to attend. The group missed Claire Reichen Bailenson, of blessed memory.

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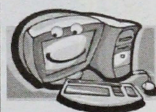
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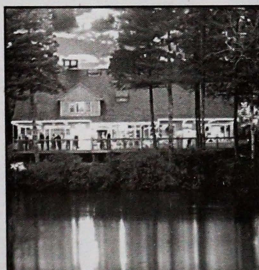


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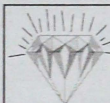
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**SECURITY** issues are always under evaluation

From Page 3

enter a JCC, an individual trying to monitor activities, maybe photographing security personnel, photographing the building in a way that doesn't seem typical of someone who's interested in architecture."

It is also critical to train staff to know what to do in case of an attack, Goldenberg said.

"Sending our children to camps and overseas and to Israel – that should never stop," said Goldenberg, a former counterterrorism adviser to New Jersey's state government, "but we need to be more vigilant and train those who are responsible and accompanying our children."

Groups like the Anti-Defama-

tion League track extremism, particularly on the Internet, which has facilitated the empowerment and exchange of extremist ideas.

"The fact that people are reading ideologies and being influenced online poses a serious threat," Segal said. "Extremist movements tend to ebb and flow. There have been spikes by those motivated by militant Islam; at other times we've seen spikes in anti-government types."

Breivik's anti-Muslim extremism "seems to represent a developing ideology," he said. "It's not isolated."

The Southern Poverty Law Center along with Daryl Johnson, a former Homeland Security official, has accused the Obama and George W. Bush administrations

of not aggressively tracking right-wing extremism and instead focusing more on Islamic extremists.

"We're concerned that as the Sept. 11 10th anniversary comes up, someone may attack government buildings or Muslims," said Heidi Beirich, research director of the Southern Poverty Law Center. "We understand the threat from Islamists, but there is also a threat from people motivated by anti-government beliefs."

The Homeland Security official told JTA that the department had not dropped its tracking of right-wing extremists in the wake of the shutdown of Johnson's unit, and that such monitoring had been incorporated into other departments.

**REPORTING** is first step in prevention

From Page 3

individuals should never act alone to address such acts.

While being vigilant is always important, we need to be extra vigilant during the next several months, and not solely for the upcoming High Holy Days. Political events – the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001 and the Palestine United Declaration of Independence proposal that the United Nations may hear in September – may lead to terrorist attacks in the United States.

While Rhode Island may seem insulated from acts of terror

because it is not Boston, New York City or another large community, it is not exempt from possible terrorist attacks.

The Community Relations Council (CRC) of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, will again conduct a formal security training program for area synagogues and Jewish institutions.

The CRC strongly encourages representatives from Jewish organizations to attend this training session, which will be held at a date and time to be announced. The CRC will also forward a

High Holy Days security alert and action plan to synagogues, schools and other Jewish organizations. The CRC recommends that each synagogue or facility create a security council or committee, composed of a community leader and members of the organization, to review and implement, as necessary, appropriate security procedures.

For more information, contact Marty Cooper, Community Relations Council director, at 421-4111, ext 171 or mcooper@shalomri.org.

**Men fade from Jewish communal life****Men's clubs push for revival**

BY SUE FISHKOFF

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) – When Mitchell Ross was a boy, he remembers his grandfather hanging out with the men's club at his Conservative synagogue.

"I always felt it was something older Jewish men were involved in, the over-60s club," said Ross, a 39-year-old cardiologist in Phoenix, Ariz.

Today, Ross is active in his own men's club at Har Zion Congregation, a Conservative *shul* in Scottsdale, and he is working hard to attract men his age and younger to a Jewish world that many of them have dismissed.

"The men's club has a wellness initiative, so we do a lot of hikes as well as community service activities," Ross told JTA. "It offers a way for younger men to get involved."

Good luck with that.

For more than a decade, Jewish leaders and academics have been lamenting the disappearance of boys and men from non-Orthodox Jewish life. Men's clubs, operating at more than 250 North American Conservative synagogues, are among those groups trying to stop the hemorrhaging.

**MEN ARE RETREATING**

"The challenge facing the American Jewish community is that men

and boys have retreated from much of American Jewish life," wrote Sylvia Barack Fishman and Daniel Parmer in the fall 2008 issue of Jewish Political Studies Review in a piece titled "The Policy Implications of the Gender Imbalance Among America's Jews."

Some, including Fishman, call it the "feminization" of liberal Judaism, a term that raises hackles among those who don't wish to see women's ritual gains reversed or blamed for the retreat of men. But the phenomenon has elicited scores of programming initiatives.

Many parallel women's initiatives. The Man Seder, an all-male Passover seder held at American Jewish University in Los Angeles since 2006, is patterned after the women's seders that emerged in the 1980s. Teenage boys' programs developed this year by the organization Moving Traditions were an outgrowth of its popular program for teenage girls, *Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing*.

Some Reform and Conservative synagogues run a program usually called 100 Jewish Men – a series of dinners with speakers who talk about their relationship to Judaism, their families and their careers.

"At so many synagogues, especially in the non-Orthodox world, the men are not there and the men's clubs skew older," said Rabbi David Woznicka of the Stephen S. Wise Temple, a large Reform congrega-

MEN, Page 25

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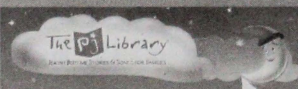
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## MEN are not completely absent

From Page 24

tion in Los Angeles that launched such a series four years ago. Nearly 100 men signed up in the first year, and the project is still steaming along.

The most aggressive pursuer of the great disappearing American Jewish male is probably the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, the umbrella group for men's clubs in the U.S.

## ATTRACTING YOUNGER MEN

These clubs are trying to cast off the backroom, cigar-chomping image of yesteryear and pull in younger men, getting them to talk to each other and their sons. Ultimately the goal is to get them into the synagogue — maybe not to pray, but at least to find Jewish community and pass it on to their children.

"We're trying to make men realize the tremendous impact they have on their children," said Rabbi Charles Simon, executive director of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs.

Simon says his organization has been involved with men's issues since 1999, but is now making a concerted push to attract younger men. At the group's recent national convention, a curriculum to engage men at different ages was slated to be unveiled, and it is to be piloted at several Conservative congregations next year.

## THE NEXT GENERATION

Eighteen months ago, the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs launched *HaDor Habab*, Hebrew for "the next generation," a project that brings men younger than 45 to training seminars so they can learn how to lead men's activities for their peers.

Mark Kluger, 43, says the retreat was eye-opening. At Temple Israel in Longwood, Fla., he started a program called Hearing Men's Voices, a men's club tool. He gathered the men in a circle, warned them they were going to think it was corny and asked each to answer one question: Who am I?

"For two-and-a-half hours, people told their stories," Kluger said. "We had people crying. It was such an unbelievable outpouring, a shedding of the veil. It really hit me that men, Jewish men, we don't have a lot of outlets. We don't talk like our wives and girlfriends do."

Conservative men's clubs around the country have been organizing other activities to attract a younger demographic. Ski trips. Pizza and beer evenings. Trivia nights at local bars.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community service is also a big draw. A men's club in Chicago sponsored a sub-club for guys in their 20s, which held a fundraiser on July 15 for ALS research. Rather than a \$1,000-a-plate gala dinner, they held it in a bar and charged \$16.

With all the financial pressures on young men, as well as the fact that most are single, the idea of



showing up to chew the fat with a bunch of other guys on a regular basis is not that appealing.

What do they need? Women, said Justin Ross, 26, of Chicago. "The next logical step is to create a coed club."

That's the central question for men's club leaders: In an egalitarian world, is a single-sex organization still relevant?

Yes and no, says 42-year-old Louis Piels, a trustee of the men's club at Temple Beth Shalom in Livingston, N.J.

## NO WOMEN ALLOWED?

Last year, Piels' club sponsored a steak dinner at a kosher Japanese restaurant for 15 young fathers of kids in their religious school as a first step to raising their involvement.

A "guys' night out" followed, but then the members decided that they wanted wives and children along. Since then, the group has held apple-picking days, a bike ride, ice skating, a mountain hike and scavenger hunt, all of them family friendly.

"The whole concept of a men's club may be dated," Piels acknowledges. "Why would we want to be just among men all the time?"

Piels now sees his club's purpose as spearheading events and community service initiatives that are open to the entire community. At the same time, he doesn't want to alienate older men, who are used to a male-only club.

"That old 'clubhouse' view also has a place," he said.

For some of the younger men, who were drawn to their men's club in search of camaraderie or as a way to do community service, club involvement has indeed led them back to shul.

Adam Ruchman, a 41-year-old technology manager in Livingston, has belonged to Conservative synagogues his entire married life. But he didn't join the men's club at Temple Shalom until Piels invited him to last year's dinner. Now he's vice president of membership, is on the organizing committee for an upcoming golf fundraiser and is training as a gabbai.

Despite all his years in synagogue, Ruchman says he's never held a ritual role before. His gabbai debut was set for the end of July.

"Hopefully not too many people will be there that Shabbat," he laughs.

*Editor's Note: The Jewish Voice & Herald is eager to hear from men's clubs and Brotherhoods about their experiences and programs. If you would like to participate in a roundtable discussion about these issues or otherwise share your experiences, contact Nancy Kirsch, subject line: MEN, at nkirsch@shalomri.org or call 421-4111, ext. 168. We'd like to have a story on this issue from a local perspective.*

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## PRINCIPLED and honest, Sundlun led an extraordinary life

From Page 1

first as a policy advisor and counsel, and later as the state's director of business regulation, during Sundlun's two two-year terms (1991 – 1995). Some of the state's most prominent political leaders were present, as were Sundlun's wife Soozie, his children, stepchildren, grandchildren, ex-wife Marjorie and other relatives.

Rabbi Leslie Y. Gutterman, senior rabbi at Temple Beth-El, officiated. Rabbi Gutterman, whom Sundlun once ordered to the Hope Club to "explain women," eulogized his dear friend as "determined, driven, courageous, charming, combative, self-assured, irrepressible and uncompromisingly dedicated to principle."

A "larger than life" individual, the five-times-married Sundlun made enormous contributions to Rhode Island and beyond – many highly unpopular at the outset – as a World War II hero, businessman, civic leader and governor. In later years, Sundlun made headlines for shooting raccoons on his Newport property and driving so erratically that he was persuaded to give up his driver's license.

## SUNDLUN IN ISRAEL

The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (now the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island) had a mission to Israel in the late 1980s, organized by Patty and Mel Alperin and Myrna and Hershey Rosen. It was, said Hershey Rosen, a "mission for people who hated missions." When Marjorie (then married to Sundlun) and Bruce came to an informational meeting, some people were apprehensive that he might take over the mission. "As it turned out," Rosen said, "Bruce was one of the most cooperative members we had."

In a visit to an Israel Defense Forces field office in a small crowded room with battle maps everywhere, mission participants learned about some soldiers who had died in a recent battle. A memorial garden was planned, but needed funding. The commander offered to show the group the garden and, "by the time we walked the very short distance from the commander's office to the garden, Bruce had taken it upon himself to solicit everyone," said Rosen, "and he handed the commander \$1,500 in cash. We were very happy that Bruce was on the trip."

Jerrold Lavine – who had been Sundlun's director of administration and chief operating officer – and his wife Barbara were among the other community members on the mission. "We couldn't get past 10 a.m. before Bruce would want to rearrange the trip, [although] the guide had plans," Lavine said. "None of us minded; we got a kick out of it."

Rosen remembered that mission members were touched that Sundlun encouraged the group to also visit non-Jewish sites – perhaps out of deference to Marjorie's (non-



BRUCE SUNDLUN, center, talks with Norm Tilles (facing Sundlun) and David Hirsch, right, at a function in an undated photo.

Jewish) beliefs.

Lavine recounts one particularly striking memory. After visiting Yad Vashem, the group approached a military cemetery. Sundlun had read about a soldier from the United States who had made *aliyah* and had just been killed in Israel. Lavine recalled Sundlun saying, "If I'm this close to an American military man, we're going to his funeral." They did, said Lavine, and the Israeli soldiers gave them the spent shells from the gun salute as a measure of appreciation.

Richard Licht, Governor Lincoln Chafee's director of administration and chair of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island – and Frank Licht's nephew – remembers Sundlun's deep interest in Israel. Often attending AIPAC meetings in Rhode Island, Sundlun was also honored by the State of Israel Bond drive at a dinner years ago. The event's guests included John Warner, then a Republican senator from Virginia, and his wife, Elizabeth Taylor, who, said Licht, was "a special treat for all Rhode Islanders."

## CONTRIBUTIONS WERE LEGENDARY

What were his most significant accomplishments?

Superior Court Judge Judith Savage, who had served as Sundlun's executive counsel, set the stage. "Those years in the early 1990s were filled with all-consuming crises – the failure of 45 banks and credit unions his first day in office, a staggering budget deficit, a prison riot and two hurricanes – to name a few. He only slept four hours a night and so did we."

Rob Stolzman, who was counsel to the Port Authority when Sundlun served as its chair, is most impressed with his work on the airport, calling it a critically important business development tool. It's a well-positioned, regional airport that supports our knowledge-based economy, he said.

Licht, who worked extraordinarily closely with Sundlun on

the airport and the financing for Providence Place Mall, concurred, adding, "He took Rhode Island through a tough time and helped it emerge... he lifted us up..."

Sundlun accomplished so much that Melvin Zurier, an attorney in private practice, commented, "I think he's going to go down as one of the best governors we've ever had. I say that as someone who was legal counsel for a different governor."

"Leaders have to lead," said Robert Oster, also an attorney in private practice. Crediting Sundlun with handling the banking crisis with skill and integrity, Oster said, "He walked into a firestorm... and people got their money back."

Licht, who knew Sundlun well for some 35 or more years, called him "a driving force. He was a great leader... who made decisions and then worked with people to see those decisions through."

"I knew him as a top-notch businessman," said Lavine, who dealt daily with Sundlun during his governorship. "He had one of the keenest minds; he was an outstanding individual of high integrity [with] a remarkable career... underneath it all, he was an extremely decent man."

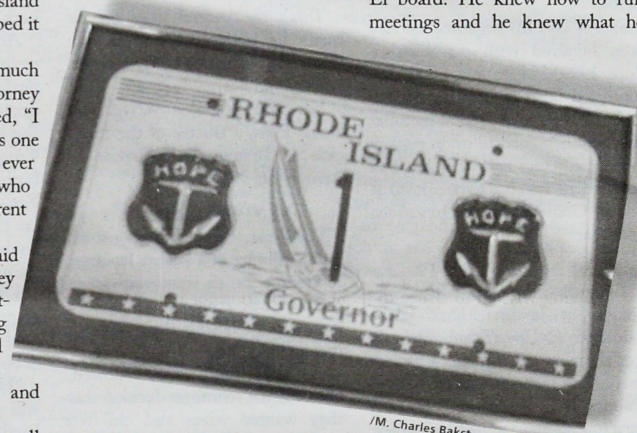
Sundlun taught Judge Savage that "you can do anything you set your mind to, and you have an obligation to act boldly and with conviction for the public good."

## FAMILY DYNAMICS

Sundlun clearly cherished his family. At a luncheon with this reporter several months ago, he couldn't stop *kvelling* about his children's accomplishments and successes, noting that each surpassed him professionally. Each entered a field in which Sundlun himself had left his mark – aviation, business, athletics and broadcasting.

Loving as he may have been toward his multiple wives, children, stepchildren and grandchildren, Sundlun had a difficult relationship with his father, Walter. Zurier

believes that Sundlun wanted to be president of Temple



THIS LICENSE PLATE was just one of several mementoes on display at Temple Beth-El during Governor Sundlun's funeral.

Beth-El because his father (a two-term Temple Beth-El president) had held that position. Sundlun held the position for one term.

M. Charles Bakst, who covered politics and the Statehouse for many years for The Providence Journal, knew him well. In a conversation in New York City in 1992, Sundlun told him that he drove a taxi to earn extra money during a summer that he clerked for a New York law firm.

Bakst asked Sundlun why he simply hadn't asked his father to send him money.

Sundlun responded, "Did you ever meet my father?"

## HOW JEWISH IS JEWISH?

Bakst believes that the secret to unlocking Sundlun's mind may lie in his Jewish identity. Fox hunting in Virginia – an activity that Sundlun engaged in – isn't seen as Jewish, said Bakst. Yet referencing the anti-Semitism that Sundlun faced in his youth and at various points throughout his career, Bakst said that Sundlun was prepared to sacrifice another run for political office, if need be, for the Temple Beth-El presidency. Sundlun spoke to the media on more than one occasion about the

anti-Semitic taunts and physical attacks he experienced as a youth.

In a Jan. 17, 1988 article in The Providence Journal Sunday magazine, Sundlun was quoted as crediting his athletic ability as "saving" him in school. The anti-Jewish sentiment continued when he became a student at Williams College, which he attended on an athletic scholarship. A member of the football team in 1938, Sundlun was not permitted to play until six German exchange students on the team received their parents' permission to play with him.

Although Sundlun was "Jewish in his values and psyche," Bakst remembers one occasion when he delivered some *hamantaschen* baked by Bakst's wife Elizabeth to Sundlun. He looked at the *hamantaschen* and immediately telephoned Rabbi Gutterman to ask him about what he called the "cookies."

Nan Levine, of Providence, served with Sundlun on the Beth-El board. He knew how to run meetings and he knew what he

was doing, but he didn't know the players, she said. She described his philosophy as, "This is what I want, don't muck it up."

Sundlun, honorary chairperson for a Temple Beth-El fundraiser with Itzhak Perlman in March 1984, told Levine and her co-chair Carl Feldman, "If you run into a problem, you call me. I don't want to be surprised." But he could also be generous in his praise of people he worked with, she remembers.

He constantly called Bakst to complain about coverage in The Providence Journal, yet was also sometimes quite "gracious and grateful," said Bakst.

At his 90th birthday celebration on Jan. 12, 2010 at the Providence Performing Arts Center, Sundlun encouraged the crowd to return in 2020 for his 100th birthday celebration.

Although that celebration won't come to pass, he did script his final appearance. At the conclusion of the funeral, the crowd heard the music (with lyrics read by Rabbi Gutterman) of Frank Sinatra's "My Way."



## Bruce Sundlun remembered

*An archivist's memories of a colorful character*

BY GEORGE M. GOODWIN  
Special to The Voice & Herald

**H**IS EGO, VITALITY and accomplishments were as big as – Rhode Island. During good times and bad, he did everything within his powers for the Ocean State. He surely knew 10,000 residents, and many can tell colorful stories about him (especially now that he's gone). Of course he enjoying telling stories about himself – because there were so many and they were so good.

Bruce was impressive in countless ways, beginning with his appearance. Consider his height, build, good looks, white hair, grin and his unmistakable uniform: a double-breasted blazer with shining brass buttons. He had to be a governor or a senator because he so much looked the part.

Bruce arranged for me to serve as archivist of Trinity Rep to document the theatre's 25 years under Adrian Hall – both his hero and his nemesis – but also to document his own significant accomplishments as board president (following a similarly successful tenure at PPAC). Bruce didn't particularly care for plays, but he surely savored drama.

When I worked for Beth-El as its archivist, he kept making the point that his father's presidency should be commemorated, but on a far grander scale than I had imagined. Needless to say, I found a middle ground, but I was later astonished to hear Bruce's story about Walter's funeral. After the service, a stranger on the synagogue steps told Bruce what a kind, wonderful and sweet man Walter had been. Evidently, Walter had once befriended this young man.

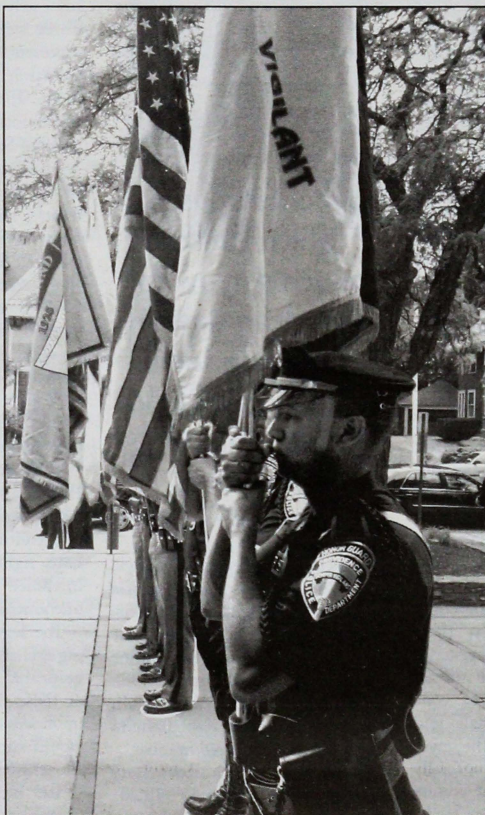
Bruce replied, "Are you talking about my father?"

On one unfortunate occasion I experienced a Sundlun legacy – raging anger.

Having written to Bruce to request a donation for the publication of the Jewish Historical Association's anthology, I asked for a personal appointment. It was eventually arranged in his expansive office within URI's Pell Library. (Bruce with an office in a library? He had been one of the aristocratic senator's close friends, a key supporter and a Newport neighbor.) When I mentioned a particular amount for a gift, Bruce seemed amenable. But he then asked about the article devoted to Walter. I reluctantly explained that there would be none because, regrettably, nobody had ever written an article about him; thus, there was nothing to anthologize.

So Bruce then asked about the article about himself. Even more reluctantly, I gave the same answer. Quickly losing his patience, he said that he would find somebody

to write it. I explained again that a new article could not be included in a book of previously published articles. That's when the screaming started, and I thought that he might take a swing at me. Needless to say, I left the governor-in-residence's office empty-handed.



Judy Moseley

THE HONOR GUARD for Governor Bruce Sundlun's funeral

Having forgotten about that horrible encounter (or wanting me to do so), Bruce was subsequently cordial toward me. Whenever our paths crossed at Temple Beth-El, he greeted me by name, often cracked a joke or brushed a hand across my shoulder. At our last encounter, several months ago, he asked if I would write a sequel to Seibert Goldowsky's history of Beth-El, which would of course include his presidency. I said that it was a splendid idea. Would he make it happen?

I also asked if he wanted to run for office again.

He replied, "Yes, if you pay for my campaign."

Other than his desire to be president of Beth-El, like his father, I could never figure out Bruce's take on Judaism. Had he? Based on many childhood incidents, he obviously hated anti-Semitism. As an aviator, moreover he proudly assisted the Israeli Air Force. Honesty, honor, and loyalty mattered to him, and he knew the meaning of good deeds.

Bruce took some glee in telling the story of how Rabbi William Braude tried to prevent his confirmation. Bruce's comprehension of Hebrew was miserable, as was probably everything else the religious school tried to teach him. Nevertheless, he seemed proud on High Holy Days to

**"Bruce didn't particularly care for plays, but he surely savored drama."**

grasp the Torah and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with past presidents. He also probably reasoned: Who has never sinned? Bruce certainly cherished his friendship with Les Gutterman, whose gentle and forgiving nature gives everybody the benefit of the doubt.

As Temple Beth-El archivist, I conducted some oral history interviews with Bruce. He loved describing the ways he had outfoxed the Germans as a downed bomber pilot in Belgium and France.

It became obvious to me that Bruce had always been an adventurer; no, a daredevil. Danger and adrenaline gave him a rush.

Bruce was both a Democrat and a democrat (partly because Walter was neither). He surely cared about and enjoyed people, especially the young, bright, and beautiful.

But I also wondered why, after his harrowing governorship and his embarrassing loss for re-nomination, he hung around Little Rhody. He had other homes and a far-flung circle of glamorous friends. Didn't he require an encore: a bigger stage and a brighter spotlight for an even grander performance? Surely Soozie was part of the equation, but he clearly loved this place. Yes, Bruce's ferocious heart was also as big as Rhode Island.

A more expansive version of this piece will appear in *The Notes*, the annual publication of the Jewish Historical Association of Rhode Island, later this year. For more information about the Association, contact the office at [rjbhist@aol.com](mailto:rjbhist@aol.com) or 331-1360. Contact Goodwin, a past president of the Association, at [ggoodwin2@cox.net](mailto:ggoodwin2@cox.net).

## From Istanbul to J-Camp

BY HEIDI LEBRON  
[htenneylebron@shalomri.org](mailto:htenneylebron@shalomri.org)

PROVIDENCE – While many J-Camp campers come from Southeastern New England, Ilay Cundoglu, a 10-year-old girl, came all the way from Istanbul, Turkey for four weeks of J-Camp.

We decided to interview Ilay and her mother, Gulay, about their experience with J-Camp. Gulay, an artist, has a flexible work schedule. She wanted Ilay to practice English and learn about American culture and make new American friends. An American summer camp seemed to be the perfect fit.

**Q: Why did you choose J-Camp?**

A (Gulay): We loved the description (of J-Camp) we read on the Internet. Some Turkish friends who live near the Jewish Community Center (JCC) told us that the

J-Camp has a good reputation.

**Q: What else would you want to say about J-Camp?**

A (Gulay): I loved that my daughter was outside for the Outdoor and Water Games Camp. I wish she could have had scheduled outdoor time each day for basketball and performing arts camps. We respect the idea of a Jewish organization and are absolutely OK with following dietary rules. The idea of kosher food is new for us, and it would have been so helpful to have a list of suggested food items for snacks and lunches.

Everyone was so helpful with information about the JCC and Providence and so friendly. It is a great option for families from far away to have a short-term membership. I joined for one month and used the pool. The facilities were very nice.

**Q: Is there anything else you**

**want to tell us?**

A (Ilay): It's so fun I want to come next year.

**Q: Which camp was your favorite – Outdoor and Water Games, Basketball or Performing Arts?**

A (Ilay): I can't choose which week I liked best!

**Q: What is your favorite camp memory?**

A (Ilay): Being with my (performing arts) friends and having so much fun, dancing with my friends. I got a basketball from my coach because I was always winning and Coach Pierre gave me a ball with my name on it.

Gulay said, "Seneye görüşmek üzere!" "See you next summer!"

Ilay said, "JCC'de çok eğlendim!", "I had fun at the JCC!"

For more about J-Camp, call 861-8800 or visit [www.shalomri.org](http://www.shalomri.org).

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## SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

## A tale of 'Thirty-Six Righteous Ones'

*Our ancient sages  
may lack enduring  
influence*

**M**OST RELIGIONS defer to a central authority, a source that can answer the many complex questions, both spiritual and secular, confronting their congregants. Judaism, however, lacks a neat hierarchical structure that could bring comfort to the querulous, peace of mind to the troubled and serenity to those frightened by controversy.



**Dr. Stanley Aronson**

The lack of an identifiable, transnational, administrative structure and the absence of a timeless code of behavior beyond the philosophic complexities of the Talmudic writings, make Judaism look more like a debating society than a durable ecclesiastical system. And to make matters worse, its early leaders, our sages of blessed memory, while remembered fondly, are endowed with few enduring powers beyond their insightful words and reflections on the burdens of a meaningful life.

Nowhere in Judaism can reverence for these past wise thinkers translate them to the status of sainthood. The best that may be said is this: Rabbi Ezekiel, of blessed memory, was a thoughtful man who understood the complexities of a burdened life in the villages of 17th-century Poland. He imparted much wisdom to those few who listened to his revelations. He is gone now, but we revere his words, quote them when relevant and think highly of him.

We cannot, however, assign contemporary tasks to him or ask that his spirit intercede in the complex problems of today.

So, Jews don't have saints or archbishops — a situation which caused much sorrow to American-Jewish children maturing in inner-city neighborhoods with mixed ethnicities. These children, bereft of the solace that might be conferred by street pageants displaying revered relics, were forced to invest their reverence by default in such secular entities as the Brooklyn Dodgers.

But all was not lost: Sometime before the 16th century, there arose a legend about the existence in every generation of 36 special persons, whose status was concealed from other mortals and even from themselves. The mystical powers of these specially endowed humans brought preser-

vation to the world; without them, the world might deteriorate rapidly into utter chaos and darkness.

The Hebrew word for these special individuals is the *Nistarim*, or concealed ones. They are best known from the tales of Hasidic

**"Jews don't  
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Jews as the *Lamed-Vav Tzaddikim*, the "Thirty-six Just Ones" (*lamed vav*, the 30th and sixth letters, respectively, of the *alef bet*, the Hebrew alphabet, was the routine way to represent the number 36). One might wonder, "Why 36?" In the teachings of the Kabbalah, 36 is a spiritually endowed number.

Some point to a curious story in the Bible (Genesis 18:23-

33) as the possible source of the legend. An elderly Abraham sits resting beneath the *terebinths* of Mamre while recovering from his self-imposed circumcision. Three strangers, seemingly divine representatives, show up and the patriarch offers them refreshment. Their discourse touches on the abundance of sin in the nearby cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Abraham, contemplating God's threat to destroy all the inhabitants, asks: "Will You sweep away the innocent along with the guilty?" As though bargaining in the market place, he pleads with God to allow the presence of a small number of righteous citizens to ward off total, indiscriminate destruction. He pleads for mercy and justice even for the anonymous: "Shall not the Judge of all the earth deal justly?" (Gen. 18:25)

Thus arose a myth that the presence of a small contingent of truly just people in the world guarantees continued survival to others, both righteous and sinners — by inference bringing salvation to uncounted numbers yet unborn.

The legend presents a perplexing eschatological problem: It suggests that but for the intercession of these righteous mortals, God, upon witnessing some earthly sins, would summarily have destroyed the entire human race.

The bittersweet legend of the

*Lamed-Vavniks*, as they are known in Yiddish, has persisted down the centuries to describe the hidden righteous amongst us, whose presence brings compassionate mercy for the rest; even in the face of terrible events, whether wrought by nature or by human evil. In 1959, the French author Andre Schwarz-Bart wrote an enduring novel, "The Last of the Just," based on this myth of 36 anonymous souls who bear the burdens of a corrupt world and whose very existence justifies the continuance of humanity.

Did the Jewish children of Brooklyn, deprived of a hegemony of visible saints, understand the gift of the *Lamed-Vav Tzaddikim*? Did they pause while playing hide-and-seek to ponder whether to seek out one or more of these holy ones? And when these youngsters reached maturity and were burdened with domestic and occupational concerns, did they even remember the myth that somewhere in a contentious and decadent world of seven billion people, there lurks a hidden contingent of 36 souls who keep the globe turning by making certain that righteousness lingers on?

*Stanley M. Aronson, MD, is dean of medicine emeritus, Brown University. Contact him at smamd@cox.net.*

## AS WE GROW OLDER

## Next time around

*Depicting a better,  
stronger, healthier  
world*

**Y**OU KNOW YOU are truly aging when you find yourself thinking about how you would lay out your life if you had another chance.



**Tema Gouse**

Surprisingly — maybe because of my advanced years — my aspirations are not primarily material. Oh, I am narcissistic enough to want to have life's luxuries and good times with minimum effort. But as one birthday follows another, one's values do undergo some modifications. There is one list of things that we would retain and another list of things we would change. Since little of it is within my control, I can dream.

Next time around, I will weigh 104 pounds and be able to eat whatever I like without experiencing weight change.

I'd rearrange some pounds from one part of my body to another to be more aesthetically pleasing. I would have average-size feet, a straight spine, a feminine bosom and a cast-iron digestive system. (It would also help if my genes did not harbor myopia so that my sons and grandchildren would not be stuck wearing glasses all their lives.)

And it would help if I could control myself from saying nearly everything that comes into my mind. Strong opinions (especially brilliant ones!) can be an asset, but they can also offend those you think you are impressing.

I became a social worker purely by chance. (That is a great story I will save for another time.) I never realized what a privilege it was to follow that profession until I got the job that enhanced my life in my middle years. So, on my return trip, I would again subject myself to boring courses that could actually help me in my profession and I would aspire to another fulfilling job. But in my free time, I will also record on paper my thoughts — for the pure pleasure of writing, not for

public acclaim.

Next time around, I hope to have again the opportunity to live and learn life in more than one community. By all means have geographic preferences, but expand your vistas for greater enrichment.

Having said that, let me add that if I have choices in my next

**"I grew up in  
a home where  
Zionism was  
secondary only to  
decency."**

life I will do everything I can to remain living close to my sister. All family is precious, but if sisters survive the competition of childhood and adolescence, there evolves a concern and love that distance cannot erase. Just ask me — my sister and I have remained close, even though we have lived thousands of miles apart for 63 years.

Next time around, I hope that I will return to an unthreatened

Israel. I grew up in a home where Zionism was secondary only to decency. Personal trials may precede concern for Israel, but the latter has a heavy impact.

I am willing to delay my next life if there is a possibility of change in some other areas as well. In America today, bigotry is somewhat muted but it still impacts millions of innocent people. Unlike natural disasters, bigotry is not natural, and it unfairly pains many innocents.

In my formative years I was painfully thin. (You can believe that or not.) With marriage and motherhood came more physical demands and less time to *nosh*; I got bigger and bigger while getting shorter and shorter. So among my aspirations for my future existence, chocolate will replace vitamins on the must-have list. And doctors will decide that exercise is not good for your health.

On a less personal note, I hope wisdom will win out and future generations will endorse social benefits over personal ones. I wish for the day when politicians follow the will of

the electorate rather than the will of those who finance their elections. I even dream that someone will invent a machine with the same capacities as the computer but less intimidating to old would-be journalists.

My dream community of the future makes college available only to those who qualify, not to anyone whose parents or grandparents can cover college expenses. I dream that proper medical care will be available on the basis of need, not of health insurance or affluence. When soup kitchens are no longer needed, we will have a better community.

And finally, I hope that Judaism retains its strengths. Inter-marriage, indifference to religious ritual and multiple distractions represent a threat to our identity. To me, being Jewish combines tradition, morality and communal unity.

Are these pipe dreams? Maybe, maybe not. If I return in some future generation, I hope it will be remembered that I tried to set a standard.

*Tema Gouse is a retired social worker. Contact her at nbgtpg@cox.net.*



## PROTESTS are nothing new in Israel

From Page 1

well as an appeal against eroding salaries and rising prices.

In other words, the protesters are demanding that today's thriving, free-market Israel use its wealth to create conditions for a restoration of at least some elements of the long-defunct Israeli welfare state.

As an estimated 150,000 people demonstrated on the night of Saturday, July 30 in 12 locations across the country, the central theme was a demand for "social justice." To some, it was reminiscent of the students' revolt in Paris in the late 1960s: an alliance of students, workers and, in the Israeli case, a large, financially strapped middle class of people mostly in their 20s and 30s demanding a new economic order.

But there were key differences: In the Israeli case, there was no violence. Instead, there was a veiled, largely unspoken threat: That if the government fails to act and middle-class people continue to struggle to make ends meet, many more of the best and brightest would leave for countries where there is no defense burden and it's easier to make a living.

As the protests entered their third week, the great Israeli paradox loomed large: Never has the country been economically stronger, yet never have so many of its young people felt so frustrated at their own personal financial status.

The current situation is partly a result of a constitutional lacuna.

In the mid-1990s, a number of basic laws were passed – together they are eventually meant to form the basis of a constitution for Israel. One of the laws, on the dignity and freedom of man, enshrined property rights, but a balancing companion act on social rights continues to be held up. It would deal with issues like the right to housing, education, health and welfare, and set parameters of state responsibility for their provision.

The bill again is on the agenda, promoted by Meretz Knesset

member Zahava Gal-On.

But the country's current socioeconomic predicament goes much deeper than any law. It is the result of more than two decades of a virtually consistent small government economic policy.

The turning point came in 1985, with inflation running at over 450 percent per annum. It became clear that Israel could no longer afford to maintain the old-style, government-subsidized welfare state.

The economic stability plan introduced by then-Prime Minister Shimon Peres and then-Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai entailed stringent cuts in government spending. With its dramatic success in saving the economy, the small government approach quickly became economic orthodoxy.

The economic buzzword in the 1990s was privatization, started by the Likud, taken on board by Labor and then accelerated by Benjamin Netanyahu. When he first became prime minister in 1996, Netanyahu spoke of a thin man, the private sector, tottering under the weight of a fat man, the public sector, and vowed to turn things around. Netanyahu had a strong ideological commitment to free market forces, privatizing government companies and outsourcing social services.

This meant the accelerated handover of services to the private sector that once were the sole preserve of government. It was accompanied by a weakening of trade unions and an overall erosion of working conditions and salaries.

The result? Owners and a select few mega-salaried executives became richer and the middle class relatively poorer. It also led to the rise of the Israeli tycoons, who controlled a great deal of the country's wealth and power. Banks, energy companies, supermarket chains and media properties all were concentrated in the hands of a dozen or so billionaire families.

Netanyahu's economic philosophy also entailed a reduction of corporate taxes. Big companies



BENJAMIN NETANYAHU

paid 5 percent to 20 percent income tax, while the middle class saw the prices of everything from food to cars to apartments rise considerably. The system produced impressive economic growth but left wealth in the hands of the few. The trickle-down effect, middle-class Israelis said, had failed to materialize.

The upshot was that by May 2010, Israel's economy was robust enough for Israel to be admitted to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development – the exclusive club of the world's strongest economies known as the OECD. But Israel also was the OECD member with the biggest gaps between rich and poor.

Some blame preferential spending on settlements in the West Bank for the lack of funds for social services in Israel. Others focus on welfare for the growing *haredi* Orthodox population in Israel. Still others point to the limited tax-

ation of the tycoons – tax concessions nationwide are estimated at approximately \$11 billion per year, about 11 percent of the national budget.

For years, middle-class discontent simmered under the surface, always eclipsed by security concerns or peacemaking moves. For embattled Israel, peace and security inevitably took top priority.

Until now. With terrorism virtually nonexistent and the peace process deadlocked, young Israelis have turned their attention toward generating a mass movement against the socioeconomic system.

Their anti-establishment energy took the form of street protests because there is a strong sense that none of the traditional parties represents their interests, and Israel has a long history of street protests, encompassing everything from Ethiopian immigration to the campaign to release captive Israeli

soldier Gilad Shalit.

For the most part, the protests have not been focused. But now the leaders of the protest movement are formulating a list of concrete demands and general principles for change. These are expected to include demands for public housing on a large scale; major tax reforms that would increase taxation of the super-rich and lower indirect taxes on the general public; a shift in budgetary priorities, transferring part of the defense budget and the increased tax money from the rich to fund social services; and demands for Israel to comply with OECD averages when it comes to the numbers of doctors, policemen and firemen per thousand citizens, and the number of children in classrooms.

Netanyahu has set up committees to examine all the relevant economic issues and to negotiate with the protesters, who are likely to be backed by trade union boss Ofer Eini. The prime minister almost certainly will produce a new economic plan, but it may not be enough. What the people are demanding is a new social contract.

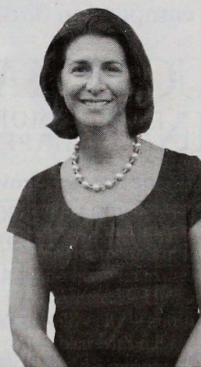
The political question is whether this could have an impact on the next election, scheduled for 2013, and the agenda over which it will be fought. That depends on how pressing security issues are around that time and whether these protesters can sustain enough momentum to translate their street movement into real political power.

*"Trying to care for aging parents shouldn't age their adult children as well."*

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**Bertha Barber, 89**

PROVIDENCE — Bertha Barber, of Providence, died June 27. She is survived by her sister Mildred Brecker of Boston, Mass.; her niece Rhonda Davidson and her husband Roy and grand-nephew Zachary, all of Atlanta, Ga.; and her nephew Alton Brecker of Savannah, Ga.

Donations may be made to the charity of your choice.

**Frances Berk, 91**

PROVIDENCE — Frances Berk, of Pascoag, died July 21. She leaves her sons, Lawrence, Kenneth and Stephen, and their wives. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Kimberly, Robin, Whitney, Zachary and Lauren; and her great-grandchildren, Natalie, Jack, Ari, Lindsey, Evan, Jared, Holden, Charlotte and Henry.

**Phyllis B. Datz, 86**

BROOKLINE, Mass. — Phyllis Datz died July 21. Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Herman and Minnie (Goldenberg) Bergel Pokras. A graduate of Hope High School, she leaves her husband, Irving Datz. They met at a party after he spilled a cocktail on her dress. They were married for 65 years.

Residing for many years in Providence, and then Brookline, Mass., she was known for her latest retail venture, "The Pink Giraffe," the gift cart she started at 100 Centre Street, and for her apple squares; she was best known for the love she shared with her family and friends, which was unsurpassed. She never forgot a birthday, an anniversary or any other occasion that was special to her family or to her many friends.

Her career and community involvement centered on people, working with those who became her lifelong friends.

She was a president of the Jewish War Veterans, a member of the Sis-

terhood of Temple Emanu-El and a volunteer teacher to those who were both deaf and could not speak.

She is the mother of David Datz and his fiancé Jim Mauro, and the late Stevan Datz; the sister of Martin Bergel and his wife Charlotte, the late Jordan Bergel and his surviving wife Joan, and sister-in-law of Byron Datz; grandmother of Melissa Frye and her husband, Scott and great-grandmother of Noah Frye.

Contributions may be made to Hebrew Senior Life, One Centre St., Roslindale, MA 02131.

**Anne G. (Korman) Fine, 80**

REHOBOTH, Mass. — Anne Fine, a resident of Rehoboth, Mass. for 57 years, died July 22. She was the wife of the late Harold Fine. Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late William and Tillie (Jacobs) Korman.

She is survived by her children Steven, Bayla, David and Paul Fine; her granddaughters Elizabeth, Shayna and Destany; and her siblings Melvin Korman, Rosalie Bloom, and Lois Fine Sargeant. She was the sister of the late Nathaniel Korman, Leah Kaplan and Arnold Korman.

Donations may be made to Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Attn: Donor Services, P.O. Box 650309, Dallas, TX 75265.

**Elmer S. Lappin**

PROVIDENCE — Elmer Lappin, of Providence, died Aug. 1. He was the husband of Shirley (Weisberg) Lappin to whom he was married for 66 years. Born in Providence, he was a son of the late Charles and Rose (Priest) Lappin.

He worked in his family wholesale grocery business, Charles Lappin & Sons, for many years, and later worked as a salesman at Benny's. He was a lifelong member of Temple Emanu-El, Touro Fraternal Assoc., Jewish War Veterans, and the Jewish Senior Guild. A talented pianist, he entertained at many nursing homes during the last 20 years and earned the Volunteer of the Year award at Steere House. An avid swim-

mer who swam daily at the Jewish Community Center, he loved music, enjoyed traveling and the ocean.

He also leaves his daughter Roslyn Guarnieri and her husband Ronald of Warwick; his grandchildren Shayna and her husband Brad, David and Michael; and his great-grandchildren Maia and Zachary. He was the father of the late Gary Lappin and brother of the late Harold Lappin.

Donations may be made to Temple Emanu-El or Steere House.

**Florence Lax, 94**

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. — Florence Lax, 94, of Delray Beach, Fla., formerly of Maplewood, N.J., died June 19. She was born in Harrison, N.J. to Max and Anna Jacobs.

She was a graduate of Upsala College, East Orange N. J. She was a member of Temple Emeth of Delray Beach, Fla., and a life member of Hadassah.

She was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Frank Lax; her brothers Dr. Vivian Jacobs and Samson Jacobs; and her sisters Regina Kananack and Shirley Steinberg. She leaves her two daughters, Renee Phon and her husband Tom Phon of West Orange, N.J., and Hinda Berger and her husband Joel Berger of Lake Worth, Fla., and her son, Marvin William Lax and his wife Rhonda Lax of Pawtucket. She leaves four grandchildren, Cindy Phon, Vicki Caplan, Abby Phon and Ryan Lax, and five great-grandchildren.

Donations may be made to Hospice of Palm Beach, 4460 Medical Center Way, West Palm Beach, FL 33407.

**Shirley Mendelson, 90**

WARWICK — Shirley Mendelson, of Brentwood Nursing Home, died July 24. She was the wife of the late Solomon Mendelson.

Born in Paterson, N.J., a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Siegal, she had lived in Warwick since 1969. She was a secretary for the State of Rhode Island Health Department for many years.

She was the mother of Martin Mendelson of North Kingstown and Barbara Conley of Warwick; grandmother of five and great-grandmother of six.

Contributions may be made to your favorite charity.

**Nina Mermelstein, 77**

GREENVILLE — Nina Mermelstein, of Village at Waterman Lake, died July 22. She was the wife of the late Perry Mermelstein.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a daughter of the late Morris and Pearl (Siegendorf) Kitt, she had lived in Cranston for 30 years before moving to Greenville two years ago.

She volunteered at CASA and at Rhode Island Hospital for 15 years.

She was the mother of Eric Meren of New York, N.Y., Lori Rosenberg Galeaz and her husband Gregory of Franklin, Mass., and Alisa Pease and her husband Don of Chepachet. She was the sister of Allen Kitt of New York, N.Y. and the grandmother of Ilyssa, Samantha and Troy.

Contributions may be made to Home & Hospice Care of RI.

**Florence K. Miller**

ELSEWHERE — Florence Miller died Dec. 21, 2010. A celebration of life will be held in her memory at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 3, at the Wyndham Deerfield Beach Resort, Deerfield Beach, Fla.

Born Sept. 18, 1910, she was the daughter of the late Joseph Koppelman and Bertha Kroll. She was the sister of the late Roland, Elijah and David Koppelman and half-sister of Helen Handler of California.

She had been married to the late Dr. Himon Miller of Huntsville, Ala. She leaves three sons, Stephen Miller of Attleboro, Mass., Dr. Robert Miller of St. Simons Island, Ga., and John Miller of Harvest, Ala.; five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Loretta G. (Landy) Penn, 93**

ELSEWHERE — Loretta Penn, a longtime resident of Sunrise, Fla., died July 22. She was the wife of Samuel Penn to whom she was married for more than 70 years. Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Nathan and Sadie (Golden) Landy.

She graduated from Hope High School and retired as a children's librarian in Newton, Mass. before moving to Florida with her husband. She enjoyed gardening, dancing and

bridge throughout her life.

She leaves her brother Alan Landy of Israel and her sisters, Annette Halpern and Mildred Shusman. She is also survived by her children, Renee and her husband Michael Coplan of Milford, Conn., and Barry and his wife Susan Penn of Wynnwood, Pa.; her grandchildren Scott Coplan and his wife Susi D'Ambria of New York, Neil and his wife Ronna Coplan of Massachusetts, and Reuben and Aaron Penn; and great-grandchildren Nathan Coplan, Emily Coplan, Daniel Coplan, Rachel Coplan and Sophie Hardin.

Donations may be made to the Penn Wynne Library, 130 Overbrook Parkway, Wynnwood, PA 19096; [www.lmls.org/lib\\_pennwynne](http://www.lmls.org/lib_pennwynne).

## Submitting obituaries, donations

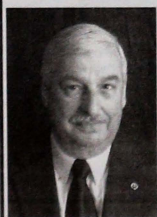
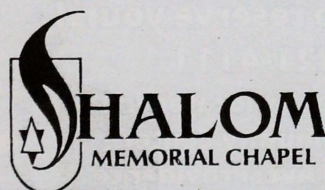
**D**O YOU KNOW that The Jewish Voice & Herald is one of the few newspapers that doesn't charge for obituaries?

We are committed to providing relevant obituary information to our readers free of charge, as a valuable community service.

However, The Jewish Voice & Herald, like other nonprofit entities, has a budget to meet. As such, we are most grateful when we receive donations from family members of those whose obituaries appear in this paper.

Jewish funeral homes in greater Rhode Island do an excellent job of regularly sending the newspaper obituary information; if you are outside the area or are otherwise interested in submitting obituary information about a deceased family member (with a Rhode Island connection, please), contact Nancy Kirsch at [nkirsch@shalomri.org](mailto:nkirsch@shalomri.org), 421-4111, ext. 168, or The Jewish Voice & Herald, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906. Should you wish to make a donation, please contact Kirsch, as above.

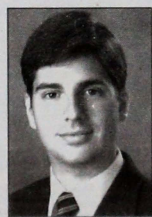
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HERB and IRMA BLOOM, seated, with their children, Rick Bloom, left, of East Greenwich, Karen Deluty of Cranston and Laurie Golden of Narragansett.

### 60th Wedding Anniversary

**H**ERB and IRMA BLOOM celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June on Carnival Cruise Lines Glory. All together, 13 family members were on board to celebrate the special occasion.



BOB and ARLINE CUSICK

### 50th Wedding Anniversary

**B**OB and ARLINE Cusick of Warwick celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, July 10. The couple were married on July 10, 1961.

They have two children, their son Philip and his wife Rose in San Francisco, Calif., and their daughter Kerri Connor. They have four granddaughters, Megan, Ami, Haley and Sophi Connor and one grandson, Oliver Cusick.



RABBI AMY LEVIN

### Appointment

**R**ABBI AMY LEVIN of Torat Yisrael has been appointed to serve on the Conservative Movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards. Chancellor Arnold Eisen of the Jewish Theological Seminary of New York and Rabbi Gilah Dror, the president of the Rabbinical Assembly, appointed Levin to this five-year term. In that capacity, she will be a member of a body of some 25 Conservative rabbis who respond to questions of Jewish law submitted to the Committee.

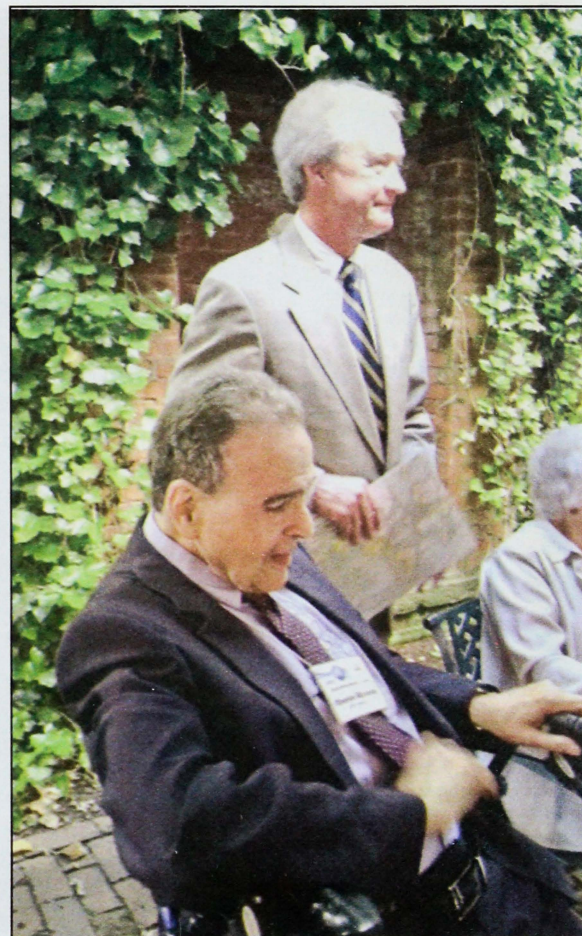
### Birth



CAMERON GERSTBERGER

**T**OBI and ADAM Gerstberger, of North Kingstown, announce the birth of their son, Cameron Gerstberger, on April 6. Cameron's maternal grandparents are Donna Morse Young, of Cranston and William Young of Exeter; his paternal grandparents are Anita and Charles Gerstberger, of Pittsburgh, Penn. His great-grandparents are Maxine and Gilbert Morse, of Warwick. Cameron is named in loving memory of his great-great uncle, Stanley "Babe" Morse, and his cousin, Lawrence Morse.

www.jvhri.org



MAURICE GLICKSMAN, seated, and GOVERNOR LINCOLN CHAFEE, standing

### Recognition

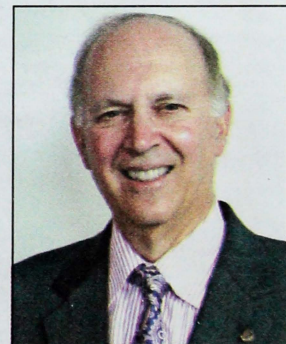
**M**AURICE GLICKSMAN, provost emeritus of Brown University and past chair of the World Affairs Council (the Council) of Rhode Island's board of directors, was honored by the Council on Thursday, June 2 at the Hope Club in Providence. Governor Lincoln Chafee spoke and presented him with a plaque. Gregg Chafee, Council president, made additional remarks.

### Election

**B**ARRY W. FAIN, a longtime local businessman and community activist, has been installed as the 101st president of the Rotary Club of Providence in a luncheon ceremony on Monday, June 27 at the Providence Marriott on Orms St. in Providence. Founded in 1911, the Providence Rotary Club is the 22nd oldest of the more than 34,000 Rotary Clubs around the world.

Fain, a resident of Providence and Westport, Mass., is the publisher of Providence Media, a chain of six newspapers and magazines including, among others, East Side Monthly and Providence Monthly. Previously he had been president of Fains Carpet/Carpet Giant and its 18 stores.

A native Rhode Islander, Fain has been active in the community, serving on many boards including United Way, the Providence Preservation Society, Moses Brown



BARRY W. FAIN

School, the World Affairs Council and the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. He has also served as board chairman of the International House of Rhode Island, the University of Pennsylvania Alumni Association and the College Hill Neighborhood Association.



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## panelists

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ARTHUR ROBBINS  
DR. FRED SCHIFFMAN  
RABBI JOEL SELTZER

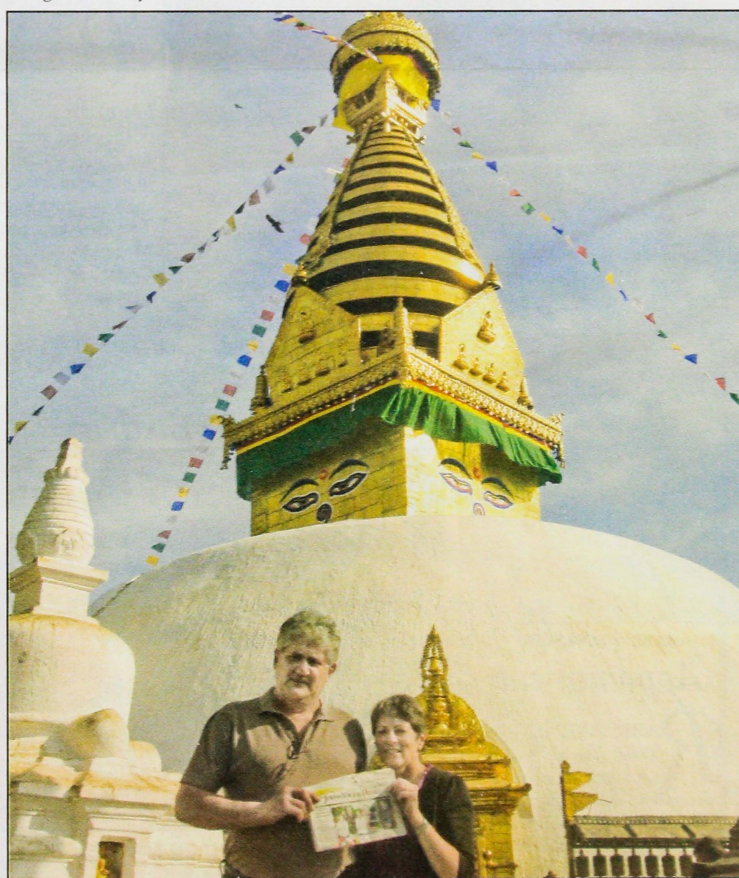
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OLIVIA LICHAA, left, and MAYBETH LICHAA, of Barrington, in Israel.

## Israel

MAYBETH LICHAA wrote, "Olivia is in Israel until September because she is in the M.A. in government program with a specialization of counter-terrorism and homeland securities studies at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliyah, Israel. My husband Jacob and I went to Israel to visit her in early July and we took The Jewish Voice & Herald with us to her school. We are proud of her and it was so much fun to see her college in Herzliyah."



LUCIEN and ROBERTA ARSAC

## Katmandu, Nepal

ROBERTA and LUCIEN ARSAC visited Katmandu, Nepal. Roberta wrote, "Of course, I am holding a copy of The Jewish Voice & Herald. We are standing in front of the great stupa [a dome-shaped structure serving as a Buddhist shrine] of Swayambhunath, with the eyes of Buddha painted on all four sides."

"I was disappointed that we were unable to bring the paper onto the grounds of the Taj Mahal."