



The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's annual community campaign funds to help **Raise Jews, Save Jews, Care for Jews** has reached \$4.2 million. Have you made your pledge?

One of the "minor," yet one of the loveliest holidays, Tu BiShevat celebrates the trees and all the nurturing we derive from them. This lovely tree at Ein Gedi at the Dead Sea reminds us of the relief and protection an oasis in the desert can mean, figuratively and literally. [Tu BiShevat on page 19.](#)

Postmaster: Dated Material.
Please Expedite!



At Voice press time, polls in Israel still showed Ariel Sharon with a commanding lead in the race for Prime Minister.



The Jewish Voice of Rhode Island (465-710) is printed monthly, except Aug., in Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June and July by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906. Telephone 401-421-4111; FAX 401-331-7961; e-mail Voice@aol.com; ISSN number 1078-7232.

National and international news is gathered from Jewish Telegraphic Agency, World Zionist Press Office, general media, etc. Members: American Jewish Press Assoc.; International Jewish Media Assoc.

Publisher: Jewish Federation of Rhode Island; Robert Mann, President; Janine Ginzburg, Executive Vice President.

Editor-in-Chief: Jane Sprague

Production Assistants & Graphic Designer: Leah Camara

Editorial Board: Eleanor Lewis, chair; Members: Stanley Aronson, MD, Alan Axelrod, Patricia Cohen, Mark Feinstein, Lynn Freedman, Rabbi Alvan Kauner, Toby London, Doris McGarry, Robert Riesen, Richard Stein, Gladys Sollosy, Joshua Stein, Norman Tilles, Judith Romney Wegner, Alan Zuckerman.

Advertising Representative: Seena Taylor

Correspondents: Betty Aronson, Stanley Aronson, Cary Eichenbaum, Stuart Goldman, Tema Gouze, Yehuda Lev

Photographers: Seymour Glantz, Joshua Karlin, Bill Sprague

Advertising Deadline: Advertising space must be reserved by the 1st of the month. The Voice does not accept advertisements for pork or shellfish, or attest to the kashrut of any product. For information call 421-4111, or e-mail Voice@aol.com.

Copy Deadlines: All news releases, photographs, etc. must be received by the 15th of the month. Letters to the Editor are due by the 20th. You may send them by e-mail to Voice@aol.com.

By-lined articles reflect the opinions of the writers, not necessarily those of the Federation.

Visit the Federation's web site at www.fjri.org

Subscription price \$100. Periodicals postage paid at Providence, RI. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Jewish Federation of RI 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906.

Compiled by Yehuda Lev from Jewish Telegraphic Agency dispatches.

Briefs.



A rally for Jerusalem at the Western Wall.

US Jewish leaders in uproar

NEW YORK: Ronald Lauder, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, touched off a furor by speaking at an election rally for Likud's presidential candidate, Ariel Sharon, in Jerusalem. He also spoke at a rally in New York alongside major Israeli politicians who support Sharon. Both rallies called for the continued unification of Jerusalem. Although Lauder insists

that he appeared as a private citizen, 12 member organizations have asked for a special Conference meeting to criticize his actions and to prevent a recurrence.

Lauder was identified, in the Israeli media and at the rallies by his organizational titles, the inference being that he spoke for them.

Some Conference organizations, particularly those on the Left, worry that Lauder's participation in such rallies on the eve of an Israeli election, may damage the

organization's efforts to portray itself as non-partisan and set a dangerous precedent of interference in Israel's internal affairs.

Before Lauder assumed his post, in June 1999, there were concerns over his open support of the Likud Party and his close personal friendship with Benjamin Netanyahu.

Seventeen organizations signed a letter supporting Lauder. Among the 12 dissidents is the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Yehuda Lev, among other financial crimes, the commutation of their sentences took place just 10 weeks after the

leaders of the ultra-Orthodox sect met with Hillary Rodham Clinton and promised her their support in her race for a senate seat from New York. While everyone concerned denies that there was a *quid pro quo*, the fact remains that in an Orthodox world that overwhelmingly preferred George W. Bush, the voters of New Square, entirely Hassidic, voted for Sen. Clinton by 1,400 to 12.

From the Editor

Can you imagine how frustrating it is for us to be scheduled to mail The Voice on the very day of the Israeli elections for Prime Minister? But we've learned the lesson of the Chicago Tribune and will not project a winner. You will have to get your hard news from the networks and local and national print media. We will try to give you in our March issue analysis with a bit of distance from the actual election.

We assume that our sister publication, the weekly RI Jewish Herald will be timely. And that brings us to the late Miriam Rutman, who died at age 91 on January 20. Mrs. Rutman was a community benefactor, keeping The Rhode Island Jewish Herald publishing, in tribute to her late husband, Walter, years after it had lost profitability. It was a great service and its years of publishing form an important archive for the Rhode Island Jewish Community. We salute her and her devotion. May she rest in peace.

We welcome to these pages the work of a former Herald reporter, Cary Eichenbaum. Now a senior at the University of Rhode Island with ambitions to be a Jewish journalist, Cary is fulfilling a senior project by writing for us. We are stock-piling a few of his features for use after the semester ends.

Jane S. Sprague, Editor

Gas deal raises policy questions

JERUSALEM: In the spirit of King Solomon, who suggested cutting a baby in half to satisfy both women claiming to be its mother, the Israel Electric Corporation (IEC) is going to resolve a long-standing argument about where to obtain natural gas.

The dispute stems from the fact that, unlike oil of which Israel has virtually none, the country is blessed with a plentiful supply of natural gas. So is neighboring Egypt. But, for reasons unexplained in the media reports, Israeli gas is considerably more expensive than that piped in from Egypt.

Israeli gas producers have been conducting a campaign to convince the public that only "blue and white" gas is legitimate for Israelis to use. But this flies in the face of Israel's

long-standing attempts to establish bases for economic normalization with Egypt which, in turn, is eager to sell gas to Israel.

So the IEC has made a Solomonic decision. It will split the difference and purchase almost the same amount from each of the two contending suppliers. Observers note that the IEC faces a problem Solomon didn't have to worry about.

Likud's candidate for prime minister, Ariel Sharon, who is favored to win election to the post on February 6, has already said he disapproves of buying gas from Egypt because it may cause supply problems if relations between the two countries worsen. Prime Minister Ehud Barak, on the other hand, favors the deal. And everyone thought that the main election issue concerned peace or war with the Palestinians.

Clinton commutations criticized

WASHINGTON: Angry critics has greeted former president Bill Clinton's granting of pardons or clemency to a number of high profile criminals on the eve of his departure from office.

Criticism was particularly sharp within the Jewish community both because of those whose punishments for past crimes were eased and because of two applicants for pardons whose pleas were ignored. These latter were Michael Milken, the high flying stock pro-

motor of the 1980s, and Jonathan Pollard, serving a life sentence for spying for Israel.

But it was the identities of some of those who did benefit from Clinton's magnanimity that aroused the strongest feelings among the Jewish world. In particular this was the case with four Hassidic Jews, members of the New Square community in upper New York State, who had been convicted of bilking the federal government of millions in student loan funds by creating a fraudulent

Table of Contents

Agencies		
JCC	29	
JFS	30, 34	
JORI	21	
JSA	34	
Community	17-18	
Cultural Arts	32, 33	
Education		

B/E	24-28, 32
ASOS	27
PHDS	26
Federation	
Ambulance Drive	3
Overseas Allocations	14
Endowment	13
Vision	15
Women's Alliance	16

International	6
Israel	2-5, 10-11
Medical Arts	31
National	7-8
Opinions	10-11
Religious News	19-22
Seniors	34-35

Schechter adds pre-school for 2001	
See page 27	
A bit of Iran in RI: The Radpavars	
See page 17	

Snow birds gather in Palm Beach	
See page 13	
Triple Treat: Risselle Bain Concerts	
See page 33	

Special Features

In collaboration

Fifth "Most Wanted" by Palestinians

by Avi Machlis

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Younis Aweba dips into his pocket and unfolds an Arabic leaflet circulating through the West Bank. It lists 14 wanted collaborators with Israel. He calmly points to his name — fifth from the top — on a piece of paper that is nothing less than his own death warrant.

Even after two Palestinians have been executed by the Palestinian Authority for collaborating with Israel, another two have been sentenced to death and several more gunned down in the streets of the West Bank. Aweba maintains his serenity during an interview in the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem's Old City.

He has nothing to fear, Aweba says.

Perhaps it is the pistol beneath his windbreaker, provided by Israel for self-defense, that gives Aweba a sense of security in these dangerous times. Maybe his resilience is drawn from 33 years of standing by Israel's side.

More likely, Aweba, a Muslim who works as a maintenance man at the Western Wall, simply is trying to deter potential assassins by projecting a brave image.

Whatever the reason, as Israeli-Palestinian violence continues, stories like Aweba's are playing themselves out across the territories in a particularly ugly way. Collaborators with Israel, whom Palestinians consider the worst of traitors, are under enormous pressure from both sides: Israel is hunting for information; the Palestinian Authority is hunting for them.

"My name has been on the Palestinian 'wanted' list since the first *intifada*," Aweba says, referring to the Palestinian uprising against Israel between 1987 and 1993. "I survived that period, and I will survive this, too. But if anything happens to me, my blood will be on the head of" Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

Aweba is 58, his grey hair combed back, several days' stubble dotting his chin. His voice is throaty; as he talks, light plays off a gold tooth.

Like a true intelligence operative, Aweba — who has renounced his Palestinian identity — is careful not to give details of how he has helped Israel over the past three decades. Palestinian sources say he is a prominent informer who has played key roles in cracking Palestinian terror cells and recruiting other moles for Israel.

That reputation has made Aweba infamous in Ras al-Amud, the mostly Arab neighborhood of eastern Jerusalem where he has lived since 1976. For years, his wife and 12 children have been subject to nasty stares from neighbors and villagers, he says, and his house occasionally has been stoned.

Earlier this year, Aweba's 30-year old son was kidnapped into areas under Palestinian control. His abductors forced him to sketch a map of the family home, and point out exactly where Younis Aweba sleeps at night.

Under such pressure, it is difficult to imagine what drives Arab informers to help Israel. Aweba insists his motives are pure: Unlike other collaborators, who may provide information because of bribes or blackmail, Aweba says he supports Israel.

His work began just after Israel's 1967 victory in the Six-Day War, when Aweba lived in the Abu Tor neighborhood in what had been Jordanian-controlled Jerusalem.

"I had been living under Jordanian occupation and was subject to discrimination. Suddenly, I saw democracy in front of my eyes," he says. "I came to the Mahane Yehuda market," the main produce market in western Jerusalem, "and saw the Jews had no tails, that they live better than we did."

Israeli operatives visited the newly won Arab areas, and they asked questions. Aweba answered. Only in 1972 did his neighbors start to sneer. He escaped to Tel Aviv until 1977, when he moved back to eastern Jerusalem and was given a gun and Israeli citizenship. He has no regrets

about his past, even though — like many Arabs in Israel — he sometimes has suffered discrimination despite his allegiance to the country.

After returning to Ras al-Amud, he had to fight a demolition order on a home he was building; ultimately, his work for Israel helped get him off the hook. And during his interview with JTA, a group of yeshiva students from a neighboring terrace cheered Aweba, although just days earlier — before he appeared on Israeli television — they had spat at him.

"I only hate the other side that wants me dead," he says. "I have no regrets, and I am proud of myself. Nobody forced me to do this work."

This is not always the case.

Human rights groups — who condemn the Palestinian execution policy — also have criticized Israel's tactics in recruiting informers. According to B'Tselem, an Israeli human rights organization, Israel exploits its control over movement in the territories to woo Palestinians.

The Palestinian Authority controls most of its urban centers, but Israel still controls movement between cities in the West Bank, into Israel and abroad. Permits often are promised in exchange for information.

"Even if it is not illegal for Israel to try and recruit collaborators, these tactics make it illegal," said Yael Stein, head of research at B'Tselem. "Israel helps protect them in very rare cases, and it is clearly their obligation to do so."



Younis Aweba with the Dome of the Rock in the background. He is one of Israel's long-time collaborators.

Officials at Israel's Defense Ministry and at the Prime Minister's Office, which oversees the Shin Bet secret service, declined to comment for this article. But Gidon Ezra, a Likud Knesset member and former Shin Bet chief, says Israel indeed looks after those who provide valuable information, resettling them inside Israel — though their absorptions are not without difficulties.

"There are a lot of people who have been fingered as having collaborated with Israel — even if they didn't — and they are between a rock and a hard place," Ezra tells JTA. "Everyone who did help Israel is given basic assistance in things like housing until they get on their feet."

The problem, however, is that many of the several Please turn to page 4.

Solidarity with Israel

Ribbons, trip, ambulance drive all ways to show support

The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island offers local Jews three different ways to express their solidarity with Israel: wearing a blue ribbon, contributing to a targeted campaign to replace ambulances destroyed in the *intifada* and traveling with other Rhode Islanders to Israel February 25-March 2.

The Blue Ribbon Campaign promotes public awareness of Israel's struggle for peace, and the solidarity of North American Jewry with the people of Israel. The national campaign for Jews and others across North America to wear the blue ribbon is to create a constant reminder of young Israeli soldiers who have been abducted and are still missing; a symbol of the peace Israelis want, and a demonstration of the support of North American Jews for Israel.

Blue ribbons and an accompanying action-oriented flyer are available at the JFRI office, 130 Sessions St., Providence, as well as other agencies and synagogues: Alperin Schechter Day School, Bureau of Jewish Education, Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Seniors Agency, Congregation Ohave Shalom, Temple Am David, Temple Emanu-El and Temple Shalom. Community members are asked to wear them and display them in homes and synagogues.

According to Linn Freedman, who chairs the Federation's Community Relations Council, the Blue Ribbon Campaign "enables each one of us to show our solidarity with Israel in a clear and meaningful way."

The "Save a Life" campaign, co-sponsored by JFRI and The Miriam Hospital, is raising funds for a life-support ambulance. During this crisis, hidden from the headlines, 37 ambulances have been destroyed, including one in Afula/Gilboa, Rhode Island's community partnership region. Red Magen David has asked for emergency assistance to replace these vehicles.

Send checks to JFRI at 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906.

Note on the check that the money is for the ambulance campaign.

The Federation also is organizing groups to visit Israel. Twenty-one community members were on Rhode Island's first solidarity mission in December. A second group is scheduled to go from February 25-March 2. This mission will provide first-hand experience and the most up-to-date information about the situation in Israel. The trip is highly subsidized by United Jewish Communities. The \$935 includes most meals (dietary laws observed), round-trip airfare from New York, five-star accommodations (double occupancy) and all programming.

For more information on these solidarity programs call JFRI at 401-421-4111.



In peaceful divorce, how many degrees of separation?

by Jane S. Sprague

Auraham Infeld is an exuberant speaker. Uncomfortable if bound by a podium or restricted to a microphone, he gesticulates, walks, bends and projects in and around the front of the room.

For 45 minutes on January 18, he held a tight grip on the attention of a room full of adults even though they had worked all day. He delivered, without notes, his interpretation of political and peace matters in Israel, sometimes making his listeners laugh, consistently making them think.

This dynamic rabbi from Israel, founder of a program of tolerance, was at the Rhode Island Foundation. The 60 people held rapt by him were alumni of five Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI) community Leadership Seminars to Israel, organized by the Community Relations Council. Most of them had met Infeld there on those 10-day seminars.

Host Ron Gallo, executive vice president of the Foundation, noted the profound impact Infeld had had on him during Infeld's seminar on Jewish peoplehood. Gallo, son of a religiously mixed marriage, had never thought of himself as a Jew. "You profoundly changed my outlook," Gallo said. "When I went to Israel the first time, I went because I was not a Jew. When I go back to Israel in February on a solidarity mission, I will go as a Jew."

As Infeld got into his presentation, he said, "Israel is a country in the midst of a communal shaking of its head. We don't really believe what's going on. Four months ago, we talked with optimism. Now, everything is up in the air."

Infeld believes that three different problems have unfortunately coincided to influence the situation: the revamped electoral system is a disaster; Ehud Barak tried to implement the late Yitzhak Rabin's dream of peace, and

former President Bill Clinton imposed an artificial time limit.

Until the last two elections for Prime Minister, the person who filled that office was the head of the party which could put together a governing coalition. That made it essential, Infeld said, that the political parties develop and communicate a national vision that they then had to try to implement.

Now that the PM is elected directly, it is those candidates, not the political pirates, who articulate a national vision, releasing the political parties to focus on representing narrow interests. And because every government in Israel is a coalition government, the small parties needed to help form a majority in the Knesset have a wildly disproportionate influence on the Prime Minister and the cabinet.

"That is Ehud Barak's impossible coalition," Infeld said. "Because he has to keep them all in place, he constantly zig zags" between what the majority of the public wants and what the small parties demand.

The second component is Barak's goals. "Barak's true hero in life," Infeld says, "was Rabin, who was the most amazing leader for peace the Middle East has ever seen. Barak decided to fulfill Rabin's dream," but without the political and persuasive skills to get the job done.

The final element was former President Clinton's ambition to be the US president to get a peace agreement actuated, so he set a time limit. Now, Infeld explained, Barak had to accommodate his coalition and the Clinton timetable. "He moved with speed yet unseen and made offers that moved world opinion toward Israel, including Europe. He also shocked Arafat and totally disrupted the Knesset," Infeld continued.

Arafat found himself in a strange position, Infeld believes. "Oslo calls for stages and that is what Arafat expected, yet the dates of the stages passed and he got no



Rabbi Avraham Infeld (left) with Ron Gallo, (right) executive vice president of the RI Foundation. Infeld influenced Gallo to recognize his Jewish heritage.

land, but he gets promises he never expected." Arafat also found he is beginning to lose support among Palestinians because Israel is not living up to those Oslo stages, and he is dropping in world opinion. Arafat also knew that to keep his position, possibly even to stay alive, he could not relinquish the Palestinian dream of the right of return to homes they or their ancestors occupied before 1948. Yet that was a central component of the Barak/Clinton proposal made in July, 2000.

"So Arafat tipped the chess table over. When you do that," Infeld said, "you can't remember exactly where each piece stood." As a result, he projects that it now will be at least a decade before a real peace agreement can be developed.

What would Infeld do (not that he's been asked, he noted)?

He would put the issues of Jerusalem and the return of refugees aside, and stop demanding that any agreement be the end to all future claims.

Please go to next page.

Collaborator. . . from page 3

hundred Palestinian collaborators who have been accepted into Israel prefer to live in Israeli Arab communities, whose residents often consider them traitors to the Palestinian cause.

Aweba's case is a bit more complicated. Israel in principle does not help collaborators move from eastern Jerusalem to Jewish sectors of the city. Ezra says, since the city is united. For years, Aweba says, he has wanted to move out of Ras al-Amud into a Jewish neighborhood, but he cannot afford the housing. Now, as his situation becomes increasingly precarious, he has asked Jewish friends to finance a rental.

Aweba's only criticism of Israel is directed at Barak, whose concessions to the Palestinians, he believes, have allowed the current unrest in which the Palestinian Authority is knocking off collaborators. Aweba supports Ariel Sharon, the Likud Party candidate for prime minister.

Back in the West Bank, hardly anyone in the Palestinian Authority is paying attention to those parts of the Oslo accords that implied collaborators would be safe. International criticism has not stopped Palestinian officials from defending their execution policy. These officials say

the collaborators play a key role in helping Israel liquidate Palestinian officials and militants suspected in anti-Israel attacks.

According to the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group, seven suspected collaborators have been found dead in the streets; it's unclear whether these are cases of vigilante justice or officially-sanctioned hits. Part of the problem, the monitoring group says, is that Palestinians define collaboration very loosely to include not only those suspected of helping Israeli intelligence, but sometimes those who sell land to Jews — and even to critics of Palestinian Authority.

During the original intifada, for example, Palestinians killed an estimated 850 of their own who were suspected of collaborating with Israel in one way or another — almost as high as the number of Palestinians who died in the six-year revolt.

For collaborators like Aweba — who have seen Palestinian institutions try suspects within hours, with no opportunity for appeal, and then shoot them down by firing squad — there is little consolation in a recent Palestinian offer of amnesty for those who turn themselves in.

**CUSTOM FRAMING
SALE
STORE WIDE**

Ends 02/19/01

**PROVIDENCE PICTURE FRAME CO.
DRYDEN GALLERIES LTD.**

Rte. 95, Exit 24, Branch Ave. (Next to Benny's)

Hours: Monday-Saturday 8:30 AM – 6:30 PM • Sunday Noon – 5 PM

Syria appears to heed Israeli warning

by Steve Rodan

JERUSALEM (MENL) — Israel has relayed warnings to Syria through both the United States and the European Union that a Hizbullah attack on the northern border would result in massive retaliation that would change the balance of power in the Middle East.

Israeli government sources said the warning was relayed via countries that are friendly to Syria. These include the US, France, Germany and Italy. Most supported

Israel's right to launch a massive counterattack against Hizbullah.

"Some of the governments, particularly the United States, made it clear to Syria that it pulls the strings of Hizbullah," an Israeli source said. "In contrast, they played down Iran's role in Hizbullah operations."

The message, the sources said, is that Israel is holding Syria responsible for any Hizbullah attack on the Jewish state. As a result, Israel would target Syrian

positions in Lebanon should the Shi'ite militia attack. The warning, the sources said, was meant to convey the prospect of the destruction of the regime of President Bashar Assad.

On January 24, Assad was scheduled to arrive in Teheran on his first trip to the Islamic republic. Iran is Syria's strategic ally and has pledged to help Damascus in any war with Israel.

At the same time, Israel has increased security measures

along the northern border, firing at suspected infiltrators, conducting air reconnaissance flights and sending up balloons with intelligence-gathering equipment alone. The warning appears effective for now, sources said.

They said Syria has restrained Hizbullah plans to abduct Israeli soldiers and civilians as well as shell military positions along the northern border.

In mid-January, an envoy of French President Jacques Chirac

urged Lebanon and Syria to restrain Hizbullah. Yves Aubin de la Messuziere, head of the French Foreign Ministry's Middle East and North African affairs, relayed a message from Chirac to Assad that urged all parties to practice restraint.

The sources said the Syrian military has been on the highest state of alert and that Damascus has moved its deployment of air defense systems, including surface-to-air missiles. But they said this did not increase chances of an imminent war.

On January 23, Syrian sources confirmed to the London-based Al Hayat daily that their military has been on alert. The sources said the US has urged Syria to restrain Hizbullah as a first step to reduce tension and renew peace talks.

In another development, the London-based Al Quds Al Arabi daily reported that Iraq has withdrawn two of its divisions from near the Syrian border. Jordanian sources told the newspaper that the Iraqi deployment sparked concern in Israel and the US and has led to counter-threats.

The sources said Iraqi President Saddam Hussein heeded an appeal from Jordan's King Abdullah and withdrew the Iraqi forces. But the Jordanian sources said Saddam stressed that he was not acting out of fear of Israel.

Peaceful divorce... from pg. 4

"What we have to negotiate is a peaceful divorce, not a marriage. The only thing to do," he believes, "is to unilaterally withdraw and put up a wall of separation and allow the Palestinians to establish a state. We will have to remove settlements from the West Bank and Gaza.

"Right now," he postulated, "the Palestinians have nothing to lose. Maybe, when they have a state (which would be a real home for the refugees), they will have something to lose, so in negotiations they will only demand what they need, not what they dream about." That could lead to a scenario, he suggested, in which Palestinians always want the right of return, but do not expect to get it, nor would they expect sovereignty over Jerusalem, although they might want it.

The refugee problem is very difficult,

Infeld said. "Only 60 years ago, our family was primarily refugees. There is no such person as a Jewish refugee today because of the State of Israel. But alongside us is a people suffering an enormous refugee problem. They need to solve that with their own state."

Infeld is not pleased about the prospect of Ariel Sharon becoming Prime Minister.

"It is hard to believe," Infeld commented, "that the average Israeli citizen is in a position of deciding which candidate he likes less in order to vote for Prime Minister. Sharon is the only person who has ever served in the Knesset who has consistently voted against every peace agreement: Egypt, Jordan, Madrid, all of them. Yet he leads in the polls."

Infeld himself, he said, will get "out my stomach nausea pills and vote for Barak."



Rhode Island State Senate Majority Leader Bill Irons and his wife, Mary, were guests at the Infeld reception.

Congregation Am David invites you to join us for a community wide

Art Auction & Kosher Wine Tasting



Saturday Evening, February 24, 2001

at Congregation Am David, 40 Gardiner Street, Warwick, RI

Preview & Wine Tasting: 7:30 pm • Auction: 8:30 pm

Admission: \$10.00 per person

Featuring a large selection of both Jewish and non-Jewish art, in all media and price ranges.

Selections may include: Picasso, Tarkay, Chagall, Rockwell, Gorman, Schluss,

Rothenberg, Zule, Sports memorabilia and many more! Major Credit Cards Accepted.

A fine array of Kosher wines will be available for tasting.

Wines will be provided by I.M. Gan Liquors of Warwick. Dessert and coffee will also be served.



For tickets or information please call: May-Ronny Zeidman (401) 737-4402, Sharon Sock (401) 739-3200 or Joyce Kelly in the Am David office at (401) 463-7944

Just in time to select your wine for Passover!

Wallenberg's fate still cloudy

by Lev Gorodetsky

MOSCOW (JTA) — Despite 10 years of study by a joint Russian-Swedish commission, the mystery surrounding Raoul Wallenberg remains unsolved. The commission studying the case of the Swedish diplomat, who saved tens of thousands of Jews during World War II only to be arrested by Soviet agents in Budapest in 1945, issued two conflicting reports on January 12.

In the Russian version, Wallenberg, arrested at the age of 32, died in 1947 at the Lubyanka prison as a result of violence. Soviet officials had long held that Wallenberg died of a heart attack. He was "rehabilitated" late last year after reports surfaced about the committee's findings.

Sources in Moscow said the official rehabilitation — an acknowledgment that Wallenberg was the victim of Soviet-era injustice — was initiated by President Vladimir Putin, who wanted to heal a wound in Russia's relations with the West and international Jewish groups.

The Swedish report, however, cites evidence that Wallenberg may have died as late as 1989 in a psychiatric clinic near Moscow. A strong argument in favor of this version, says the Swedish report, is the fact that in 1989 Soviet officials gave Wal-

lenberg's relatives his personal belongings. Soviet prison regulations specify that this should be done within six months of a prisoner's death.

The Swedes also say they have documents and witness testimony from CIA archives that indicate Wallenberg was held at the psychiatric clinic in 1983. Russian experts argue that these witnesses could have been KGB-controlled. The Soviet spy agency often used such agents to spread misleading information, Igor Sinitsin, a former Soviet intelligence officer who has become a Wallenberg expert, told JTA.

Wallenberg risked his diplomatic status to issue "protective letters" that saved Jews in Budapest during the war.

The Russian version is the one many Jews for years have believed to be true, but a US Jewish group does not find the Russian report conclusive. "It is disappointing that after such exhaustive examination by the two panels that the mystery of Raoul Wallenberg has yet to be solved. We still don't have the answers to two fundamental questions: Why was he arrested in the first place; and second, what precisely happened to him after he was sent into the Soviet Gulag," said Kenneth Bandler, a spokesman for the American Jewish

Committee.

The AJCommittee, which a year ago relaunched a campaign asking the US government to press Russia for full disclosure on Wallenberg, plans to continue its efforts, particularly because Wallenberg worked for the US War Refugee Board, according to Bandler. The study did yield evidence that the Soviets believed Wallenberg was a US spy.

The intrigue surrounding the Wallenberg case is intensified by the fact that the KGB archives have once again been closed — even though Gennady Kuzovkin, a Moscow historian, says there are more documents there that might offer clues to Wallenberg's fate.

Meanwhile, Swedish newspapers have reported that Sweden turned down opportunities to exchange Wallenberg for Soviet defectors or spies. Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson, who says he is not even sure if Wallenberg is dead — if he is alive, he would be 87 years old — apologized at a news conference for Sweden's inability to solve the case. "I promise that our efforts to obtain an answer on what really happened to Raoul Wallenberg will be continued," he said.

Both reports are available on a Web site operated by the Swedish Foreign Ministry — www.ud.se.

UN may admit Hadassah to consultative status

by Michael J. Jordan

NEW YORK (JTA) — It has been almost a decade since the United Nations rescinded its notorious "Zionism is Racism" resolution, but some Jewish groups are still fighting that lingering sentiment.

On January 16, a committee of the influential UN Economic and Social Council finally recommended that Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, be elevated to "consultative" status. ECOSOC's final verdict, which is expected to be positive, is slated for June at its general meeting in Geneva.

Three times during the past year, several Arab countries and the Palestinian Authority had frustrated Hadassah's efforts to attain such status, attacking the 89-year-old humanitarian organization as inherently political due to the "Zionist" in its name.

The Palestinian representative and others delayed a vote by demanding that Hadassah answer questions such as whether its hospital in the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Jerusalem was in fact a "settlement." But in recent months, a number of high-profile political figures — including the US ambassador to the United Nations, Richard Holbrooke and Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee — joined several influential Jewish groups to pressure ECOSOC to embrace Hadassah. The ECOSOC committee approved Hadassah's application 9-5.

The United States, Turkey, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Germany and Romania approved Hadassah's application. Sudan, Algeria, Cuba, Lebanon and Pakistan voted against, while three members abstained.

"Our record speaks for itself," Bonnie Lipton, Hadassah's national president, told JTA after the meeting. "Although it was pointed out that the 'Zionism is Racism' resolution was rescinded, there was still a strong feeling that this is so, that we are a political organization, not a humanitarian organization. But we know we have a lot to offer to make the world a better place, and a healthier place.

"The irony," Lipton said, "is that our hospital treats both Israelis and Palestinians, and after terrorist attacks, we treat perpetrators and victims alike."

With its enhanced status, Hadassah will be able to participate in international policy deliberations, conferences and campaigns, and will lend its expertise in medical research and treatment, refugee relief, immigrant absorption and the rescue of children from war-torn countries, said Amy Goldstein, Hadassah's director of Israel, Zionist and international affairs.

The ECOSOC committee decision was a "hard-fought battle," as "friends came out of the woodwork for us," Goldstein said. She also noted the efforts of Israel's ambassador to the UN, Yehuda Lancry; US Reps. Nita Lowey (D-NY), Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Peter King (R-NY); and Jewish groups like the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Committee.

Italy nixes defamatory website

by Ruth E. Gruber

ROME (JTA) — Italy's highest appeals court has ruled that Italy can block access to foreign Web sites that violate the nation's anti-defamation laws. The ruling handed down January 10 stems from a case brought by Moshe Dulberg, an Israeli man living in Italy.

Dulberg accused Israeli, American and other foreign-based Web sites accessible in Italy of slandering him in their reports about a widely publicized battle with his former wife over custody of their two daughters. Some of the sites he quoted accused him of kidnapping and brainwashing the girls.

The girls, now 15 and 11, are the daughters of Dulberg and his former wife, Tali Pikan-Rosenberg. The couple was divorced in 1991 and a court awarded them joint custody of the children. Pikan-Rosenberg eventually joined a Hasidic group and became Orthodox, after which Dulberg tried to gain full custody.

Pikan-Rosenberg spirited the girls out of Italy and returned to Israel, where she married a fervently Orthodox rabbi. The girls lived with their mother in a fervently Orthodox community in Israel, until the Supreme Court there ordered them returned to Italy in 1999.

In Italy, a court ruling awarded custody to Dulberg and strictly limited Pikan-Rosenberg's contact with the girls.

The case, which is still pending, triggered widespread outrage, particularly in the Orthodox world.

Internet postings, Web pages and e-mail campaigns were used to attack the opposing sides in what was described as a "war of the Web sites."

LEADING THE WAY IN ASSISTED LIVING



We strive to be first in gracious living, individualized services and professionally-designed programs to build stamina and vitality. It's working.

Superb wellness and fitness programs, three chef-prepared meals daily, assisted living services and a gracious staff are just outside your new apartment door.

EPOCH

ASSISTED LIVING
on the East Side

One Butler Avenue • Providence, RI 02906
Tel: 401-275-0682

EPOCH

ASSISTED LIVING
on Blackstone Boulevard

353 Blackstone Boulevard • Providence, RI 02906
Tel: 401-273-6565

www.epochsl.com



PROVIDING THE RESIDENCE OF CHOICE FOR SENIORS

ADL, scholar defend Greenberg against Klein attack over remarks at GA

by Peter Ephross
 NEW YORK (JTA) — A speech by the chairman of the US Holocaust Memorial Council has led to calls for his replacement — and responses that he is the victim of a McCarthyite smear campaign.

Critics charge that a speech by Rabbi Irving "Yitz" Greenberg in November at the United Jewish Communities' General Assembly was unduly critical of the Israeli response to the Palestinian violence that broke out in late September and involved more than 350 deaths.

Greenberg and his supporters respond that his comments are being taken out of context and that he is the victim of an ideological vendetta.

The controversy began after an op ed piece by Ira Stoll in The Wall Street Journal on December 29 criticized Greenberg's speech, in which he addressed the issue of the ethics of Jewish power and the Israel-Diaspora relationship.

Stoll criticized Greenberg for having said he "would not be shocked if 5% or 10% or 20% of those casualties were (the result of) scared soldiers or people overreacting." Stoll, a former managing editor at the Forward newspaper, blasted Greenberg for "blaming Arab casualties in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza over the past few months on an 'overreaction' by 'gun-happy' Israeli soldiers and police."

He further called the council, which oversees the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, "something of a playpen for Clinton loyalists" and called on President-elect George W. Bush to "set things straight" by asking for the resignation of Greenberg and his vice chairwoman, Ruth Mandel.



Rabbi Yitz Greenberg, founder of CLAL, now head of US Holocaust Museum.

The incident escalated in early January, after a group of 45 Israeli soldiers faxed to Jewish communal organizations a statement calling upon Greenberg to publicly retract his remarks. To some locations, the fax was sent anonymously, but others who received the fax said it was sent under the name of the Zionist Organization of America, according to Blu Greenberg, Yitz Greenberg's wife.

Morton Klein, the president of the ZOA, said that while he did not authorize any of his employees to send the fax, "I don't think it was inappropriate to do so. I was disappointed and deeply perplexed that Yitz Greenberg strongly criticized the way Israel's soldiers are defending themselves against unprovoked Arab attacks, while ignoring Arafat's terroristic regime of primitive hatred and violence against innocent families," said Klein, who says he attended the GA session where Greenberg spoke. Greenberg's statements "were both inappropriate and wrong," Klein said.

For his part, Greenberg said his remarks were taken out of

context in Stoll's piece and called the op-ed "an outrageous misrepresentation." Reached in Jerusalem, he pointed to other parts of his talk in which he defended Israel.

He said at one point, for instance, that the Israeli army "is trying to seriously minimize casualties and death and under much more difficult circumstances than the previous *intifada* because there are now serious weapons on the other side."

In any event, Greenberg said he does not feel the need to defend himself. "Anybody who knows my record for the last 20 years would not be affected by the article," Greenberg said. Before heading the Holocaust Council, Greenberg was the founding director of CLAL — The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership.

"Yitz was trying to push forward the degree to which Jews with power are faithful to the tradition followed by Jews without power," said Michael Berenbaum, a Holocaust scholar. He defended Greenberg's "sterling integrity" and "love for the Jewish people and the Jewish state."

Abraham Foxman, also a member of the council, took his criticism of the anti-Greenberg campaign even further. "Is this a litmus test that to be the head" of the Holocaust council, one has to believe certain things? said Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League. "It's McCarthyism. If you disagree with a person's point of view, challenge that person's point of view, but don't take it to the point of going after them personally and then their job," Foxman said.

Rabbi Schneier receives Presidential Citizen's medal

by Sharon Samber

WASHINGTON (JTA) — A Jewish advocate for religious freedom and human rights is the first rabbi to receive a Presidential Citizen's medal. Rabbi Arthur Schneier, recognized at a White House ceremony January 15, is the founder and president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, which promotes religious freedom, peace and tolerance.

Former President Clinton said Schneier has set "an inspiring example of spiritual leadership by encouraging interfaith dialogue and intercultural understanding and promoting the cause of religious freedom around the world."

Over the years, Schneier has met with many world leaders to promote religious liberty. In 1986 Schneier met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to encourage him to liberalize the treatment of religious communities.

In 1998 Clinton appointed Schneier as one of three US religious leaders to receive the Presidential Citizen's Medal. Please go to page 8.



Rabbi Schneier receiving medal from former President Clinton.

We are eager to prove that buying and servicing an automobile can be a pleasant experience!

M E T R O
H O N D A

1667 Hartford Avenue (Route 6)

Johnston, RI 02919

Phone: (401) 553-6000

M E T R O
S U B A R U

1451 Brayton Point Road

Somerset, MA

Phone: (800) 922-3445

M E T R O

CHRYSLER ■ PLYMOUTH ■ JEEP

1451 Brayton Point Road

Somerset, MA

Phone: (800) 495-5337

We have over
4,000 paint colors
to choose from.

To some people, this is not good news.

We've helped thousands overcome their fear of fuchsia, lemon yellow and deep indigo. Between Rent-a-Color, at-home color consultations, and in-store advice, we'll give you all the help you need, even if you're just looking for the perfect shade of white. At Adler's, we make sure the color you want is the one that ends up on your walls.

We're great with color.

173 Wickenden Street, Providence 421-5157

The Design Center
 at
ADLER'S

Except for vouchers, thumbs up on education plan

by Sharon Samber

WASHINGTON (JTA) — If the election had turned out differently, it might have been Vice President Joseph Lieberman unveiling an education plan in the East Room ceremony.

Instead, President George W. Bush offered his education blueprint — which he hopes can be implemented for the next school

year — to Congress, while Lieberman (D-Conn.) offered a competing package at a news conference at the Capitol.

Introducing his education package was one of President Bush's first actions in office as he launched his agenda, making important policy moves on education and abortion that concern many in the Jewish community.

On the first work day of his presidency, January 22, Bush barred federal funds from being given to international family planning groups that offer abortion services and counseling.

On January 23, he introduced an education plan that touts school accountability, more local school control, annual student testing and school vouchers, but only if a school fails to meet standards three years in a row.

The use of vouchers, which provide government funds for students to attend parochial or private schools, remains a divisive issue among Jewish organizations. Many groups oppose vouchers on church-state separation grounds, but others believe parents could use the money to send their children to Jewish schools. Lieberman came under fire during the presidential campaign for his support of experimental voucher programs.

On January 23, Lieberman, Sen. Evan Bayh (D-Ind.) and other moderate Democrats unveiled legislation that would streamline federal school programs and target resources to disadvantaged students, but would not include vouchers. "There is a lot of room for collaboration" with President Bush, Lieberman said, while admitting there also were differences between the two programs, and not just on vouchers.

Nevertheless, Lieberman said the priorities in his bill — which calls for an additional \$35 billion for education over the next five years and which promotes charter schools and public school choice — overlap significantly with the Bush proposal.

Both sides are anxious to find common ground on education reform, according to Richard Foltin, legislative director for the American Jewish Committee. Foltin said that Bush's motivation was in the right place, but added that any voucher system would not fix the problems of failing schools.

It is hard to find potential points of compromise on vouchers, said Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Many in the Jewish community will continue to oppose vouchers, even if more parents are sending their children to Jewish schools, Saperstein said.

Opponents say vouchers will siphon money away from the public schools, but supporters say there is a way to hold schools accountable for progress. "The only way accountability works is to have consequences," said Nathan Diamant, director of the Orthodox Union's Institute for Public Affairs.

Aware that his voucher plan does not sit well with Democrats and some moderate Republicans, President Bush met with key members of both parties to push his ideas before introducing his plan.

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), the ranking minority member on the Senate's Education Committee, said there are "overwhelming areas of agreement" between the Bush plan and the Democrat one.

While consensus might be found on education reform, Bush's order on stopping federal funding of programs that offer abortion services abroad was much more polarizing.

Pro-choice Jewish groups condemned the move, saying it will harm women's health programs and infringe on free speech. The American Jewish Congress said it hopes the "distressing" act does not indicate that Bush will

retreat from the policy of protecting reproductive choice.

The AJCongress denounced the move, saying existing regulations on US funding are strict and the benefits of family planning programs clear. The action is "particularly ironic since funding of international family planning reduces abortions," Lois Waldman, director of the AJCongress' Commission for Women's Equality, said in a statement.

Current law bans the use of US funds for abortions in foreign countries. In 1984, in what is often referred to as the "Mexico City policy," President Reagan further banned US aid to international groups that use their own money to support abortion. President Clinton suspended Reagan's measure — known to pro-choice groups as the "global gag rule" — in one of his first acts in office. President Bush's order reverses that move.

FROM TRADITIONAL
TO CONTEMPORARY...

NATIONAL
OFFICE FURNITURE



The Largest Showroom
and Selection of
Desks • Chairs
Conference Tables
Files • Panel Systems
& **Used** Furniture in
Southeastern
New England

DESIGN & SPACE PLANNING

In Stock for Immediate Delivery • Rentals & Leasing

SAVINGS
30% TO 70%

274-9000
800-215-7000

36 Branch Ave., Providence, Exit 24 off Rte. 95 Jct. N. Main

Howard Weiss

Jon Weiss



B'nai B'rith
Member's Insurance Program



HADASSAH
Member's Insurance Program

Most people are in the dark about who does pay for **Long Term Care** when you or a family member needs to be in a **Nursing Home** or requires **Home Health Care**. **Who does pay?**

- Long term care insurance? • Medicaid?
 - Your medicare supplement? • Your health insurance?
- Any of these?**

Our new **Long Term Care** plans can shed light on this protection that is absolutely essential to a complete financial plan. You can protect your assets from the ruinous costs of nursing home and home health care fees without breaking the bank. As a member of our organization, this quality protection is available to you at a **MAJOR DISCOUNT**.

Brier & Brier
401-751-2990

Underwritten by Continental Casualty Company, one of the CNA insurance companies. Administered by Selman & Company.

On the scene for MLK breakfast

Members of the Rhode Island Jewish community attended the Ministers' Alliance annual Martin Luther King Breakfast at the RI Convention Center on Monday, January 15. From l to r, Rebecca Lavine, Jackie Robinson Exhibit Coordinator; David Leach and Sam Zurier, members of the Federation's Community Relations Council (CRC); Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer, president of the RI Board of Rabbis, and Linn Freedman, who chairs the CRC.



Presidential medal. . . from page 7

leaders to meet with Chinese President Jiang Zemin on the issue of religious freedom and to examine the life of religious communities in China. Schneier served as an international envoy for four administrations.

Schneier has worked on broad interfaith efforts to help many different religious minorities. Recently, Schneier has been urging the United Nations to adopt a resolution that would stop the destruction of religious and holy sites.

At the medal ceremony, Schneier said he was moved to recall his arrival to America in 1947 and his first glimpse of the Statue of Liberty. "I hardly spoke English," he said. "I didn't even know the White House existed." Schneier said the medal gives him a very patriotic feeling of gratitude to the United States.

Being the first rabbi to receive the medal, which was established in 1969, is of special significance to Schneier. He said he has a sense of "great satisfaction" that his work reflects well for the Jewish

community and brings credit to the Jewish people.

Schneier was born in Vienna and lived under Nazi occupation in Budapest during World War II. He is the spiritual leader of Park East Synagogue in New York.

Clinton honored 28 Americans for their public service. Below are some of the other Jewish figures honored for their public service.

- Robert Rubin, former secretary of the treasury, was recognized for his role in creating America's longest economic expansion and helping "countless Americans share in an era of unprecedented prosperity."

- Former Sen. Warren Rudman of New Hampshire was honored for his efforts to shape national security policy and his legacy of public service.

- Marion Wiesel was honored for her writings on the children of the Holocaust, for translation of husband Elie Wiesel's work and her assistance to young Ethiopians in Israel.

Jewish Voice Professional Directory

ATTORNEYS

A. Larry Berren, Esq.

Estate & Retirement Tax Planning 100 Medway St.
Providence, RI 02906

401-351-3700

FAMILY BUSINESS CONSULTANT

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES INC.

FAMILY BUSINESS CONSULTATION Tel: 401-826-1680
STRATEGIC & SUCCESSION PLANNING Fax: 401-827-8806
EXECUTIVE COACHING e-mail: MSilver114@aol.com

Marc A. Silverman, Ph.D.

MEDIATION

transitions

STEVEN J. HIRSCH, Esq.

DIVORCE MEDIATION
401 463.9800
Fax 401 463.5907
100 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

APOLLO

Adler Pollock & Sheehan

SOLUTIONS AT LAW

Adler Pollock & Sheehan P.C.
2300 BankBoston Plaza
Providence, RI 02903-2443
Telephone (401) 274-7200

INSURANCE

Insurance, Pension & Financial Planning

81 South Angell Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02906
401-274-0303 fax 401-273-2560 800-735-5677
pager 401-938-1340 www.egisgroup.com

Alan J. Finkelman
Property & Casualty

THE EGIS GROUP



MEDICAL

Dr. Richard Liner
Dr. Thomas Liner
Dr. Melvin Blasball
Optometrists

Coventry Eye Care Associates & Optical Center
860 Tiogue Ave.
Coventry, RI 02816
828-2020

Charibo Eye Care Associates & Optical Center
1171 Main Street
Wyoming, RI 02898
539-7900

Fashion Eyewear • Contact Lenses • Laser Vision Co-Management

K&J KAPLAN & JACOBSON INC. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1100 TURKS HEAD BUILDING, PROVIDENCE, RI 02903
401-272-9000 FAX 401-272-9020
Home 401-245-8382

Starkweather & Shepley

Insurance Brokerage, Inc.

Affiliates:

Insurance Underwriters, Inc. & Morton Smith, Inc.

David B. Soforenko
Vice President

60 Catamore Boulevard, East Providence, RI 02914
Phone: (401) 435-3600 Fax: (401) 438-0150
Email: dsfofrenko@starkweathershepley.com

JAMES I. McCORMICK, D.P.M.

ERIC J. BUCHBAUM, D.P.M.

PODIATRIC MEDICINE, SURGERY & SPORTS MEDICINE

350 Kingstown Road
Narragansett, RI 02882
783-2424 • Fax: 401-789-2095

INVESTMENT SECURITIES

Barrett & Company

INVESTMENT SECURITIES

SINCE 1928

GARY S. SIPERSTEIN

MANAGING DIRECTOR

The Wilcox Building
42 Weybosset St.
Providence RI 02903

(401) 351-1000
(800) 556-7078

THE RHODE ISLAND COLORECTAL CLINIC

Specializing in:

Certified General
& Colon/Rectal Surgeons

Hemorrhoidal Disease
Colon Cancer Screen
Ostomy Care
Sigmoidoscopy

Steven Schechter, M.D., FACS

401-453-1125

One Randall Square
Providence, RI 02904

A Subsidiary of Randall Surgical Group, Inc.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

KAPLAN, MORAN, & ASSOCIATES, Ltd.
Certified Public Accountants

Richard A. Kaplan CPA, JD

27 Dryden Lane, Providence, RI 02904
Tel 401.273.1800 Fax 401.331.2943

MASSAGE THERAPY



Body Kneads, Inc

Victoria Custer

170 Broadway, Suite 207
Providence, RI 02903
401.453.HANDS (4263)

Board Certified in Reconstructive Foot & Ankle Surgery
Sports Medicine
Infants • Children • Adults

BRUCE R. WERBER, D.P.M.
Foot & Ankle Specialist

400 Bald Hill Road
Warwick, RI 02886
401-943-1515
email: brw1150@usa.net

To Save A Life

Dalia Coren was at home in the Israeli resort town of Natanya. She was with her family, enjoying her new grandson when she felt a pain in her chest. Her husband called for an ambulance. Paramedics arrived by passenger car in less than four minutes. The ambulance took over 40 minutes. The medics did all they could do, but without the proper equipment, Dalia Coren, age 65, died of a heart attack. While the world news will never list her as such, Dalia Coren was a victim of terrorists.

The Magen David Adom (MDA) cardiac ambulance that normally would respond to such emergencies had been set on fire two weeks prior. It was the second ambulance destroyed in the region and one of 37 that have been critically damaged since the recent crisis in Israel began last September.

Israel's emergency medical service has been under direct attack by terrorists. To date 37 MDA ambulances and life saving vehicles have been torched, damaged and destroyed. These are not vehicles in a

war zone that happen to get caught in the crossfire — these are ambulances. Throughout Israel, ambulances from Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, the Negev and the Carmel, including one in Afula/Gilboa, our community partnership region, have been attacked. In early December one such ambulance was on a critical run responding to an auto accident. While medics worked inside on an accident victim the ambulance was overturned and set afire.

During times of war, these vehicles and persons are to be protected under the articles of the Geneva Convention as detailed by the United Nations. Yet the UN has not called out denouncing these despicable acts. They have no response.

We will respond...

Magen David Adom has approached communities in North America for emergency assistance to replace these vehicles. The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and Miriam Hospital in collaboration with area Jewish organization have agreed to replace an ambulance running



a special campaign beginning this month through April. Throughout the recent months, community members have contacted the Jewish Federation, asking how they can show their solidarity with Israel. The Federation responded with low cost solidarity missions (including one scheduled for February 25th-March 2nd.) JFRI asked community members to wear a blue ribbon to show solidarity and over 3,000 ribbons have been distributed. And now a special campaign. Join together as a community and help make sure the next

time an ambulance is called, one is there. Together we make a difference.

To make a contribution, please send a check to the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, 130 Sessions Street, Providence, RI 02906 and identify on the check "Ambulance Campaign." Special Tzedakah boxes are also located at congregations, schools and agencies. If you have questions, please contact Michael Balaban, Campaign Director, at 401-421-4111. Your support and solidarity is essential.

Preconceived notions out the window

by David A. Harris

The last three months of conflict in the Middle East should have shattered preconceived notions among friends of Israel on both the right and left. There are no easy or obvious answers, as the right learns that prolonged occupation is corrosive and inconsistent with Israel's democratic values and the left realizes that its vision of a "New Middle East" is in fact the pursuit of dangerous illusions.

Moreover, demands by Palestinians for a state up to the 1967 boundaries are being intermingled with threats from some Palestinians and their allies in such countries as Iran, Iraq, Lebanon and Libya to destroy Israel entirely, along with calls to murder Jews wherever they live, even in countries, such as France, far from the Middle East.

Isn't it odd that the current Palestinian-inspired violence erupted against the most dovish government in Israel's history, one even willing, for the sake of peace, to compromise on Jerusalem, a previously unthinkable position for any Israeli administration? Why has this central fact been so lost as many in the international community once again reflexively place the blame for the outbreak of violence at Israel's doorstep?

The astonishing indifference to historical context is too often the rule of the day for many observers of the Middle East.

How many nations in the world today can claim the same 3500-year connection between a people, a faith and a land as the Jewish people with Israel? Or

between a people, a faith and a city as the Jewish people with Jerusalem? Exhibit A, of course, is the book that forms the earliest cornerstone of Western civilization, the Hebrew Bible. Exhibit B is the prayer book in any synagogue anywhere in the world.

Why does the world so conveniently forget that in 1947, recognizing both an Arab and a Jewish claim to Mandatory Palestine, the UN proposed a Partition Plan that sought to recognize the national aspirations of both peoples, and even accord Jerusalem international status? Recall the response? The Jews agreed; the Arabs, wanting it all, refused and went to war.

What happened between 1948 and 1967, when the West Bank and the eastern half of Jerusalem were under Jordanian control? Were the local Arabs given sovereign rights? Far from it. Jordan annexed the land and East Jerusalem became a backwater.

Were the Jews given access to their holy sites — the Western Wall and the synagogues in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City — as provided for by international agreement? No. Still worse, those sites were systematically desecrated.

Did Gaza, under Egyptian military rule, fare any better than the West Bank? Hardly.

Does the world suffer from amnesia about how Israel came into possession of the Golan Heights, West Bank, eastern Jerusalem, the Sinai and Gaza? "The existence of Israel has continued too long. The battle has come in which we shall

destroy Israel," Cairo Radio declared on May 16, 1967. Not only did Syria go along with Egypt in beating the drums of war, but also Jordan shortsightedly placed its forces under Egyptian control. Israel had no choice but to order a preemptive strike on June 5.

What was the Arab response after the Six-Day War to Israel's readiness to negotiate a settlement that would return virtually all the acquired territory in exchange for peace? As in 1947, the Arabs wanted it all — all of Israel, that is — or nothing, as they declared in Khartoum in November 1967: "No negotiations, no peace, no recognition."

Yet, when decades later Egypt and Jordan finally were prepared to negotiate, did they not find a responsive Israel and conclude durable peace agreements?

On the creation of refugees, a tragic consequence of every war and not just the Arab-Israeli conflict, why have Palestinian refugees, uniquely throughout the world, been kept in squalid camps for decades rather than be resettled, especially in other Arab nations that share a common language and heritage?

Why has only Jordan among the 22 members of the Arab League offered Palestinians citizenship? Why was Kuwait permitted to summarily expel 300,000 Palestinians during the Gulf War without a peep from the international community? Why has the international community sustained refugee camps that are incubators of hatred for Israel and the Jewish people for new generations of Palestinians?

Why has the world utterly failed to acknowledge the exodus of nearly one million Jews — no fewer than the number of Palestinian refugees — forced to leave their ancestral homes in Arab countries as a result of seething hatred? Is it perhaps because these refugees were immediately resettled rather than cynically turned into political pawns?

Why has the world failed to understand Israel's profound dilemma in negotiating peace with a non-democratic and corrupt Palestinian Authority that raises legitimate fears about future commitments to peace? Or the very real strategic vulnerability Israel could face if durable peace does not take root, given especially its narrow width?

And, why is the world not asking why Palestinians allow, even encourage, their children to enter harm's way, potentially becoming "martyrs" for the cause? This is a price children should never be asked to pay.

In the final analysis, the path of peaceful negotiations and painful compromise is the only alternative for either side if all-out war is to be avoided. Israel has amply demonstrated its commitment to this path; the Palestinians, regrettably but characteristically, continue to send totally contradictory signals. How much longer can the world willfully overlook those inconvenient truths about Palestinian behavior that might otherwise puncture their airtight judgments?

David A. Harris is executive director of the American Jewish Committee.

"Dialogues" don't replace bricks, mortar for Israeli Arabs

by Carl Alpert

Though quiet now reigns among Israel's Arabs in the face of continuing Palestinian violence on the borders, it has not been forgotten that the onset of the intifada was accompanied by a brief but bloody outburst on the part of local Arab citizenry, especially in the Galilee.

Police response resulted in 13 deaths, and subsequent investigation appears to confirm that the defense reaction was excessive.

Individual Israeli Arabs have not hesitated to express their support for the external violence, but most now concentrate on complaints about government neglect of their communities. They see vast sums poured into the development and improvement of Jewish towns and villages, while communities inhabited by Arab citizens of Israel have been left to suffer from inadequate educational facilities, poor approach roads and generally inferior social, health and economic conditions.

Aside from government resources, millions of dollars annually are contributed by overseas Jewish donors for the physi-

cal and social welfare of Jewish citizens. It would be an exaggeration to say that Arab Israeli citizens are "downtrodden," as charged by one recent critic, but it cannot be denied that they have been neglected.

Not long ago the mayor of the Arab city Umm Al-Fahm went to the US seeking support from Arabs and Muslims there for municipal projects in his town. If the Jews could do this successfully, why not his people? Despite our inquiry, he provided no information as to the results of his mission. In Canada the Hizbullah has for some time been conducting a fund-raising campaign ostensibly for hospitals, schools, orphans and social causes, but evidence has been mounting that most of the money is diverted to the organization's military and terrorist activity. Similar allegations have been made about Arab fund-raising in the US.

One would expect that generous support might be received from the oil-rich Arab states, but they have not lifted a finger to provide philanthropic aid. Indeed, in their eyes the Arabs of Israel are relatively well off, compared to the poverty-stricken masses in Egypt, Jordan

and other Muslim lands. Even the millions which the oil barons offered to support Arafat's Palestinian uprising have to a large degree remained unfulfilled pledges.

But let's get back to equality for all Israeli citizens. Voices have been raised lately urging Jews overseas to concern themselves with support for all citizens of Israel, irrespective of religion. In recent years there has been some activity along these lines by the New Israel Fund, the Abraham Fund and others. Now the matter is being studied by main line organizations on the grounds that such a program will help assure internal quiet.

What would be the attitude of Jewish communities in America and elsewhere if the United Jewish Appeal were to include aid for Arabs as well as Jews? Some leaders have already rejected the idea, claiming that help for its citizenry should be a responsibility of the Israeli government. It is reported that Jerusalem is now preparing a long-range billion dollar program to meet various educational and infrastructural needs of the Arab sector.

Shfar Am, a city of 35,000 inhabitants, of whom half are Muslims, and the remain-

der Christians and Druze, is a city which officially marks Israel Independence Day with proud display of blue and white flags, in contrast to some other towns where the holiday is ignored. I asked the mayor what they needed. He threw up his hands. Everything, he replied, but to be specific, there is no health center serving an adjacent population of about 75,000. There is no school to provide technological education for the youth. There are insufficient scholarships for higher education. The authorities with whom they come in contact are friendly and understanding, but lack the budgets to provide help.

I queried the Jewish Agency if it would be amenable to including projects for the Arabs in its operations in Israel, and was provided with a long list of programs they are already sponsoring. They deal with co-existence: dialogue groups, joint youth meetings, Arab participation in Jewish programs, intercultural events and the like. All valuable, but no hardware or bricks and mortar.

The subject is a difficult one, but should be considered also from the point of view of democracy and internal security.

Carl Alpert writes from Haifa, Israel.

A majority of one

Historians take note: Lev left out of Sharon biographies

by Yehuda Lev

I haven't seen reference to the following in any biography of Ariel Sharon or in media accounts of his career, so I feel it my responsibility to provide future historians with information on a hitherto unknown incident in the life of Israel's probable next prime minister.

If you are a collector of pictures of great generals in history, you will know that there exist broad cultural differences among the leaders of the world's military forces. Russian generals, for example, wear rows of brightly colored ribbons across their chests. These are called, by irreverent members of the lower ranks, "fruit salad". Sometimes, if they are feeling particularly in need of public acclaim, the Russians attach medals to their ribbons which, in the case of elderly generals with long military records, can result in their falling flat on their faces.

American generals also wear long rows of ribbons, mostly when testifying before Congressional committees on the need for higher appropriations. But I have never seen an American general wear a medal; perhaps ribbons alone are reward enough for heroism in Washington.

The Israeli Army takes heroic deglorification a step further. With only a half century of warfare to commemorate, ribbons are scarce and medals even more so. Prime Minister Ehud Barak, the most decorated man in the history of the country, can probably muster up several rows

of ribbons and perhaps a medal or two, but I cannot recall any picture of an Israeli general with a generous supply of either.

As for humble Israeli foot soldiers, ribbons are generally awarded to those who fought in specific campaigns. Thus I earned the right to wear one military ribbon, a mostly blue creation with red and white vertical stripes, given to everyone who served in the military during Israel's War of Independence. Many years later, living back in the United States, I often thought of placing it on the mantelpiece, alongside the solitary honor I earned saving the world from the Nazis, the Good Conduct Ribbon. Unfortunately I didn't possess either one.

Which brings us to General or, as he was at the time of this incident, Colonel Sharon. He and I are not even casual acquaintances, you understand; in fact other than at press conferences or at Independence Day parades I have never met him in person, this one time excepted. And the meeting took place in Chicago before his reputation for excessive brutality on the battlefield and extremism in public life became widely known. It was well known in Israel, of course, where he was called the "widow-maker" for reasons dealing with his conduct during the Sinai Campaign and, before that, as commander of a special military unit charged with reprisals against Jordan for raids across the border by Palestinian refugees.

Little of this came to mind when I was assigned, as a member of the Israeli Consulate staff, to take the Colonel first on a brief tour of Chicago and then to the airport to catch his flight to Washington. I don't recall any of the conversation, of course, but it flowed easily and we were comfortable with each other.

At the airport Sharon thanked me and asked if there was anything he could do for me in Israel. Suddenly I remembered the ribbon. When they were distributed to my unit in a ceremony shortly after the final campaign in the War of Independence, I was a patient in a military hospital in Tel Aviv. Not only did I never receive mine, I didn't even know I was entitled to one until years later, by which time it hardly seemed worth the effort.

Sharon asked me for the relevant details; unit, Israeli army number (74013 — like Social Security, one of those numbers you remember all your life) and reasons for not receiving the ribbon in the first place. Three months later, accompanied by a note from a woman sergeant in the Israeli Army, the ribbon arrived in the mail and it has been on the mantelpiece ever since.

It has come down from there only once. In 1998, on Israel's 50th birthday, the Consulate General of Israel in Boston invited me to join in the celebrations. I pinned the ribbon onto my jacket pocket and spent an afternoon at a very crowded hotel reception. Not once did anyone

comment upon or even notice my claim to past glory. I took it off, understanding at last that there is no more forgotten war than the last one.

Which leaves only my Good Conduct Ribbon. If ever I should meet up with Colin Powell...

~ ~ LETTERS ~ ~

NCJW Outrage

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is outraged that, in one of his first acts in office, President Bush has attacked not only the reproductive health of indigent women around the world, but the most basic democratic right of free speech.

The issue is not about government funding of abortion. US law already prohibits the use of federal international aid funds for performing abortion. Instead, this Executive Order allows the US government to tell international family planning organizations what they can and cannot do or say with their own, private funds. It affects not only what US groups say, but also dictates what foreign organizations can say to their government and in their communities — a clear infringement of free speech, one of the basic foundations of democracy. Such restrictions will surely have dire consequences for the continued success of these critically needed health programs which save the lives of thousands of women and children every year.

Jan Schneiderman,
National President, NCJW

What will our community look like in 20 years?



What will my children and grandchildren be when they grow up?

Will the Jewish Community continue to be vibrant and strong?

We all ask these question throughout our lives.

That question is up to us right now!

We can help "build" the community of tomorrow...

TODAY.

Please remember us, your children, your grandchildren, and their children.
Remember to include the Jewish community in your will.

REMEMBERING TO INCLUDE THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF RI IN YOUR WILL IS AN ACT OF CREATION,
A GIFT WHICH WILL GROW AND HELP BUILD A VITAL JEWISH COMMUNITY
IN RHODE ISLAND, AND AROUND THE WORLD.

Please call Joshua Karlin or Trine Adler-Lustig for details 421-4111 ext. 173 or 174
or E-mail JKarlin@jfri.org • TAdler-Lustig@jfri.org • or return the request form below.

Dear Joshua and Trine:

- I have already included JFRI in my will or living trust.
- I would like to include JFRI in my will. How should I phrase it?
- I would like information on establishing an endowment.
- I would like to meet with a JFRI planned giving professional.

Name: _____ Telephone: (____) _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____



"Mommy, tell me about Bubbe and Zayde"

by Elisa Silverstein-Heath

After gathering with our families over Thanksgiving and then Hanukkah, many of us have noticed the curiosity among our children about family history and family members who live far away or who have passed on, about our family's legacy. When our children ask us about Bubbe, Zayde or even their great-grandparents, we may draw upon our personal recollections or a treasury of photographs, writings and various heirlooms — but this may be all we can offer.

Robert Riesman, who recently hosted the RI Endowment event in Florida with his wife, Marcia, recalls his parents' commitment to rescuing Jewish refugees from Nazi-controlled Europe in the early 1930s. "Mother never complained when we took in a strange, unrelated family of a mother, father and son" he said. His parents' pledge to give of themselves and their dollars to make a difference in the world — this is his inspiration for his own generosity of time and funds.

In addition to the numerous leadership positions they have held in the community, (he is a past president of JFRI, she of Jewish Family Service), Bob and Marcia Riesman, each give generously through the Jewish Federation of RI's (JFRI) Annual Campaign, and sustain an important fund through the JFRI Endowment. Their Endowment is dedicated to sending emerging leaders in our community to the annual General Assembly of the United Jewish Communities. And among other things, the Riesmans are deeply committed to sustaining meaningful Jewish life on college campuses in RI and around the country. Their generosity and foresight nourishes and builds the RI Jewish community of today and for tomorrow.

Creating an endowment fund at JFRI is a wonderful way to build an ongoing legacy for your family. Funds that are established with \$1,000 or more may be specifically named. Every year, loved ones will be reminded that Bubbe

and Zayde — and you — care about our Jewish community. An endowment fund not only serves as a perennial source of income to our community, but it will also provide a continuing reminder that Bubbe and Zayde were people of generosity and good will.

Like many RI Jewish families with deep roots and history here, the Riesmans are "snow birds," spending much of the winter in Florida.

When we spoke, the Riesmans were preparing to host the "Rhode Island Get-Together" on January 23. This special event brought together 140 Rhode Islanders at the Palm Beach Country Club who feel a deep connection to their RI roots, and who still maintain strong ties here. "It's only natural," says Riesman, "to feel excited and to look forward to seeing our dear friends here, in Florida. RI is our hometown. We've all sunk our roots there, raised our children there."

The Riesmans' children have been given an important and mean-

ingful legacy for their families. Their children will always know and understand the commitment made to repair the world by their grandparents and great-grandparents.

The JFRI Endowment Fund enables individuals to create endowments that focus on specific aspects of the community's mission, areas that may be especially important to the honoree. A donor's recommendations for distributing income from the fund also communicates something positive about one's family and establishing a philanthropic inheritance for future generations. You will offer your loved ones a "living photograph" of at least one of the key areas of importance in your life.

For more information on



Bob and Marcia Riesman, hosts of the 2001 RI Get-Together in Palm Beach, FL.

how you can establish an endowment, contact Joshua Karlin, JFRI director of Planned Giving and Endowments, or the Endowment's Associate Director, Trine Adler-Lustig, at 401-421-4111, ext. 173 and 174, respectively. They will be happy to show you what others in our community have done to leave their legacy and how practical and easily an endowment can be created.

140 Rhode Islanders Still Gather in Florida



Stanley and Hazel Grossman (above) were acknowledged by Edward Feldstein, Endowment Chair for naming JFRI the beneficiary of his retirement plan which would have been taxed 70-80%



Gussie and Victor Baxt (left) met old friends from RI



Irwin and Karen Galkin (above) were honored by Edward Feldstein for creating their fifth Gift Annuity, providing them with income for life



Eleanor and Howard Lewis (left) enjoyed the presentation by Arna Poupko-Fisher, who spoke about connecting our inherent Jewish worries into a deeper commitment to our community



Eugene and Polly Wachtenheim



Robert Riesman, Hinda Semonoff, Mel and Ellie Frank, Burt and Lois Fain, Dorothy Nelson and Gloria Winston were thrilled to see each other.



Bonnie and Donald Dwares



Manfred and Jeanne Weil (left) came with their good friends Elaine Odessa, and Estelle and Albert Winograd

CAN SOMEONE "OBJECTIVELY" ANSWER MY QUESTIONS ABOUT LONG-TERM CARE

HOME CARE ? NURSING HOME
 MEDICAID ? ASSISTED LIVING
 MEDICARE ?

"YES"

Paul W. Isenberg, CLTC (Certified in Long Term Care)
 RHU (Registered Health Underwriter)

(401) 826-3424

Long Term Care
 Insurance

Overseas allocations targets \$133,306 to specific programs

The Overseas Review Committee, chaired by Bruce Wolpert with Ellie Elbaum as vice chair, made elective overseas allocations of \$133,306, based on a formula derived by the ONAD Committee.

Elective or community allocations help fund specific programs rather than being sent to the general work of central agencies such as the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) or the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC). Those two organizations' general programs together receive 90% of the overseas portion of funds raised in the local community.

The committee heard presentations from the Southern New England Consortium (SNEC) of Partnership 2000, JAFI and JDC. JAFI and JDC focused their discussions on overseas programs that have been identified as high priority areas based on overseas needs.

Before making allocations, committee members identified specific goals they hoped to achieve through these distributions:

- To support programs in Israel that aid absorption
- To feed the hungry in the former Soviet Union
- To fund programs which focus on education and increasing Jewish identity
- To strengthen Rhode Island's connection with Israel, specifically through programs in Afula/Gilboa

The committee received and analyzed 11 proposals, and on January 3, made the following recommendations:

Partnership 2000 Activities \$62,500

Partnership 2000 is a program of JAFI. Rhode Island has been a member of the SNEC of Partner-

ship 2000 for several years. This allocation is to help maintain the community's connection to the partnership. The Partnership budget provides funding for social and educational concerns, people-

to-people programs and economic development in the Afula/Gilboa region in Israel.

Bureau of Jewish Education of RI and Project Oren-Shet-ufim \$20,000

Funds a 10-day seminar for RI religious school education directors in Afula-Gilboa. Leaders will participate in seminars, workshops and dialogues, which will culminate in the creation of shared curricular materials. The program helps to create and enhance people-to-people relationships between Israeli and Diaspora Jews by creating a true partnership of peers

JDC-For Jews in Tbilisi, Georgia \$25,000

Today, there are some 10,000 Jews living in Tbilisi, Georgia. There are two synagogues, a Jewish community center, library and educational programs for adults and children. More than half of the community is elderly and in desperate need of basic food and medical services. These funds will help to provide food packages, meals, homecare visits, medicines, medical and legal consultations, loans of medical equipment and a day care center for the elderly.

JDC-Eshet Hayil \$15,806

This program seeks to improve the status of Ethiopian-Israeli women who are marginalized in Israeli society and their own community, by enabling them to enter the workforce and actively participate in decision-making and leadership in all spheres of their personal and public lives.

It provides Hebrew lessons, job preparation workshops, personal encounters with successful working women, Women of Valor Clubs, communications skills, conflict resolution skills, interviewing skills, family adjustment etc.

JAFI-After School Tutorial Centers in Afula \$10,000

After School Tutorial Centers provide educational and cultural intervention to ensure that each child in Israel has an equal opportunity to reach full potential. They provide assistance to children in their studies and enrichment programs, ensure child nutrition with a hot meal, expose children to wide aspects of Israeli culture through social activities, implement values-clarification programs that focus on Zionism, encourage activities between children and their families.

Serving with Wolpert and Elbaum on the Overseas Allocations committee are Gershon Levine, Ralph Posner, David Resnik, Miriam Ross, Lori Solinger, Norman Tilles and James Yashar.

Earthquake Relief

Members of the Jewish community may help residents of San Salvador, South America recover from the recent earthquake that left nearly 5,000 people dead or missing and thousands more homeless by sending donations through the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Make checks payable to JDC-El Salvador Relief Effort. Credit card donations may be made on the JDC website, www.jdc.org.

Checks should be mailed to: JDC, 711 Third Avenue, NY, NY 10017.

Israel dispatched a medical team to assist victims, followed by a shipment of medicines and medical supplies worth about \$30,000. Private organizations in Israel, working with the Jewish community in El Salvador, have gathered tons of goods that are being shipped as needed.

We are pleased to announce that

WILLIAM M. KOLB

Former Special Assistant Attorney General

has become associated
with the Firm

KAPLAN & JACOBSON INC.

Attorneys at Law

- ◆ Securities Arbitration and Litigation
- ◆ Mergers and Acquisitions
- ◆ Corporate and Banking Law
- ◆ Real Estate
- ◆ Business Litigation
- ◆ Business and Estate Tax Planning
- ◆ Personal Injury

1100 Turks Head Building, Providence, RI 02903
 Tel. 401-272-9000 ◆ Fax 401-272-9020



After Hours

Thursday, March 15, 2001

20 Adar 5761

7:00 PM

Rhode Island Foundation
 1 Union Street • Providence

speaker

Dennis Prager

Leading a Deeper and More Meaningful Life



Dennis Prager is one of the most well-known media personalities in America. A radio and television commentator as well as author, Prager has a daily three-hour talk show in Los Angeles, and a nationally syndicated television talk show.

He is co-author of *The Nine Questions People Ask About Judaism* and *Why the Jews? The Reason For anti-Semitism*. His latest book, *Think a Second Time*, is a compilation of 43 essays on subjects ranging from God's existence to raising good children to male and female sexuality.

Event is free • Dietary laws observed
 For details contact Amy M. Gross, 421-4111 Ext. 172
 E-mail agross@jfri.org • www.jfri.org

An Introduction

For some months now, The Voice has been reporting to its readers about the progress a Strategic Planning Steering Committee has been making in developing a vision statement for the Jewish community in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts.

The committee has developed a preliminary draft after meeting with Jews throughout the state and seeking input from synagogues, rabbis, the volunteer and professional leadership of the various Jewish agencies and the board of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. They are continuing to meet with synagogues and Jewish groups across the state to receive their input.

This is a work in progress.

The Greater Rhode Island Jewish community is dedicated to building an open and vibrant community that fosters a strong sense of Jewish identity and communal pride.

We embrace being a part of a worldwide Jewish family that rescues, assists and enriches the lives of those at risk, and cares for each other with dignity from birth to death. We strive to satisfy a child's thirst for knowledge and an adult's desire for meaning. We welcome and respect Jews of all beliefs and backgrounds. We are a community which respects our shared heritage, cherishes our common history and nurtures our future leaders.

We strive to uphold the core values of:

- Lifelong Jewish Learning (Torah) — to provide formal and informal educational opportunities for all
- Caring and Lovingkindness (Hesed) — to support social service needs at all stages of life
- Community Responsibility and Righteousness (Tzedakah) — to meet our responsibility to the entire Jewish community — locally, in Israel and around the world — by supporting an appropriate scope of quality services for which we are accountable
- Repairing the World (Tikkun Olam) — to work together and in collaboration with the larger community to improve the quality of life for all.

Your comments

What do you think of the vision statement?

Has something critical been left out? Is there something extraneous in it?

Please help in this process by letting the steering committee know your opinion.

You may write to the committee at:

Strategic Planning Steering Committee

130 Sessions St.

Providence, RI 02906

or

E-mail your comments to: shalom@jfri.org

Fax your comments to: 401-331-7961

A final version of the Vision Statement will be published in *The Voice* as will progress reports on the on-going work of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee and various workgroups.

**Are you protected
from having long term
care costs ruin your
children's inheritance?**



Call Lynn Pohl
401-274-7213

The Long Term Care Specialist



We bring good things to life.

Insurance products underwritten by General Electric Capital Assurance Company

We Need You!

Your:

Energy Enthusiasm Expertise

Jackie Robinson Exhibit coming this spring seeks anyone interested in diversity issues and willing to work to create a wonderful event for our children and community this April and May.

Contact Rebecca Lavine at 421-4111 ext. 162 for more details.

You can make a difference!

WHEN HE STOOD AT BAT HE STOOD FOR ALL OF US.



Can you be more "Jewish?" Sure; one step at a time

by Jane S. Sprague

Wendy Garf-Lipp, wife, mother, educator, talked *takhlit* with about 24 women crowded into Bonnie Reibman's living room on January 16. But this business was all about how to weave Jewish traditions into their busy lives.

She conceded that for her it was easy. As a teacher at the Alperin Schechter Day School "my life follows the rhythms of the Jewish calendar; I'm engrossed in it all the time."

She also would advocate having fun, as her family does, with Jewish life.

It wasn't always so. A self-described hippie, Garf-Lipp harkened back to the Shabbat of her early married life when she and her husband tended to end up arguing with each other rather than have a "peaceful" day. They came from different Shabbat backgrounds: his very formal and restricted, hers full of people and conversations.

In tears, Garf-Lipp says, she

called a friend who told her she didn't have to do all Shabbat traditions at once. And that's the advice she gives today to people wanting to add more Jewish tradition and spirituality to their lives: do one thing, and once that is part of your routine, add another until you have the kind of Shabbat you want, until Judaism is woven into your life.

But to bring Jewish things into your home, Garf-Lipp says, "You have to know what you are passionate about; otherwise you

won't find time to do them regularly."

Using a list of Jewish values developed by Abraham Segal, Garf-Lipp and the women dis-

cussed what mattered most to them; they talked of Yiddish or Hebrew words and expressions they can use to "infuse their homes with the language

The Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island
invites you to attend its Second Annual
ROSH CHODESH SERIES

Women of the Bible: How do they relate to our lives?

February 13 • April 25

FEBRUARY

APRIL

Topic: "Rachel - Beauty, Bravado or Brat?"

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2001

Time: 12:00 - 1:30 pm

Location: Temple Emanu-El Vestry, Providence

Cost: \$8, lunch included

Presenter: Rabbi Mark Bloom

Temple Tzot, Yisrael, Cranston

Topic: "Hannah"

Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Temple Emanu-El Vestry, Providence

Cost: Complimentary, dessert included

Presenter: Rabbi Debra S. Cantor

Consultant to BJE in Greater Boston

For information or to register

contact Joshua Karlin @ 421-4111, ext. 173 • E-mail JKarlin@jfri.org

Dietary laws observed

No solicitation of funds

Severe Premenstrual Symptoms Study

Women & Infants Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island, is conducting a study for women with severe PMS (premenstrual) symptoms.

You may qualify if you have the following symptoms:

- Depressed mood, tension, irritability
- Feeling suddenly sad or tearful
- Increased sensitivity to rejection

Plus the following criteria:

- Be between the ages of 21 and 37
- Not using medications for the treatment of PMS, including antidepressants, herbal treatments or birth control pills.

Evaluations and medications will provided FREE. Interested? Call Liz Balkcom, RN, at 401-274-1122, extension 2776.

Women & Infants'
A CARE NEW ENGLAND HOSPITAL

www.womenandinfants.com



To watch Wendy Garf-Lipp (above) talk about increasing Jewish traditions and spirituality in one's life is to watch a woman in love with that concept, one who harbors deep passion for the joy of being Jewish.

of *menhlichkeit*" and every day things they can do to bring *tzedakah* into their homes and work places; of creating an extended Jewish family so they don't have to be Jewish alone.

Garf-Lipp also brought to them the discussion between Bet Shammai and Bet Hillel on when and how a Jew should say the *Shema*, the former requiring rigid adherence to rule, the latter being less rigid.

"Shammai thinks that Jewish ritual should stop ordinary life," the text as interpreted by Garf-Lipp said. "You have to suspend what you are normally doing and change your posture, shifting into a Jewish ritual mode."

"Hillel thinks that Jewish ritual and ordinary life are con-fluent, they flow together. Most of the time you can work your Jewish 'stuff' into your ordinary life."



After Garf-Lipp's presentation, hostess Bonnie Reibman (above) helped her guests at the refreshment table.

At right, MayBeth Lichaa (center) is engrossed in Garf-Lipp's passionate presentation on making one's life more Jewish.



Iran: "It was no place for us Jews"

by Cary Eichenbaum

Mansoor and Roohi Radparvar were married in February, 1979, in their homeland of Iran, about a month after the brutal revolution that overthrew the ruling Shah and brought the despotic Ayatollah Khomeini to power. In June of that year, the newlyweds went to the government with a request for a two-month honeymoon in France. It was granted. Some 22 years later, the return tickets to Teheran remain unused.

The Radparvars are still melancholy whenever they talk about their native country. (Roohi readily admits to feeling homesick every time she opens a book about Iran). Still, the Radparvars were convinced that they had to flee their Middle East homeland when Mansoor, a practicing OB-GYN, was going to be forced to march around his hometown of Shiraz chanting "death to Israel."

Although Mansoor did not reveal his Jewish identity and therefore suffered no overt signs of anti-semitism either in his practice or personal life, he correctly figured 'the new Iran' would be no place to raise a Jewish family. "It was no place for us as Jews," he recollected during a recent interview.

Mansoor and Roohi are a charming couple who love to entertain guests in their East Side Providence home. They have three children: daughter Ramesh, 20, in her second year of nursing school at Northeastern, and sons Michael and David, both students at Classical High School. Both Dr. and Mrs. Radparvar had previously lived once, separately, in

the United States before immigrating permanently to America in the summer of 1979.

Roohi, an engaging woman with a willing smile, speaks with mixed feelings about Iran. Her first trip to the United States was to Oak Hill, Michigan, as an exchange student in 1968. She talks of Iran before the revolution as "a nice place to live, in general."

She said there was no discrimination against Jews, women were treated well, and "people could basically become whatever they wanted." Roohi also said another helpful thing was that the Shah's personal doctor was Jewish. Yet she hinted at the class differences in her native country which must have been an instrumental factor in the 1979 Revolution. "The country was going too fast for a large part of the population," Roohi explained. The capital, Teheran, was competing with Paris and Europe as far as fashion and other things, but when you went out in the country, there was no water."

Roohi endured an unusual occurrence when she was drafted into the Iranian Army off the airplane upon her return to Iran from the US in 1977. Unusual, maybe, but not unique.

"They had just passed a law to draft into the Army all females who had gotten their Bachelor's Degree and above," said Roohi, who graduated from Michigan's Ferris State University in '77.

Meanwhile, Mansoor had finished Medical School in Shiraz in 1969, then came to America to do a residency in a Bethesda, Maryland, hospital, from

1974-77. Mansoor, currently practicing at Attleboro's Sturdy Memorial Hospital, returned to Iran in 1977, where he became a doctor in his hometown. He recalled a relatively carefree life before the uprising that did in the Shah. Mansoor also remembered being able to worship in one of the country's many synagogues and to celebrate all Jewish festivals. However, after the revolution, that all changed drastically. Because of Khomeini's new guidelines "women stopped wanting to be examined by male doctors," he said, causing a world of potential problems for OB-GYNs like himself. Also, a "kind, old Jewish doctor lost his legs in an explosion in his office," further encouraging Mansoor's decision to flee Iran.

Roohi revealed that her parents were never really threatened by the revolutionary government after she and Mansoor left because they really made it appear as if they were indeed coming back to their homeland. "We paid the maid for two months, we paid the gardener for two months, we left food in the refrigerator. We really gave every indication that we were returning, even though we knew that we weren't," said Roohi.

Roohi said that it was not that difficult to call loved ones left behind after coming to the States. However, they could never discuss politics or the situation in Iran and even spoke in their own

"language."

When Roohi or Mansoor said on the phone, "The weather here is fine," it literally meant, "We are all healthy here."

The Radparvars also spoke of the utter disbelief and denial many in the Iranian Jewish community felt when they realized how bad things would become in that country after the Ayatollah's ascension. Roohi remembers how she begged her father to take the rest of the family with them in 1979, but how he steadfastly refused. "My father said 'nothing's going to happen, you're doing the wrong thing, things will blow over soon.'" It was much more difficult to get them out when they eventually came to the United States in 1985. When reminded of how her Dad's words sounded eerily familiar to German Jews' refrains after Hitler rose to power in Germany in 1933, Roohi shook her head and said wistfully, "History repeated itself, unfortunately."

On a cheerier note, the Radparvars also related customs prevalent in their homeland that they brought with them to the United States. During the Passover Seder, while reciting *Daryenu*, the Sephardic custom is for participants to take a long scallion and hit their neighbor with it, signifying the whips Jews were lashed with in ancient Egypt. Also, during the Festival of Sukkot, Mansoor said Iranians would all sleep and eat every meal

in their sukkah, adorned beautifully with Persian rugs. He said that on Simhat Torah, all Jews would gather in Sukkabs to hear the completion of the Torah's cycle. Another charming custom the Radparvars brought stateside with them was "kell," a sound made by clicking the tongue to the roof of the mouth. Kell is reserved for simchas, or extremely joyous occasions. Those who attended the three Radparvar children's Bar Mitzvah celebrations at Temple Emanu-El can easily attest to the happy sound.

And although the family nowadays neither sleeps in its Sukkah in this country nor decorates its walls with fancy Persian rugs, they always encourage American friends to join in with Kell and participate in the "scallion hitting" portion of the Passover Seder. "And some of our American friends now use this custom in their own Seder," Roohi states proudly.

The Providence Jewish community has embraced the Radparvar family and seen its rich diversity strengthened by the full Iranian customs and traditions they practice. In a Jewish community stocked with Ashkenazim, Eastern European Jews, Habad, Modern Orthodox, and others, it is very refreshing to see Sephardic traditions practiced here.

Cary Eichenbaum is a senior at the University of Rhode Island who is writing for The Jewish Voice this semester.

Rabbi Flam on Youth and Judaism for Kulanu brunch February 25

Rabbi Alan Flam, who was the driving force behind Brown/RISD Hillel for 18 years, will discuss "Youth and the Future of Judaism" as the featured speaker for the February 25 Kulanu Brunch at Temple Emanu-El.

Rabbi Flam became associate university chaplain and executive director of Brown/RISD Hillel in 1982. Under his leadership, the program gained national recognition as a premier Hillel Foundation, and twice the chapter won the prestigious William Haber Award, in 1984 for a Black-Jewish Dialogue Project and six years later for creating the first campus-based community relations council.

In 1996, Brown/RISD Hillel garnered the Eli Wiesel Award

for cultural arts excellence for "Acts of Power," a Jewish women's program. The program also was known for producing Jewish leaders, with many graduates pursuing careers as rabbis, cantors, educators or communal professionals.

Rabbi Flam now leads a collaborative project at Brown between the Swearer Center for Public Service and the Office of Chaplains and Religious Life which explores the intersection of religious and spiritual values with community work.

Brunch will be served at 9:30 am. The subsequent programs in the series, sponsored also by Koffler Bornstein Institute of Jewish Studies, will be March 18 and May 6.

FEDERAL RESERVE



*The elegance of the Mansions . . .
At affordable prices*

BAR/BAT MITZVAH	SHOWERS
RECEPTIONS	SEMINARS
REHEARSALS	FUND RAISERS
BANQUETS	

AMID THE ELEGANT DECOR, FEDERAL RESERVE RETAINS A WARMTH THAT WILL SUIT YOUR DESIRE FOR ANY MOOD FROM CASUAL TO BLACK TIE. THE RESTAURANT LAYOUT ENABLES YOU TO HOST AN EVENT FOR 25 TO 350 AND STILL FEEL COMFORTABLY ACCOMMODATED.

SIXTY DORRANCE STREET - PROVIDENCE
RHODE ISLAND 02903

IN THE OLD UNION TRUST AT THE CORNER OF DORRANCE & WESTMINSTER
NEAR WHERE THE OUTLET USED TO BE

401-621-5700 FAX 401-273-8963

PARKING AVAILABLE



Jewish healing workshop in Peacedale

A public workshop on "Healing and Joy in Jewish Tradition" will begin at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 28 in the Lounge of the Neighborhood Guild, 325 Columbia Street, in Peacedale. The workshop will explore lesser-known Jewish teachings that emphasize joy and the ability of individuals to achieve a personal spiritual healing, said organizer Howard Brown of North Kingstown.

Conducted by the Rhode Island Center for Jewish Healing,

this start-up organization's goal, Brown said, is "to create a network of healing arts practitioners, both traditional and non-traditional, who have a shared appreciation of the power of Jewish spiritual healing."

The Center currently offers workshops and counseling in such areas as forging or strengthening a personal Jewish connection; pain, stress and anger management; forgiveness, and joy as a path to spiritual healing.

Brown said that in recent years, centers devoted to Jewish

healing have begun to spring up in America, and that the National Center for Jewish Healing in New York City serves as a focal point for this growth.

Brown's involvement stems from his life experience with chronic pain for which he found relief through Jewish mystical traditions.

Attendance for the February 28 workshop will be by pre-registration only. There will be a \$20 fee. Call 401-268-3833 or e-mail hbrown@jamestownr.com for registration information.

Reincarnation, Purim programs at CHAI Center

The Chabad CHAI Center at 15 Centerville Road in Warwick will present "The Journey of the Soul," a program on reincarnation and Judaism on Wednesday, February 7 at 7:15 pm.

Rabbi DovBer Pinson, an author and lecturer, will discuss the concepts of reincarnation and

its inner purpose and meaning as taught through Kabbalah.

The Center's Purim Shabbaton on Friday, March 9 at 5:15 pm, also will be at the Centerville Road facility. The Megillah reading begins at 4:45 pm, followed by dinner, singing, comic

entertainment, "L'haim and lots of holiday spirit," simultaneous children's program, games and story telling.

Suggested donation is \$15 adults; \$7 children with a \$40 maximum per family. Make reservations by March 4; 401-732-6559.

Two accounting firms merge



Richard Kaplan and Stephen Yarlas (front row, center and right) are two of the principals in the new firm. Their colleagues are (fr) Salvatore Santilli; 2nd row, Joseph Orlando, James Sinman, Paul Moran. Back row, Mark Woods, Luis Lourenco, Thomas Lisi.

Richard Kaplan and Steve Yarlas are two of the four partners in the new accounting firm, Yarlas, Kaplan, Santilli & Moran, Ltd. formed from a merger of Kaplan, Moran & Associates, Ltd., and Jarcho, Schwartz, Yarlas & Santilli, Ltd.

The merged firm, which handles accounting and tax needs of private corporations and individuals, is in expanded offices at 27 Dryden Lane in Providence.

Yarlas, CPA, JD, LLM specializes in estate planning while also providing general counsel and guidance in all areas of accounting. A resident of Cranston, he has been practicing for 38 years, having an undergraduate degree from URI, a law degree from Suffolk University and a master of laws in taxation from Boston University School of Law. Yarlas is a past president of Temple Torat Yisrael and a past chairman of Israel Bonds for the State of Rhode Island. He sits on the board of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI).

Kaplan, CPA, JD, has a diversified 37-year professional background which includes valuation of closely held businesses for buy/sell agreements, divorce settlements, stockholder disputes and estate and gift planning. In addition to being an expert witness, he has served as a court-appointed mediator. His undergraduate work was at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and his law degree from Suffolk. A resident of East Providence, he is a board member and past president of the CCRI Foundation and Jewish Family Service. Currently, Kaplan is treasurer of the Providence Rotary Club and an Area Vice President of JFRI.

Hadassah plans 3 workshops

Hadassah Northeast announces three personal development/leadership institutes, each featuring national board members as the Scholars in Residence.

Young Women of Hadassah have designed a weekend at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health, in Lenox, Mass., on Saturday and Sunday, March 17-18 (with a Shabbat option). Among the sessions will be "Hadassah 101: Nor Your Grandmother's Hadassah." This Institute is created by and for women to age 45.

The Premier Women's Institute, created by and for women aged 61+, will be at Kutscher's Resort, in Monticello, NY, Friday through Sunday, April 20-22. Women will share Shabbat and celebrate Rosh Hodesh with Hadassah's new "Moonbeams," a study guide of issues crucial to today's Jewish woman.

The details are being finalized for the Prime Women's Institute, created by and for women aged 46-60, scheduled for fall.

Please call the RI Hadassah office at 401-463-3636.

Stars of David programs for adoptive families

Stars of David, the RI Chapter of an international support organization for Jewish and partly Jewish adoptive families, has announced four upcoming events:

March 16-17: Adoption RI Conference with numerous workshops for adoptive parents. Call 401-724-1910 for brochure and information.

April 27-28: Open Door Society annual conference in Milford, Mass., also with information for adoptive parents. Call 800-93-ADOPT for brochure.

June 1: — Early Kabbalat Shabbat service and dinner at Temple Emanu-El at 5:45 pm. To volunteer or to make reservations call 401-728-4428.

June 22: — Annual Stars of David Shabbat picnic. Details TBA.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February 8 — Tu B'Shevat		
Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club	10:00 AM	Camp JORI Board Meeting
JCC Seniors Tu B'Shevat Seder	10:30 AM	Na Amat Davora Dayan Regular Meeting
JFRI Endowment Investment Committee	4:30 PM	February 20
BJE Judaica Course	7:00 PM	JFRI Planning & Allocations Meeting
BJE Day School Liaison Committee	7:30 PM	Temple Emanu-El Adult Institute
February 9		
WA Babies, Kids & Kibbitzing	10:30 AM	February 21
Friday School	3:30 PM	BJE Senior Planning Collaborative
February 10		
BJE Pizmon Concert	7:00 PM	BJE HEM Class
February 11		
Temple Beth-El Family Workshop	9:00 AM	Temple Am David Investment Club
BJE HEM Sunday Class	9:30 AM	Gemilath Chesed Hebrew Free Loan Assn. of Providence Board Meeting
Temple Emanu-El Kulanu Brunch	9:30 AM	BJE Executive Committee
Temple Am David Adult Education Program	9:30 AM	February 22
Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Afternoon Film Festival	2:00 PM	JFRI Finance Committee Meeting
Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club	2:00 PM	Voice Copy Review
Interdenominational/CLAL Program	3:00 PM	JFRI Women's Alliance Executive Committee
February 12		
Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club	10:00 AM	Meeting of Agency President's & Executives
February 13		
JFRI Women's Alliance Rosh Chodesh Program	Noon	BJE Judaica Course
JFRI Campaign Cabinet Meeting	5:00 PM	February 23
Brown/RISD Hillel Board of Trustees	7:00 PM	Friday School
Temple Emanu-El Adult Institute	7:30 PM	February 24
February 14		
Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club Board	10:00 AM	JCPA Plenum - Washington D.C. — through 2/28
BJE Certification Sub-Committee	4:00 PM	Temple Beth-El Sisterhood/Brotherhood
BJE HEM Class	6:30 PM	Havdalah Service
Touro Fraternal Assn. Board Meeting	7:30 PM	February 25
RI Holocaust Memorial Museum Board	7:30 PM	PHDS Auction
February 15		
JFRI Women's Alliance Endowment Com.	Noon	BJE HEM Sunday Class
Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Board Meeting	4:00 PM	Temple Am David Adult Education Program
JFRI CRC Executive Committee	5:30 PM	Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Film Festival
BJE Judaica Course	7:00 PM	February 26
ASDS Zimnyah	7:30 PM	Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club
February 16		
Friday School	3:30 PM	BJE Teen Task Force
February 17		
BJE HEM Sunday Class	9:30 AM	Temple Emanu-El Executive Committee
Temple Am David Adult Education Program	9:30 AM	February 27
Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Film Festival	2:00 PM	Temple Beth-El School Board Meeting
February 18		
BJE HEM Sunday Class	9:30 AM	Temple Emanu-El Adult Institute
Temple Am David Adult Education Program	9:30 AM	February 28
Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Film Festival	2:00 PM	JFRI Endowment Committee
February 19		
Camp JORI Board Meeting	7:00 PM	BJE HEM Class
Na Amat Davora Dayan Regular Meeting	7:30 PM	Feinstein Foundation Program with Cantor Riselle Bain
February 20		
JFRI Planning & Allocations Meeting	5:00 PM	Judaic Culture in Contemporary American Life
Temple Emanu-El Adult Institute	7:30 PM	ASDS Executive Committee Meeting
February 21		
BJE Senior Planning Collaborative	8:00 AM	JCC Board Meeting
BJE HEM Class	6:30 PM	
Temple Am David Investment Club	7:00 PM	
Gemilath Chesed Hebrew Free Loan Assn. of Providence Board Meeting	7:30 PM	
BJE Executive Committee	7:30 PM	
February 22		
JFRI Finance Committee Meeting	7:45 AM	
Voice Copy Review	8:00 AM	
JFRI Women's Alliance Executive Committee	Noon	
Meeting of Agency President's & Executives	5:00 PM	
BJE Judaica Course	7:00 PM	
February 23		
Friday School	3:30 PM	
February 24		
JCPA Plenum - Washington D.C. — through 2/28		
Temple Beth-El Sisterhood/Brotherhood		
Havdalah Service	5:45 PM	
February 25		
PHDS Auction	9:30 AM	
BJE HEM Sunday Class	9:30 AM	
Temple Am David Adult Education Program	9:30 AM	
Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Film Festival	2:00 PM	
February 26		
Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club	10:00 AM	
BJE Teen Task Force	7:00 PM	
Temple Emanu-El Executive Committee	7:30 PM	
February 27		
Temple Beth-El School Board Meeting	7:00 PM	
Temple Emanu-El Adult Institute	7:30 PM	
February 28		
JFRI Endowment Committee	4:45 PM	
BJE HEM Class	6:30 PM	
Feinstein Foundation Program with Cantor Riselle Bain	7:30 PM	
Judaic Culture in Contemporary American Life	7:30 PM	
ASDS Executive Committee Meeting	7:30 PM	
JCC Board Meeting	7:45 PM	



Feb. 2 4:44

Feb. 9 4:53

Feb. 16 5:02

Feb. 23 5:11

Shabbat Shalom

“Each after their own kind:” A Jewish Celebration of biological diversity

by Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson

Of all that the Holy Blessed One created in the world, God created nothing without a purpose. —Shabbat 77b

The world is a wonder.

It was Albert Einstein who noted that Judaism expresses “a sort of intoxicating joy and amazement at the beauty and grandeur of this world, of which human-kind can just form a faint notion. Life is sacred — that is to say, it is the supreme value, to which all other values are subordinate.” Just open a window as a new day dawns, and we are engulfed in a symphony of sounds and smells as the world awakens. Whether in cities or suburbs, one cannot help but exult as the birds sing out their morning prayers and the rustling leaves offer their gifts to the world. How many of us, in a place of natural beauty — the Grand Canyon, the Arava in Israel, or even our own backyards — can fail to feel the pulsing mystery that life offers? How many of us, at such times, know from the inside that life is really a gift?

The miracle of life is but the beginning of that gift. For humanity receives the additional gift of consciousness. We are uniquely aware of being alive, and our hearts swell with a sense of oneness that links us with other living things. As children, we easily speak to trees, mountains and animals, knowing intuitively that we are spiritually connected to all Creation. As adults, sadly, that insight often withers. Yet in each of us it occasionally awakens, transcending layers of civilization and education at special moments — a sunset at the beach, a walk in the woods, a trip to the aquarium or zoo, a night under the stars.

Creation is surely a marvel. Sit quietly in a quiet spot in a park and the apparent calm soon surrenders to a rich bouquet of clamoring life as one becomes aware of birds, insects, animals and plants dancing their unheard choreography of sheer being. How rich our lives are because of such abundance! How impoverished our world — and our souls — would be were that rich diversity to diminish.

We all have a need to feel part of life's variety. And life now requires us to act on its behalf. We call the variety of life “biodiversity” and we are its caretakers. We are the guardians of life.

Biodiversity is not only a matter of scientific, aesthetic and political concern. Diversity is a matter of pressing Jewish concern. Since Judaism understands nature as God's creation, cultivating marvel at the teeming abundance of life and the diverse array of living things is foundational to our religious experience. Indeed, the experience of holiness through nature has inspired most of the world's religious traditions. Each faith tradition has responded to the wonder of the world in its own way; in Judaism, the pre-eminent response has been to see humanity as God's stewards, responsible to “guard and tend” creation. As the psalmist reminds us, “The heavens belong to God, but the Earth was given to humanity.” Our special obligation is to assure the continuing viability of creation, to maintain the Earth's bounteous ability to nurture life. Since Judaism recognizes humanity as God's stewards, our commitment to sustain diversity is nothing short of a religious mandate: *a mitzvah*.

Our role as steward is linked in the biblical and rabbinic traditions to an understanding that human beings are unique among all created things, since we alone are made in God's image. Sole possessors of consciousness and language, people are privileged to reflect the sacred within the mundane and to translate the worldly into

A Tu B'Shevat Midrash

Tu BiShevat — Rosh Hashanah La' ilanot — The New Year of the Trees.

On Thursday, February 8, the 15th day of the Jewish month of Shevat, Jews celebrate the holiday of Tu BiShevat, a celebration of the natural world and a reminder to its inhabitants to cultivate and to protect — to be keepers of the earth for future generations. The love of nature, the respect for creativity and the Creator, the devotion to the Land of Israel and its development, the marvel of growth and productivity — all are celebrated on Tu BiShevat.

The essence of Tu B'Shevat is summed up in this midrash from Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah VII: 2:1.

At the time when God created the very first human being, God took him and had him inspect all of the trees of the Garden of Eden. God said to him:

“Look at how lovely and outstanding all my work has turned out to be. Please note that everything I've created I have created for you. Think about this carefully and don't damage or destroy my world — for if you do there is no one to repair it.”

The BJE Library has a vast collection of materials for both children and adults on Tu B'Shevat, ecology and trees. They can be used throughout the year. Call Director of Media Services Toby Rossner at 401-331-0956, x184 or email trossner@bjeri.org for help.

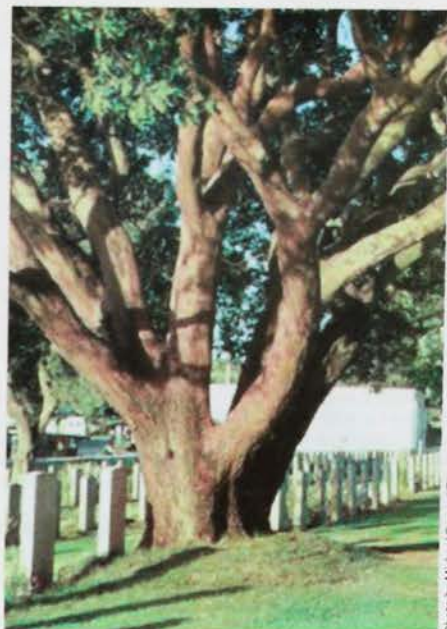
The article adjacent by Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson is reprinted with the permission of The Coalition of the Environment and Jewish Life. You can visit COEJL's web site at www.coejl.org for additional ideas about ecology and Tu BiShevat.

the spiritual. Judaism creates a fruitful tension by insisting that people are both a part of creation and apart from it; we are little higher than the beasts, and “little lower than the angels.” As creatures within creation, we can legitimately use the rest of creation to meet our needs as a species and to pursue our uniquely human goals. Reflecting God's image in the world, however, we must also consider how well we are managing the world on behalf of its Creator.

As Jews, we are heirs to an ancient heritage through which we can reflect on our place in the world and our responsibilities to God, humanity and creation. While the issue of biodiversity *per se* reflects a modern environmental concern, both in the realm of Jewish legend and in Jewish law, sages across the millennia have expressed their marvel at the variety of living things and a concern for the integrity of creation. As the prophet Isaiah reminds us, “God did not create the world as a wasteland, but formed it for habitation.”

While Judaism certainly allows people to use the resources of the world to sustain human development and well-being, permitting taking animals' lives for human nutrition and health and harvesting plants for human civilization, the Jewish balancing act — established from the beginning — is to “guard and to tend” the garden in which we live, but which we do not own.

Bradley Shavit Artson is Rabbi of Congregation Eilat, Mission Viejo, California. He is the author of It's a Mitzvah! Step-By-Step to Jewish Living. He is writing a book on environmental ethics and Judaism for the Jewish Publication Society.



The Katlav, or Oriental strawberry tree, at the Jerusalem British War Cemetery.

Tales about trees

by Michael Brown

(JTA) — Tu BiShevat gives parents the opportunity to share with their children the importance of trees in everyday life. Jewish tradition is full of parables using trees to convey messages.

Some folk tales help explain particular characteristics of trees.

The first is about the olive tree. Olive trees tend to become hollow as they get older. This is possible because the tree gets its nourishment from the thin layer of inner bark just underneath the outer bark.

The second story concerns the Katlav, or Oriental strawberry tree. This particularly striking tree can be found growing in the Galilee, Carmel and Judean mountains. It's most noteworthy characteristic is its red bark, which has been associated throughout the ages with bloodshed.

“The Grieving Olive Tree”

After the Babylonians destroyed the Second Temple, there was widespread grief and mourning throughout the country. To demonstrate their extreme grief, all the trees of the country shed their leaves. After the trees were bare, they noticed that the olive tree — which is by nature an evergreen — still retained its leaves.

Representatives of the trees approached the olive tree and asked “Why don't you shed your leaves in grief over the destruction of the Temple?” The olive tree responded: “You, my brothers, show your grief on the outside for all to see. My grief will be carried within for all times.” And so it is, that each year the olive tree eats away at itself in grief and sorrow until it is nothing more than a hollow strip of bark.

“How the Katlav Tree Came to Be”

One day a young shepherd became embroiled in an argument with his father over the affections of a young woman. Words were said on both sides as tempers flared. Suddenly, in anger the shepherd raised the staff in his hand and struck his father, killing him. In shock, the son threw the blood stained staff to the ground, where it sprouted.

Michael Brown, a school librarian in Marlboro, N.J., is the author of the “Jewish Gardening Cookbook.”

Photo by Michael Brown/JTA

OU's Executive VP resigns

by Julie Wiener

NEW YORK (JTA) — The executive vice president of the Orthodox Union has resigned — apparently under pressure — in the latest development in a case that has gripped the centrist Orthodox group for months.

Rabbi Raphael Butler had come under fire for not disciplining Rabbi Baruch Lanner, a high-ranking professional in the OU's youth group who has been accused of sexually harassing, molesting and physically abusing scores of teen-agers.

Lanner, who had served as director of regions for the OU's National Conference of Synagogue Youth, resigned in July, shortly after an article detailing the allegations against him appeared in the New York Jewish Week. Butler, who became the OU's top professional in 1994 after more than 13 years of work in the organization, submitted a resignation letter January 19.

High-level Orthodox officials said Butler had the support of a majority of the OU's executive committee, which was to vote Feb. 4 on his employment status. But the Orthodox rabbinic arm and the OU's immediate past president exerted strong pressure to push Butler out, the officials said.

Butler's resignation came three and a half weeks after an OU-appointed commission released an executive summary of a report that found "profound errors of judgment" in the way the organization's leaders dealt with Lanner. OU officials have apologized for Lanner's behavior, and hosted a public forum on the topic at the organization's biennial convention over New Year's weekend.

Another Shafran pronouncement: Conservative movement a failure

by Julie Wiener

NEW YORK (JTA) — Breaking a months-long lull in the struggle for Jewish religious pluralism, an Orthodox leader has accused Conservative Judaism of being a "lie."

In a lengthy feature article in the February-March issue of Moment magazine, Rabbi Avi Shafran, spokesman for the fervently Orthodox Agudath Israel of America (formerly on faculty at Providence Hebrew Day School/New England Academy of Torah, and published irregularly on the opinion pages of the Providence Journal), writes that the Conservative movement is a "failure."

Not surprisingly, the article has caused something of a stir, spawning 20 letters to Moment within a few days of its appearance. It also is spurring criticism from Conservative leaders, who say they are particularly disturbed that it comes despite a concerted Conservative effort to avoid confrontations with the Orthodox in Israel by agreeing not to hold mixed prayer services at the Western Wall, among other steps.

In "The Conservative Lie," Shafran accuses Conservative Judaism of being intellectually dishonest in its claim to be governed by halachah, or Jewish law.

The movement's halachic rulings always result in "new per-

missions," Shafran writes, and its claim of adherence to Jewish law is "a figurative fig leaf, strategically positioned to prevent the exposure of the Conservative movement as nothing more than a timid version of Reform."

Conservative Judaism is also "superfluous," Shafran writes. In his view, Orthodox Judaism offers a viable alternative for the halachically-inclined, while Reform Judaism is an "attractive and logical option" for Jews who "regrettably have no interest in halachah."

Conservative leaders criticized Shafran's arguments.

"It's important for Conservative Jews as well as the rest of the world to understand that Rabbi Shafran is not the defining authority of what is halachic," said Rabbi Jerome Epstein, executive vice president of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Few Conservative Jews will find Shafran's brand of Judaism appealing, Epstein said, and "to make them feel as if what they're doing is not credible, appropriate or authentic — which it is — is only counterproductive."

Epstein also contended that by recognizing multiple interpretations of Jewish law, "Conservative Judaism, in a real sense, is more authentic than the brand of Judaism" Shafran is "trying to force onto people."

Epstein took issue with the idea that Conservative rulings are always more lenient than Orthodox. For example, the decision to allow women to be counted in a minyan and lead prayer services also calls on them to assume the obligations required of men.

Also, Conservative rulings on domestic violence and kosher slaughter create new requirements that go beyond traditional interpretations, Epstein said.

Conservative leaders, who are collaborating on a letter to the editor of Moment, criticize more than the article's content. They also suggest that it should have been labeled an Op-Ed piece, rather than a feature, and should have identified Shafran's profession and his bias against non-Orthodox forms of Judaism.

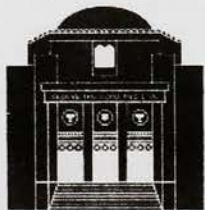
Why write the article now, at a time when renewed violence in Israel — and the resulting pressure for unity — has quelled most talk of pluralism?

Religious pluralism debates are "bubbling up under the surface," Shafran said. "Before the Conservative movement takes the next step in trying to convince the Israeli public and government that it is a vibrant and halachically motivated movement, it's important that the dialogue be opened about whether that's indeed true."

Some of our
textbooks may be
over 2,500 years old,
but our programs
are very current.

The Religious School
at Temple Emanu-El

Call for our new brochure!



Temple Emanu-El

A Conservative congregation that's anything but.

99 Taft Avenue • Providence • Rhode Island • 02906 • 331-1616

 **A NEW LEAF**
Not Your Traditional Flower Shop

By patronizing A NEW LEAF, you are supporting a non-profit agency whose aim is to provide employment to adults with psychiatric disabilities working towards competitive employment.

Thank you for your support.

Long Stem Red
or Osiana Roses
\$44.95 Dozen or \$5.95 ea.
\$49.95 Vase or Boxed

Color Roses
\$37.95 Dozen or \$4.95 ea.
\$42.95 Vase or Boxed

Please order early

351-4330

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Open Mon.-Fri. 8:00-5:30 • Saturday 9:00-3:00 • Sunday 11:00-3:00

135 Gano Street • Providence



Roses whether boxed or arranged
are sheer elegance.

Mature, yet youthful, Temple Shalom to push out its walls

by Jane S. Sprague

Forty is such a nice age for most people. You're not quite middle age, but the years of inexperience are behind. Usually, your family is formed. Your finances are steady; your place on the career ladder sound. Enough experience now to know what you want and don't want, like and dislike, accept and reject — yet not so set in your ways that you've given up exploring new ideas or meeting new people. Just a nice age. It's also the age when you may take a deep breath, and say to yourself, "What do I need to make the quality of my life just a bit better?"

And that is the age Temple Shalom in Middletown celebrates this year: Mature, yet still youthful. In 25 years, having grown from 58 families to 140, it has a pretty good formula for being a lively synagogue. Its services are on Friday nights, plus one Saturday a month (that usually includes a bar or bat mitzvah), and it closes up for August "when everyone is at the beach," according to its long-time rabbi, Marc Jagolinzer.

The congregation knows that it likes a personal approach to services and cherishes a sense of "being a Temple Family that shares all life cycle events with a closeness, care and concern that are very special," Rabbi Jagolinzer says.

Fortunately, thanks to "good stewardship," he says, "Temple Shalom is healthy financially. We nor flush, but we're in the black."

That pleasant position has prepared the way for the congregation to assess what it needs to enhance its quality of life. The answer? Space.

With a capital campaign seeking \$300,000 underway, Temple Shalom plans to double the size of its sanctuary and social hall by expanding north and east on the current building. The addition will include a chapel and a library, and, thanks to the generosity of Beatrice B.

Bazarsky, the religious school she founded in honor of her husband, Samuel Z. Bazarsky, will get a multi-purpose room on its south side, Rabbi Jagolinzer said.

It needs it. Its charming little classrooms no longer can handle the 78 children who now attend classes for preschoolers through high school students.

Everything throughout the building, the rabbi said, also will be handicapped accessible. Groundbreaking is planned for spring, rededication for the High Holy Days.

Marc and Barbara Jagolinzer have grown to these early middle years right along with the congregation, which to express their gratitude and affection for this couple, who perform all the expected rabbinic duties and teach in the religious school, gave the Jagolinzers their first trip to Israel. It commemorated their 25 years with the synagogue. Although the anniversary was in 1999, the trip was in 2000 when the Jagolinzers could meet up with their daughter Sarah, now a senior at Brandeis University but then studying in Jerusalem.

Marc Jagolinzer has abundant energy. He is full time with Temple Shalom. "The needs of my congregants always come first," he says. On the day we interviewed him he has just taught a visiting class from a local public school about the synagogue and the symbols in the sanctuary. He is immediate past chair of the Rhode Island Board of

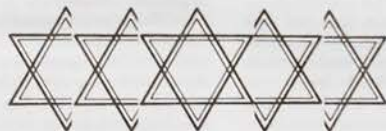


By the High Holy Days, this view of Temple Shalom on Valley Road in Middletown will be radically different as the synagogue adds on its east and north faces.

Rabbis and currently chairs the Interfaith Council for the National Conference on Community Justice as well as the Aquidneck Island Clergy Association.

But don't let thinking about that wear you out. There's more. He, of course, teaches adult education for the synagogue and conversion one-on-one, plus he is the Jewish Chaplain at Johnson & Wales University and Roger Williams University, and he teaches college level courses at Salve Regina University and the University of Rhode Island. Several years ago, he was the technical and Judaic consultant/teacher for the Jamestown Community Players when they mounted a critically acclaimed version of "Fiddler on the Roof."

With the Aquidneck Island Clergy Association he works with a speakers' program, negotiates over sports. Please go to page 22.



MANY VOICES ONE PEOPLE

An Interdenominational Program for the Rhode Island Jewish Community.

In Search of Jewish Pluralism

*Sunday, February 11th • 3:00 - 5:00 pm • Temple Beth El
70 Orchard Avenue, Providence, RI*

One of the inescapable characteristics of modernity is the pluralism of our experience. We are Orthodox, Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist, Hasidic, Zionist, Secular, Yiddishist, ethnic, assimilated, Ashkenazic, Sephardic, affluent, poor and every possible combination of the above. How can the Jewish community negotiate this variety? Can we claim we are "one" despite our many differences, or will our differences inevitably tear us apart?



This session features Rabbi Steven Greenberg, a Senior Teaching Fellow of CLAL (The Center for Learning And Leadership), known internationally for its pioneering interdenominational work. Rabbi Greenberg received his B.A. in philosophy and his rabbinical ordination from Yeshiva University. He has developed and coordinated the innovative Judaic training program for communal leaders, the Learning Leaders Program. He is also a graduate of the Jerusalem Fellows program, a two-year fellowship for senior Jewish educators from all over the world sponsored by the Mandel Institute.



CLAL

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

Temple Shalom. . . from pg. 21

on Sabbath, works to strengthen understanding and tolerance in the community and sensitize its members to the beliefs and traditions of each other. He has instituted a 30-minute study session at the beginning of the clerics' meetings.

It is Temple Shalom, however, that is the focus of his professional energies. There he meets regularly with the Tree of Life group of seniors, supervises the synagogue's kosher kitchen and ensures that the temple remains

a "place for study, educational and social interaction." He generally expects about 100 people for Friday evening services, "and they stay for the oneg Shabbat," he says. "Temple Shalom is an integral part of the lives of many of our households."

He refers to the 40% of the households who comprise "devoted and ardent workers. Our Caring Committee is trained to visit shut-ins, send cards to people, call on them in hospitals and

nursing homes."

He estimates that about one-third of the member households are intermarried and says that most of them bring their children to the Bazarsky school for their religious education. "We are very inclusive of these families," he says, "especially at milestones, while also respecting halachah." Shalom is a member of the conservative movement.

"Our services are unique, yet traditional" Rabbi Jagolinzer

notes. "We rotate among four different prayer books so it's not the same English translation every Friday evening, and periodically members of the congregation bring in their favorite prayers or readings and we incorporate them in the service."

He believes that Jews today really "want to be Jewish, but they want meaning and spirituality. The temple needs to give them the means to realize that."

With Fred Scheff as cantor and Steve Martorella accompanying him there is "lots of singing, innovative and creative," the rabbi claims.

Temple Shalom is one of only two synagogues in Newport County, the other being the historic Orthodox shul, Touro Synagogue. Shalom was founded on August 7, 1961 after an earlier meeting spearheaded by Simon Greenberg of the Jewish Theological Seminary.

For a time, the congregation eked along financially and spiritually, using rabbis or rabbinical students from the New England Region of United Synagogue of America to lead Shabbat and holy day services. During its first year, services were in a variety of places. In 1962, according to a history written by Rabbi Jagolinzer and published by the Jewish Historical Association, "Temple Shalom became the occupant of the second floor of the Horgan Building at 194A Thames St."

A year later, they had their first elected rabbi, Baruch Levine of Brandeis, who would come to town on weekends for a year. Then in 1964, they hired their first full-time resident rabbi, Stanley Dreifuss, recently discharged as an army chaplain.

"A turning point . . . occurred in 1967," Rabbi Jagolinzer writes, "when the congregation purchased the Birdland Cafe, located at 196-198 Thames Street. . .

Through the physical labors and financial support of its members, the Birdland Cafe was fashioned into a beautiful sanctuary, social hall, kitchen and study." But the synagogue was back to weekend and student rabbis, at least until 1974 when Rabbi Jagolinzer accepted the congregation's call.

Hardly had he arrived when "calamity struck early on Sunday morning, October 14, 1974, Columbus Day, when Temple Shalom was completely destroyed by arson." Not even the Torah scrolls were saved. For the next three years, they worshipped at Congregation Ahavim Achim, a small shul tucked behind the Newport City Hall on Broadway, hardly known to anyone outside the community and today no longer a Jewish house of worship.

In 1977, a new synagogue was designed and ground broken in July on Valley Road. The first service in the new facility was September 7, 1978. Ten years later, Beatrice B. Bazarsky initiated discussions about building a religious school which would be open to all Jewish children, regardless of affiliation. Now, both are about to expand.

It has been a wonderful 26 years for Marc Jagolinzer. He and his family have grown right along with the congregation. Son Charles is in law school and Jonathan a senior at Portsmouth high school; daughter Sarah is about to graduate Brandeis.

"Kids whom I trained for the Bar or Bat Mitzvah," Rabbi Jagolinzer smiles, "I now officiate at their weddings or their kids' brit or baby naming. The first time that happened, it was very emotional, remembering when they were young and I was young. I just love to share the *simchas* with the congregation."

For membership information, contact Temple Shalom at 401-846-9002, or write P.O. Box 4372, Middletown, RI 02842.



Ivan E. Perlman
Cantor Emeritus, Temple Emanu-El
Providence, RI



Josh C. Perlman



Emanuel C. Perlman
Cantor, Chizuk Amuno
Congregation, Baltimore, MD



Richard E. Perlman
Cantor, Congregation Am David
Warwick, RI



Eli B. Perlman
Cantor, The Jewish Congregation of
Concordia, Cranbury, NJ

SAVE THE DATE

Congregation Am David of
Warwick, Rhode Island
presents

The Five Cantors in Concert

Sunday, May 6, 2001

3:00 pm

Congregation Am David
40 Gardiner Street
Warwick, RI 02888

SAVE THE DATE

Your local source for everything Jewish is. . .

Rhoda's Judaica

WINTER SALE

Now in progress!

10%-40% OFF

selected merchandise

Sale ends February 11

775 Hope Street, Providence

~ 454-4775 ~

Mon.-Thurs. 10-6 - Fri. 10-3 Sun. 10-2

URI freshman wins ADL trip to Japan



Allison Vuona

Allison Vuona, Worcester, Mass., a freshman and Centennial Scholar at the University of Rhode Island, spent a week in Japan in December as one of three winners of the Anti-Defamation League's Sugihara "Do the Right Thing" essay contest.

Named in honor of the late Chiune Sugihara, the former Japanese consul to Lithuania who in 1940 issued more than 2,000 visas to Jewish families who had escaped Nazi occupation in Poland, the essay contest was the first promoted by ADL's World of Difference Institute.

A graduate of Doherty High School in Worcester, Vuona wrote her essay as part of class discussion on nonviolence during her senior year. She is the daughter of Peter and Cynthia Vuona, both long-time educators for the Worcester schools.

Vuona and two other students spent time in Osaka, Japan, and also stayed with a Japanese family. On December 11, they participated in a major ceremony at the Osaka Convention Center commemorating the 100th birthday of Sugihara. "And then on Wednesday, I gave a speech before the mayor and it was televised. I spoke about how it was time to honor Sugihara, and how his decision impacted my life and others," Vuona said.

Vuona also met the widow of Sugihara and traveled and chatted with 86-year-old Samuel Manki who was one of those granted a visa through Sugihara's efforts. He wrote of his odyssey in a book, *With God's Help*.

Japan has dedicated a museum to Sugihara on the Hill of Humanity at Yatsu.

She said of her experience, "Since I became involved with ADL, I am now looking at the whole person. I realize that each thing you do matters."

Fleet grant helps fund LIT program at JORI

Camp JORI has received a grant from FleetBoston Financial to help fund the Leadership in Training (LIT) Program, chosen for its links to the Fleet/Boston Financial strategy of developing youth leadership skills through community service and activities.

The LIT Program, which is open to teens who are 14 and 15 years old or entering 9th and 10th grades, is one of the few programs available for this age group. It is structured around a combination of community service, team building, leadership skills development, interpersonal relations and recreational activities. The LIT curriculum was developed through recommendations made by Brandeis University, with 14 critical program goals within content areas including activity, personal skills, sense of self and sense of world.

"Our program offers several things that are fairly innovative," says Camp Director Ronni Guttin. "There is the wonderful environmental and ecology programming we are able to offer thanks to last year's land purchase." The LITs go on two- and three-day camping trips which emphasize leaving things as they find them, learning to conserve and protect natural resources. Also, the LITs do community service projects such as working at a soup kitchen, doing cleanups, collecting food for a community food pantry. Guttin adds, "We take from the community and environment, so we like to give back to them and especially be involved in local projects."

They also participate in seminars, workshops, camp service programs and the planning of their own group activities. LITs spend some time each day learning group management, and working with younger children under the supervision of older counselors. Other activities

include mountain climbing, overnights, kayaking, canoeing, pro-sporting events and excursions.

Each year, the LIT program is full to capacity with a waiting list. Last summer, the camp expanded the program to serve 60 teens, and this year plans to accommodate an additional 10 to 15. A long-term goal is to increase the program to eventually serve 170 teens once additional housing, programs and staff support are in place. Anyone planning to join the LIT program is advised to register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. The LIT schedule for Trip I is Sunday, June 24, to Sunday, July 22 and for Trip II is Sunday, July 22, to Sunday, August 19.

The only Jewish overnight camp in Rhode Island, Camp JORI offers a full sports program, including tennis, boating, water polo, swimming, softball, karate, soccer, miniature golf, basketball and sports workshops. The Narragansett-based camp also offers arts and crafts including ceramics, instrumental music and theatre; nature programs; aerobics; special events and field trips. Camp JORI observes the dietary laws of kashrut.

For ages 7-13, there is an overnight camp with two four-week sessions, and for first-time campers only there are two-week sessions. The four-week overnight camp fee is \$1,365 per Trip. The fee for the two-week overnight session is \$865 and may be applied to the cost of a full, four-week trip if the child's stay is extended.

Camp JORI also offers a day camp with two-week sessions for children 6-9 years of age for a fee of \$245 per two-week session.

For registration packets and information, call Camp JORI at 401-521-2655, or e-mail Guttin at guttin6@home.com. The camp's web site is located at www.campjori.com

CAMPJORI

Where kids and summer fun become one!

A camp experience to remember

• sports • enthusiasm • creative expression • nature • wonder • cultural programs • tradition • teamwork • friendships • challenges •

Four-week Sessions for Ages 7-13: \$1365

Trip I: June 25 to July 22 Trip II: July 23 to August 19

Two-week Sessions for First-time Campers:

\$865, may be applied toward four-week trip if stay is extended

Two-week Day Camp Sessions for Children 6-9 Years:
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. / \$245

Camp Director: Ronni Guttin

For information, call (401) 521-2655.

Camp JORI ■ 229 Waterman Street ■ Providence, RI 02906



Located in Narragansett, Rhode Island.



An atmosphere of Jewish warmth.



Kosher dietary laws observed.



Registration open to all who wish to apply.



Day and overnight campers fully integrated.



Accredited by the American Camping Association.



Camp Avoda

On Beautiful Lake Tispaquin
Middleboro, Massachusetts 02346

Founded in 1927 for Jewish boys 7 to 15 years old entering grades 2 through 10

"The Tradition Continues"

Archery • Arts and Crafts • Basketball • Canoeing • Fishing
Football • Fun-yaking • Hydroskiing • Kayaking • Kickball
Newcombe • Photography • Ping Pong • Radio
Ropes/Challenge Course • Rowing • Sailing • Soccer
Softball • Street Hockey • Swim Instruction • Tennis
Tubing • Volleyball • Waterskiing • Weightlifting
Windsurfing • Woodworking • Wrestling
Weekly Field Trips • Inter & Intra-Camp Competition

EXCELLENT KOSHER FOOD

2 RESIDENT RN'S — 3 ON-CALL PEDIATRICIANS
7-1/2-week season or two 3-1/2-week sessions



CALL OR WRITE:

Paul G. Davis, Director

Camp Avoda

11 Essex Street • Lynnfield, MA 01940

(781) 334-6275

FAX: (781) 334-4779

E-Mail: campavoda@aol.com

www.campavoda.org



This camp must comply with regulations of the Mass. Department of Public Health (105CMR 430.000), and is licensed by the Middleboro Board of Health. Information on 105CMR 430.000 can be obtained at (617) 883-6761.

The Jewish Committee on Scouting is Seeking a

Camp Chaplain

for Camp Yawgoog in Southern RI

Rabbinic ordination is not required.

Women are welcome to apply.

One or two months during the summer.

Accommodations: two-bedroom, air conditioned cabin

Contact: Ian Lilien, Narragansett Council
175 Broad Street
Providence, RI 02906
401-354-4076

Three Jewish teens among Feinstein Scholars

Three teenagers in the Rhode Island Jewish community are among 35 new Feinstein Scholars, who have won scholarship stipends of at least \$2,000 as commendation for their dedication to public service.

The three young men are David Greenberg and Alex Koyfman, both of Providence, and James Ross, Newport.

Funded by Alan Shawn Feinstein, Cranston, in memory of his father, Louis, the awards are administered by the Public Education Fund, a non-profit organization which works as an advocate for students in need and to stimulate collaborative change in education. (Applications for the 2002 scholarships are due June 30.)

In his application, Greenberg, who attends the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center, discussed Tikkun Olam, as his "responsibility to give back to this world

that which has given him so many opportunities."

Greenberg, son of Barbara Greenberg, says that he tries to get other people to join him in community service, giving as an example the 50 teens he recruited to donate two hours of their time to run a carnival for young children. He also noted how essential collaborative work among organizations can be for broad impact.

With plans to be a computer programmer, Greenberg said he will use those skills to help the community and that he will work in years to come "to instill morals and ethics in youth..." adding, "I want to create leaders with the ideals and enthusiasm to go out and perform Tikkun Olam."

Alex Koyfman, who has volunteered at Bethany Home since 9th grade, also has tutored students at Classical High School where he is a senior. He wrote that when others ask him why he bothers helping others instead of "doing something that I love, I tell them that I am doing what I love; science and math have intrigued me since I entered high school. So I feel I should help others excel in these subjects."

Koyfman, whose parents are Nikolay and Lily Koyfman, said he uses his enthusiasm for his own experience to try to persuade "my friends to volunteer." He also writes of his visits with a retired Brown professor who now lives at Bethany Home and how impor-

tant they have been to him. The professor, according to Koyfman's essay, has expanded the young man's intellectual horizons, considerably enhancing his knowledge of the fine arts.

James Ross, an Eagle Scout and a senior at Rogers High School, believes that for a community to thrive, "every member must feel respected and valued. A seed of self-respect planted in a child," he writes, "will reap a harvest of self-confidence and achievement in an adult world."

His volunteer efforts have largely been focused on Newport Hospital, the Sunday School at Touro Synagogue, Boy Scouts and the Salvation Army, where, he says, "I have also learned that bettering the lives of others transcends race, creed and color."

He cites his Eagle Scout project which gathered 37 scouts and adults to restore a 19th Century cemetery as one in which "I learned that leadership is not about telling people what to do but rather about showing respect for individuals, setting a good example, and motivating others to meet new challenges."

Ross, son of Steven and Bea Ross, further expanded his philanthropic experience this year when he was a member of the Youth in Philanthropy Board, a program of the Rhode Island Foundation, funded by Feinstein, in which teens evaluate community projects and then award grants.

Trevor's Place inspires youth to work with homeless

by Zachary Lichaa

Over the December vacation, I attended the Philadelphia Trip sponsored by the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island (BJE). The three-day trip was organized for teens in grades 8 through 12, and 35 teens from Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts took part.

The trip's focus was to go to Philadelphia and help the homeless. We picked Philadelphia because of a young man named Trevor Ferrell and his father, Frank. Trevor began Trevor's Place and later Trevor's Endeavors when he was only 11 years old. His organizations would travel around the streets of Philadelphia and hand out food and clothes to the homeless.

In Philadelphia, we met Frank Ferrell who, despite having undergone several brain operations, took us around the streets to hand out food and clothes. The feeling that I was helping someone who needed it most was unbelievably beautiful. I gave my New England Patriots sweatshirt to a man who had only a T-shirt on in the below freezing weather. Not only did that make me feel good but it gave that man pride and honor. Now he didn't have to think of himself as someone who people look down on.

I met many young gentlemen who were in shelters for numerous reasons, but the main reason that I heard from the many people I spoke with was drug and alcohol abuse. Now, this may turn many readers off by what they are hearing, but I was instantly turned on by their stories and the advice that was given to me and the other Jewish teens. One man named Mark who I met at the Gateway Center, a Salvation Army shelter, said, "Don't ever do drugs or alcohol because this is where you will end up." We all hear this type


of advice from our parents and teachers all the time, but when it comes from someone who has lost so much because of drugs and alcohol it really hits home.

The trip was organized by Rich Walter, and was staffed by Wendy Garf-Lipp, Nathan Yamuder, Marla Dansky and Lily Rabinoff-Goldman. They were all responsible for making the trip such a great success. This was my second time participating in the trip and I couldn't wait to return this year. Our Rhode Island Jewish community is lucky to have wonderful leaders and programs like these for Jewish youth.


I encourage any Jewish teen who reads this article to go on this wonderful trip because life isn't about getting gifts on Hanukkah and about good grades; it's about helping people who need it most and giving them the tools to succeed. Maimonides, the great Jewish philosopher taught us that the highest form of *zedakah* is to make someone self-sufficient. One of our favorite slogans in Philadelphia was, "If you give a man a fish, he eats for a day, teach a man how to fish, he eats for a lifetime!" The Philadelphia trip was a wonderful trip that has inspired me to continue working to make the world a better place.

Zachary Lichaa is a 14-year-old freshman at Barrington High School. Zach is active in many Jewish youth groups and is a student at the Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island. He is the son of Maybeth and Jacob Lichaa. For more information about teen trips and programs offered by the BJE, contact Rich Walter, Director of Teen Education at 331-0956 or rwalter@bjeri.org.

Rooms to Grow
Bedrooms



GROW...
with Desks,
Bookcases
and more



Rooms to Grow
117 Chestnut St. • Warwick
401-467-2990
Exit 15, Jefferson Blvd.
off 195 North

Mon & Tues 10-5:30
Wed-Fri 10-8:30
Sat 10-5 • Sun 12-5

East Side 

Prescription Center
632 Hope Street • Providence
Independently serving the East Side of Providence
for over 23 years.

  **BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD**
of Rhode Island

UNITEDhealthcare
751-1430
fax 454-8096
MON.-SAT. 8:30 AM-9:00 PM
SUN. 8:00 AM-3:00 PM

\$5.00 OFF
Any purchase of \$20 or more
Excluding Pharmacy, Postage, Vitamins or Tobacco.
With coupon only.
Not valid with other offer, expires 2/28/01

Floral Symphony
Flowers for Special Events

Offering personal consulting services for...
Weddings, Parties, Bar/Bat Mitzva

Remember Your Valentine
Featuring:
Gifts • Cards • Plants • Cut Flowers
• Floral Arrangements
Wire Services - TeleFlora & AFS
421-2811
188 Wayland Ave. (Wayland Square) Providence
Open Mon-Sat. 9 AM-5:30 PM Sundays - Nov. & Dec.




Golden Anniversary

Aboard with BJE 42 years,
Goldstein assesses Jewish ed

by Geraldine S. Foster

Sidney Goldstein, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Brown University and world-renowned demographer, has served on the Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE) Board of Directors for 42 years. He has been an officer and chaired a number of committees, influencing or initiating major changes in the programs of the Bureau. When he joined the BJE's board, it included 80 people and was headed by Alter Boyman. Harry Elkin was the executive director. Goldstein recently reflected on his experiences and offered his perceptions in an interview. We pick up his recollections beginning in the 1970s.

In the 70's, the BJE underwent some sweeping changes in structure and size of its Board and also policy. Did you play an active role?

SG: The 70's were watershed years, when the Bureau's new role began to evolve. I was appointed to chair the Teacher Training Committee. The training of teachers became a very important activity, a major function of the Bureau. We started introducing courses designed for teachers both community-wide and at particular institutions. We also introduced community-wide teachers' conferences, which have evolved into today's Zelniker and Kroll conferences.

Another thrust of those years was a concerted attempt to raise standards of education, and there was also a movement to get smaller schools to merge to provide a better educational experience for the students. Subventions were tied to increasing the hours of Hebrew and the credentials of the teachers. The introduction of the whole accreditation process was part of this. Not as much attention is being paid to accreditation now. I saw it from both ends because I was a member of the Bureau Board and also of the Temple Beth Am (later, Temple am David) Educational Committee. The amount of energy and thought that went into getting ready for accreditation served a very useful purpose. Today there is more interaction with the schools, so the process is continuing, but in a very different form.

There was also increasing emphasis then on getting students from the high school to go to study and travel in Israel as a group. Our daughter, Beth, was

part of that first group, and it was a wonderful experience for her.

By the end of the decade, when I was chair of the High School Committee, there was movement toward integration of high school programs from other congregational schools. This eventually laid the groundwork for the Midrasha. There were tensions and compromises, but now we can see the fruits of all that work. Midrasha enrollment has risen to about 200, almost 10% of the total religious school enrollment. Considering that once it was perhaps only 5% at best, that is a great accomplishment. And now Temple Sinai has joined.

What major trends have you noted during the last two decades?

SG: Those years have seen the continuing evolution, previously alluded to, of providing services and resources of an educational nature. When I recently served on a study committee to evaluate the library and resource center, we found a great deal of enthusiasm for BJE's role in that area and the growing importance of that activity.

The reintroduction of classes for children with disabilities is another important development.

The introduction of the concept of long-range planning deserves mention, even though in my estimation it has not gone as far as it should. Unfortunately, it is difficult to plan long range if you are not certain of the financial means to implement your ideas. Being dependent very largely on the health of the Federation's campaigns, having to hold the line or make do with less, does not provide a stimulus for such activity. But still the combination of such planning and self-evaluation is a major ingredient in a search to find gaps or unmet needs in a program. In this way, we may also identify ongoing activities on which less effort should be invested or attention paid in favor of new endeavors.

In line with the financial effort is the effort to develop BJE's endowment fund. It has not reached major proportions, but just the fact that it has started is important and may become an essential source of income if JFRI funding cannot go much higher than the current levels of support. Also important is the Friends' Campaign, which annually and increasingly raises funds for the current budget.

Another interesting development tied in with the endowment fund is the whole question of public relations and BJE's reputation in the community. Their excellent publications, *Netivot* and *Beimeinu*, are indicative of the sensitivity of the Bureau to the importance of getting the word out into the community about its activities, demonstrating the importance of educating children and adults as well. The recent Renaissance Night that attracted such a tremendous response, 500 people, illustrates the role BJE can play in adult and family education.

It is nice to see that there is a renewal of interest in Adult Education as evidenced also by the success of the Melton Program (a two-year study program). It was an intense program and most participants stayed with it and even wanted more. It is a shame there has not been a way to continue it. BJE also meets an important need in serving seniors: the Bookmobile program is very important. Those in nursing homes and assisted living really look forward to it.

You have served as an officer, and although asked did not accept the office of president because your work took you away a great deal. You have chaired

Please turn to page 28.

Steingold
VOLVO
Drive Safely

766 Broadway • Pawtucket, RI 02861

401-723-4700

65 Years of Customer Satisfaction

- Easy Access from Route 95 •
- Minutes from the East Side

Nice & Neat
Cleaning Services

807 Broad Street
Suite 121, Providence, RI



- Professional Service •
- Offices • Residential • Businesses •
- Free Estimates • Reasonable Rates •
- Fully Bonded & Insured • Quality Work •

401-467-8788

Sylvia Bernal — President

\$10.00

**OFF YOUR
FIRST CLEANING**

FREE ESTIMATES
NEW CLIENTS ONLY

**TRANSFORMING IDEAS
INTO DESIGNS**

INTERIOR DESIGN • SPACE PLANNING

RESIDENTIAL • CORPORATE

PO BOX 14427

EAST PROVIDENCE, RI 02914

TELEPHONE/FAX 401-331-7077

PGG INTERIORS
PHYLLIS G. GOLDBERG

ASID

NCIDQ CERTIFIED
Licensed Interior Designer State of Florida



SHEIN MANAGEMENT

*Is currently accepting new clients for our
Property Management Services*

Please call us at 401-272-4845 for information

SPECIAL: Purim Crafts

In Celebration of its 50th Anniversary, the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island (BJE) invites children to participate in a special Purim Holiday Craft.

Date: Thursday, February 22

Time: 2:00 pm-3:00 pm

OR

Date: Sunday, February 25

Time: 2:00 pm-3:00 pm

OR

3:30 pm-4:30 pm

Place: Michaels Arts & Crafts
1500C Bald Hill Road
Warwick, Rhode Island
401-828-1400

Choose to be Queen Esther, King Ahasverus, Vashti, Mordecai or whoever you wish to be! Hamantashen will be served.

Limited space is available. Participants must pre-register to reserve their spot. For additional information and program registration call Robin Kauffman at the BJE, 410-331-0956.

This program is funded through the Endowment Fund of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and is modeled after Cycles and Celebrations: A Guided Tour Of The Jewish Year, Suffolk Association for Jewish Educational Services.

Free semester in Israel prize in essay contest

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies and The Jerusalem Report are sponsoring an essay contest with the first prize a free semester of study at The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies located on Kibbutz Ketura.

Contestants must answer the following question:

"What can the world learn from the environmental challenges of the Middle East?"

1st Prize: Free Fall Semester for Fall 2001 Tuition, room & board, health insurance, environmental trips

2nd Prize: \$2,000 scholarship

3rd Prize: \$1,000 scholarship

Essay should be no more than 2500 words and submitted by e-mail no later than February 28th, 2001 to essay@arava.org.

Students must fulfill the admissions requirements for studying at the Arava Institute (contact them at Kibbutz Ketura, D.N. Eilat 88840, Israel, or www.Arava.org; 972-8635-6618; fax 972-8635-6634

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies
Kibbutz Ketura
D.N. Eilat 88840
ISRAEL
www.Arava.org
972 8 635-6618 (tel.) 972 8 635-6634 (fax)

For additional information contact Ruth Page, BJE Israel Desk Director at 401-331-0956.

PHDS pre-school now registering

The Pre-School program at Providence Hebrew Day School is now pre-registering children for the 2001-2002 school year.

This pre-kindergarten program is "child-centered, warm and supportive," according to the school. Children learn through exploration in this five-day-a-week, half-day program designed to address their physical, emotional, social and cognitive development.

Teachers lead group discussions about the Jewish calendar, weather, holidays, transportation and "show and tell." There are field trips to "community helpers," such as fire stations, libraries and the police station.

To help the children recognize their identity as Jews, they observe Shabbat and holidays, and the weekly Torah portion is presented and reinforced with songs, games and art projects.

Children use various media to help them learn: paints, clay, crayons, glue, paper mache, water and sand. They string beads, sort shapes, cook, plant, measure and experiment. Teachers make time for dress-up and pretend, singing, listening to music and stories, working in groups and alone.

An optional afternoon program supplements the morning's activities in a less structured manner than includes rest time.

For information and to schedule a visit to the classroom, call Maureen Sheehan at 401-331-5327.

Kids bat around some ideas



PHDS Fifth grader Daniella Shriki (right) learns all about bats from "teacher" and first grader Shraga Blitzstein. Children in Beverly Hall's first grade class prepared a total lesson plan on bats and then taught the fifth graders through oral presentations, pictures they had drawn of different kinds of bats and a homework sheet. Usually, it is the upper grade pupils who come to teach the lower grades. Hall says the experience builds "self-confidence in the first graders and teaches the older students an important lesson — they can even learn from those who are younger than they."

Black History presentation



Third grade pupils developed a presentation for the Hebrew Day School assembly for Black History Month. Each child dressed as a famous black person. Here (l to r) Hannah Kessler is Mary M. Bethune, Tova Gerber is Rosa Parks, Ezra Cohen is Hank Aaron and Max Bessler is Wally "Famous" Amos.

What's Cooking At PrintSource®

Superior service is
the main ingredient
in the recipe for our
success.

Providence
Downtown (401) 351-5115
Providence
N. Main St. (401) 274-0444
E. Providence (401) 942-4050
Cranston (401) 942-4050
Toll-Free (800) 341-6300

PrintSource®
DESIGN • PRINT • MAIL

BJE Reminder: ISRAEL TEST

required for all high school pupils applying for
travel/study grants in Israel.

Monday, March 6

**7:00-8:00 pm
at the JCC/RI**

Questions or to register: call Ruth Page at
401-331-0956, ext. 181

The Passing Lane

Remote Control Racing
The Ultimate in Interactive Entertainment



- Bar/Bat Mitzvah
- Private Parties
- Hospitality Tents
- Corporate Events

401-624-3078

www.RCPassingLane.com



"For Your Special
Valentine"

RELIABLE GOLD LTD.

JEWELERS Since 1934
181 Wayland Avenue, Providence • 861-1414

3rd grade on, Gift of Israel builds fund for trip in teen years

Formal research and personal testimony demonstrate that an Israel experience influences how young people relate to Israel and their Jewish identity for the rest of their lives, according to Ruth (Duffy) Page, director of the Israel Desk for the Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE).

In recognition of the potential impact the Israel experience can have, the local Jewish community has designed a program which it hopes will sharply increase the number of young Jews who visit Israel, Page said.

Known as The Gift of Israel Program, it is a partnership among families, synagogues, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and the BJE.

No matter at what age a child enrolls in Gift of Israel, the accumulated funds will help defray the cost of a trip when the youth reaches the minimum age of 16.

Synagogues are the vital link in the program, encouraging families to enroll and keep their children in attendance in a Jewish school.

Participants who attend a Jewish school, religious or day, enroll through their synagogues while in grades 3-6. A special Bar/Bat Mitzvah Registry is available for students in the 7th and 8th grades who did not register earlier. The family's annual family contributions of \$150 will be matched by the community for up to eight years.

Example (for the full eight years):

Annual family contribution (\$150/yr.)	\$1200
Synagogue contribution (\$50/yr.)	\$400
JFRI match (\$200/yr.)	\$1600
TOTAL	\$3200*

**does not include accumulated interest*

Families may make contributions to their account to mark special occasions such as Bar/Bat Mitzvah, enabling the Israel Savings to grow even larger.

Call Page at 401-331-0956 for an application and/or details.

To Send Passover Greetings, call Seena at 401-421-4111, ext. 160

Schechter to open pre-school in fall, 2001

Pre-school is coming to Alperin Schechter Day School for the fall semester, 2001. This pre-kindergarten class was approved on January 17 by the ASDS Board of Directors. It is designed as a resource for students who will be ready to enter kindergarten in the fall of 2002. Enrollment will be limited.

The Pre-K program will meet five mornings a week; parents can opt for a full-day program. "Pre-K students will be involved in the vibrant Schechter community, and able to take advantage of the strengths of the school," says Head of School Penney Stein. "We are pleased to be able to provide this community service by offering another alternative for Jewish pre-kindergarten education. This is a natural preparation for the curriculum at ASDS," she added.

Stein says that the program will balance academics with social and emotional development, saying, "We envision a warm, supportive environment, as well as Schechter's usual brand of innovative curriculum."

Children will create Shabbat parties, celebrate the holidays and share in the school's Jewish environment, says Marcia Kaufner, the Director of Jewish Education for ASDS. Through their classroom activities, students will naturally pick up beginning

Hebrew, she adds. In addition, they will experience all the benefits of a mainstream Pre-K program: painting, rest-time, cooking, planting, listening to music, outdoor and indoor play.

"The pre-K class will foster a experiential learning environment," says Ruth Berenson, Director of Admissions at ASDS.

"Stimulation and exploration are key elements of the Pre-K education," says Stein. "But so is a caring, child-focused atmosphere." Pre-K children will practice tzedakah and community service like all of the ASDS student body, but they will also have opportunities for less-structured activities. "We want to start the learning process off right," she says. "Our kids deserve that."

Applications are being accepted for next year. Interested parents should contact Berenson, who encourages parents with young children to come in for the preschool reading hour in the school library. "Those story times have been wonderful for parents of prospective student; they really love it," Berenson says. The next preschool story time is February 14 at 2:25 pm.

For more information about the story time call the ASDS office at 401-751-2470, or to talk to Stein or Berenson about the pre-K program.



Second graders at ASDS participated in a *Shabbat BaBayit* (Shabbat at home) program. They learned blessings, discussed the weekly portion and had Shabbat with diverse families.

Stephen F. Schiff, M.D., F.A.C.S.

MOHEL

CERTIFIED by Jewish Theological Seminary and the Rabbinical Assembly

CERTIFIED by the American Board of Urology

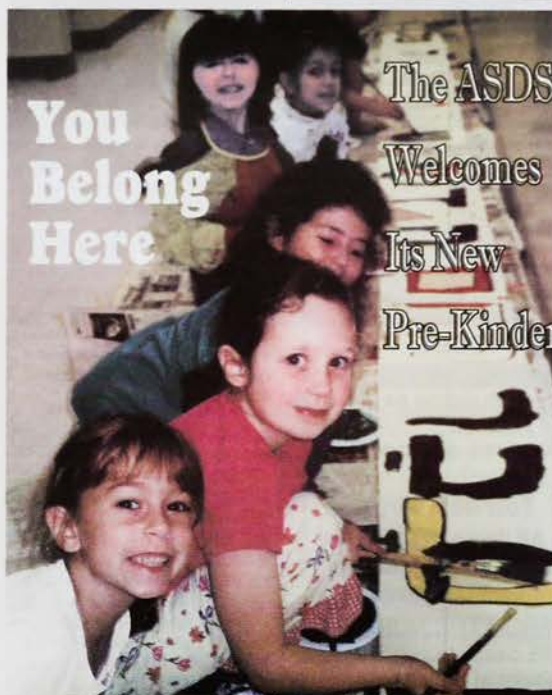
401-274-6565

Modern Jewish History course 2nd semester starting up

The second semester of the Modern Jewish History course at the Bureau of Jewish Education is to begin Thursday, February 8. This course for teachers is a survey of the ideas, trends and events that shaped the modern Jewish community is taught by Professor David Jacobson of Brown University. Topics for the second semester are: Political and Racial Anti-Semitism, East European Jewry, The Holocaust, Zionism and Israel, and the American Jewish Community.

Participants will examine primary documents relating to the themes of the course, as well as deal with the broader context. This course is applicable towards teacher certification from the Bureau.

The course meets Thursday from 7:00-9:00 pm, in the Bureau's Library. Anyone who is interested in enrolling should contact Lawrence Katz at the Bureau, 401-331-0956 x179.



The ASDS Community Welcomes Its New Pre-Kindergarten Program

- ☆ Nurturing
- ☆ Child Centered
- ☆ Jewish Learning

Now accepting applications ☆ Limited enrollment opportunities

ASDS. We build character.

A leader's view: Brown, URI students in Israel

In December, students from Brown University and URI traveled to Israel on the Birthright program. They did not return to campus in time to write for this issue, so we offer you excerpts from e-mails sent to parents by one of their Israeli leaders, Roberts Bell-Kliger of Project Oren.

As I write to you from my home in the North, the group is

Pauline Jewelers

- Appraising •
- Bead Stringing •
- Fine Jewelry Repair •

Graduate Gemologist

401-274-9460

The Cheese Shop

of Providence

Specialists in the
World's Finest Cheeses &
Gourmet Gift Baskets



186 Wayland Avenue
Wayland Square Providence, RI

401-274-7177

fax: 401-421-5691

www.cheeseshoppvidence.com

• Visa & Master Card •

down South in the desert riding camels. They arrived there yesterday and settled in at the Bedouin encampment where they spent the night. The accommodations were real Bedouin style (big tent and food cooked over an open fire!), so it was certainly a change from their urban hotels.

They got up early this morning to take the camel ride. I hope that in spite of the inevitable sore bottoms, the students will enjoy their later morning ascent to Masada (the Zealot fortress that held out against the Romans until the year 73). The time down South will end with lunch and a "float" in the Dead Sea. I will meet up with the group in Tel Aviv where they will be based until the end of the trip.

I spent Sunday night and most of Monday with them. Students told me how glad they were to have had Shabbat just when it was. It gave them some "down time" and in the true spirit of Shabbat, it was really many things for many people. Quite a few went to services (Hillel had arranged a number of attractive options), with many choosing to participate in those led by our very own staff members.

After supper some students strolled down to another hotel used by Hillel groups to hear a lecture by Avraham Infeld. There was singing, shmoozing and socializing — in addition to the lecture.

Sunday was the traditional tour of Jerusalem. While it is not great for the country, the sun has persisted, and the dry, warm days have provided perfect touring conditions. The first stop was the modern, new Supreme Court Building. The students saw quotes from the Bible about justice, mercy and law etched into

the Jerusalem stone. They participated in a mock case about admitting a woman to the Israeli Pilots' Course. They saw Justice Aharon Barak holding court. Leaving the center of the modern city, they proceeded to the beautiful Old City, where they meandered through ancient alleyways and visited impressive Jewish sites approximately 2000 years old.

The Kotel, of course, is much older than that (dating from the days of the Temple), and inevitably became the focus of the day. Almost everyone left a note

Please turn to page 30



A group from Birthright helps celebrate Shabbat in Israel.

Goldstein... from pg. 25

so many committees, been very much involved in so many matters vital to BJE and the educational community.

SG: One other activity in which I have been involved that has had both its frustrations and some success is the Liaison Committee. It actually had a double function.

One was to serve as an agent of JFRI in certifying that the funds expended for the New Americans program were legitimately used so that the schools could be reimbursed, within a formula that had been promulgated. The other function was to monitor the schools and evaluate them on a yearly basis, since accreditation was done every five years. The Liaison Committee made certain that the schools were meeting specifications laid down by the Accreditation Committee and also helped to insure that they would meet the standards of the next accreditation review. That was a positive aspect.

In addition, we had to get involved with the whole question of financial stability and organizational efficiency. Through joint efforts with JFRI and the school, we helped to achieve greater financial stability and more effective organizational structure.

In what directions do you feel BJE should move now?

SG: I hope it will move more strongly in the direction of Adult Education and Family Education. BJE seems to have resumed that track after a gap of some years, but there is still room for more. I sense a growing demand for such activity as part of the Renaissance Night. I also sit on the Hillel Board, and I see a large segment of young people in need of or wanting more Jewish education. BJE can play a role there and also in cooperation with Jewish Seniors Agency.

And of course, the effort to recruit and train new teachers remains most important.

What challenges do you see facing BJE?

SG: Two areas that sort of impinge on my professional interest are a challenge to BJE more than on any other agency. One is the widening distribution of the population geographically in our area (RI and Southeastern Massachusetts). It is clear that there is a continued movement to the south of Rhode Island and some to the northern corner of the state. Since BJE is a state-wide agency, it will have to concentrate somewhat more on the southern part of the state as well as the northern part. They are a different kind of population than the type that BJE has dealt with in past years, being more marginal to the community. So it provides some challenges how to get them into the system.

Would you suggest a satellite office?

SG: I have been a strong advocate of that for a number of years. A satellite day school is needed, at least for early grades. It could be included in one of the buildings on the campus the Jewish Seniors Agency is considering near Shalom Apartments and used as a feed-in to the main schools in Providence.

The second challenge BJE must consider is that a growing number of children who are their potential clientele come from mixed marriages, and this poses all sorts of policy decisions aside from practical ones. Many of these children who may be halachically Jewish are not being raised with any Jewish background. How do we get them into the system? Do we forget about those who are not halachically Jewish, though recognized as Jewish by the Reform Movement? How do you focus

on the problem of dual exposure to Jewish and non-Jewish environments? Or parents who don't care?

An old and continuing challenge is the size of the religious schools, the efficiency of schools. I think the ultimate answer has to be a community school. That runs into horrendous barriers because congregations see their schools as partially justifying their existence, even if the school is a small one. How can they attract young families if there is no school for their children? On the other hand the schools are seriously straining the budgets of congregations, and serious questions can be raised about the quality of the education of kids in small or combined classes. Declines in school enrollments are an on-going process at some schools as younger people settle elsewhere, and the congregations are left with an aging population. That is why congregations should merge and move to follow the population movement.

That is why Shalom Village, if it materializes along the lines envisioned by Jewish Seniors Agency, is attractive to me. In addition to serving seniors, it can become a Jewish campus in the middle of the state that can have value as a stimulus to invigorate the Jewish suburbs.

Looking back, who are some of the people with whom you have been associated in BJE activities that have particularly influenced or impressed you?

SG: I have been impressed with the quality of the people BJE has managed to attract, not just the leaders but the members of the board, the dedicated teachers and staff. BJE is a combination of excellent professional staff and lay leaders. Over the years this has allowed BJE to achieve its success. It is a unique agency, a jewel in the community's crown.

Coupon expires 2-28-01



280 Rand Street, Building #4
Central Falls, RI
HOURS: MONDAY — FRI. 9:00-4:30

20% OFF Your Next Purchase
Includes All Items In Store
Limit One Coupon Per Purchase

NOT TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER PROMOTIONS

FROM THE SOUTH

95 North to exit 26
Left on Lonsdale Ave.
Go 1 mile to
Rand Street.

FROM THE NORTH

95 South to exit 30
Right at 2nd light —
Central Ave. (becomes
Cross). Follow to end
then right on Pine &
first left on Rand Street

We offer the largest selection of books in the state.

February camp runs from 19 to 23

Children in kindergarten through grade six can choose from a variety of JCC vacation camp programs from February 19-23 at the 401 Elm Grove Avenue, Providence, facility.

On Monday, February 19th, Providence Circus School will have the children up on their feet and involved in a variety of circus activities. Tuesday, February 20, a trip to Resource Recovery Corp. in Johnston, RI will give the children a first-hand look at what happens to all those things that go into the curbside recycling buckets from all over Rhode Island.

Yo-yo expert, Brett Outchcunis visits the JCC program on Wednesday, February 21, to demonstrate and teach the fine art of his craft. Each child will receive a Yomega yo-yo. "(Maple) Sugaring Off" at Moosehill Sanctuary in Sharon, Massachusetts will highlight the program on Thursday, February 22, and the week finishes with a few strings of bumper bowling at North Bowl Lanes in North Attleboro on Friday, February 23.

To register or for more information, call Charli Lurie, Director of Children, Youth and Camp at 861-8800 ext. 147.

Teens to prepare for Maccabi Games

Teens who thrilled to the scenes from this past summer's Olympics in Sydney, or who have always wanted to compete in an international event, could get their wish through the Jewish Community Center. This summer the JCC will send a delegation of teenagers to the 2001 JCC Maccabi Games in Monmouth, NJ where they will participate in the largest gathering of Jewish youth in the world.

The JCC Maccabi Games are a week-long, international, athletic and cultural event that has been uniting Jewish teens since 1982. Each year over 5,000 young people gather in different communities all over the United States for a week of fun, sports, community service and more.

This will be the fourth delegation to represent Rhode Island at the JCC Maccabi Games. Past athletes have brought home much more than medals. Jamie Finkelman of Warwick and a member of the first three groups says that the best thing about the games is not all the medals she has won but the fact that "I met so many people who I still keep in touch with. And get together with, even two and three years later. If you have a chance to go, it is not an opportunity anyone should pass up."

The 2001 Games, August 19-24, are open to Jewish teens between ages 13 and 16. For details call Cory Diamond, Health and Physical Education Director at 401-861-8800, ext. 149.

Special programs featured Martin Luther King Jr.

"Do Not Separate Yourself From the Community," taken from Pirke Avot, Sayings of the Fathers, created the theme for the JCC's special vacation day program on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday holiday. The day's events highlighted the life and work of the late Dr. King, who once said, "Everybody can be great because anybody can serve."

Younger children heard the story of King through a picture book written by Rosemary L. Bray and colorfully illustrated by Malach Zeldis, while grades four through six watched a video from the RI Bureau of Jewish Education called "Happy Birthday, Dr. King." In related art projects children explored the ways in which all people are really the same and others created an illustrated timeline of the life and events of Dr. King.

Debbie Waldman led the children in a variety of freedom songs and even gave them the chance to make up a freedom song of their own.

Opportunities to learn about integration, segregation, and civil rights were also integrated into the day's activities. To further teach King's mission of service to others, the children and their counselors worked together to prepare 35 baskets of essentials and luxury items for homebound Senior Citizens. Included in each basket was a personal note from the child who prepared it.

This program was coordinated by Kidspace/Pre-Teen Connection, and the Senior Adult Center at JCC, and was supported by a grant from the Rhode Island Service Alliance, an independent non-profit organization that administers and promotes national and community service programs throughout the state.

Early Childhood programs wide-ranging

Summer Camp to look at gardens, oceans

The Early Childhood Summer Camp Program in 2001 will focus on social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth.

Qualified early childhood teachers will facilitate a variety of activities during three, 3-week sessions. A child may attend for a three-week session, the entire summer, or even a week. The summer program is designed around a 5-day week. The summer themes are as follows:

• **June 25-July 13** — How Does Your Garden Grow? Through gardening activities, children will explore all kinds of plants, how they grow and how to care for them.

• **July 16-August 3** — Tea in Monet's Garden: During this exploration of the creative arts, children will look at the great artists Monet, Van Gogh, DaVinci, and Chagall. Their creations, styles and art media will be a part of the hands-on experiences.

• **August 6-August 24** — A Trip to the Ocean: During the last three weeks of Camp, the children will learn about the ocean: What is it? What do we do at the

ocean? What plants and animals live in the ocean? How do we transport things in the ocean?

The program will use indoor and outdoor learning environments each week. Field trips and special visitors will be an integral part of the summer program. The children also will continue to explore Shabbat, Jewish values, and related activities and concepts through the Judaic curriculum. Science, creative art, music, movement, literacy, math and socialization will be important program components.

The Early Childhood Summer Camp is for 3-5-year-olds. Both half-day and full-day schedules are available. A limited Camp program for 2-3-year-olds also is available, 2-1/2 hours per day, 9:00-11:30, five days per week.

Longer hours for the summer are available through our Infant-Toddler Program.

For more information about the JCC Camp programs, call the Early Childhood Department at (401) 861-8800 ext. 130.

REGISTER NOW

The JCC Early Childhood Center is accepting applications for children ages 2-5 years old for the 2001-2002 school year. Interested families can learn more about the Center's programs, including the philosophy behind its play-based learning and the mission of its Jewish curriculum, by attending an information session presented by Director Sue Connor on Thursday, February 8 at 7:00 pm at the JCC.

For additional information or to arrange a tour of the Center, contact the Early Childhood Department at 401-861-8800 ext. 130.



As part of its Mitzvah of the Month project, the children at the JCC's Early Childhood Center learned about Tsar ba'alay hayim, kindness to animals. The 4-year-olds of the Sabras class invited Tracey Boise, a representative of the Providence Animal Rescue League to bring two of her small animal friends to help her demonstrate the things pets need to stay healthy.

As a follow-up to the visit, the children talked about tzedakah for the Animal Rescue League, and decided to have an Art Sale to raise money for the League, eventually generating \$130 for care of animals.

The Mitzvah of the Month for January was V'hadarta p'nai zaken, honoring the elderly. As part of learning about this mitzvah, the children collected toiletries for seniors in need. This month they will participate in the Center's annual inter-generational Tu B'Shevat seder and their Mitzvah is bal tash-hit, do not destroy or be wasteful.

Home & Office Furniture Authorized

techline®

Dealer



Exceptional work centers.
Convenience and comfort
in a home office.



Techline furniture is at
home in your office or home
Available at...

Rooms to Grow

117 Chestnut St. • Warwick
401-467-2990
Exit 15, Jefferson Blvd.
off I95 North
Mon & Tues 10-5:30
Wed-Fri 10-8:30
Sat. 10-5 • Sun 12-5

Looking for a place to get fit before Spring comes? Explore the JCC fitness center!
Variety of programs for all ages!! Call Patty Gold or Lisa Cournoyer at
401-861-8800, ext 153 for 210, respectively.

ADOPTION OPTIONS

Anyone interested in exploring the possibilities of adoption may attend informational meetings offered by Adoption Options, a program of Jewish Family Service. The meetings are on the first Thursday of every month from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at the JFS offices, 229 Waterman St., Providence. The next meeting will be March 1.

The meetings are free and open to. Call Adoption Options at (401) 331-5437 or toll-free at 1-800-337-6513 for information or to arrange a confidential consultation. Or visit the web site at www.adoptionoptions.org.

The premiere agency for services for the elderly
JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE

- SENIORS DO NOT HAVE TO BE "HOME ALONE"
- WITH THE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES OF JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE, SENIORS CAN LIVE INDEPENDENTLY
- CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKERS, CASE MANAGERS, REGISTERED NURSES, CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS SKILLED IN ELDERCARE

• INITIAL ASSESSMENTS •
 CASE MANAGEMENT • COUNSELING •
 HOME CARE • LIFELINE/RI • KOSHER
 MEALSITE • KOSHER MEALS ON WHEELS
 • FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION • ADVOCACY •

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED AT 229 WATERMAN STREET
 ON PROVIDENCE'S EAST SIDE.
 MOST THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS ACCEPTED.

FOR INFORMATION OR A CONSULTATION
 CALL 401/331-1244.

**Good Times
 Good Friends
 Great Care!**



HARBOR HILL PLACE

EAST GREENWICH

Assisted Living Residence

159 Division Street • East Greenwich, RI 02818

401-884-2704

www.harborhillplace.com



Social worker helps families back to Egypt Air 990

by Erin Gisherman Minior,
 LICSW

JFS Director of Professional Service

The National Transportation Safety Board, which investigates all plane crashes, has contracted with the Alliance for Children and Families, of which Jewish Family Service (JFS) is a member, to provide assistance to families of survivors of transportation disasters such as last year's Egypt Air crash. The Alliance's Family Enterprise Inc. Behavioral Health organization coordinates the counseling and provides specialized training for counselors to become Family Assistance Representatives in the Aviation Affiliate Network.

Prior to being accepted into the program, counselors from JFS went through an application process which included verifying loss counseling and other relevant experience and LICSW credentials. (I will attend additional training in Airline Crisis Management at the Alliance for Children and Families Conference for Senior Managers of Child-and Family-Serving Agencies later this month.)

It was October 31, 1999. The time was approximately 1:50 am. Egypt Air 990 went into the ocean about 60 miles south of Nantucket. One year later, social workers from JFS were asked to help support victims' families as they viewed the wreckage from the plane crash.

Birthright. . . from pg. 28

(petek) in the Wall, and while some students felt less moved than they expected to, others actually found themselves in tears. I do not know whether it was by the content of their personal wish or by the contact with ancient Jewish history or perhaps just by being at that place at this time. Whatever it was, it seemed to be an important moment for everyone; actually coming into personal contact with the Wall — after hearing about it, seeing pictures of it, imagining it. While it clearly meant different things to everyone, I was impressed by how many of the students wanted to talk about their feelings, their responses and their ideas.

By Monday at 8:45 everyone was on the bus, packed up and raring to go. It was our last day in Jerusalem, and it was an important one. We moved in two separate groups. We began at Yad Vashem, the national Holocaust Memorial, the place all visiting dignitaries are taken. For many this stop was extremely emotional and we ended up spending more

time there than we had originally planned. The same thing happened at Har Herzl, the national cemetery for Founders of the Nation as well as the country's military cemetery. We stopped by Herzl's tomb, Yitzhak Rabin's, Golda Meir's, Hanna Szenes, as well as others. At each place we discussed the person, his/her contribution to Israel and the Jewish People, told stories, and raised questions for future consideration. One thing that seemed especially to move the students was how many graves there were for young soldiers who had died in Israel's battles. Many of them were 18, 19, 20 — younger than the students themselves. It was hard to stay on schedule.

I loved meeting your children; I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to teach them and learn from them; and I hope many of them will stay in touch with each other, with the staff they met, with me and with Israel.

The wreckage was stored in an airplane hangar at Quonset Point that was 150 yards long. The once massive 767 jet was now shredded into millions of unidentifiable pieces lying in piles throughout the hangar. On the day of the viewing, many experts in their fields were standing by, including representatives from the National Transportation Safety Board, agents from the FBI, the RI State Police, Volunteers from the American Red Cross and social workers and other mental health professionals.

In preparing for this challenging assignment, I tried to imagine the unimaginable: the feelings of these family members. How could we best support them? What words did they want to hear? What would they need? Given the environment, would they be able to make their needs known? Would we be able to understand their subtleties? How unique would the reactions be, particularly given the various ages and cultural backgrounds of the family members?

The emotions that I witnessed on that day were varied. Each individual reaction seemed unique. Everyone was experiencing grief in a different way. The family members' technical and philosophical questions related to the event seemed diverse and continuous. Everyone wanted to hear pieces of information that were available in various parts of the hangar. The pure tragedy of this loss was binding family members together, everyone seemingly helping each other to deal with it in some way.

It was obvious that family members had already spent much energy rebuilding their lives since their loss. It was our job to provide continued support on their difficult journey of adjusting to life without a loved one. On this dark, blustery October day they were again confronted with one of the bitter realities of the accident. The losses were again actualized. Memories were painfully retrieved. Fears were expressed. Facts were clarified. Their lives painfully go on.

Gutterman annual lecture on technology and families

"The Impact of Technology on Families and Family Therapy" will be the subject of the second annual Julie Claire Gutterman Memorial Lecture for mental health professionals. A team comprised of Peggy Papp, MSW; Evan Imber-Black, PhD and Peter Fraenkel, PhD from the Ackerman Institute for Family Therapy, will be the featured speakers.

Sponsored by Jewish Family Service, the day-long seminar will run from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Friday, June 8 at the Providence Marriott.

Open to psychologists, social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, nurses and other mental health professionals, the program will offer Continuing Education Units for professional development. (Applications pending) The fee of \$75 includes lunch. Pre-registration and prior payment are required by May 18. To register, call Jewish Family Service at 401-331-1244.

Mailed to 7,800 households, The Jewish Voice is your best bet to reach the Jewish Community. Call Seena at 401-421-4111, ext 160.

Olympian dreams in the shtetl

by Stanley M. Aronson, MD
and Betty E. Aronson, MD

The Jews of the United States, in the opening decades of the 20th Century, took understandable pride in the accomplishments of their prominent coreligionists. There were outstanding scientists such as Einstein, Michelson and Ehrlich; eminent jurists such as Brandeis and Cardozo; and creative musicians such as Berlin, Copland, Gershwin and Kern. Their collective achievements represented, in the minds of Jews, the indomitable superiority of gifted intellect over feral brawn.

But concealed within all of this communal idolatry was a paradox. Beyond the obvious honors which Jews bestowed upon Jewish intellectuals, was their even greater admiration for the Jewish athlete. And to compound the contradiction even further, if a Jewish son were to express a serious interest in a professional sports career, the dismayed family would hastily gather first to revive the fainting mother and then to determine whether a rabbi or a psychiatrist should first be consulted. Jews should have great athletes, it was firmly believed, but not in one's own family.

Over the dinner table, there was approval and unabashed pride in the physical prowess of such Jewish boxers as Max Baer, Benny Leonard, Maxie Rosenbloom and Barney Ross; baseball players such as Hank Greenberg and Sandy Koufax (who, it was whispered, would not pitch on Shabbos); and a lengthy roster of basketball players during the formative years of professional athletics.

The Jews of the 1930's, many of whom had been born abroad, became proud Americans; and part of this gratification in the accomplishments of great Jewish athletes stemmed from their contention that Jews, as full citizens, could now participate in all competitive endeavors; and, to some degree, succeed in their efforts.

But to a greater degree this pride reflected a repudiation of the longheld image of the East European Jew as a bespectacled, aesthetic weakling incapable of defending himself except through craftiness and guile. This sense of physical inferiority was accepted by many Jews newly transplanted to this country, and it was a perception shared for centuries by both Jews and non-Jews.

The 18th Century medical commentaries on the Jews of Europe emphasized their frailness and bad health. Bernardino Ramazzini, the great Italian physician of the 17th and 18th Centuries, was the founder of that branch of medicine concerned

with occupational and industrial diseases. In 1700 he published his monumental text *De Morbis Artificum* (Diseases of Workers) in which he detailed his findings concerning the diseases peculiar to 56 separate occupations, both manual and sedentary. He said this of Jewish workers:

"The greater number engage in occupations requiring much sitting. The women seek a living for themselves by plying their needles. This work demands great concentration of the eyes on account of which there is such weakening of vision that they go forth nearsighted or blind. The Jews live poorly, shut up within narrow lanes; whence many of them are affected by various illnesses such as headaches, loss of teeth and inflammation of the eyes; the men in their little shops are almost all consumptive, melancholy, crabbed and scabby. Besides sewing, the Jewish race is engaged in repairing old woolen mattresses; they breathe in much of the filthy dust."

A 14th Century medical text (*Lilium Medicinæ*) described the Jews as afflicted with "fear and faintheartedness and melancholy humor" and further that they suffered greatly from hemorrhoids which, the author speculated, was a form of divine vengeance visited upon the Jews. In truth, the sedentary nature of tailoring did make many Jews the victims of hemorrhoidal disease. So much so that a 19th Century Yiddish adage asked, "What is the Jew's inheritance? Sore troubles and hemorrhoids!"

A Jewish physician, Elcan Isaac Wolf, writing from Mannheim in 1777, documented the "misery and poverty of my brethren because their diseases are so intimately related to their sad fate." He portrayed the frightful poverty, the unsanitary homes, the insufficient food, the daily anxiety to earn a livelihood, the lean bodies, the sallow complexions, the excessive nervous disabilities, the hypochondriasis, and the hemorrhoids, which afflicted the Jews of the German ghettos.

In 1900 a Russian Jewish physician presented a scientific paper in London detailing the physical defects and ailments of Russian Jews. He emphasized the narrowed chests, the lack of muscular development, the frequency of eye diseases and especially the affections of the nervous system which plagued these Jews. He emphasized the great frequency of suicide and mental disorders. But even when they were liberated from the ghetto and entered into commercial struggle with other groups, they encountered great problems. "The Jews threw them-

selves with all their inherited ability and energy (into the commercial struggle) but they were burdened with their overwrought nervous systems which were predisposed to breakdown through persecution and perpetual anxiety for many generations."

Neuropsychiatric texts published at the beginning of the 20th Century emphasized the fragile emotional balance in adult Jews and their tendency to develop

neurotic disorders. This, in conjunction with such inherited disorders as Tay Sachs disease and the allegations that many East European Jews were mentally deficient, led to the widely held perception that the Jewish brain was an inherently unstable and vulnerable organ. This belief, enhanced by the parallel opinion that the Jewish body was equally frail and poorly developed, led to the more pernicious conclusion that the Jewish race as a whole was a degenerate, and perhaps dangerous, population. These views

were accepted not only by western authorities, but, tragically, by some Jews themselves.

Picture now an American Jewish family, say, in the early depression years of the 1930's. Hidden amongst their many anxieties lies the corrosive belief, held for generations, that while the Jews might be competitive in running a tailor shop or a hardware store they could not possibly compete with the physical superiority of the non-Jew. And then there appears a newspaper story of Max

Please go to page 32.

*A pharmacist for 41 years,
Walter helped thousands
of people get back on their
feet. We're happy we could
return the favor.*

Relieving pain for others was a way of life for Walter Krochmal of Cumberland

— until the osteoarthritis pain in his hips made standing all day unbearable.

This time the doctor's prescription was for Walter: Hip replacement surgery at

The Miriam Hospital. With the excellence in medical care you'd expect from a

Brown University-affiliated hospital delivered in a community setting, The

Miriam team was exceptional. From the pre-admissions staff who walked

him through his questions to the

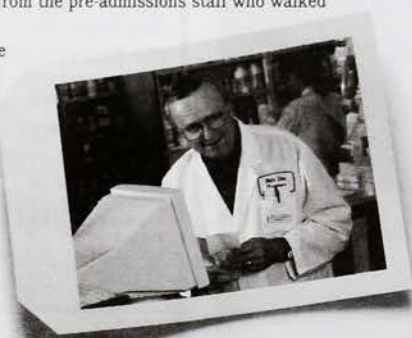
physical therapists who made

sure he walked out the door,

Walter says The Miriam

stands alone. We're glad to

see Walter do the same.



The Miriam Hospital

A Lifespan Partner

For "Better Health for Life" go to www.miriamhospital.org

Affiliated with Brown Medical School

Two books snag Taylor award for children's fiction, illustrations

The Association of Jewish Libraries has bestowed the Sydney Taylor Awards for outstanding books on *The Key Is Lost* by Ida Vos, translated by Therese Edelstein, a book for older children, and *Gershon's Monster: a Story for the Jewish New Year* by Eric Kimmel, illustrated by Jon J. Muth, for younger readers.

The Key Is Lost is set in Holocaust times about two sisters who cling to hope. Awards chair Linda R. Silver said the sisters "remind us of the resilience of childhood and the courage of those children who were robbed of it."

Gershon's Monster weaves the

teachings of Ba'al Shem Tov, the founder of Hasidism, into a tale about a heedless man whose children are threatened because of their father's misdeeds. Judges said Muth's watercolors were "the perfect complement to a story that personifies the abstract concepts of sin and repentance in a way that children find both meaningful and scary-delightful."

Honor books for older readers include *Love You, Soldier* by Aimee Hest; *Fireflies in the Dark: the Story of Friedel Dicker-Brandeis* and *The Children of Tereza* by Susan Goldman Rubin.

For young readers, the honor books are: *The Market Wedding* by Cary Fagan, and *The Wisdom Bird: a Tale of Solomon and Sheba* by Sheldon Oberman.

Olympic. . .

from pg. 32

Baer (wearing the Star of David on his boxing trunks) becoming the world's heavyweight champion. What Jewish family would not feel that they have finally become "just like the others"? And would this not affirm their inordinate pride in America, the golden land of opportunity, that allowed a mere Jew to succeed, not only as a violinist, but as an athlete? Only in America, they whispered, is this possible.

August Wilson's 1990 Pulitzer Prize-winning portrait of an American family, their pride in their heritage and their compelling hopes for the future.

CALL 351-4242

February 2-March 11
Tickets \$28-\$40
Previews \$28, Feb. 2-7
Great group rates: call 521-1100, x223.
Senior, student, disabled and rush discounts available.
\$5 off selected shows when you order online: www.trinityrep.com.

Sponsored by
CITIZENS BANK
Season sponsored by
NBCi



TRINITY REPERTORY COMPANY

From Jewish roots New WhoDunnit running in dinner theaters

The new murder and mystery about town has its roots in the Temple Habonim Players of Barrington.

It was there that Ann Waterman and Joel Hellmann first noticed some creative synergy, which eventually led them to write, produce and direct dinner theater murder mysteries.

Their first production with their new troupe, called WhoDunnit, presented "A Well-Timed Murder" as a benefit for the local Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Now, with a full complement of professional actors, singers and production crew, the troupe is mounting its newest production, "Murder in the Court," which Waterman declares to be their best yet.

In December and January WhoDunnit mounted "Murder at Lenny's Cabaret" to capacity crowds at the Riviera Inn Restaurant in East Providence and the Riviera Restaurant in Bristol. They also ran a second show,

"Murder in the Court," with a musical score, is on the boards February 9 and 11 at Riviera Inn Restaurant and on the 10th at Riviera. Dinner and the show are \$29.95. Call 508-336-8873 for details.

BJE, ACT to present "Anne Frank and Me"

The all Children's Theatre Ensemble (ACT) will present "Anne Frank and Me" on March 14 in partnership with the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island (BJE). The Wednesday performance will begin

at 10:00 am in the Social Hall of the Jewish Community Center and is open to the public. Curtain time for a second performance for teens in Harry Elkin Midrasa will be 6:45pm, Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston. Cast members pictured (l to r), front, are Daniel Kenner and Lisa Storti and, behind them, Dylan Saccoccio, Nick O'Neill and RJ Stokes.

"Anne Frank and Me" is about modern teens who deny the Holocaust ever happened. Nicole Burns and her friends doubt the truth until Nicole comes face-to-face with the reality of the Holocaust and, in an extraordinary sequence, meets Anne Frank on a cattle car bound for Auschwitz. Nicole begins to live the life of a Jewish family in Nazi-occupied Paris, ultimately returning to the present day with new awareness and appreciation. These performances are funded by the Endowment Fund of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and the Gertsacov Family Fund of the BJE.



The light will return. Spring will arrive.

Plan to celebrate now by learning to love something new, and maybe meeting someone too!

SPRING COURSES BEGIN IN MID-MARCH, APRIL AND MAY.

Make your spring more fulfilling by joining us for one of our 170 evening and weekend courses in:

Literature
History and Public Affairs
Speech and Writing
10 Foreign languages
Music and art appreciation
Writing Fiction and Poetry
Photography and Art
Medicine and well-being
Yoga, Massage and Golf
Astronomy and Science
Accounting and Investing
Computer Skills,
IBM & Mac, and the Internet
The Fundamentals of Management

Sharing what we know best, the love of learning!

The Brown University Learning Community

Call 401-863-3452 for a free catalogue or visit our BLC WebSite at <http://www.brown.edu/Administration/BLC>



Gallery 401

Prints by Gross, furniture by Corporon

Gallery 401 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island is showing the prints and painting of Benjamin Gross and the furniture of Jorge Corporon through February 28.

Gross is an Assistant Professor in the Art Department at Salem State College. Corporon, originally from New York, currently lives in Providence. The gallery is open Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am-9:00 pm and Friday until 4:00 pm.

401.273-2652

www.chefwalter.com

The Art of Hospitality

Riselle Bain to headline three local concerts

by Jane S. Sprague

Soprano Riselle Bain, Cantor of Temple Beth El in Ormond Beach, Fla., is bringing three concerts to Rhode Island, performing February 28-March 2. Each one so very different from the other, they speak of her versatility, according to the concerts' organizer, Al Silverstein of Providence.

With primary sponsorship from the Feinstein Foundation, the concerts also are sponsored by The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum, URI Hillel and URI Chaplains, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island Temple Emanu-El, Providence, and Silverstein.

Silverstein, who has heard Cantor Bain "sing like an angel," speaks of her "extensive background in music performance as well as in Judaic liturgy. These programs," he said, "have been widely praised in Florida."

Opening in the sanctuary of Temple Emanu-El in Providence on Wednesday, February 28, at 7:30 pm, Cantor Bain will be joined by David Cooper in presenting music she has composed in scenes from "The Sweater," a play centered around group therapy for patients who are Holocaust survivors.

Shirim Klezmer Orchestra at Agudas Achim

The Shirim Klezmer Orchestra will perform at Congregation Agudas Achim in Attleboro on Sunday, March 3 at 7:30 pm, playing and discussing klezmer music both in its traditional and contemporary forms.

Concertgoers won't have to just tap their toe, either. There will be time and room to get up and dance.

The Shirim Klezmer Orchestra has recorded four CDs including its "Klezmer Nutcracker." Known for its versatility, the orchestra is said to transport audiences to the shtetels of 19th century Eastern Europe, the Dixieland and swing halls of the 1920s and '30s and the jazz clubs of contemporary America.

In December, the band was featured on National Public Radio's series, "Sound and Spirit" as they provided music for Ellen Kushner's "A Hanukkah Fantasy."

This concert is part of Congregation Agudas Achim's series on Jews and Music in the 20th century. It is funded, in part, by grants from the Attleboro Cultural Council which is funded from the Massachusetts Cultural

On Thursday, March 1, Cantor Bain travels to Kingston and the University of Rhode Island as a visiting scholar, presenting a program in the Multicultural Center about the Jewish influence on American Musical Theater. She will feature "Tops from Flops," some of the most influential songs in our culture which were part of theatrical failures.

Friday evening, March 2, Cantor Bain will lead URI Hillel Sabbath services at 6:30 pm in the Galanti Lounge on the third floor of the main library, and at 8:00 pm she will talk about the history of Jewish liturgical music in the 20th century, singing examples of prayers that exemplify those trends.

Riselle Bain is no stranger to stage and screen. As a child growing up in Los Angeles she acted, sang and danced in motion pictures and television shows, and she is seen annually on television during Passover when "The Ten Commandments" is aired. Cecil B. DeMille cast her as the child Miriam. On stage she has played the title role in "Evita" and Hodel in "Fiddler on the Roof" with Jan Peerce.

But her work on "The Sweater" is entirely different. The

play is based on the work of Klaus Hoppe, MD, a former UCLA professor of psychiatry and Director of Research of the Hacker Clinic in Beverly Hills. The character Ruth is a composite of several of Hoppe's patients, all Holocaust survivors. Cooper, who co-wrote the play with Hoppe, will begin the program with a thematic introduction.

Set in the 1960s, the troubling time of the Cuban Missile Crisis, civil rights marches and church bombings evoked trauma in some survivors that drove them finally to seek psychiatric help to cope with the problems created by the Holocaust. "The Sweater," Silverstein, a psychology professor at URI, says, "is about recovery and redemption, about moving forward, and about how the past cannot be closed if the future is to be open to you."

An interesting twist is that Hoppe, drafted at age 18, wore the uniform of the German Wehrmacht and survived the Russian front. Silverstein characterizes him as "deeply impressed with the profound evil of the Nazi era. He has devoted the bulk of his professional life to healing the suffering of survivors."

After her Wednesday night performance, Cantor Bain will have less than 24 hours to change roles for her URI performance, "Tops from Flops." This session will assess the seed of Jewish popular music talent and will emphasize the Klezmer musical tradition. "She will offer fascinating anecdotes on the background of these beautiful songs, their famous composers and the flop shows they were written for," Silverstein said. She'll be singing them as well — music by the

Ira and George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Harold Arlen, Rodgers and Hart, and Al Jolson.

A graduate in music, *magna cum laude*, from Stetson University, Riselle Bain is an associate member of the American Conference of Cantors. Liturgical music is a passion. At the Shabbaton she will perform some of the ancient chants and demonstrate how they have evolved over the centuries. She will discuss Solomon Rossi (1621) and the developments in the Reform Movement that called for new music. She will perform a few of the modern prayers, some of which she has composed.

All of these programs are free and open to the public. Those who want to join the URI Hillel for Shabbat dinner (7:15 pm; \$8.00), however, should make a reservation by February by calling 401-

The Feinstein Foundation Presents

A Series of Three Programs Reflecting

JUDAIC CULTURE IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LIFE

Co-sponsored by the RI Holocaust Memorial Museum, the URI Hillel Foundation, URI Chaplains, Temple Emanu-El and the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

featuring

Cantor Riselle Bain

renowned cantor and composer
Temple Beth El, Ormond Beach, Florida

and

David Cooper

playwright and actor



◆ A HOLOCAUST PRESENTATION: "THE SWEATER"

A provocative play dealing with psychotherapy for Holocaust survivors

February 28, 2001

7:30 p.m.

Temple Emanu-El, Providence

◆ THE JEWISH INFLUENCE ON AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATER

A program exploring the Jewish musical roots in and impact on American music

March 1, 2001

3:30 p.m.

Multicultural Center, URI Kingston Campus

◆ SHABBAT CELEBRATION OF 20TH CENTURY JEWISH LITURGICAL MUSIC

Featuring Cantor Bain's own compositions

March 2, 2001

6:30 p.m. Shabbat Service, led by Cantor Bain

7:15 p.m. Kosher Shabbat meal

8:00 p.m. Lecture and performance
Galanti Lounge, Main Library, URI Kingston Campus

All programs are open to the community and free of charge, with the exception of an \$8 per person cost for the Kosher Shabbat meal. For more information, please call Professor Albert Silverstein at 727-2414.

For reservations for the Shabbat meal, please contact Guy Berml, Executive Director of URI Hillel, 874-2740 by February 26.

To arrange to send
Passover Greetings
to the RI Jewish Community, call
Seena at 401-421-4111,
ext. 160 by March 10.

Fall River Jewish Home

538 Robeson St., Fall River, MA 02720

A kosher skilled nursing facility providing complete rehabilitative services and spiritual support.

Respite Care Available

Conveniently located
only 20 minutes from Providence



For more information call
(508) 679-6172



FIRE

IF IT HAPPENS TO YOU, ARE YOU COVERED!

A new survey shows that 67% of high-valued homes do not have proper insurance. For a complimentary appraisal by a national insurance carrier call 401-274-0303 x14.

THE EGIS GROUP
81 S. Angell Street, Providence, RI 02906
www.egisgroup.com



Your Only Local Family-Owned Jewish Funeral Home



1100 New London Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920

Tel.: 463-7771

Out of State

Toll-free: 1-877-463-7771



Michael D. Smith, R.E.

Member National and Rhode Island
Funeral Directors Associations



Certified by the
R.I. Board of Rabbis

Pre-Need Programs Available
Wheelchair Accessible

JFS range of service wide

There is no one stereotype for the seniors who use the services provided by Jewish Family Service's (JFS) Services for the Elderly. People utilize the range of programs with different needs and desires.

Seniors who like to exercise, participate in lively discussions, dance, play bingo, socialize with friends and learn new things, speak Yiddish or share ideas can do all that at the JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston. For some, time at the Mealsite is an opportunity to enjoy the company of other people and participate in a larger community. For others, it means a hot, nutritious kosher meal at a low cost. Or, the excursion may be their one outing of the day. Located at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Avenue in Cranston, the mealsite is accessible to many who do not drive, because transportation is available in Cranston and Warwick.

In recent years, the trend has been for seniors to want to remain in their own homes, a phenomenon also known as aging in place. "More and more of the elderly are determined to preserve their independence and their quality of life as long as possible. As a result, we're seeing a greater use of the services which enable them to achieve their goals," says Paul L. Segal, JFS executive director. The Home Care Service provides Registered Nurses, who assess and monitor the medical needs of Home Care clients, and Certified Nursing Assistants, who prepare meals, assist with personal care and do essential errands.

The JFS Lifeline/RI program, an emergency notification service, benefits not only people who are in frail health, but others as well (see story below) and makes living independently more feasible.

A host of issues including health problems, loss and depression bring older clients to the counseling services offered by JFS. Counseling helps them to draw upon their inner strengths and provides coping strategies.

In addition to counseling services, the JFS Kosher Mealsite, Home Care Service and Lifeline /RI, JFS offers outreach for the elderly and for their adult children who live out of town, Kosher Meals on Wheels in the Cranston and Warwick areas and information and referrals.

This network of support is designed to meet each senior's physical, personal and emotional needs.

For more information on the services for elderly available through Jewish Family Service, call 401-331-1244.

Lifeline helps elderly manage cold weather

For many people, February means vacation and trips out of town. But for those who are elderly, recuperating from surgery or illness or who have a physical disability, this can be a difficult time. Temperatures are cold, and ice and snow can make it difficult to get out, even with assistance. Road conditions sometimes delay visitors and helpers. Loved ones may be far away.

Jewish Family Service's (JFS) Lifeline/RI staff offers some ideas to plan ahead for snowy or icy weather. Have your furnaces checked, make sure you have an adequate supply of heating fuel and a reliable contractor to plow and shovel. Keep a container of salt by your door to sprinkle on walkways to prevent slipping. Be prepared for a storm that could confine you to your house and prevent family from being able to visit by keeping your pantry stocked with non-perishable foods and be sure to have plenty of warm clothes and blankets because of freezing temperatures and in case of a power outage. Have a flashlight. Please go to next page.

Shalom store becomes winter gathering place

For the residents at the Jewish Seniors Agency's (JSA) Shalom Apartments, the "store," as the residents have dubbed it, is a place to visit with friends and pick up a few items they may have missed during their regular shopping trip. But for some residents at the complex, it is much more than that.

Although there is no pickle barrow or wood stove to gather 'round, in the winter months, when snow and ice can make it difficult to get out, the Shalom Apartments store is a way for them to get their daily necessities, without ever leaving the building, and do some socializing.

Located in the lobby of the apartment complex, the store carries a variety of goods including soda, juice, candy, canned and paper goods, cards and a few gift items. It is open every Monday and Thursday from 1:00-4:00 pm, and is a central meeting place for the residents.

Entirely self-funded, the store is managed by Karen Ksen, a five-year resident of Shalom. Ksen has been in charge of store for the past two years, a volunteer position that includes handling the inventory, buying the many different items, doing the bookkeeping, and manning the store.

"It can be a lot of work," said Ksen. "But I enjoy the interaction with people. Some of the residents stop in after getting their mail to buy a candy bar or goody, and some just come in to chat."

Store profits are donated to the Tenant's Association, and for the past two years, have funded the entertainment for Shalom's annual holiday gala, a program sponsored by the association.

Ksen notes that the winter months tend to be very busy. "When it is really cold, some only get out during the complex's weekly van trip to Stop & Shop. They come here to get supplies they forgot."

The store's stock is heavy in non-perishables such as soup, tuna fish, peanut butter and spaghetti sauce. Other convenience items include paper towels and toilet paper, as well as a selection of drink items including juice and soda. Greeting cards are one of the store's leading sellers.

A native of Pawtucket, Ksen is a bookkeeper by trade but very familiar with the demands of a small business since her father owned a retail store while she was growing up.

Ksen always wanted to own her own card shop, but was deterred by the initial investment. "The store, in a way, is fulfilling that dream," she said.

Managed by the Jewish Seniors Agency, Shalom Apartments is an affordable housing complex for the elderly with 154 efficiency and 1-bedroom units. Services provided at Shalom include on-site lunches and organized activities such as crafts and conversational Yiddish. The complex is on Rte. 5 in Warwick.

FYI series underway

The Jewish Seniors Agency winter and spring "FYI" public affairs programs will feature four speakers and a health fair in collaboration with the Jewish Community Center. Unless otherwise noted, each program will commence at 1:30 pm at the JCC, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence.

February 6 **Jeffrey Pine**, former RI Attorney General: "Matters of Public Trust."

March 6 **Joshua Stein**, PhD, Professor of History at Roger Williams University: "The Jews of Italy."

April 2 **Health Day and Community Health Fair** begins at 10:00 am; Barbara Morse, WJAR-TV 10 health reporter, speaking at 1:30 pm.

May 1 **Arlene Violet**, WHJJ talk show host and former RI Attorney General.

Gouse airs gripes, feels so much better

by Tema Gouse

During the past week I have pondered on many things that have made my usually sweet demeanor turn sour. I want things to change for the better, but they rarely do. Those promises of joy in the Golden Years are not coming through. Too many changes have occurred that I had not planned on.

Let's start with appearance. As a teenager I boasted of having "naturally" curly hair. Nowadays, five out of seven are "bad hair days." My mousy colored hair is now gray mousy colored hair. Why wasn't I blessed with the beautiful gray white hair of my more beautiful contemporaries?

I have stopped believing my friends who tell me I am blessed with nice skin. OK, so I don't have teenage acne. But when did they ever see me without a total paint job? And while I am complaining let me tell you that I resent the tripled time it takes for that operation.

I, the 92 lb. bride of 53 years ago, have made a peace of sorts with geriatric obesity. It does make me less haggard-looking than the svelte senior ladies. But what I cannot accept is that I have shrunk four inches of height that I could not spare. What can be more demeaning than to have granddaughters, ages 13, 11 and 10, all taller than I am? And the only growth I can anticipate is in the wrong direction.

As I acquired the need for eyeglasses at age eight, they have become as much a part of my face as my nose is. When I was eight, I heard, for the first time, that famous Ogden Nash rhyme, "Men don't make passes at girls who wear glasses." It did little to enhance my very insecure child-ego.

Then came the joy of bifocals in my middle years. I didn't complain. But in my waning years I can't read street signs with or without my glasses and when I want to read a book I have to take off those wonderful bifocals. It doesn't seem fair. And before you comment, let me assure you that I have an extremely competent ophthalmologist.

The digestive tracts of the elderly really leave much to be desired. Meet the only old lady who can comfortably pig out on cucumbers and radishes but can be up all night with indigestion from eating lettuce. And lately I notice that eating chocolate ice cream can also cause unwelcome esophageal spasms. And you wonder why I am so cranky!!!

Since I am given to very assertive assertions, let me assert that God's biggest mistake was making the skeletal structure dependent on the spine. Enigmatically we rarely have pain in the spine. But from the spine we get torturous discomfort in the lower back, the upper back, the neck (ooooo, does that hurt!), down the thighs, and on and on. And all those things create terrible headaches. And if you reach Advanced Maturity without those ills, arthritis is sure to destroy your complacency.

There are four major categories of senior citizens. Those who don't see well. Those who don't hear well. Those who have major complaints. And those who cannot remember what they wanted to complain about. Off and on, during the average day, I could fall into any or all of those categories.

I have long pondered the inequities of aging. Why was it that when I was overloaded with stamina and curiosity I lacked the time and money to follow my wishes? And now that I have the time and the means I lack the stamina and my interests have changed.

Other assorted grievances are as follows. 1. When did my children get more knowledgeable than I am? It wasn't ever supposed to happen. 2. My house is too big and the stairs are getting difficult to climb and yet there is no place I would rather live and the quandary keeps me up at night. 3. The politicians — local, national and international — get more powerful and more stupid each day. I see no solution to that problem. And finally, no one listens when I give advice.

Well, I'm glad I got all of that off my chest. I'm beginning to feel better. Maybe tomorrow will be shinier. Maybe. Or will tomorrow just produce more issues and energize my crabbiness all over again?

Boy — if my kids were here now they would probably worry that the old lady is really losing it!

Lifeline. . . from pg. 34

handy with extra batteries, too, in case of a power outage.

In addition to these practical precautions, JFS Lifeline/RI is a service which can lessen anxiety about the hazards of winter. The 24-hour personal emergency response system brings great comfort to its subscribers and their families. Lifeline/RI is designed to meet the needs of people who can enjoy an independent lifestyle, but appreciate the extra security that comes from knowing that assistance is available with the touch of a button.

JFS Lifeline/RI subscribers receive a personal help button which is worn as a pendant. A small home-installed unit connects to the phone. In the event of an emergency, the user simply pushes the button and a signal is instantly transmitted via telephone to a response center staffed by trained professionals. The subscriber's medical history, special instructions for emergencies and other pertinent information appear on a screen, allowing a dispatcher to send appropriate help. The Lifeline professionals can talk to the subscriber to ask questions and provide reassurance through the receiver even when the subscriber cannot reach the phone. Nearly 600 people now subscribe to this service.

For more information, call JFS Lifeline/RI. 401-331-1244, ext. 19.

To advertise,
call Seena at
401-421-4111
ext. 160



When a helping hand is not enough,

we offer all the personalized professional care you need with the privacy and dignity you cherish.

The Pavilion
Enhanced Assisted Living

HIGHLAND COURT COMMUNITY
on Providence's East Side.
25 years of caring for Rhode Islanders.
Family owned and operated.

To experience our experience,
call 272-9600.

*Affordable
Extravagance*



Highland Court

*Catered retirement
living with the
royal touch*

**Parisian Night at
Highland Court**

*Our residents along with
their family and friends
had a gala night in Paris.
From fabulous French
cuisine to the Moulin
Rouge...*

*At Highland Court it's all
included in a surprisingly
affordable monthly rent.*

(401) 273-2220

*Highland Court, Pavilion
and Summit, 30 years of
service to Rhode Islanders*

**SUGARMAN
SINAI MEMORIAL
CHAPEL**

*Newly Remodeled Chapel
with over a century
of tradition and service to the
Jewish Community of Rhode Island
and Southeastern Massachusetts.*



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

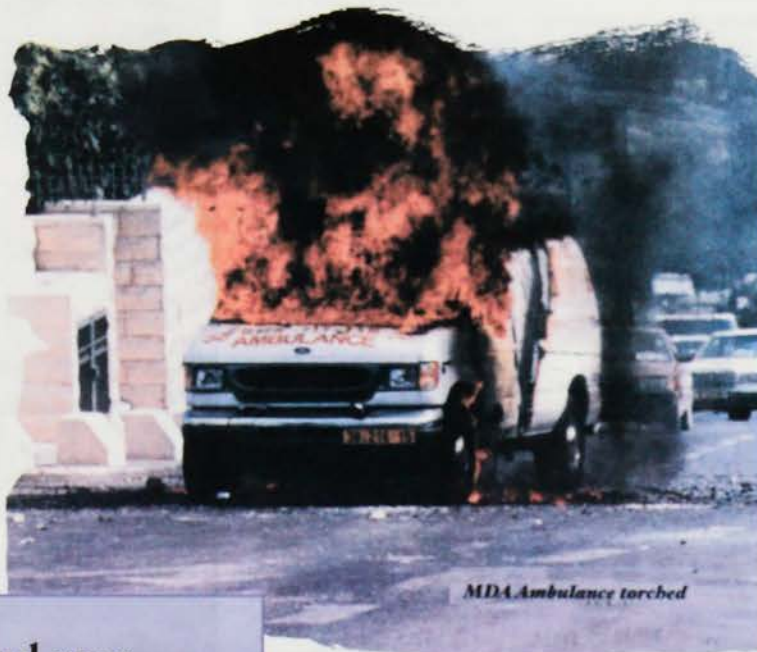


Jill E. Sugarman, Director
Shelly Goldberg, Associate

458 Hope Street, Providence, RI (401) 331-8094
OUTSIDE RHODE ISLAND CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-447-1267

Formerly Mount Sinai and Max Sugarman Memorial Chapels

The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and The Miriam Hospital Community Life Support Campaign for Israel



MDA Ambulance torched

Year in and year out, in good times and bad, the Rhode Island Jewish Community has stood at Israel's side.

Trips to Israel for our families and children... Missions... Exchanging expertise... Volunteering time... Contributing dollars... Raising our voices and writing letters... Dropping everything to help where help was needed. We've done it all. And we're going to keep on doing it. Because Israel, isolated today among nations, needs us to show what

the Jewish people are made of. Fifty two years of tears and dreams, struggle and hope. Would we do it all again?

You bet we would! In a heartbeat!

During the current crisis, hidden from the headlines, 37 life support ambulances have been destroyed, including one in Afula/Gilboa, our community partnership region. Magen David Adom has asked for emergency assistance to replace these vehicles. The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and The Miriam Hospital ask for your support in helping to replace these ambulances during this targeted campaign.

All funds donated will go directly to the cost of replacing an ambulance.

I would like to show my solidarity with Israel by making a special contribution of:

\$18 \$36 \$54 \$72 \$144 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Visa/MC _____ Exp. Date: ____/____/____

Check Enclosed: _____

Please mail to: Jewish Federation of RI • 130 Sessions Street • Providence, RI
Please indicate "Ambulance Campaign" on your check. • Phone: 401-421-4111 • Fax: 401-331-7961