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# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

Special  
Occasions

PAGES 8 & 9

The Only English-Jewish Weekly in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts

VOLUME LXVII, NUMBER 46

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## Rhode Islanders Attend Daf Yomi

by Emily Torgan  
Jewish Community Reporter

For many Jews, a seven-day cycle ends with Shabbat. For about 70,000 Jews in the Americas, a seven-and-a-half year cycle ends with an enormous simcha.

On Sept. 28, 35 students from the Providence Hebrew Day School and other Rhode Islanders traveled to the Nassau Coliseum to take part in the Siyum Hashas, a celebration that occurs every 7 1/2 years when those who study a page of the Talmud each day complete the text over a 2,711-day period.

According to a spokesperson for Agudath Israel, the Orthodox sponsoring organization, about 70,000 Jews in the Americas took part.

"The 26,000 seats at Madison Square Garden sold out, so we obtained an additional 18,000 seats at the Nassau Coliseum," he said. "Our satellite network went through 36 cities including Toronto, Montreal, Mexico City and a site in Australia."

Cities in Europe and Israel were not included because of time zone differences, he said.

Yaakov Beker, a Judaic studies teacher at the Providence Hebrew Day School who served as a chaperone, described the packed event as "exhilarating."

"There was a lot of technology this time," Beker said of the simcha. "The same screens that are used to show the hockey game replays were used to show the rabbis."

Beker went on to explain the history of the event, now in its 10 year.

"The idea for the Daf Yomi came from Chief Rabbi of Lublin at a gathering of Torah sages in Vienna in 1923," he began.

In order to encourage Torah study, the rabbi had introduced the idea of studying "daf yomi," which translates as a page a day.

Chofetz Chaim, then the most important Torah sage, had agreed to the concept.

"Chofetz Chaim felt that many portions were being neglected, and that this would

enable them all to get attention," said Beker. "The rest is history."

The tradition, created before the war, was upheld in the camps and ghettos, said Beker.

"During that time, it spread to America and Agudath Israel adopted it as a project," he said. "It just gets bigger and bigger. The study of Talmud brings people together."

"It's very important for our kids to go," explained PHDSDean Rabbi Mordechai Nissel. "It's a chance to pray with 20,000 other Jews. There hasn't been anything like it since the Holy Temple."

Nissel also hoped the students would learn by example.

"We want our students to be

(Continued on Page 15)



### Families Prepare For The New Year

Steven and Rebecca Buckler and Claudia and Jamie Frankenburg enjoy a holiday question and answer workshop at Temple Sinai in Cranston. See story on page 10.

Herald photo by Tara V. Lisciandro

## A Call to Action on Day Schools: Group Seeks Nationwide Support

by Sid Singer  
JUF News

CHICAGO (JTA) — Jewish communities across the country are being challenged to take up the gauntlet for day school funding.

A resolution intended to make funding for Jewish day school education a high communal priority will likely face delegates at the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations when they meet in Indianapolis in November.

The proposed resolution — which commits communities to work to make quality day school education available to all Jewish children — came out of the first meeting of the National Jewish Day School Scholarship Committee held on Sept. 21 in Chicago.

The committee is a newly formed coalition of representatives from 14 Chicago-area Jewish day schools, ranging from Reform to Lubavitch.

Participants in the conference, which attracted 170 Jewish educators, day school officials and federation leaders from around the country, also agreed to bring similar resolutions before local federations.

In a show of intradenominational unity, the conference drew delegates from the Reform, Conservative and Orthodox movements and received letters of support from the national leadership of each of those movements.

The premise of the conference, as stated by committee chairman George Hanus, was a simple one: Jewish day schools, which many American Jews

view as the best antidote to assimilation, are seriously underfunded.

"Unless additional revenue sources are found," said Hanus, president of Chicago's Ida Crown Jewish Academy and a board member of the Chicago federation, "the day school system as we currently know it will be bankrupt."

Because of the schools' insolvency, he said, the children who attend are primarily from wealthy and upper-middle-class families. Many Jewish parents who would like to send their children to day schools simply can't afford to, even with the modest scholarship assistance that many schools offer, he said.

The average day school tuition during the 1995-96 academic year was \$5,059-\$5,465 at Reform schools, \$6,083 at Conservative schools, and \$5,131 at Orthodox schools, according to "The Financing of Jewish Day Schools," a recent study conducted by Dr. Marvin Schick and funded by the Avi Chai Foundation in New York.

Speaking to the conference, Schick called day schools "the stepchild of American Jewish philanthropy."

Conference participants discussed a variety of strategies for translating resolutions into more money for day school education.

Schick suggested that federations and private philanthropies give more funding to day schools in the United States and less to Israel, and that more Jews support voucher and school choice plans.

Framing recommendations

from a federation perspective was Steven Nasatir, president of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, which currently allocates nearly \$2.7 million to area day schools.

Nasatir stressed the need to find new sources of funding, rather than taking away from other needs.

Nasatir suggested a three-pronged approach: supplemental gifts to federations for day schools, in addition to annual campaign contributions; coordinated capital giving programs to offset costs of new and expanded buildings; and federation help to develop — perhaps even providing seed contributions — for community-wide endowments for day schools.

Rabbi Nathan Laufer, president of the Wexner Heritage Foundation and moderator of the conference, proposed that local day schools of all streams work with local federations to establish community endowments for day school education.

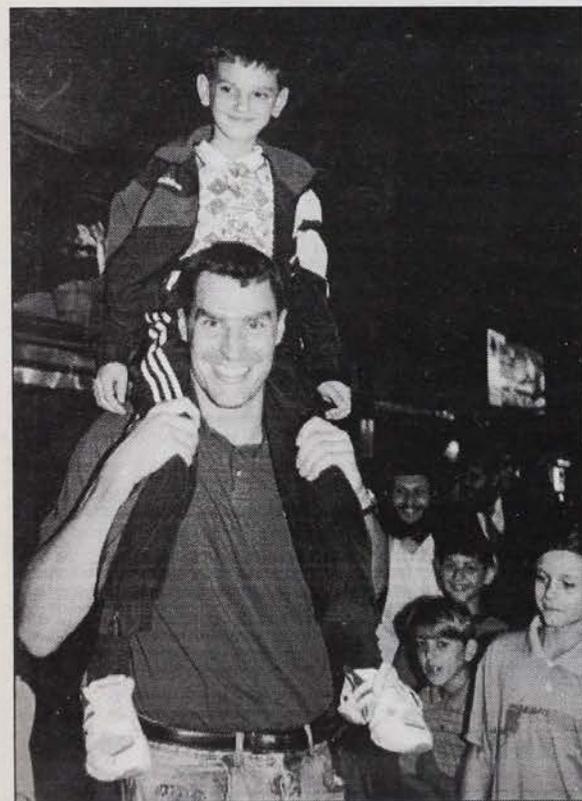
He also proposed the idea of a national trust fund for day school education.

Laufer urged day school leaders to approach federations as allies, not adversaries.

"Don't come in confrontationally," he said. "Come in because you share a communal agenda."

Hanus, who organized the conference, and Lawrence Friedman, chairman of the Chicago federation's education committee, also urged participants to work within the federation system to accomplish

(Continued on Page 15)



### Flying High

Basketball star Kevin Rankin, a player for the Turkish team, Ulker, gives Sasha G. a ride on his shoulders at Israel's Ben Gurion airport. Chabad's Children of Chernobyl's latest flight brought children in need of medical care to Israel in time for Rosh Hashanah. See story on page 11.

Photo courtesy of Chabad's Children of Chernobyl

# HAPPENINGS

## Thayer Street Art Festival Returns

The 11th Thayer Street Art Festival will take place on Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. along colorful Thayer Street on the east side of Providence. Last spring's Thayer Street Art Festival was a smashing success with nearly 14,000 people in attendance and more than 80 artists exhibiting. The festival will include a showing and judging of work presented by 75 professional, amateur, and student artists from throughout New England in all media including painting, sculpture, drawing, crafts, and photography.

All exhibitors will be eligible for \$700 in prizes awarded by a panel of judges and presented by Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr. All prizes will be donated by

Thayer Street area merchants. A real festival atmosphere will be created by closing Thayer Street to traffic between Bowen and Angell streets, allowing the general public to browse freely through the festival to view the artwork and sample a variety of food from local restaurants including Thai, Indian, Tex Mex, Greek, Italian, French and Middle Eastern. Clowns, jugglers, and mimes will be performing among the crowd, and children's activities will be available.

Also at the art festival, the Thayer Street Business Association will be unveiling their new web site, <ThayerStreet.com>.

The rain date for the Thayer Street Art Festival is Oct. 5.

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## Calendar: October 2 thru October 11

- 2 **Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island** Rosh Hashanah service aired on Cox Communications (in Providence), 2:30 p.m. and Oct. 3 at 4 p.m. Check your daily paper for Interconnect scheduling for other areas in Rhode Island.  
"Whose Life is it Anyway?" at Rhode Island College Theatre and Dance, Oct. 2 to 5, with evening and matinee performances. Call for ticket information, 456-8060.
- 3 **"Having Our Say,"** Trinity Repertory Theatre, Providence, Oct. 3 to Nov. 16. Call 351-4242.  
**Used Book Sale and Apple Pie Festival** at North Smithfield Public Library, Slatersville. Call 767-2780.  
**Block Island Birding Weekend**, Oct. 3 to 5. Block Island is an ideal stopover for migrants that have been blown off course. Call 949-5454.
- 4 **Plantation Days**, Oct. 4 and 5, Noon to 4 p.m. A celebration of colonial times at Rhode Island's most significant historic site, 55 Richard Smith Drive, N. Kingstown. Call 294-3521.  
**Newport Festa Italiana**, Oct. 4 to 13. Celebration of Italian heritage, citywide. Call 849-8048.
- 5 **Family Day** at Rhode Island School of Design, Providence. Celebrate the opening of the Paula and Leonard Granoff Galleries. Make drawings, meet a storyteller, and create a space with a collaborative sculpture project. Refreshments, free with museum admission, 1 to 4 p.m. Call 454-6348.  
**Pumpkin Social** at Smith-Appleby House, Smithfield, 1 to 4 p.m. \$3 per person. Call 231-7363.  
**Opening reception**, "The Paintings of Domine Vescera Ragosta," 7 to 9 p.m. at East Greenwich Photo, 631 Main St. Show runs through Oct. 31. Call 884-0220.  
**Apple Picking**, apple creations and apple cuts for the New Year with Perspectives, Young Jewish Adult Group. After picking your own apples, join Jeff's Kosher Kitchen to create delicious apple creations. Meet at Jaswell's Farm, Smithfield, at 12:30 p.m. For information and directions, call 863-9357.
- 6 **Jackie Mason and Raoul Felder**, "Crossing the Line III," Crimes of the Century on TV 36 at 10 p.m.  
**Women's Mentoring Program**, informal session for Jewish professional women seeking career advice, 6:30 p.m., 105 Chauncy St., Boston, Mass. Call (617) 451-8147, ext. 104.  
**Jewish Theatre Ensemble** open auditions, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Oct. 8, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, Providence. Performers of all ages welcome. Call 828-7727.  
**Adoption Options**, adoption program of Jewish Family Service, meeting 6 to 8 p.m. at 229 Waterman St., Providence. Call 331-5437.
- 8 **Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island Kids Clothing Sale**, Oct. 8 through 10, Providence. Call 861-8800, ext. 116, for October schedule.  
**National Council of Jewish Women** meeting at 9:30 a.m., Meeting Street Center, E. Providence. Call 331-9832 for information.  
**R.I. Aviation History** lecture, 7 p.m. Arranged by Quonset Air Museum, North Kingstown Free Library. Call 294-3306.
- 10 **JERI Yom Kippur** service airs on Cox Communications (in Providence) at 4:30 p.m. and Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. Check your daily paper for Interconnect scheduling for other areas in Rhode Island.
- 11 **R.I. State Giant Pumpkin Championship** at Castellucci Farm in Smithfield, starting at 10 a.m. Call (508) 222-9069 for information.  
**Pumpkin and Corn Sale**, Oct. 11 to 12, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. A celebration of harvest, cider pressing, threshing of rye and other seasonal activities. Coggeshall Farm Museum, Colt State Park, Bristol. Call 253-9062.

## 21st Annual Harvest Festival and Apple Pie Contest

The 21st annual Harvest Festival and Apple Pie Contest will be held Oct. 5 at the South County Museum, Narragansett, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., featuring the homemade wares of 40 crafters from southern New England.

Traditional South County foods will be served, including jonnycakes, homemade root beer and a traditional bake table. Apple cider will be pressed. Demonstrations will be given by the museum blacksmiths, carpenters, spinners and weavers, rug hookers, quilters and printers.

The entire collection of antique carriages, wagons, traps, bicycles, horse-drawn hearse, fire engines and automobiles will be on display on the museum quadrangle.

Children's activities will include face painting, stilt walking and visits with the Canonchet Farm pets—Bob the goat, Logan the lamb, Hershey the pony and Oliver the pig.

Hay wagon rides will be provided by Side Hill Farm. Admission to the festival and museum exhibit buildings is free, but donations are welcome.

The South County Museum is located on scenic Route 1A, Narragansett, with the entrance directly opposite the Narragansett Town Beach pavilion. The museum is handicapped accessible.

Contact Peter Gardiner at 783-5400 for more information.

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EastSide Prescription Center, Hope St.  
Rhoda's Judaica, Burlington St.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Brandeis Panelists Examine Media Bias

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky  
Jewish Community Reporter

The American press is anti-Israel. The American press loves to bash Arabs. American journalists try to impose western standards on the Middle East.

These refrains, familiar to those who take in the news, are painfully familiar to those who gather and shape it.

On Sept. 24 at Brandeis University, Palestinian political philosopher Sari Nusseibeh and a panel of journalists examined these and other perceptions at "The Media and the Middle East — What's Fair," a panel discussion that explored problems of reportage in the Middle East.

ing you don't like me or the group I represent," said Scherzer, an internationally famous Brandeis graduate who spent five years with CNN and two years at Israel Television.

As a foreign correspondent covering the conflict, Scherzer said that she and others were blamed for inciting violence.

"We were called anti-Israel and pro-Palestinian," she said. "If we were Jewish, we were accused of being self-hating, and if we were not, we were called anti-Semites. But the baggage we come with really doesn't matter. The best of us approach our jobs with honesty and integrity."

Paring down the multi-fac-

Next, Ethan Bronner, who spent six years as the *Boston Globe's* Middle Eastern correspondent, talked about the difficulty of delivering well-balanced reportage from a wildly unbalanced part of the world.

"News is much more available in Israel than in the rest of the Middle East," he said. "It's a much more open society."

Bronner said that while reporters hear about events in Israel within minutes or hours, the press still does not know if a bombing that supposedly took place a year and a half ago in a Damascus bus station ever occurred.

"Reporters tend to write more and more about where they can get the news," he said. "That distorts the image of both places."

Bronner also pointed to very limited private and public discussion in the Arab world.

"There is no real culture of public discussion," he said.

Bronner remembered an Iraqi election that elicited more than a 99 percent of the vote for Saddam Hussein.

"The people knew it was safer to speak while we were there, but they said the sanctions were the fault of the West," he said. "They said they would fall apart without a man as strong as Hussein. You have to ask yourself about the information that comes their way and their parameters. In Israel, there are 50 chat shows a day."

But in Israel, Bronner said, public discussion is limited in a way that Israelis do not understand.

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## Pawtucket Hadassah Starts Season with Special Supper

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky  
Jewish Community Reporter

There was something old, something new and plenty of cake, but it wasn't a wedding.

Rather, the Sept. 22 gathering at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island was a

was new to the group.

"Seven of our members served as hostesses, and they each welcomed guests at their homes," explained Membership Chairman Rosalind Bolusky. "Then everyone got together for dessert."



PALESTINIAN SCHOLAR and activist Sari Nusseibeh, Middle East correspondent Ethan Bronner, television journalist Linda Scherzer and editor and writer John Yemma discuss media in the Middle East on Sept. 24 at Brandeis University.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

Moderator John Yemma, a reporter and former foreign editor of *The Boston Globe*, said that common complaints, such as "Israel is held to a higher standard than its neighbors" and "American journalists approach Arab situations with Western perspectives," could be better understood in light of certain facts.

"Journalists have much greater access to news in Israel than they do in the broader Middle East," he explained. "The global media penetrates the Middle Eastern countries differently, and that has an impact on the flowback process."

Maintaining that no amounts of difficulty justify abandoning aims for fairness, Yemma turned to panelist Linda Scherzer.

"I face these groups know-

eted Israeli-Palestinian conflict into 90-second reports for 22-minute broadcasts also presented a tremendous challenge, Scherzer said.

"It's a story with a lot of history behind it, but you have to whittle it down to 90-second spots," she said. "Live reporting puts even more pressure on reporters, because they have to be able to cover stories in real time."

Although people frequently accuse television journalists of failing to report sufficient background material, Scherzer maintained that that is not their role.

"News by its very definition is what's new," she said. "We are the first graph of history, not the history books. We can't include that kind of history in 22-minute broadcasts."



LORRAINE WEBBER, president of Hadassah's Rhode Island Chapter, addresses members of Pawtucket Hadassah on Sept. 22.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

Pawtucket Hadassah event that kicked off the 1997-1998 season by promising members some twists on tradition.

The evening itself, a progressive supper that featured remarks from Rhode Island Chapter President Lorraine Webber,

Over coffee and cake, Bolusky praised her fellow hostesses and the 60 women from the 300-member organization who had turned out.

"People offered to join together to get to know each

(Continued on Page 15)

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# OPINION

## Jewish Life Can Be Fun

To the Editor:

Well-intentioned people are likely to differ on the appropriateness of advertisements. I have long respected Harold Tregar as a committed Jew, but I don't share his objections to Temple Emanu-El's recent ad. Advertisements are important tools for communicating messages. Temple Emanu-El was once regarded as a stodgy, unexciting congregation. Its members today know it as a dynamic, energetic, warm and exciting community. Our services are traditional, our classes serious, our values uncompromised. But we believe that Jewish life can be — and must be — engaging fun,

and enjoyable. Throughout Jewish history, Jews have maintained a hearty sense of humor, even in the darkest of times.

These are not dismal days for Jews, and we do indeed wish to connect with unaffiliated Jews who seek a serious congregation which doesn't take itself too seriously, or in the words of our ad, "A Conservative congregation that is anything but!" And, yes, people do see and respond positively to our ads.

Come for a visit, Mr. Tregar, I think you'll be happy with what you see!

Rabbi Wayne M. Franklin  
Temple Emanu-El  
Providence, R.I.

## Expanding the Mind Through Torah

by Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg

On Sept. 28, tens of thousands of Jews gathered in Madison Square Garden and the Nassau Coliseum to conduct a siyum which is the celebration of the completion of the study of the entire Talmud over a seven and a half year period of studying a page of the Talmud every day. Orthodox Jews still take Torah study for adults seriously.

On reason for the popularity of Jewish learning is because it is enjoyable. The same way a jogger loves the feeling of exercising the body, a student of the Talmud enjoys the mental stimulation which the study of Talmud requires. Deciphering an arcane text and keeping the argument straight over pages of questions and answers can be exhilarating.

But that is only one of many reasons why some Jews spend precious hours pouring over Jewish texts. Torah study — Talmud Torah, is thought to be the greatest mitzvah. Talmud Torah is not merely a means to an end, it is in itself a highly meritorious act and mode of worship. It is considered to be so valuable that when people sit and study Torah, or even one person sits alone and is engaged in learning, the Shechina — the Divine Indwelling is present there too.

Even more important than the mental pleasure, Torah is fundamental because it teaches us to see the universe from G-d's point of view, to discover not only what course of action is most advantageous to me, but

(Continued on Page 15)

## A Respectful Plea for T'shuvah

by Rabbi Jerome Epstein

As the High Holidays grow near and we anticipate the opportunity to do t'shuvah for misdeeds committed during the previous year, I would like to invite non-Conservative Jews to beat their chests along with us. While this may seem a bit "chutzpahdik," I am convinced that — given the destructive nature of some of the actions and postures displayed both in Israel and in North America over these past 12 months — this might be an extremely valuable exercise for us all.

First, however, before I would dare suggest to others that they take a second look at their own actions over the past year, it is mandatory, given the reflective nature of the High Holiday season, that I begin by looking inward and conduct a *heshbon ha'nefesh* in order to make a full accounting of my own shortcomings. I know that there are areas in which I, as a Conservative Jew, have fallen short in relation to my treatment of fellow Jews, and I am fully cognizant that I, too, must change. I therefore commit to take the following confessions to heart, and I invite my fellow Conservative Jews to do the same:

*For the sin which we have committed before You by contentiousness*

*For the sin which we have committed before You by being stubborn*

*For the sin which we have committed before You by utterance of the lips*

Next, I ask the small fringe group of rabbis and leaders who repeatedly label Conservative and Reform Judaism "inauthentic" to search their hearts and try to understand the potentially devastating results of their actions. I ask them to keep in mind the teachings of our rabbis as

regards *sinat hinam*, baseless hatred, which is said to have caused the destruction of the Second Temple. I would remind them that Jewish tradition cherishes compassion and compromise and suggest that they re-study rabbinic teachings on why the school of Hillel was preferred over that of Shammai. As we recite the *Al Het*, I would ask these individuals to place special emphasis on the following:

*For the sin which we have committed before You by hardening our hearts*

*For the sin which we have committed before You by speaking perversely*

*For the sin which we have committed before You by wronging our neighbor*

For those in Israel who continue to deny religious equality to non-Orthodox groups, and for those on all sides who allow hatred to replace a search for common goals, the following recitation might be particularly appropriate:

*For the sin which we have committed before You by violence*

*For the sin which we have committed before You by corrupt speech*

*For the sin which we have committed before You by false pride*

In addition, I would ask the political leaders of Israel, who have not fulfilled their moral obligations to the entire Jewish community, to use their talents to bring the Orthodox and non-Orthodox Jewish communities together in order to foster co-existence. I call on Israeli leaders to reflect upon their behavior and to recognize that the issue of religious pluralism is not just a Diaspora concern but one that cuts right to the heart of Israel's identity both as a democracy and as a spiritual compass for world Jewry. I further call upon them to institute objective criteria for conversions so that all who meet them

will have their conversions accepted (even if they are Conservative or Reform), and all who do not will have their conversions rejected (even if they are Orthodox). With this in mind, I respectfully suggest that these individuals — having assumed a leadership role in the State of Israel — re-evaluate their actions, or lack thereof, in light of the following sins:

*For the sin which we committed before You by breach of trust*

*For the sin which we have committed before You in presumption or in error*

*For the sin which we have committed before You by confusion of values*

Finally, I call upon my fellow Conservative Jews to take upon themselves some of the responsibility for the difficult situation our community faces today. We have ample evidence that high rates of assimilation and intermarriage are capable of devastating the community as thoroughly as an attack from outside sources. We know that if we want the Jewish community to survive, we have to invest ourselves in efforts to renew it. Therefore, as we recite our list of errors and misdeeds, I pray fervently that my fellow congregants will pay particular attention to one confession:

*For the sin which we have committed before You by casting off the yoke of Your commandments*

Let us all, praying together, resolve to cast off the sins as we enter the New Year. Working hand in hand, in good faith, we will do much to strengthen the Jewish people and rekindle the spiritual vitality of the State of Israel. *Shanah Tovah.*

Rabbi Epstein is the executive vice president of The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the association of Conservative congregations in North America.

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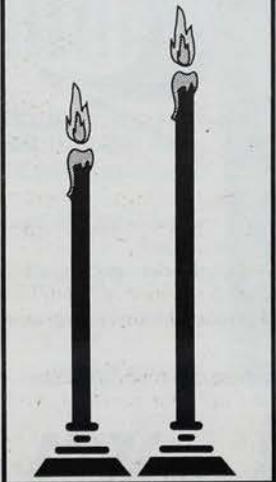
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### Candlelighting

October 3, 1997  
6:06 p.m.



Notice: The opinions presented on this page do not necessarily represent the opinions of this establishment.

## Calling For Justice

by Deena Bloomstone

The month of Elul — a month of reflection and judgment — comes at an opportune time. It brings to a close the carefree days of summer and invites us to reflect on what we have, how we got where we are, and our role as Jews. The month of Elul asks us to reflect on and makes us account for our lives and actions during the past year. It reminds us of who we are and what our purpose is. Thus, as we begin the year in our schools and congregations, it is appropriate that we find ourselves reading the concluding passages of the Torah. Parashat *Ha'azinu* helps us put the carefree days of summer behind us and reminds us both to remember how fortunate we are to be G-d's people and to be active participants in our relationship with G-d.

*Ha'azinu* contains two important stories: Moses' concluding poem to the people Israel and G-d's injunction to Moses not to enter the Promised Land. The two are tied together. The poem describes the rewarding relationship with G-d that the Jewish people will have as a result of

their faithful observance, as well as the dire consequences they would suffer for their lack of involvement. The story of Moses' inability to enter the Promised Land illustrates the consequences of not listening to G-d.

The imagery of rain that Moses uses showers all with the proclamation of G-d's virtues. Moses goes on to extol G-d's greatness, to remind us that G-d has always been with us, has always been

your children, that they may observe faithfully all the terms of this teaching. For this is not a trifling thing for you: It is your very life; through it you shall long endure on the land that you are to occupy upon crossing the Jordan." (Deut. 32:46-47) Moses shows the people the bottom line. Jewish practice is life itself: Take it to heart, teach it to your children, and live your life accordingly. Jewish observance and faith are the keys to life's rewards.

As we read Parashat *Ha'azinu* on this Shabbat Shuvah, may we be reminded of the great and wonderful relationship we have through our *berit* with G-d. May our year ahead see us live out our role as G-d's partners in this *berit*. For every good that comes our way, may we remember to be thankful. For every negative, may we take time to reflect. May we use this coming year to "take to heart all the words [and to] enjoin them upon [our] children, that they may observe faithfully all the terms of this teaching."

Deena Bloomstone is director of education at Temple Beth-El in San Antonio, Texas.

### Torah Today

faithful to us. We, in turn, must be faithful to G-d by fulfilling the responsibilities for which we were chosen. We are reminded that being participants in the *berit* between G-d and the Jewish people means that we must carry out the observances (ritual, moral, and ethical) required of us. He reminds us that we are not masters of our own fate. If we don't do what we've been instructed, we end up destroying ourselves. The people are instructed, "Take to heart all the worlds with which I have warned you this day. Enjoin them upon



## It Took Some Chutzpah

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

Jonathan Sharlin went first to Israel to photograph its stones, its rocks and broken columns. Nobody can more eloquently bring out the beauty and mystery of ruins.

This second time around, Sharlin and his wife Olivia McCullough recorded both the

visit to Israel. I stayed at a private residence in this lovely Jerusalem suburb. It had all the fine points of a previous design, the cool marble vestibule, the dazzling white patio, the large ceramic jars that serve as air conditioners, the small, sweet orchard. My mind and memory flooded among the



faces and the words of Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab participants in the struggles for land and liberty. The pair showed a first draft of the results of their artistic research at a breakfast in Temple Emanu-El's Bohnen Vestry. Jonathan began by thanking those who supported and funded his project, some of whom were sitting before him. He disclaimed any political agenda, emphasizing the quest as a visual designer's for inspiration and balance. "We serve only as conduits for their ideas and experiences. We taped and transcribed, shared letters and bore messages."

Each of the interviews contains a remarkable account. We began with a group portrait of the Sharlin cousins who greeted their American connection. Olivia had a cousin who married into Judaism, converted, worked on a kibbutz and then settled in Jerusalem. Among the encounters we meet a Christian Arab whose son is both wounded and healed by a Jewish soldier, attacked and helped by fellow Palestinian Arabs. The father, born during the '47-'48 war, criticizes extremists on both sides of the conflict.

Then a Holocaust survivor from the Netherlands repudiates the notion of fair play and peace and justice as a sentimental assault on the facts of Jewish life. "Terrorist and victim, like Nazi and camp inmate, cannot be judged in the same scale. Jews have always known insult and attack. They have to take a stand in their own behalf."

Along the way we stare at the youthful face of a fighter in Intifada, and then in another more distant shot we see him in a hospital wheelchair—a paraplegic veteran of his own search.

This brunch muncher was especially intrigued by the tales from Ein Kerem. During my first

slides as ironic stories came out. It seems a group of prior owners visited current Jewish householders who welcomed the guests and decided to share ancient customs of mutual hospitality. The point was, that courtesy and accommodation create possibilities for tomorrow.

However, the Sharlin-McCullough talk and show did not go over without controversy. The Emanu-El congregation like the Holy Land, gathers people from many places and points. Morris Gastfreund, a Holocaust survivor, challenged the speakers. "You show only the Arabs who are 'moderate' but not the terrorists who seek the end of Israel." In the corridor I met Israelis who commented, "With friends like these, who needs enemies?"

There were others who celebrated the lack of a rhetorical conclusion.

Still another comment seemed to sum up the mood of the crowd. "The problem in the Mideast is envy. Tyrants hate the example of a successful democracy, a free press and a happy people. Israel is tiny, and imperfect, but it is still a great triumph of life and liberty—and that is the whole problem."

The dilemma of timing also pitched into the fray. It is clear that goodwill can do little against the force of bombs. It took some chutzpah to show their work and hand out their papers in the wake of the events that took place even as Sharlin and McCullough were making their way with camera and camcorder from Galilee to Eilat, from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

## Speak Easy, Speak Low

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

The Menorah Wine Scandal of 1921 was first written up in the *Providence Journal* and later picked up and reprinted in the *New York Times*.

Its spread across the front page the tale of a gang of Jewish bootleggers on the east coast who used the federal exemption for sacramental wine to set up fake congregations and then go on to sell wine to non-Jews.

I have a literature colleague named Jonathan Highfield who wrote his dissertation on the image of bathtub gin and other home brews as a political symbol of resistance. He used his expertise on computer research to put me in contact with legend and lore about Jewish smugglers. It will come as no surprise to those who lived around the perimeter of the prohibition era that Canadian and American middlemen thrived and prospered on the Volstead Act.

Hannah Sprecher wrote an excellent article on the subject in *American Jewish Archives*. The Bronfmans and the Schultzes are familiar names. Right here in Providence at Brown University at the Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies Dr. David Lewis kept up an interest in both historical and current events in the realms of alcohol and drug policy.

Mark Haller of the departments of history and criminal justice at Temple University in Philadelphia tried to establish the ethnicity of major rum-runners and came up with the following conclusions.

"50% of the American leaders were of Jewish background. Some 25% were Italian. The rest were chiefly Polish and Irish. I have published the results in a number of articles, such as 'Bootleggers as Businessmen: From City Slums to City Builders.'"

He informs us via web that the Bronfman brothers built the most important Canadian organization exporting booze to American importers. They had subsidiary headquarters in Belize and Tahiti and kept contact with their ships off both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States. They bought the prestigious distillery named Seagrams, negotiated the payment of a \$1.5 million fine for their violations of law, and moved into the U.S. offices at the Seagram building in Manhattan. They rapidly became the largest liquor distributor in the world. Peter C. Newman wrote their odyssey in *King of the Castle: The Making of a Dynasty*.

It's not really a pretty picture, and popular pictures bring out the violent surface more than the inner story. This is certainly the place and the time to dig down. Jamestown is hosting a crew for

the filming of "Rumrunners." On a personal level, my grandfather loved to bring a paper bag of fixings for the manhattans and old fashioned he stirred before our fire on Sunday visits. He carried a silver flask in his coat pocket. We hid our secret bottles in a small dark cabinet in the dining room, as though anything alcoholic had to be concealed and sipped on the sly. It added a sense of danger and glamor to the aura and aroma of a drink. But the feeling that followed the bootleg boom was something legit and lowkey and build your family. The way of the bay led to the fate of all piracy: you leave nothing to your heirs but bubbles and troubles. It was okay for the Canadians but not the Americans.

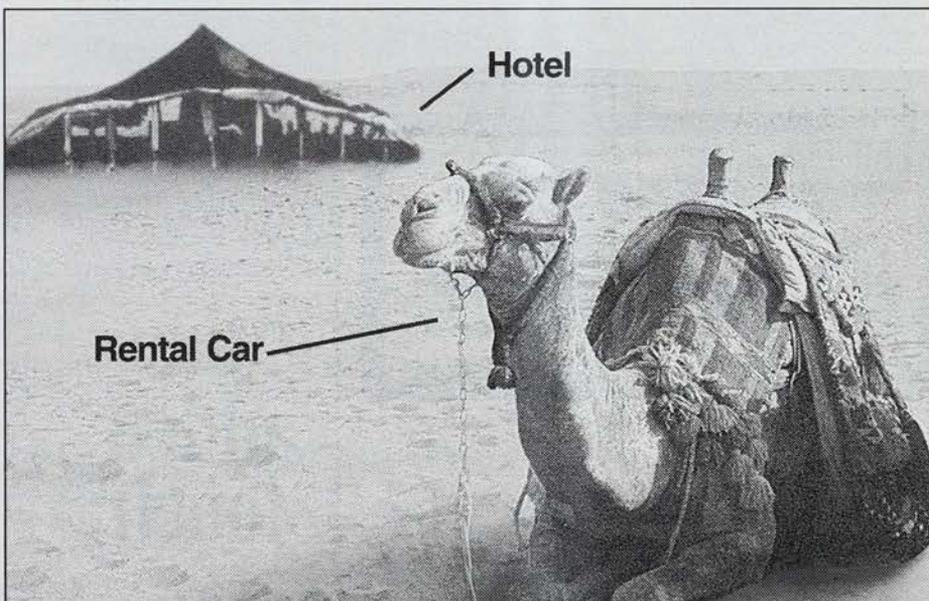
And so, here in Rhode Island, we have our cellars and our tunnels, our closets and hidden alcoves, our pretty jars and bottles. When you pour your Canadian club into your shot glass you say a l'chaim to the time of adventure, and wonder what new shock will appear on your fax about the repeal and upheaval of your parents' and grandparents' days of glory.



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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## JFS Introduces Child Custody Mediation Service

Jewish Family Service announced that it will offer a child custody mediation service starting in the late fall. The agency will add the innovative service as part of its effort to meet the most pressing mental health needs of the community.

Rebecca Rofman, a clinical social worker at Jewish Family Service, explains that in many cases families experiencing the upheaval of separation and divorce require help in developing a plan that best addresses the emotional as well as the physical needs of all family members, particularly the children. The most damaging aspect of family breakup for children is ongoing conflict between parents.

Rofman, who is trained in mediation, points out that if the

parents are able to develop an effective co-parenting plan, there is much less likelihood of negative long-term effects. She notes that due to the win-lose legal process by which most divorces are settled, co-parenting frequently breaks down. Child custody mediation, on the other hand, enables the parents themselves, with the help of a mediator, to develop a plan which addresses the needs of the children and also considers those of the parents themselves. It is a win-win option for everyone which leaves the parents empowered and more likely to follow through.

Custody mediation covers all issues, other than monthly child support, which are in dispute. These can include the custody decision (sole, joint-legal), liv-

ing arrangements, vacations and holidays, responsibilities for routine care and financial responsibilities for such items as tuition, camp fees and health insurance.

Rofman points out that mediation is not binding. In fact, neither party signs the agreement. It is examined by both spouse's lawyers and then incorporated, in legal language, into the divorce decree.

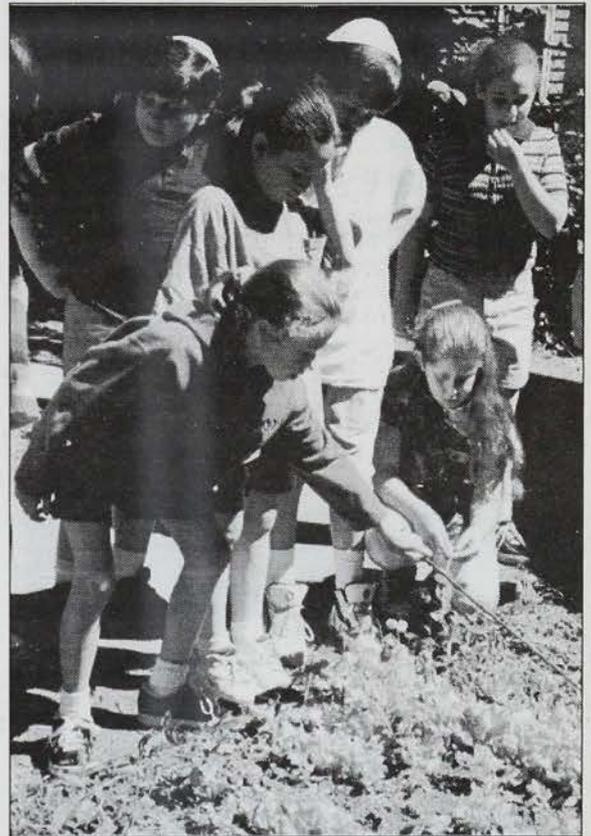
Child custody mediation is one of several non-sectarian services made available to the community-at-large by Jewish Family Service. For more information about custody mediation or the agency's other counseling services, call 331-1244.

## R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum Holds Annual Yizkor Service

The R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum will hold its ninth annual Yizkor Service at 11 a.m. on Oct. 5 in the museum's Memorial Garden. During the season of the High Holy Days, it is a tradition to visit the graves of loved ones and remember those who are gone. The Yizkor Service offers a formal way to reflect on the passing of those who suffered in the Holocaust.

Guests are encouraged to make entries into the Book of Remembrance, a list of names of those who perished at the hands of the Nazis. The book is part of a permanent display at the museum and names can be added at any time. Names added to the local Book of Remembrance are also sent to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem to be added to the permanent record there.

The museum is located at 401 Elm Grove Ave. in Providence. For further information, call Beth Cohen, director of education, at 453-7860.



## A Garden is an Eden

From a stony and unpromising plot behind the Ross Family Building, Elaine Mangiante, lower science coordinator at Alperin Schechter Day School, and her team of students created a beautiful green space, filled with delicious vegetables (lettuce, radishes, spinach, peas and beans) and beautiful flowers.

*Photo courtesy of ASDS*

## Tips for a Tzom Kal (Easy Fast) on Yom Kippur

An expert at Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center has invaluable advice for the Yom Kippur fast.

According to Dr. Elliot Berry, head of clinical nutrition at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, there are a number of things you can do in advance to ease the fasting:

- Take frequent drinks of water throughout the day before the fast begins.

- The last meal before the fast should include complex carbohydrates, like pasta, rice, potatoes and whole-grain bread. When complex carbohydrates are stored in the liver, water is retained so the body suffers

less dehydration during a fast.

- Be sure to eat a balanced meal before the fast. Proteins and fats are absorbed more slowly than sugars and provide the necessary energy, but you should balance your meal with 55 percent complex carbs, 15 percent proteins, and 30 percent fats.

- Do not overeat before you fast.

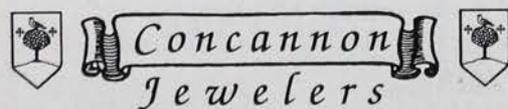
- Do not take salty or sweet foods or beverages before the fast, because they may make you thirsty.

- Break your fast with a drink (not carbonated) and a slice of bread or dry cake. After an hour, enjoy a full meal.

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## BBYO Holds Membership Drive

Jewish youth between the ages of 13 and 18 are invited to join B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, the oldest and largest youth group in the world, which now has chapters throughout Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts. There are chapters in Newport, Cranston, Providence, Attleboro, Taunton and soon will be chapters in South County and Milford, Mass.

Cranston A.Z.A. chapter meets at Temple Torat Yisrael and recruits members from Cranston, Warwick, East Greenwich and points further south. The chapter offers a wide range of activities, including sports, community service, social functions and Jewish cultural programming. The chapter holds open registration throughout the year.

In Providence, the Robby Kahn A.Z.A. meets at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island every other Tuesday night and will conduct its membership drive during the month of October. Many exciting events are planned for October, including a night of laser tag and skating in Acton, Mass., on Oct. 18.

These two chapters will compete for the state bragging rights in a football game scheduled for Oct. 5 behind the JCCRI. All former members of the chapters are welcome to come cheer their teams or get involved by playing a few downs.

For additional information concerning BBYO membership, call BBYO's regional office, (617) 969-8455, or David Hochman, 467-BBYO (2296).

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Local Sculptor Welds Metal Wonders

by Sara Wise  
Herald Editor

Ed Gershman makes magic out of metal. The Pawtucket sculptor turns scraps of copper, steel and whatever other materials come his way into beautiful butterflies, winged dragons, abstract art pieces and intricate Judaica in his backyard workshop on Manning Street.

After 29 years in the sheet metal business, Gershman decided to do something new after he retired, so he chose metal

serves as his workshop until winter when he moves the workshop indoors to his basement. A radio plays in the background while the sculptor works on various projects.

Gershman says he spends up to eight hours a day cutting, melting and soldering different metals to form his unique creations. He still travels frequently throughout New England, though says he plans to slow down soon. He does special requests, such as a recently com-

"I just create whatever comes," says Gershman of his abstract sculptures that form interesting patterns with shiny oxidized colors that swirl across their metallic surfaces. Many are one-of-a-kind pieces or are only put out in limited editions.

Gershman also has a wide collection of Judaica. Stars of David, chanukiahs, a simple, yet stunningly beautiful bronze chai, and a wedding couple under a chuppah that can be placed on a cake and then saved are just a few examples. Any of these items can be customized with names, Hebrew letters or short messages.

The grandfatherly sculptor is generous with both his time and his artwork. He conducts demonstrations and workshops at schools and for senior citizens where he has them cut out shapes from thin metal sheets and then before their eyes he transforms them into works of art. In just ten minutes, a butterfly comes to life from a brass cutout as Gershman uses a torch to burnish the edge of the wings and attach a steel rod. The metal hisses as he dips it in water and Voilá! the butterfly is ready to perch in the garden!

Gershman also donates many of his pieces, including an eternal light at Congregation Ohave Sholam and a beautiful children's sculpture at the Hasbro Children's Hospital. After a demonstration for Providence Hebrew Day School, he gave the school a sculpture for their library.



ED GERSHMAN carefully works on shaping a piece of metal in his backyard workshop.  
Herald photo by Sara Wise



AN ELEGANT EAGLE, just one of Ed Gershman's sculpted creations.  
Herald photo by Sara Wise

sculpting. Although his weathered hands tell of years of metal-working experience at Electric Boat where he made ventilation and heating systems for submarines, Gershman claims he had no artistic background before he started sculpting (aside from a letter opener he once made for his sister).

He began experimenting with different metals, started going to art shows and got involved with art associations. Gershman traveled around a bit to different exhibitions and was soon winning awards.

"I love to do it," he says, soldering two pieces of steel in his backyard where odds and ends of metal of all sizes are stacked beneath a blue plastic tarp that

pleted 24" macaw for a woman who received a pet macaw and wanted a Gershman original made to look like it. He also makes metal frames for artists.

"I don't design ahead of time,

### Sukkah Building

Gershman is currently busy with a new project in time for Sukkot. He is now making metal sukkahs that are 8 feet x 8 feet wide and 7 feet high. They can

be custom made to larger sizes if necessary. Families can add a mat for the floor and a tarp for the walls. The roof is left open to be decorated with branches or greens. (According to halacha, the roof cannot contain any metal.)

The sukkahs come in one piece but are made collapsible for shipping. Gershman buys the pipes and then cuts them to fit, soldering the joints together. The standard size sukkahs cost \$150. For more information, call Ed Gershman at 725-2095.

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The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island announces the annual fall and winter children's clothing sale.

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Sale schedule: Oct. 8 and 9, 9 to 1 and 4 to 6; Oct. 10, 9 to 1; Oct. 14, 9 to 1 and 4 to 6; Oct. 15, 9 to 1; Oct. 20 and 21, 9 to 1 and 4 to 6; Oct. 22, 9 to 1; Oct. 27 and 28, 9 to 1 and 4 to 6.

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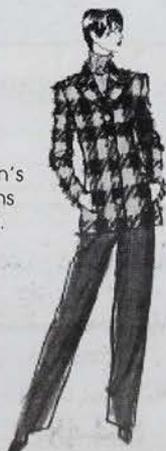
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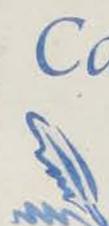


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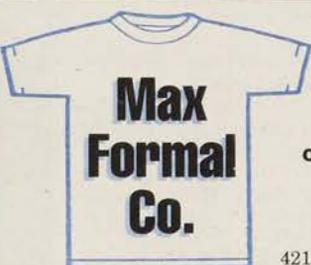
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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Survivor's Memories Create Lasting Impressions

by Tara V. Lisciandro  
Herald Editor

After an evening of dinner and drinks, the Cumberland-Lincoln Rotary sat quietly to listen to a special guest speaker, Heinz Sandelowski, president of the R.I. Holocaust Survivors Association. During his lecture "The Holocaust Remembered," Sandelowski captured the audience's attention recently with his true 12-year story of living through Nazi Germany and surviving the Holocaust. Although by now we are considered as a community of knowledgeable people, the stories of those who survived such horrid and tragic times will always be very valuable. And though it may seem as if there are too many "sad stories" being constantly told about the Holocaust, they are stories that need to be repeated. Their repetition is necessary only because atrocities like the Holocaust, other genocide, have taken place again and again.

As almost all survivors and historians of the Holocaust tell us, "we must never forget." Sandelowski repeated those words while he told his story, but sadly says that not enough have listened. "Again they are burning churches and destroying cemeteries," said Sandelowski, "and look at what's going on in Bosnia and Africa."

As he travels throughout the United States and speaks with students and adults, Sandelowski attempts to warn fu-

ture generations about preventing past atrocities. "Don't walk through life with your eyes and ears closed, open your eyes and see what is going on out there," stated Sandelowski. He reminded the audience that, "the killers from the camps are still walking, they're there, but we don't want to see them."

Sandelowski recalled the many changes that began taking place around him in Germany when he was only 12 years

*"Don't walk through life with your eyes and ears closed."*

*Heinz Sandelowski*

old. "They broke into homes and arrested people," he said, "then the teacher forgot my name overnight." Neighbors turned on their friends and began to throw stones at Jews that passed by. Buildings, books and communities were burned. Concentration camps took the lives of millions while Goebels "played God," said Sandelowski. The only law that the Nazis passed that Sandelowski agreed with was when Jewish children weren't allowed to attend school any longer.

While in Berlin, the Sandelowski family found a safe place to hide. Sandelowski's fa-

ther was captured by a secret agent who promised him food and water while in hiding and later his mother was captured and sent to Auschwitz where she was killed. "I don't have a grave to visit, I don't even know where their bodies are," said Sandelowski.

After his parents were taken from him, Sandelowski joined an underground group. "All I had on my mind was to take revenge," he said. During his time in the underground he met his future wife. Only one year after their liberation, the couple moved to the United States.

"Can it happen again?," asked Sandelowski. "Yes," he responded sadly. Sandelowski believes the public, especially today's youth, need to be educated more about the past. "Our job today is to educate the young, read the books and see the films. The truth has to be said, it was hidden for too long," said Sandelowski. In order to assist in this learning process Sandelowski has taken part in the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, founded and established by Steven Spielberg. Sandelowski created a two-hour film for the foundation. Currently, more than 33,000 survivors from 45 countries around the world have taken part in the Shoah Foundation. In 1998 a multi-media base including the videos, CD-Roms, books and tapes will be available to schools and other institutions.

## Temple Sinai Families Prepare For The Holidays

by Tara V. Lisciandro  
Herald Editor

In preparation for the High Holidays, Temple Sinai in Cranston recently held its Family Education Workshop. Classrooms and hallways were decorated and set up for the big event

by the education coordinator and director, Lenore Sones. Two family workshops are held every year while smaller workshops and programs are held throughout the year. During the family workshops students of all ages gather with their par-



STUDENTS AND FAMILIES work together at getting ready for the new year.

Herald photo by Tara V. Lisciandro

which brought an estimated 250 parents and children. "It's a tremendous turn out," said Marlo Davidson, a teacher at the Temple Sinai religious school for seven years. Parents were given colorful folders containing information about the day's busy activities and children led them to the various rooms. Workshops were held for an hour and a half and families rotated during this period.

The workshops were created

ents and complete a series of games, crafts, discussions and other fun activities. "Even if some parents can't make it, the kids will come by themselves and the other parents will work with them," said Davidson.

All of the activities carried the theme of one of the High Holy days. In one classroom, for example, Rosh Hashana was the focus and four activities were completed by families. The activities included writing down the behavior students wanted to get rid of on pieces of paper, wrapping them in plastic and throwing them into the indoor river (a plastic basin). The students then wrote what they hope to do for the New Year on long lists on bread-shaped poster board. The same families created holiday cards and took part in a Rosh Hashana quiz as well. Meanwhile, in another classroom, students and parents sat attentively while they watched a short clip of Luke taking off his father's mask from "Return of the Jedi." The question then posed to families was "Did Darth Vader repent, did he do true T'shuvah?" Families were reminded of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur and learning about repentance, reviewing actions of the past year and reflecting upon past misdeeds. Using the familiar film, families were curious and interested in the discussion that followed on the theme of T'shuvah.

"The kids are wonderful and they all have different perspectives on everything and really care," said Sue Oclassen, a teacher at Temple Sinai, "kids and families work together to discover answers here. Sometimes kids know more than their parents, and vice-versa."

After the workshops families congregated in the sanctuary and listened to their guest, Dr. Wassar, blow the shofar. He then spoke about the history of the shofar and the High Holy Days. Families and Temple Sinai faculty finished the Family Education day with a collection of holiday songs.

### CANDLELIGHTING SCHEDULE

5758 (1997-1998)

September			October			November			
5	6:55	3	6:07	7	4:16	5	3:57	7	4:16
12	6:43	10	5:55	14	4:09	12	3:57	14	4:09
19	6:31	17	5:44	21	4:03	19	3:59	21	4:03
26	6:19	24	5:33	28	3:59	26	4:03	28	3:59
		31	4:24						
EASTERN STANDARD TIME RESUMES OCTOBER 26									
January			February			March			
2	4:09	6	4:50	6	5:24	2	4:09	6	5:24
9	4:16	13	4:58	13	5:32	9	4:16	13	5:32
16	4:23	20	5:07	20	5:40	16	4:23	20	5:40
23	4:32	27	5:16	27	5:48	23	4:32	27	5:48
30	4:41					30	4:41		
EASTERN STANDARD TIME									
April			May			June			
3	5:55	1	7:26	5	7:59	3	5:55	1	7:59
10	7:03	8	7:33	12	8:03	10	7:03	8	8:03
17	7:11	15	7:41	19	8:05	17	7:11	15	8:05
24	7:18	22	7:47	26	8:07	24	7:18	22	8:07
		29	7:53					29	7:53
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME RESUMES APRIL 5									
July			August			September			
3	8:06	7	7:39	4	6:57	3	8:06	7	6:57
10	8:04	14	7:30	11	6:45	10	8:04	14	6:45
17	8:00	21	7:19	18	6:33	17	8:00	21	6:33
24	7:54	28	7:08	25	6:20	24	7:54	28	6:20
31	7:47					31	7:47		
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME									

The above times are for Warwick, R.I. Other areas around the region may vary by a few minutes.

The Shabbat is a sign between Me and the Children of Israel forever. Exodus 31:17

### A Guide to Blessings

It is customary to put a few coins into a Tzedeka Pushka (Charity box) before lighting the candles. The candles must be lit before sunset.

#### BLESSINGS FOR SHABBAT

BO-RUCH A-TOH ADO-NOI E-LO-HEI-NU ME-LECH HO-OLAM A-SHER  
KI-DE-SHA-NU BE-MITZ-VO-SOV VI-TZI-VO-NU LE-HAD-LIK-NER-SHEL  
SHA-BOS KO-DESH

Blessed are You, G-d our Lord King of the Universe who has hallowed us through His commandments, and has commanded us to kindle the lights of the holy Shabbat.

#### BLESSINGS FOR HOLIDAYS

Select the proper ending for the appropriate Yom Tov:

Boruch Ato Ado-noy Elo-hay-hu Melech Ho-alam

A-sher Kid-shonu B'mitz-vo-sav Y-Tzi-vonu

L'had-lik Ner Shel

(on Friday add — Sha-bos v-shel)

Pesach, Shavu'os, and Succos: Yom Tov

Rosh Hashanah: Yom Ha-zi-Koron

Yom Kippur: Yom Ha-Kippurim

Add this blessing following each of the above blessings: except for the last Holidays of Pesach.

Boruch Ato Ado-noy Elo-hay-hu Melech Ho-alam

She-heh-Che-yonu V'kee-ma-nu V'hee-gee-o'nu

Leez-man-Hazeh.

#### Special Instructions for Holidays (But not on Shabbat).

It is forbidden to create a new fire by striking a match, lighter, etc. However, it is permissible to use a flame already burning since before the inception of the holiday, such as a pilot light, gas or candle flame.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## New Books, New Year!



Students from the Providence Hebrew Day School and Alperin Schechter Day School started off the New Year with new books for their libraries. *The Rhode Island Jewish Herald* donated almost 100 new books of Jewish interest to the schools. Herald photo by Tara V. Lisciandro

## Treasure Sale Benefits Hospital

The employee division of Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island's Capital Campaign will sponsor a Treasure Sale on Oct. 4 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 555 Prospect St., at the corner of Beverage Hill Ave., Pawtucket. Household items, books, jewelry, dishes, glassware, sporting goods, toys, games and items for all ages will be offered for sale. In the event of rain, the sale will be held indoors.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the new Primary Care Center at Memorial Hospital. The mission of the center is to implement innovations in primary care training and to promote interdisciplinary research in the clinical and community health aspects of primary care medicine.

## Chabad's Latest Chernobyl Flight Arrives in Time for Rosh Hashanah

The 31st Chabad Children of Chernobyl flight arrived at Ben Gurion Airport, Sept. 23. The flight carried 21 children from areas surrounding Kiev and Zhitomer that were contaminated by the 1986 Chernobyl disaster. This flight raised the total number of children evacuated from the contaminated areas to 1,504. Chabad has now passed the halfway mark toward their goal of evacuating 3,000 Jewish children.

"I'm looking forward to spending my first Rosh Hashanah in Israel," said 12-year-old Boris K. from Zhitomer. Boris was only 3 months old at the time of the 1986 nuclear disaster and he is among those children at the highest risk for radiation-related diseases. The rate of thyroid cancer in Zhitomer is now 200 times above normal.

For 11-year-old Natasha Z., this is the first Rosh Hashanah she will ever celebrate. "My family never celebrated Rosh

Hashanah. I knew I was Jewish, but we were always afraid to let our neighbors know," she said. Natasha suffers from immune suppression and anemia.

The health conditions in Ukraine, and specifically the Kiev area, are deteriorating and, according to Andre Serdyuk, the Ukrainian health minister, "The health care system is unable to cope."

"Just days before the arrival of this flight we were informed of a serious outbreak of childhood meningitis in the region," said Yossie Raichik, director of the Chabad program. "According to these reports, the cause of this epidemic is the damage done to children's immune systems from the radiation they have absorbed."

The children were greeted at Ben Gurion Airport by a klezmer band and scores of Chernobyl children who had arrived in Israel on previous Chabad flights. Many of them were friends of the new

arrivals, and the reunions were filled with squeals of excitement. Also on hand to greet the children were several members of the Turkish basketball team who had arrived for a tournament in Israel. The tall men hoisted the children on their shoulders and challenged them to touch the ceiling. All the children were thrilled to meet the professional players.

Following their arrival, the children were transported by bus to Kfar Chabad where they were shown their new rooms in the Children of Chernobyl dormitories. After breakfast, the new arrivals went shopping to buy new shoes and clothes for their first Rosh Hashanah in Israel.

Basketball star Kevin Rankin

was on hand at Ben Gurion Airport to greet Chabad's Children of Chernobyl's 31st flight. When 6-foot 10-inch tall Rankin heard the klezmer music and saw all the commotion created by the children's arrival, he came over to ask what was going on. On learning that the children had just arrived from the Chernobyl area, he and other team members asked if they could say hello. To the kids great delight, Rankin then hoisted 8-year-old Sasha G. on his shoulders, giving the young child from Zhitomer, Ukraine, his first thrill after arriving in Israel.

"I never met anybody so tall," said Sasha. "Wow! I just got to Israel and right away I meet a

basketball star! I hope the rest of my time here is so much fun!"

After learning about the program, Rankin said, "This is really an impressive program. I consider it my luck to have been here to meet the children. And I hope they all get well really soon now that they're in Israel."

In addition to meeting basketball stars, Boris and the other children will be receiving top-notch medical care in Israel, provided by Chabad. In Israel, the children live, go to school and receive medical attention at Kfar Chabad. The majority of the children are eventually joined by their parents in Israel where they settle permanently and live free of the effects of radiation.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Queen Elizabeth I Comes Alive in Library Performances

Queen Elizabeth I, whose brilliant rule between 1558 and 1603 gave her name to an entire era, will reign in R.I. libraries in nine performances of "In Her Own Words: Elizabeth I Onstage and Online," sponsored by Brown University's Women Writers Project in conjunction with R.I.'s Office of Library and Information Services and funded by the R. I. Committee for the Humanities.

The "onstage" portion of the performance stars actress Marilyn Murphy Meardon. Dressed in a bejeweled black velvet Renaissance-style gown, Meardon will personify Elizabeth I at about mid-reign, reflecting upon her years as head of state through her writings, which ranged from poems and letters to major speeches in a style that roused patriotism, confidence and personal respect.

Brown University librarian Merrily Taylor will moderate the presentations. An ardent

admirer of Elizabeth I, Taylor will set the historical stage for the show and will manage question-and-answer sessions, serving as the "20th century's ambassador" between Elizabeth and the audience.

The "online" portion of the project is offered by the Women Writers Project and R.I.'s public libraries. "We hope these performances will encourage the public to read the original texts and reflect upon our attitudes toward the role of women in public life, particularly the stresses and strategies of a woman ruler," said Dr. Carol DeBoer-Langworthy, WWP's director and project director for "In Her Own Words." "People interested in exploring the material in more depth may read texts listed in a bibliography that will be available on line and through the state's libraries." In addition, some of Elizabeth's writings upon which the performances are drawn are coded into the WWP's electronic textbase.



## Rites & Reason Explores Native American Culture

"She-Who-Is-Made-Of-Clay" is a moving story told by a shaman with blended male and female identities about the destruction of the Yocut Indians of San Joaquin Valley in the 19th century. Written by Simon Levy of California, winner of the Bass Play-Rites 1997 Award, and directed by Steven Pennell of Rhode Island, "She..." explores definitions of 'difference,' 'normalcy,' and 'rightness' inscribed by a dominant culture and imposed upon cultural minorities.

"She-Who-Is-Made-Of-Clay" will be presented as a workshop production on Oct. 4, in the George Houston Bass Auditorium at 155 Angell St., Providence, the home of Rites &

Reason Theatre on Brown University's campus. Performances will be at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., with Rites & Reason's traditional Folkthought discussion immediately following each performance.

Starting at 10 p.m., the Bass Auditorium will be transformed to accommodate the Rites & Rhythm Jazz Ensemble with Lewis Gordon on drums followed by "Afterdark," an open-mike showcase of creative expression with dancers, musicians, rappers, poets and more. This finale for the day is a fundraiser for Rites & Reason's 1997-98 production season.

For more information, call 863-3558.

### The Library Performances

The show will tour R.I. public libraries. All performances are free and open to the public. Performances are slated in the following communities:

- Oct. 7, 7 p.m. — Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library in Johnston
- Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m. — South Kingstown Public Library
- Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m. — West Warwick Public Library

### 1998

- Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m. — East Providence Public Library
- Feb. 17, 7 p.m. — Greenville Public Library
- March 3, 7 p.m. — Providence Public Library
- March 4, 7 p.m. — Newport Public Library
- March 16, 7:30 p.m. — Crystal Room, Pembroke Campus, Brown University (sponsored by Sarah Doyle Women's Center)
- April 6, 7 p.m. — Cross Mills Public Library

### The R.I. Committee for the Humanities

The R.I. Committee for the Humanities is an independent affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Its mission is to promote public understanding and appreciation for the humanities and to provide opportunities for all Rhode Islanders to educate themselves in the fields of history, literature, philosophy, religion, music and the arts. On-line information about RICH can be read at <http://users.ids.net/~ri\_ch/>.

### Rhode Island Ballet Theatre Performs at RIC

Rhode Island's Ballet Theatre, R.I.'s newest ballet company, presents its first major performance at Rhode Island College on Oct. 12 at 7:30 p.m. The first piece, "The Debut," features the entire 40-member company in a white ballet piece choreographed to Chopin. The next is a story familiar to everyone, "Alice in Wonderland."

The show climaxes with the fiery "España," a contemporary ballet piece which emphasizes the technical range of the more advanced dancers and the drama and excitement that ballet can bring to the audience. Call 847-5301 for details. Tickets are \$15.

## R.I. State Giant Pumpkin Championship

The fourth annual Rhode Island State Giant Pumpkin Championship will be held Oct. 11 at Castellucci Farm on Harris Road in Smithfield. Weigh-off day will start at 10 a.m. with the unloading of the biggest pumpkins in the state of Rhode Island. The weigh off is set for 1 p.m. There will be pumpkin painting for the kids along with food and refreshments in a beautiful farm setting. Bring the whole family to see the goats, sheep, chickens and rabbits along with the biggest pumpkins you've ever seen. (Bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on.)

The purpose of this event is to determine the largest pumpkin grown in the state for 1997 and to crown a R.I. champion. A new R.I. record was set in 1996 by John Castellucci with a 680-pound pumpkin. The New England record is 914 pounds and



the world record is 1,061 pounds.

The Rhode Island Pumpkin Growers Association, an association of competitive, giant pumpkin growers, is running this year's event with endorsement from the R.I. Division of Agriculture and sponsorship by many local R.I. businesses.

To get to Castellucci Farm, take Route 295 to exit 8A (Route 7 South/No. Providence), follow Route 7 for a half a mile to Harris Road on left.

Follow Harris Road for one mile to Castellucci Farm and the R.I. Giant Pumpkin Championship. Bring your children for a day of enjoyment.

Anyone interested in competing in this year's event, or receiving additional information, contact Dan Langevin at (508) 222-9069 at night and on weekends.

## Water Fire Lights Up Providence

A special evening presentation of Water Fire Providence, Barnaby Evans' highly acclaimed fire sculpture, will take place on Oct. 12 from sunset to midnight on the Providence riverfront. The highly acclaimed, award-winning fire presentation, recently featured in a *New York Times* travel piece on Providence, has drawn thousands of people to the Providence waterfront this summer and has served as a lightning rod to galvanize the downtown economy.

"We are proud to celebrate 30 years in Providence by supporting a creative arts project which so enlivens and revitalizes our city," announced Richard Bready, Nortek chairman and chief executive officer. "Water Fire Providence demonstrates the power of an art piece to engage all of our senses and reach people on many different levels."

Originally created as a temporary installation for the Convergence Festival last year, the "singing bonfires" with flames fueled by volunteer boat crews and music ranging from opera to mystical chants, captured the imagination of thousands of residents and visitors and generated a ground swell of sup-

port for its return on an ongoing basis. As a result of a grass roots effort initiated by a small group of volunteers, more than \$215,000 has been raised in cash and pledges towards the installation and operating costs of the project. More than 40 ritual bonfires now hover above the surface of the Woonasquatucket River as a signature piece for the city and a symbol of the Renaissance of Providence.

"We enthusiastically welcome Nortek as a major sponsor of Water Fire Providence and are delighted that its commemoration of 30 years in our capital city is the impetus for this statewide celebration," said Joan Slafsky, Water Fire chairwoman. Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to Visual Artists of Rhode Island/Water Fire, 101 Regent Ave., Providence, RI 02908.

Remaining lightings are scheduled for Oct. 4 and Oct. 17.

Heavy sustained rain will usually postpone the event to the following night. To check on weather updates, call 331-3624.



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Coffee or Tea/French Vanilla Ice Cream

#### OPTION 3 • \$23.95\* PER PERSON

Choice of Petite Prime Rib, Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Baked Stuffed Shrimp & Sirloin, Baked Scallops & Sirloin  
Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

#### OPTION 4 • \$25.95\* PER PERSON

Choice of Prime Rib, New York Sirloin, Baked Scallops & Prime Rib, Fresh Salmon Hollandaise, Baked Stuffed Shrimp & Prime Rib  
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#### OPTION 5 • \$27.95\* PER PERSON

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# MILESTONES

## Jennifer Warren Weds Steven Medwin

Jennifer S. Warren and Steven J. Medwin were married July 19 at the Essex House Hotel, New York City, N.Y. The bride is the daughter of Eugene and Rosalind Warren of New York City, N.Y. The bridegroom is the son of Joel and Sondra Medwin of Cranston, R.I.

Rabbi Widom officiated at the ceremony.

Honor attendants were Shawn Warren, sister of the bride, and Jennifer Fisherman. Bridesmaids were Elyssa Dolgins, Leslie Hirsch, Alyssa Goldman, and Lauri Medwin, sister of the bridegroom.

Best men were William Marinelli and Philip Kimball. Ushers were Aaron Lowell, Keith Fine, Brian Norton, and William Wyrick.

Ringbearer was Ryan Beres, the bride's nephew.

The bride graduated magna cum laude from the University of Vermont with a bachelor of arts degree and has a master of science in elementary education. She is employed at the Temple Beth Am Day School. The bridegroom has a bachelor of arts in economics from the University of Vermont and is employed at the Lincoln Property Company.

The couple honeymooned in Italy, and have made their home in Miami, Fla.



Jennifer and Steven Medwin

## Stephanie Nachbar Marries Neal Rainey

Stephanie Nachbar and Neal Rainey were married April 6 at the Providence Marriott. The bride is the daughter of Rona and Milton Nachbar of North Providence, R.I. The bridegroom is the son of Mary and Norman Wheeler of Warwick, R.I.

A reception was held at the Providence Marriott.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Maid of honor was Lori Autiello. Bridesmaids were Tonja Feeney and Lisa Manson.

James Areson was best man. Ushers were Brian Feeney and Andrew McLellan.

The bride is a graduate of Rhode Island College and Roger Williams University and is employed with the Providence Public Schools.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Rhode Island College and is employed at Stop & Shop, Quincy, Mass.

The couple honeymooned in Orlando, Fla., and the eastern Caribbean. They have made their home in Providence.



Stephanie Rainey

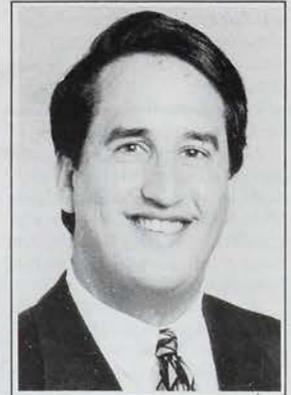
## Douglas Emanuel Joins TL&S

Douglas J. Emanuel, Esq., recently joined Tillinghast Licht & Semonoff Ltd. as an associate.

Emanuel is a 1994 honors graduate of Hofstra University School of Law and received his undergraduate degree in communications and American history from the University of Pennsylvania in 1991. Since 1994, he had been an associate of Goldenberg & Muri, where he was involved in a general civil litigation practice. He is admitted to practice law in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New York.

In addition, Emanuel served as a law clerk for the New York firm of Loft & Zarkin and as an intern for the Hon. Leonard D. Wexler in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Emanuel currently serves as treasurer of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island and is a member of the board of trustees at Temple Beth-El. He currently lives in Providence.



Douglas J. Emanuel

## Rabbi Jerome S. Gurland to be Honored

Sinai Temple Congregation of Springfield, Mass., will honor Rabbi Jerome S. Gurland at a Shabbat service on Oct. 24 at 8 p.m. Rabbi Gurland will be celebrating his 65th birthday and the 40th anniversary of his ordination.

Rabbi Gurland served as rabbi at Temple Sinai in Cranston from 1964 until 1979 and as an assistant and the associate rabbi at Temple Beth-El in Providence from 1959 until 1964. During his tenure in Cranston, he was instrumental in founding the Cranston Dialogue Group.

If you would like to attend and need directions to Sinai Temple in Springfield, call (413) 736-3619.



Raya Lee Hankin

Brad and Linda Hankin of Marlboro, Mass., announce the birth of their second child, a daughter, Raya Lee, on July 8. Raya is joined at home by her sister, Kyra.

Maternal grandparents are Irving Blazer of Providence and the late Rosaline Blazer. Paternal grandparents are Robert and Marilyn Hankin of Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Paternal great-grandmother is Sylvia Hankin of Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Raya Lee is named in loving memory of her grandmother, Rosaline Blazer.

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The Herald  
welcomes photos  
for the  
Milestones page.

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be accompanied by a self-  
addressed stamped  
envelope if you wish  
them to be returned,  
otherwise they will  
be discarded.

## ASDS Students Elect Student Council Officers

After a vigorous and informative campaign, middle school students at the Ruth and Max Alperin Schechter Day School elected their student council officers for the 1997-98 school year:

President, Elana Snow; vice-president, David Radparvar; treasurer, David Braverman; secretary, David Rotenberg; public relations director, Marissa Weinschel.

Congratulations to the new student council!

# OBITUARIES

## CHARLES SAUL BARAD

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Charles Saul Barad, 99, of Beverly-Sinai Retirement Home, Los Angeles, Calif., died Sept. 23 at his home. He was the husband of the late Anna (Cohen) Barad.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Joseph and Esther (Gordon) Barad, he had lived in Providence for 69 years before moving to California. He had been the oldest living member of Touro Fraternal Association, the largest Jewish Fraternal association in New England. He was the owner of the former Barad-Perry Printing Company of Providence before his retirement.

He is survived by a son, Milton Barad of Playa Del Rey, Calif.; a daughter, Hilda Yuloff of San Diego, Calif., and five grandchildren. He was also the brother of the late Frank and John Barad.

A graveside funeral service was held Sept. 25 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

The family was assisted with the arrangements by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## ROSE FISHMAN

PROVIDENCE — Rose Fishman, 85, of Highland Court, 101 Highland Ave., died Sept. 19 at home. She was the wife of the late Max Fishman.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Chaim and Bella Berditch, she lived in Providence since 1990, previously living in Pawtucket for 48 years and in Providence.

She was a member of Congregation Ohave Sholom in Pawtucket and Hadassah.

She leaves two sons, Arthur S. Fishman of Pomona, N.Y., and A. Harvey Fishman of Hauppauge, N.Y.; and four grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Sept. 22 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## FRANK M. 'MUSH' LURY

CRANSTON — Frank M. "Mush" Lury, 85, of 320 Beckwith St., Cranston, proprietor of the former Star Sheet Metal Co., Providence, for more than 40 years, retiring in 1977, died Sept. 2 at Cra-Mar Nursing Home. He was the husband of the late Ethel (Mandell) Lury.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Abraham and Ida (Raisner) Lury, he lived in Cranston since 1955.

He attended the Rhode Island School of Design. He had been a volunteer at St. Joseph Hospital for 22 years.

He leaves two daughters, Ruth Hurwitz and Donna Lord, both of Cranston; two sons, Samuel Lury of Cumberland and Alan Lury of West Palm Beach, Fla.; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was a brother of the late Corrine Lurie, Jerri Rotenberg and Joseph Lury. He was the grandfather of the late Leah Lury and Dylan Bonn.

The funeral was held Sept. 21 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## SYLVIA MARKS

CRANSTON — Sylvia Marks, 82, of 4250 N. Marine Dr., Chicago, died Sept. 22 at the home of her daughter at 249 Summit Dr., Cranston.

Born in Chicago, she was a daughter of the late Morris and Eva (Dorfman) Primack.

She leaves a daughter, Ellen Shepard of Cranston; two brothers, Samuel Primack and Ned Primack, both in Illinois; a sister, Mary Goldstein of Columbia Md.; and two grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Sept. 25 at Waldheim Jewish Cemetery in Forest Park, Ill. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## Conversion Committee Head Sees Hope for Solution

by Cynthia Mann

NEWYORK (JTA)—The head of the Israeli committee charged with resolving a crisis over conversions in the Jewish state said a solution could come soon, but at the same time he warned against imposing the pressure of a deadline on the effort.

Finance minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, whose committee members represent the three major religious streams, made the comments recently at a briefing before the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in New York.

"The fact that we are at one table is in itself an important part of the solution," he said of the committee effort.

"I wouldn't push for a deadline because this will bring us to a dead end," he said.

Ne'eman's formal remarks focused on the Israeli economy, but the discussion inevitably turned to the volatile topic of religious pluralism in spite of the conference's traditional resistance to provide a forum for what it considers to be a divisive matter.

There has been a steady trickle of reports of various proposals on which the committee is nearing agreement.

But Ne'eman did not spell out any of the plans either at the briefing or at the closed meeting he held afterward with the leadership of the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movements.

The committee was appointed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to find a compromise that would avert the passage of a controversial bill pending in the Knesset.

The bill, spearheaded by the Orthodox parties, would codify Orthodox control over conversions performed in Israel.

Netanyahu's coalition has agreed to suspend the legislative effort, and the Reform and Conservative movements have agreed to suspend litigation in the courts while the committee worked.

The non-Orthodox movements want to attain recognition of their conversions performed in Israel.

The committee was slated to present its recommendations by Aug. 15, but members have yet to reach an agreement.

"I cannot assume the politi-

cians will approve such a decision," said Ne'eman, "but I am confident" that the committee "will come up with a viable proposal for coexistence in dignity and in harmony and in unity."

Ne'eman underscored the complexity of the committee's challenge and, in essence, asked for patience from American Jewry, the vast majority of which is not Orthodox and has reacted angrily to the bill.

Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, executive director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America, thanked Ne'eman for what he said were "unprecedented efforts" to find a solution to the conflict.

But he also reminded him that it was Netanyahu who set the deadline and that equality is "a fundamental principle of democracy."

Ne'eman replied, "Let's not create conflicts, let's not put more flames into the fire."

"The question is not 'Who is a Jew,'" he said. "All of us worship the same G-d, each in his own way, and nobody can deny, under Jewish law, the recognition of his brother as a Jew."

But, he said, "The problem is intricate because it does not relate only to the immediate question of conversion."

He indicated that the committee had broadened its scope to try to find some solutions to the dilemma posed by roughly 100,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union who are not Jewish "by any standard" in a country where matters of personal status are governed by the Orthodox establishment.

Philip Meltzer, president of ARZA, said it was apparent Ne'eman came to show American Jews how seriously Israel was approaching the problem and to ask for cooperation.

He said Ne'eman "made it clear" in the closed meeting "that if it is not worked out, it will be disastrous for the Jewish people."

Meltzer added that his movement accepts Ne'eman's stance "with hope" along with "pessimism" about the committee's ability to reach a solution.

Dr. Mandell Ganchrow, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, said Ne'eman privately asked leaders "to give the process time."

## Israeli University Honors Mandela

by Suzanne Belling

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (JTA) — South African President Nelson Mandela was awarded an honorary doctorate from Ben-Gurion University at a recent ceremony.

But the ceremony was held here rather than in Israel because Mandela has indicated he will not visit the Middle East until he is able to make a meaningful contribution to the peace process.

Nonetheless, the event drew dignitaries from around the world, including Knesset speaker Dan Tichon.

Avishay Braverman, president of Ben-Gurion University, which is located in the Negev Desert, said at the ceremony that Mandela is "a master in

bringing people together."

Braverman added that he hoped the spirit of Mandela would "prevail upon all the leaders of the Middle East" in their quest for peace.

Mandela said the honorary doctorate, in philosophy, was "a triumph of the whole South African nation" who transformed conflict into "a society where all can work together to make the people of the rainbow nation blossom."

While South Africans do not believe they can solve others' conflicts, Mandela said that "we do believe that our own humble experience has shown that negotiated solutions can be found even to conflicts that have come to seem intractable."



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## Torah Study

(Continued from Page 1)

lifelong learners," he said. "These people devote time to Torah study every day of their lives."

PHDS 10th-grader Yeeta Yeger called the celebration "amazing."

"It was an incredible experience to see all those Jews together for a good circumstance," Yeger said. "There was just so much joy on the faces of the elderly rabbis when they finished."

Yeger said she and the other women had watched from the women's section, explaining that they usually do not do the page-by-page readings each day.

"It's more the women's role to be able to help her husband learn," Yeger said. "It's to encourage him to wake up early or come home from work and go to a shiur."

David Gibber, a PHDS seventh-grader, said he was very proud of his father, Rabbi Eliezer Gibber, who had been on the dais in Madison Square Garden.

"There were thousands of us in there," he said. "Some had black hats and some had knit yarmulkes. I hope to go again to see more Torah scholars."

Rabbi Gibber, the dean of New England Rabbinical College, called the event "spectacular."

"It was memorable and inspiring," he said.

At 6 a.m. each morning at PHDS, Gibber teaches Talmud to community members for an hour.

At the 10th Daf Yomi, he was accompanied by his family and three of his students, one of whom completed the entire course of study.

"Everyone was celebrating the same thing," Gibber said. "It was a universal course of study, and the determination and commitment that all those people had was a great thing to see."

## Hadassah Dinner

(Continued from Page 3)

other," Bolusky said proudly. "All seven opened their homes and undertook the expenses of the dinner."

Members applauded as hostesses Ruth Blustein, Alice Eichenbaum, Elaine Kroll, Deana Litwin, Trudie Marks and Jan Zeigler stood up and giggled.

Introducing another change, Bolusky said that the Rhode Island Hadassah Chapter Board had voted to hold the annual donor's event in August rather than in the spring.

"Israel's 50th anniversary is coming, and many of our members are planning to be there at that time," she explained. "Also, all our snowbirds will be back by August, so expect your invitations then."

Members' reports included humor and skillful use of the *mame loshen*.

"I have some good news and some bad news," reported Trudie Marx. "The good news is that I sold all the New Year's Cards. The bad news is that I won't have any left at half price."

Dottie Rosen reported that the

## Call To Action

(Continued from Page 1)

their objectives.

Laufer also urged conference participants to work toward enrolling more Jews in day schools of all denominations.

"Day school education is one of the few things that has the possibility to reunite the community toward one commonality — the survival of the American Jewish community," he said.

That view was shared by many of the out-of-town participants, who came from cities such as Baltimore, San Diego, Minneapolis and Indianapolis.

"The conference is a major step to recognize there's a commonality among the day schools," said Jeff Wasserman of the Albert Einstein Academy in Wilmington, Del. "We have to convince the Jewish population that the role a day school plays in establishing the Jewish identity of our children is really unique and unmatched by any other Jewish-affiliated program or institution."

## Expanding the Mind

(Continued from Page 4)

what is right in G-d's mind. Opinion informed by 3,500 years of Jewish thinking on a particular subject helps us, decide what to do when there are competing claims on us, whether in the work place or in the family. We believe that the Bible, Talmud and the Jewish tradition contain divine instruction and wisdom to guide us in our decision-making. Torah study is a form of revelation bringing new insight and new instruction for doing the right thing.

But above all other reasons why Talmud Torah *k'neged kulam* — the highest of all mitzvot — is because the material we fill the mind with forms the conceptual world in which we live. What we decide to do in any given situation boil down to questions of values and principles, and which of these is to be given precedence. And if we fill the mind with lust, larceny

## Brandeis Panel

(Continued from Page 3)

"An outsider has to point it out to them," he said. "They think they're doing things right."

Bronner said questions about the accidental Israeli bombing of a refugee base in Lebanon were very slow to emerge.

"It was not done on purpose, but it was some kind of criminal negligence," he said. "They were trying to save four commandoes who were nearby, but no one said that such a risk might have been inappropriate until much later."

Sari Nusseibeh, an author and president of Al-Quds University in Jerusalem, said he is always skeptical of the news.

"I have a mistrust of what people say, because it's very hard to know what's going on at any one time," he said.

According to Nusseibeh, those who normally know what is happening are so engaged in

and mud wrestling, even when these are packaged as high culture, we cannot expect to reap much moral satisfaction.

In contrast, when the mind and imagination are informed by biblical values and Jewish concepts, when one's thinking is shaped by Jewish law and lore, when Jewish history is understood as the human spirit prevailing against great odds, when the Jewish insistence that justice and compassion be brought into every endeavor, then we will understand the words of the Psalm, "Fortunate is one whose delight is in G-d's Torah, and in G-d's Torah does he meditate day and night."

May the coming year bring to you and yours all the blessings of Peace, Health, and Happiness.

*Maurice Weisenberg is the rabbi at Congregation Agudath Achim in Taunton, Mass.*

ad book was going strong, and Eve Zucker from the HMO Building and Development Committee requested more volunteers.

"Too many of you think and say 'I can't,'" Zucker said. "But you may be surprised at the dormant gifts you have. Come add the *tsatskes* and make this a successful project."

The evening incorporated more serious thoughts as well.

In remarks before the meeting, Bolusky said the organization was facing leadership problems.

"It's the key issue this year," she said. "We've had a very active group, but the older members are getting older. The younger members are working, so they cannot accept all the responsibilities."

This year, Bolusky and five of her fellow past Pawtucket Hadassah presidents will serve as co-ordinators.

Under the leadership of Bolusky, Ruth Blustein, Ruth Shein, Jenny Klein, Elaine Kroll and Jan Zeigler, members of Pawtucket Hadassah will strive to meet the organizational goals

articulated by Rhode Island Chapter President Lorraine Webber.

In an address that ended the meeting, Webber emphasized how Hadassah's accomplishments are the results of individuals working together.

"I thought I was a small cog in a vast machine until I learned that Hadassah is about people helping other people," she explained, sharing her experience at the organization's national gathering over the summer.

Saying that Hadassah had always remembered its Zionist roots, she spoke about Israel-based works that included hospitals, counseling, job training and education.

Webber also spoke of its American projects, mentioning efforts to promote Jewish continuity and national literacy while wiping the sorts of historical inaccuracies that can lead to anti-Semitism from textbooks across the country.

"You are the Miriams of today," she told the group. "As Theodore Hertzl said, 'If you will it, it is no dream.'"

it that they do not write about it.

"During the early years of the Intifada, I did not write," he said. "I started killing my ability to remember in case I was picked up."

Nusseibeh told of being approached by reporters seeking to confirm wild rumors.

"They'd come with stories about Intifada leadership coming over the mountains, and ask me how many were sitting in the caves," he said.

Nusseibeh said political problems made the process even more difficult.

"Different people need to understand at many levels," he said. "But it's very difficult to know what's happening."

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# A Fresh Taste of Italy

by Tara V. Lisciandro  
and Sara Wise  
Herald Editors

In June of this year, il Piccolo, which means "the small one" in Italian, became anything but small! The fine Italian ristorante in Johnston, now owned and managed by Wayne and Monica Clark, has undergone some major changes both in the restaurant and on the menu.

The chef holds a master's degree in culinary arts and has 25 years of experience in the restaurant business. Clark has worked in a variety of restaurants in New England and is experienced not only in Italian cooking, but also Thai, Mexican, Japanese and Chinese, just to name a few. "Any kind of food you can find on the market, I've dealt with it," said Clark. His wife, Monica, has more than 10 years of experience in banquet and fine dining as well. Together they have created a truly unique "tesoro nascosto," hidden treasure.

Il Piccolo sits quietly on Atwood Avenue in Johnston and from outside, any passer-by can already tell that il Piccolo is original. Long garlands of garlic and dried flowers and chili peppers hang outside of the pretty picture windows. The simple and quaint exterior wooden struc-

ture makes il Piccolo appear to be a picture in a frame. But more important than bellezza (beautiful decor), which is just as distinctive and interesting inside, is the menù delizioso!

Unlike many restaurants, il Piccolo offers a long list of unique plates, appetizers, side dishes, wines and desserts. At

least three specials are listed daily. "My specials change every day and they're things that are out of the ordinary, that you won't see often, or executed in this particular manner," commented Chef Wayne Clark as he sat with an impres-

sive stack of notebooks containing four months of lunch and dinner specials that haven't yet been repeated! Some of his specials include a beef tenderloin fillet with sweet and sour onions and polenta, and a petit filet with wild mushrooms demi-gloss and lobster risotto. "If a customer has a special request or something that they want done in a particular way I'll do it for them if I can," added Clark.

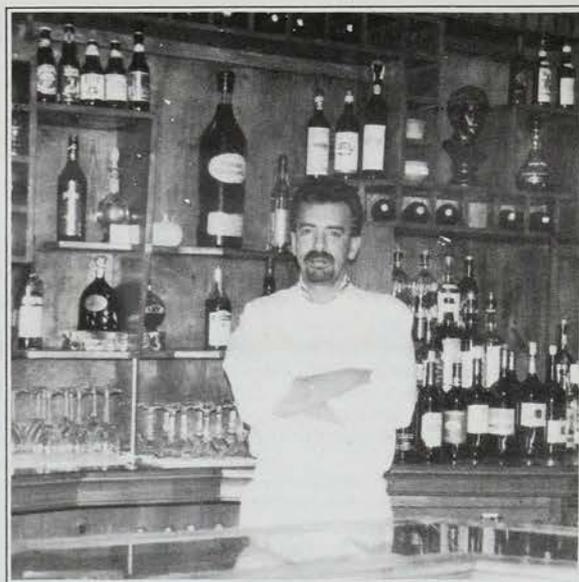
Il Piccolo isn't just meats either, there are many vegetarian options. The menu is loaded with a variety of unique vegetarian plates, from appetizers to entrées. Special veggie plates can be made as well, "If I know

ahead of time that someone is vegetarian, I'll knock myself out for them, because it's more of a challenge to give them something special," said Clark. Plus, the chef not only creates individual (and delicious) plates but also enjoys creating a "personal touch" with customers, "I come out to the dining room all the time, because I want clients to know who we are and what we're about," he stated.

Having a small kitchen, Clark has little room for large freezers and therefore must have meats, fish, pasta, vegetables and other edibles ordered on a daily basis. The chef grows his own tomatoes and herbs in his Woonsocket garden. Pastas are imported and homemade. Everything is guaranteed to be fresh. The dishes at il Piccolo are also guaranteed to be unique. Most of chef Clark's dishes are based on traditional Tuscan and regional Italian recipes. "On the whole, I try to offer things that you would see in other places, but presented with a different touch," he said. The chef adds a touch of truffle oil to porcini tortellini and adds chives to the gnocchi.

Il Piccolo is often used for special functions such as private parties, weddings rehearsal dinners and bridal showers. "People come in and they're amazed by the food and the atmosphere. Once you get inside it's charming," said Clark. Special dinners and events are also planned at il Piccolo which are often announced in the newsletter the owners put out every other month. Usually the newsletter includes news and tips on wines and recipes.

Sitting down to lunch, we were treated to a number of sample dishes which decorated the cozy table for four. We tried the chef's homemade foccacio bread, large bruschetta with tomato, garlic, oil and eggplant topped with fresh parmigiano



Chef Wayne Clark of il Piccolo  
Herald photo by Tara V. Lisciandro

(a truly unique bruschetta!); gnocchi with ricotta and a special blend of herbs and seasonings; tortellini with porcini (mushrooms); ravioli in brodo stuffed with broccoli and ricotta with rabe and fried calamari served with two original sauces al pomodoro. Quite honestly, one plate can't be compared to another. Having resided in northern and southern Italy certainly doesn't make me one of the finest food critics in the state. However, after a few museums

and some great art work, the delectable food is one of the long-lasting impressions Italy leaves on almost anyone! Everything is fresh and seasoned perfectly, cooked for you alone, just like il Piccolo. In Italy they say you should never swear, well my husband and his family say so, but "giuro," I swear, il Piccolo was comparable to some of the great dishes I was treated to in Italy.

il Piccolo is located at 1450 Atwood Avenue, Johnston.

## Ann Harleman Visits Barrington Public Library

Two programs featuring writer Ann Harleman are scheduled this fall at the Barrington Public Library. On Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m., Ann will read and discuss her recently published novel *Bitter Lake*. Told in alternating voices of Judith Hutchins and her daughter Lil, the novel tells the

story of abandonment, of a wife and daughter's rage at being left, and their struggle in the face of loss—a story that tests the limits of love, of forgiveness in families, of the roundabout ways in which people connect. This program is free and open to all.

Ann will also conduct a writing workshop at the library on Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. The workshop, called *Inviting the Muse*, uses writing exercises designed to tap deep sources of inspiration and to free the imagination. It is open to both beginners and advanced poets and fiction writers. Registration for the workshop begins on Oct. 21 at 9 a.m. at the library's reference desk. Registrations will be accepted in person or by phone. The group will be limited to 30 participants.

In addition to her critically acclaimed novel *Bitter Lake*, Harleman has published a collection of Short Stories entitled *Happiness*, which won the 1993 University of Iowa Short Fiction Award. She has been a Guggenheim and Rockefeller fellow and received a PEN Syndicated Fiction Award in 1991. She is a research associate at Brown University in Providence.

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