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# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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## News at a Glance

• David Ivri, Israel's ambassador in Washington, met with U.S. Sec. of State Colin Powell last week for the first time since the latter took up his position. Powell wished to convey that the U.S. did not want to be involved in Israel's election for prime minister, but also does not wish to appear estranged from its involvement in the region and that the U.S. is concerned about violence in the West Bank and Gaza. Powell emphasized the need for the continuing of dialogue between Israel and Palestinians. On Sunday, Powell qualified President Bush's pledge to move the American embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. On ABC's "This Week," Powell said the U.S. is always examining the possible embassy move, with no move yet, but it "remains the goal of the U.S."

• Dr. Shmuel Gillis, a senior physician in the hematology department in Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Ein Kerem, was killed Feb. 1 in a terrorist shooting ambush. The incident happened on the Jerusalem-Hebron highway as Gillis was driving home to Karmeit Tsur. Alone in his car, he was killed between the Arab village of Halhoul and Bethlehem, in the Gush Etzion region of Israel. Gillis is survived by his wife, Ruth, and five children between the ages of 3 and 13. His murder came as a shock to the entire Hadassah family — in Israel and in the United States. Gillis' funeral, held Feb. 2 at the Hadassah Medical Center, was attended by 2,500 people. Gillis, 42, a highly respected hematologist, was world renowned in this subspecialty of blood coagulation. He served as a physician in the Israel Defense Forces, as an infantry battalion doctor, and later as a doctor in one of the elite combat units of the IDF. For two years, he was also a research fellow in the department of hematology in the New England Medical Center in Boston.

## Sharon Victor with 63% of Israeli Vote

### Discussion Already Underway of Possible Unity Government

by Jon Rubin  
Assistant Editor

Ariel Sharon will become Israel's newest prime minister, after winning 63 percent of the vote. Then Prime Minister Ehud Barak, after hearing that he had earned only a meager 37 percent, quickly conceded defeat to Sharon. Hours later, Barak officially resigned both his position as prime minister and as head of the Labor Party. Barak's extremely low number of votes is glaring in the face of the hefty 56 percent majority that he was elected on only 19 months ago.

This brings to an end a dynamic campaign, although Sharon has been leading in the polls for weeks. Both sides tried to convince the Israeli public that this was the most important election in Israel's history. Sharon's campaigners did an admirable job of replacing Sharon's militaristic past with images of him as a gentle, friendly, grandfatherly figure. Sharon's campaign attacked Barak on his poor record of upholding the peace, of making

land concessions under fire and for advocating the division of Jerusalem, an accusation Barak has consistently denied.

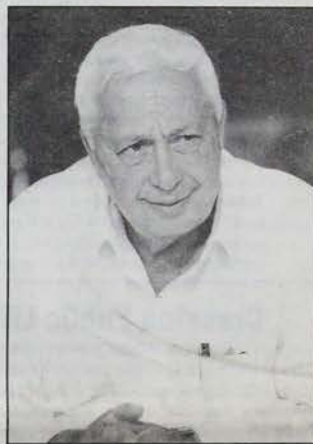
Barak's campaign, which attempted to demonize Sharon and dredge up his belligerent past, failed to convince the Israeli public of an inevitable, warlike future under Sharon's leadership. Sharon's oft-quoted remarks in a recent *New Yorker* article, in which he describes the peace process as a total failure and described Arafat as a "bloodthirsty murderer," have been used against him by Barak supporters as evidence that he has not reformed himself. Towards the end of the campaign, Barak's camp accused Sharon, who is 72, of being physically and mentally unfit for the prime minister seat. Sharon's opponents accused him of being easily fatigued, prone to forgetfulness and afflicted with an inability to concentrate.

Despite these dynamic statistics of the election, voter turnout in Israel was the lowest in the nation's history, with only 62 percent of all eligible votes being cast. Eighty percent of Israelis voted in the 1999 elections, but this year, only an estimated 2.8 million of Israel's 4.5

million Israeli Jews and Arabs came out to vote. Voter turnout was lowest in Arab villages and neighborhoods, no doubt a result of many vigorous Arab and Muslim initiatives asking Israeli Arabs to sit out the election. Some villages reported as many as 90 percent of its inhabitants had not voted, according to the Israeli-Arab Center for Equality.

There were also a record number of blank ballots being cast, although an exact number is unlikely to surface since Israel does not count blank ballots. In 1996 there were more than 100,000 blank ballots. The low voter turnout reflects the anger of many Israelis and Palestinians at both the choice of candidates and the state Israel is currently in. Some Israelis claimed that this recent emergency election was unnecessary, while others claimed that significant economic issues were purely not being dealt with. Others had tried vigorously throughout the campaign to substitute favorites Shimon

Peres for Barak and "Bibi" Netanyahu for Sharon. Parallels have been drawn in a few Israeli newspapers between the lackluster choices in Israel and a



Ariel Sharon

similar situation in the recent United States election.

The large amount of abstaining Arab non-voters, coupled with Sharon's skillful winning of the immigrant Russian and

(Continued on Page 6)

## Mitzvah Madness!

### Children Learn About Mitzvot at The JCC

by Jon Rubin  
Assistant Editor

Teaching very young children about Jewish values isn't always that easy. So on Feb. 4, kids got a chance to learn about Jewish values by working on Jewish arts and crafts projects. The event was held at the JCC and was coordinated by members of the Young Women's Programming

Committee and the Young Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation. Also present were 17 teen-agers from Harry Elkin Midrasha and Bristol County Temple Youth, who helped the children with their projects.

Using stickers, tape, glue, glitter, construction paper and markers, kids fashioned their own greeting cards, some of which they would take home and others were donated to Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island and lo-

cal hospitals. They also folded pieces of paper together to form tzedakah boxes. Their teen-age assistants gave a hand with the instructions and materials. There was lots of juice, cookies and sandwiches on hand as well, just in case they got hungry.

Later, Rabbi Jonathan Blake from Temple Beth-El gave the children a talk about mitzvot. He asked the children what kinds of things they could think of that can break. "Glasses! Trains! Fire engines!" were some replies. Then he asked if there were some ways that the

earth could get broken. One boy replied that a tree falling is like the earth being broken, while another said a big meteor could hurt the earth as well.

"In the world," Rabbi Blake said, "everything has a little piece that can be broken. Mitzvot are ways of fixing the world." The children then thought of ways to help make the world a better place, from helping someone build a home, to giving someone some food to eat, to making a person feel better if they are sick.

Mission accomplished!



RABBI JONATHAN BLAKE from Temple Beth-El talks to young children about Mitzvot.

Herald photos by Jon Rubin



MARISSA VERTES gets a piece of ribbon ready for her project.



# HAPPENINGS

## Entertainment for Children

The Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence, announces the following activities. Call 273-KIDS.

### February

- 9 **Stories Aloud.** 9:40 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. The museum's Preschool Friday series continues as children, ages 3 to 5, bring a stuffed friend to share stories of friendship and love. Make fancy valentines and decorate a cookie. Pre-registration is recommended for this popular series. Call 273-KIDS, ext. 234 for enrollment information. There may be space available for walk-in registration for individual sessions. There is a \$1 fee above the price of admission for walk-in registration. Check at the admissions desk.
- 10 **Eureka!** 1 and 2 p.m. Which animal is the king of the beasts? Which one is the biggest? The fastest? The slowest? Kids 5 and up explore these questions, find some examples of amazing animal adaptations and meet some live animals.
- 11 **Heart Power.** 1 to 3 p.m. Kids 3 and up see a play about the adventures of a human heart. Make crunchy healthy granola and learn how to keep your ticker in tip-top shape.
- 12 **Museum Closed.**
- 13 **Parent Talk.** 1 to 2:30 p.m. Preschoolers ages 2 to 4 play in Littlewoods while adults chat with a parenting expert.
- 14 **Tasty Toothpaste.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Celebrate Dental Health Month! Kids age 5 and up mix tasty flavored toothpaste to clean away all the valentine's sweets from your teeth.
- 15 **Time Detectives.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Children age 7 and up can be archaeologists for a day. Dig into an excavation using real archaeological tools and techniques to uncover artifacts, find clues, and solve a history mystery!

### Cranston Public Library Events

The Ocean State Brass Quintet will present a free concert at the Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, on Feb. 11 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. The concert program includes fanfares, marches, Baroque music, show tunes, Dixie, jazz, and swing music.

Noel Photography Exhibit with John Noel exhibiting his travel photography in the Meeting Room Gallery of the Cranston Public Library from Feb. 6 through 28.

Digital Photography Exhibit features local amateurs including Frank Amadio, David Hughes, and George White among others who are exhibiting their work in the Cranston Public Library Rear Gallery through Feb. 28. The work may be viewed during library hours. For information, call 943-9080.

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# RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

## Calendar: February 9 Through February 15

- 9 **Southeastern New England Motorcycle & Power Sports Show,** Feb. 9 to 11, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at R.I. Convention Center, 1 Sabin St., Providence. Call 846-1115.  
**Borders at Providence Place** mall has storytime every Friday morning from 10 to 11 a.m. with Miss Susan.
- 10 **New Jewish Cuisine 109** "Pareve Desserts" — recipes include apple cobbler and cappuccino soufflé on Channel 36 WSBE TV at 4:30 p.m.  
**King's Row,** New England's No. 1 oldies band, performs a Valentine's concert at 8 p.m. at Stadium Theatre Performing Arts Centre, Main Street, Woonsocket. Tickets are \$12 and \$15. Call 762-4545.  
**Festival of New Plays** at 8 p.m. with Light Light Light Light Light at Russell Lab, T.F. Green building, 5 Young Orchard St. Part of Brown University creative writing program, contemporary writers series.
- 11 **Books on the Square,** 471 Angell St., Providence, hosts Lazy Sunday Story Hour at 2 p.m. with Float Like A ??? with music, dance and a Brown University dance teacher. For children and families. Be ready to stretch, move and wiggle like never before.  
**Greater Boston Antique & Collectible Toy Show** at Holiday Inn, Dedham, Mass., 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Three halls will be full of collectibles, vintage toys and many other childhood treasures. Call (508) 379-9733 for more information.  
**Jewish Genealogical Society** of Greater Boston presents "Journey of Discovery" from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Presentation by Alexander Woodle at Temple Reyim, 1860 Washington St., W. Newton, Mass. Admission is \$3. Call (617) 796-8522.  
**Classical guitarist Michael Zielski** performs at Café Espresso at Borders, Garden City, Cranston, 1 p.m. It is also Love & Marriage Week at the bookstore this coming week with workshops, receptions and advice. Call 944-9160.
- 12 **AARP 55 Alive Driver Safety Program** (minimum class size: 12), Feb. 12 and 26, noon to 4 p.m. both days at Pilgrim Senior Center, 27 Pilgrim Parkway. Course costs \$10, must attend both days. Call 463-3474.  
**Harborhill Place,** a retirement community at 159 Division St., East Greenwich, hosts a free exercise program every Monday from 9:15 to 10 a.m. Call 884-2704, ext. 102.  
**Howard Gardner,** a Harvard professor, speaks on "Good Work in Tumultuous Times" at 6:30 p.m. in the Salomon Center for Teaching, on the College Green. Call 863-2476.
- 13 **Temple Beth El,** Fall River Sisterhood meeting, 2 p.m., in honor of Jewish music month in the temple's vestry, 385 High St., Fall River, Mass. Program is the film of the Zamir Chorale "Jewish Voices Return to Poland." Dessert will be served.  
**R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum** meets at Borders in Garden City, Cranston at 7 p.m. to discuss *Village of a Million Spirits* by Ian MacMillan. Call 944-9160.
- 14 **Restaurant Prov** at 99 Chestnut St., Providence, hosts a Valentine's Day dinner with a three-course meal, \$40 per person, choice of appetizer, entrée and dessert. Reservations ASAP. Call 621-8888. Also, live jazz every Wednesday night, 8 to midnight.  
**Playreading at Barrington Public Library** led by Elsa Grieder at 7 p.m. with reading of *Three Tall Women*. Call 247-1920. Library is at 281 County Road, Barrington.
- 15 **R.I. Spring Flower and Garden Show,** Feb. 15 to 18 at R.I. Convention Center, Providence. Call 421-7811. See the *Herald's* Arts and Entertainment pages for more information.  
**Gallery Night Art Trolley,** 5 to 9 p.m. A fun, free and easy way to see Providence's varying art styles. Guides give talks of 17 art galleries. Starts at Citizen's Bank, One Citizen's Plaza, Providence. Call 751-2628.  
**Borders Bloodhounds Mystery Group** meets to discuss *Sunday the Rabbi Stayed Home* by Harry Kemelman at Borders, Garden City, Cranston, at 1:30 p.m. Call 944-9160. Also at Borders, at 7 p.m., The Gulfstream Trio performs romantic jazz at Café Espresso.  
**"The Little Foxes"** theater presentation Feb. 15 to 17 by Lillian Hellman, Rhode Island College Theatre at 8 p.m., Helen Forman Theatre. Reserved seating is \$11. Discounts for seniors and students available. Call 456-8090.  
**Perspectives,** the Rhode Island Jewish young adult project, holds happy hour at Dave & Buster's at Providence Place mall at 7 p.m. Ask for the Perspectives group. Enjoy a night of fun and games.

## JCCRI Offers Tu B'Shevat Program

During the days and times that school is not in session, the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island KidSpace and PreTeen Connection offers safe, supervised fun for children and peace of mind for working parents.

On Feb. 9, when Providence public schools are closed, JCCRI will offer "Shomrei Adamah" ("Keepers of the Earth's) Adventures," a vacation day program that features a celebration of Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish new year for trees. Swimming is included in the day's activities.

For more information call Charli Lurie, JCCRI director of children, youth and camp at 861-8800 ext. 147. The JCCRI is located at 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence.

If you have an event you would like featured on our Happenings Page, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940 or fax to 726-5820.

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Barney's, Oaklawn Ave.  
Borders Book Shop, Garden City Ctr.  
Rainbow Bakery and Cafe,  
Reservoir Ave.

### Providence and Vicinity

Barney's, East Avenue, Pawtucket  
Coffee Exchange, Wickenden St.  
College Hill Book Store, Thayer St.  
Eastside Marketplace, Pitman St.  
Rhoda's Judaica, Hope St.  
Touro Synagogue, Newport



## Cantors Take Their Voices to Israel

### Cantors Corner Column

by Cantor Jack Chomsky

Since the beginning of the recent uprising in Israel, there have been a variety of responses by American Jews. As these are clearly uncertain times in Israel, thousands of Americans have cancelled trips, fearing for their safety.

One group which has responded in a very different way is hazzanim, cantors, who each day and week intone the prayers of our tradition, speaking of our aspirations for peace and prosperity in Israel. For several members of the Cantors Assembly, the recent crisis has provided opportunities to travel to Israel in a new context: to share their musical and sacred gifts with its people and to experience inspiration beyond measure.

I was among the first to make such a trip. As chair of the 2002 Israel Mission of the Cantors Assembly, I contacted United Jewish Communities, hoping that cantors would be welcome on the Solidarity Missions that began visiting Israel in late October.

Indeed, we were greeted with open arms. I shared this news with my colleagues, exhorted them to take advantage of the opportunity (and obligation) and visited Israel myself in early November. In fact, I was in Israel on the American Election Day, anticipating that things would be sorted out before my return. Boy, was I wrong about that!

It is a great time to go to Israel. If you care about our homeland, and especially if you have spent a significant amount of time there in the past, the first reaction to trouble in Israel is to want to be there.

It is unfortunate that tourism has been so devastated that anyone now visiting Israel is em-

braced as a celebrity — yet it is overwhelming to be one of the people who receives this treatment.

As hazzanim, we bring a special connection to the land and its people. How often we invoke this in our *tefillot* (prayers): Every evening, we pray for the peace of Jerusalem (in the *Hshkivenu* prayer). Every morning, we say "The L-rd has chosen Zion and desired it for His dwelling place... The L-rd rebuilds Jerusalem, gathers Israel's dispersed... Praised from Zion be the L-rd who abides in Jerusalem... Lead them to Your lofty mountain; let them lodge there in Your abode, the sanctuary which You have established." And in each *Amidah* (recited three times daily), we pray for the gathering of the dispersed from around the world and for the restoration of Jerusalem.

These words are embedded in our hearts with the sacred melodies of our people. It is our obligation to bring the depths of these words and emotions to life in our prayers — and it is an awesome experience to say them in the Land of Israel for our brothers and sisters in a time of need.

Thus, cantors have ventured on various missions to Israel since late October. Three cantors from Toronto, representing each of the three movements, traveled together in a demonstration of Jewish unity. Hazzan Bert Kieffer of Florida went on the first Solidarity Mission. Hazzan Alberto Mizrahi, the celebrated virtuoso from Chicago, recalls from his trip "the honor and thrill of performing with the Yuval Chorus and Orchestra in a tribute to Cantor Moshe Stern for a packed throng of 2,000. The situation may be rather gloomy in Israel, but I can add my voice to that

of all our colleagues who have traveled there in support of our beloved *aretz*: "Do anything to get there!"

Among others, cantors who have traveled to Israel include Hazzanim Renee Coleson of Syosset, N.Y.; Howard Dardashti of Cherry Hill, N.J.; Larry Goller of Highland Park, Ill.; Nate Lam of Los Angeles; Robert Lieberman of St. Louis; Benjamin Maissner of Toronto, Canada; Jacob Mendelson of White Plains, N.Y.; Efraim Sapir of Toronto; and Stephen Stein of Akron, Ohio. Some traveled with UJC Missions, some on a special Masorti Movement Mission. (The Masorti movement is Israel's version of the Conservative Movement). Others simply went on their own.

All are part of the great commitment of hazzanim, the devoted singers of Israel, to the land and people for whom they sing over and over again. The speeches and the meetings are great — but there is something much deeper in the power of the melody of Jewish song and prayer. When our words are used up, our emotions remain in the form of music.

One of the most powerful experiences was that of Hazzan Rita Glassman of San Francisco. She met Rabbi Shlomo Zacharow of Kehilat Shevet Achim in Gilo (the Jerusalem neighborhood most under siege during these several months), and asked whether she might *daven* Shabbat morning at his congregation. As Rabbi Zacharow describes it, the experience was amazing: "Rita was simply magnificent... She *davens* with complete *Kavanah*, meticulous enunciation and of course with an angelic voice. Her chanting struck a balance

(Continued on Page 14)

## NCJW Opposes Bush Initiative to Promote 'Faith-Based' Social Programs

NCJW President Jan Schneiderman recently reiterated the opposition of the National Council of Jewish Women to federal funding of explicitly religious social programs.

"The so-called faith-based initiative launched [Jan. 29] by the Bush administration is another step in the breach of the wall of separation between religion and state that began with then-Sen. John Ashcroft's efforts to add 'charitable choice' language to welfare reform legislation in 1996. The fact that President Bush appears to be blending his faith-based initiative program with outreach to other non-profit social agencies and groups does not remove the objectionable aspects of this initiative; it simply attempts to disguise them.

"NCJW does not oppose charities and non-profit groups with religious affiliations participating in government programs on a non-discriminatory basis, as long as they forego using government funds to proselytize. Such groups have a long history of social and educational service to all corners. But NCJW does oppose using government money for direct funding of religious institutions and organizations that are allowed to discriminate with regard to

clients and employees and to incorporate religious teaching in their social service efforts.

"President Bush stated [Jan. 29] that 'When we see social needs in America, my administration will look first at faith-based programs and community groups,' and that 'I want to ensure that faith-based and community groups will always have a place at the table in our deliberations.' He also stated that 'As long as there are secular alternatives, faith-based charities should be able to compete for funding on an equal basis and in a manner that does not cause them to sacrifice their mission.' These sentiments threaten the foundation of our democracy — that religious beliefs play no public role in governance and that explicitly religious programs are inappropriate vehicles for public policy and service delivery.

"The Supreme Court has ruled that pervasively sectarian institutions cannot be funded with public money. President Bush's attempt to circumvent this forthright language by directing his administration to find a way to remove 'barriers' to funding faith-based programs bodes ill for the preservation of religious freedom in America."

## Have An Opinion?

If you have an opinion about something in the Jewish community, why not express it in the Herald?

SEND YOUR LETTER TO:

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## It's What You Don't Know

A famous songwriter was interviewed recently, and the conversation turned to his religious background and beliefs. He had been raised Jewish, but is not now observant in any way, and has no particular notions about G-d. The interviewer, perhaps sensing a cynical statement from a notoriously cynical person about the value of faith, asked a question which assumed the writer was an atheist. The writer took a very firm position about this: no, he would never call himself an atheist. He considers that as arrogant as any other form of fanaticism. "That would presume I know something that I can't possibly know."

Interesting. Even within a person who does not recognize the hand of the L-rd in the miracles around us, who does not value the presence of faith in someone's life, there still dwells enough doubt to proclaim that one cannot be certain about the non-existence of a Prime Mover.

If only others who do not "practice" religion would at least have the humility to know what they don't know. It might open up a window to their souls

through which faith can enter.

Last week in Bo we read about the last of the plagues, and the continuing determination of Pharaoh to keep his slaves, despite the evidence that he is up against a Force he cannot conquer. He even says, after the plague of locusts, "I have sinned against the L-rd your G-d, and against you. Now

therefore forgive, I pray thee, my sin only this once, and treat the L-rd your G-d, that He may take away from me this death only."

In that speech is a telling lesson. Although he recognized the power of G-d, although he knew what he was up against and was humbled and frightened, he still clung to his old beliefs in two ways: by referring to "your G-d," not accepting that this was the G-d of all mankind, and by thinking that there was some sort of negotiation going on — I'll ask forgiveness, and He'll take away the locusts. What we see in this, and in the

entire tale of Pharaoh's resistance, is how difficult it is to convince those without faith, even when they are in the presence of unarguable miracles. But what we also see is that there's an opening to them, and that we must try to reach them.

In your own life, have you given up on those who scorn religion, who tell you of the wars it has created, who think of faith as a sign of weakness or stupidity? Do you avoid at all costs entering into any discussion of how Torah and mitzvot have influenced your own life, for fear of being criticized or ridiculed? It would be a shame if you do. Because the very resistance you see in them is not a firm belief that there is no G-d. It's an attempt by their physical natures to deny what their souls are telling them all the time: that He exists, that He is in their lives, that in some sense they are aware of Him.

Help them. They have a right to know. And you have a responsibility to tell them what they should know.

Submitted by Rabbi Yossi Laufer of CHAI Center of Chabad of West Bay, Warwick.

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HERALD EDITOR

LUKE O'NEILL

ASSISTANT EDITOR

JONATHAN RUBIN

CONTRIBUTING YOUTH REPORTER

STEPHANIE STEINGOLD

MAILING ADDRESS:

Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940

TELEPHONE: (401) 724-0200

PLANT:

Herald Way, off Webster Street  
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OFFICE:

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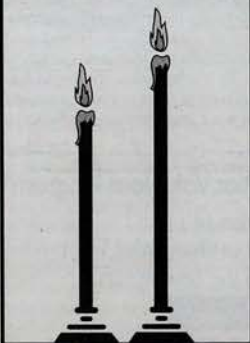
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### Candlelighting

February 9, 2001

4:52 p.m.



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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Israel and What Makes It Holy

Rabbi Natan Schafer talks about his most recent trip

by Jon Rubin  
Assistant Editor

In the cozy Fireplace Lounge at EPOCH Assisted Living on Blackstone Boulevard, Rabbi Natan Schafer treated a small group of residents with tales from his recent trip to Israel. A frequent visitor to EPOCH through the Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island program, Rabbi Schafer visits many assisted living and nursing homes in Rhode Island.

He painted a beautiful and moving picture of the Jewish State, but also admitted that for those who want to stay in style, it can be pricey. "The biggest expense of Israel is the hotel. It's usually more than the plane fare," Rabbi Schafer said. His personal method of overcoming this expensive portion of the trip is to stay with friends. Rabbi Schafer spent three years living in Israel, and has returned "a few times" since then. His most recent trip lasted from last Hanukkah into the new year.

A good portion of his trip was spent in and around Jerusalem, which he practically insisted was essential. He described at length the presence and emotion of Israel's most hallowed ground. "The Old

City is just that — old!" he said. "We don't know from old here. Thousands of years old." Despite the current conflicts, Rabbi Schafer said he felt completely safe the entire time.

And then there was the Kotel, the wailing wall. "Every type of person you can imagine goes to the Kotel to talk to G-d," he said. He spent a few hours there, and was amazed at who came in an endless stream: family trips there from all over Israel, lots of bar-mitzvahs, even couples on the wedding day showed up before the ceremony to pray at the wall, in their tuxedos and wedding gowns.

First-time visitors to the city might be startled by the sight of people begging in Jerusalem. Many are disabled, Rabbi Schafer said, and he described a man he saw with no voice box and another without legs. In Israel, it is difficult *not* to give to those you see, he said. He began carrying large quantities of small NIS bills with him, because he didn't want to turn anyone away. "If G-d puts this person in front of me, I'm gonna give."

A majority of his talk revolved around the large number of holy people one can find in Israel. Finding them, however, requires a little bit of ingenuity, and even more luck. "You

can't just take out the yellow pages and look up 'Holy People,'" he said. There is, however, a method that usually works. "Your friends will tell you," he said. "They'll say, 'You have to see this person.'"

Why visit a holy person? What can be gained from them? "Warmth," Rabbi Schafer said. "Sometimes the world is such a cold place that our heart gets frozen," he remarked. These special individuals, he said, give us the strength that warms our hearts and helps us be human again. These people often have lines of people waiting to see them, Rabbi Schafer commented; they ask nothing of you and make no material gains at all. "We always have such people," he said. "When one dies, another is born."

Rabbi Schafer described an experience he had down at the Kotel one morning at 5 a.m. He was granted an audience with a very old rabbi from Iraq, a kabbalist, or Jewish mystic. This deep and holy man had access to a gate by the left side of the Kotel, where a tunnel leads into darkness. The tunnel had been excavated a few years earlier by archeologists, but is totally off-limits to the public. Rabbi Schafer followed this man through the gate and down the long and ancient tunnel that ran alongside the Wall. At the end were two small oil lamps, which the old rabbi lit. This spot was extremely close to the Holy of Holies, directly underneath the Temple Mount. Here, at this most sacred of spots, these lucky



RABBI NATAN SCHAFER — his supply of Jewish stories is practically inexhaustible.  
Herald photo by Jon Rubin

men were able to daven and pray.

"There are unbelievable holy people in Jerusalem..." Rabbi Schafer said. "Absolutely beyond belief." Rabbi Schafer concluded his service with some Hebrew songs, wordless and very beautiful.

The Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island is a program of the Jewish Seniors Agency, which provides religious content for assisted living facilities in Rhode Island with Jewish residents. For more information, call 621-5374.

## Take a Photographic Journey of Israel

"Perspective Images of Israel" by Lev Poplow, Providence photographer and educator, will be presented at the meeting of the Temple Sinai Seniors on Feb. 16 at 11:30 a.m. at Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. He will show some of his slides of his visit to Israel.

For those of you who have traveled to Israel, this is sure to bring back memories. For those of you who have not been to Israel, after his presentation, you will want to go.

Bring a brown bag lunch. Dessert and coffee/tea will be provided.

If you have any questions, call Baila at 461-6124.

## JFS Elderly Services Used by Active and Housebound Seniors

There is no one stereotype for the seniors who use the services provided by Jewish Family Services' 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 be found at the Jewish Family Service Kosher Mealsite in Cranston. For some, it is an opportunity to enjoy the company of other people and participate in a larger community. For others, it is a chance to have a hot, nutritious kosher meal at a low cost. For others, it is their one outing of the day. The JFS Kosher Mealsite, located at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave. in Cranston, is accessible to many who do not drive, because transportation is

available in Cranston and Warwick.

The peace of mind they find with JFS Lifeline/RI benefits not only people who are in frail health, but others as well. Subscribers include those who live alone, those who want to be prepared in the event of an emergency, as well as those who are recuperating from surgery or illness or have disabilities. The personal emergency response system allows the user to summon help immediately. Lifeline/RI provides a sense of security in case of an accident or any other emergency because it guarantees the appropriate medical services, and family members will be notified instantaneously. There are currently more than 600 subscribers all over Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts.

In recent years, the trend has been for seniors to want to remain in their own homes, a phenom-

enon 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, executive director of JFS. JFS's 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.

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 elderly services available through JFS, call 331-1244.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Only G-d Can Make a Tree

JTS Web Site Explores Tu Bishvat

Some 500 years ago a group of rabbis convened and added a new holiday to the Jewish calendar of holy days and festivals. Ever since, Tu Bishvat has been a time for Jews to explore their relationship to the world of nature. This year, Tu Bishvat falls on Feb. 8 and by logging onto <<http://learn.jtsa.edu/tubshvat>>, the Jewish Theological Seminary's online learning center, one can find any number of ways to mark a holiday that celebrates the very timely topic of the environment.

The site contains a blend of serious scholarship and family fun. *The First Ray of Light* by Shaul Magid, assistant professor of Jewish philosophy, provides a mystical tour of the holi-



day, while Ismar Schorsch, JTS chancellor, examines the Jewish view of nature in *Tending to Our Cosmic World*. In addition to the Kids Corner, where youngsters can play games and learn about traditional foods and even a special Tu Bishvat seder — the site features a selection of verses about trees.

There's also an opportunity to send free online postcards to family and friends. The cards are culled from the collections of the JTS library and the Melton Center's Egalitarian Poster Series.

Spring is only a few short weeks away. What better way to anticipate its arrival than by celebrating Tu Bishvat on Feb. 8 with a visit to the JTS Web site.

## UJC Solicits Funds For India Earthquake Relief

In response to the devastating earthquake that struck India last month, United Jewish Communities and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, working with a coalition of Jewish organizations, have opened a mailbox on behalf of the Federations of North America to collect relief funds for earthquake victims and their families.

UJC President and CEO Stephen D. Solender said: "The unthinkable magnitude of the loss and damage from this event calls once again for a quick response and compassionate support from the North American Jewish community. Thankfully, the Jewish community in India, as in the recent earthquake in El Salvador, was largely spared any damage, although reports indicate that four Jewish families in the Ahmadabad area were forced to leave their homes and have taken refuge in the synagogue compound."

The wide radius of destruc-

tion has left tens of thousands of people homeless, with enormous needs for food, water, medicine and other essentials. Governments, communities and organizations around the world are rushing to meet the needs. Last week, the Israeli government sent an army mobile hospital and 150 medical and health professionals to the earthquake area.

"Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has already announced that his nation cannot cope with the enormity of this disaster. The North American Jewish community will do its utmost to come to the aid of the victims of this tragedy," Solender said.

Federations and individuals should direct donations to the JDC mailbox at: JDC India Earthquake Relief, 711 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017. Checks should be payable to JDC-India Earthquake Relief. In addition, payments by credit card can be made on the JDC Web site at <[www.jdc.org](http://www.jdc.org)>.

## 'Healing and Joy in Jewish Tradition'

A public workshop entitled "Healing and Joy in Jewish Tradition" will be held on Feb. 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Lounge of the Neighborhood Guild, 325 Columbia St., in Peace Dale. The workshop will explore lesser-known Jewish teachings that emphasize joy and the ability of individuals to achieve a personal spiritual healing.

The workshop is being conducted by the Rhode Island Center for Jewish Healing, a start-up organization whose goal, according to its founder, Howard Brown of North Kingstown, 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.

In recent years, centers devoted to Jewish healing have become a growing phenomenon in America. 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. "I suffered for 20 years because of back and jaw deformities," he explains. "Doctors recommended surgery," but Brown felt it was a risky and expensive alternative with no guarantee of improvement. "Then I found a teacher who introduced me to Jewish mystical traditions. Gradually my focus shifted from pain management to bringing G-d's presence into my life every day. I bear witness to the power of spiritual growth to transform suffering into joy."

Attendance for the Feb. 28 workshop will be by pre-registration only. There will be a \$20 fee. Call 268-3833 or e-mail <[hbrown@jamestownr.com](mailto:hbrown@jamestownr.com)> for registration information.

## Many Voices, One People

### In Search of Jewish Pluralism

The centerpiece event of the Rhode Island Jewish community's ongoing interdenominational series *Many Voices, One People* will be held Feb. 11 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Temple Beth-El in Providence. Rabbi Steven Greenberg, a senior teaching fellow at the National Center for Learning and Leadership, will present "In Search of Jewish Pluralism." An ordained Orthodox rabbi, he has been involved at the forefront of contemporary issues both here and in Israel.

This session will explore the wide diversity within the Jewish world — Orthodox, Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist, Hasidic, Zionist, Secular, Yiddishist, ethnic, assimilated, Ashkenazic, Sephardic. How can the Jewish community negotiate this variety? Can it claim it is "one" despite the many differences? Or will the differences inevitably tear it apart?

"It is clear to me that the greatest challenge facing the Jewish people, both here and in



Rabbi Steven Greenberg

Israel, is how we can deal with our vast diversity with integrity," said Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer

of Temple Emanu-El, the series coordinator. "Tolerance," a distinctly American idea, is simply not going to be sufficient. That is merely the lowest common denominator.

"We need to go beyond tolerance," Rabbi Kaunfer, president of the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis, continued, "and develop active and positive ways of not only understanding each other's position with depth, but of validating the integrity of other views with which we disagree and which we cannot accept personally. That's what this series is all about."

*Many Voices, One People* has been funded in part by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. Events are being coordinated and hosted by Temple Beth-El, Congregation Beth Shalom, and Temple Emanu-El. This Sunday's program is open to the public and does not require attendance at any of the prior presentations. Childcare will be available.

## Reform Movement Continues Growth as Four Congregations Join UAHC

Four congregations were accepted into the Union of American Hebrew Congregations at its recent board of trustees meeting, bringing the total number affiliated with the Reform Movement to 906. The UAHC, the umbrella organization for Reform synagogues, continues its unprecedented growth, having accepted 11 congregations over the past 12 months.

The new member congregations range in size from 50 members to nearly 500, and are located in communities from Georgia to California. With UAHC membership, all will be able to participate in the broad community of North American Reform Judaism, the largest and fastest-growing Jewish movement on the continent. The congregations will have access to UAHC worship programming, youth camps, adult retreats, music programs, and other exciting opportunities.

"While each congregation in the Union is unique, with different histories, needs, and personality, every UAHC congregation shares a commitment to the ideals and visions of the Reform Movement," said Rabbi Peter Schaktman, director of the UAHC's department of small and new congregations. The new congregations are:

Congregation Beth Israel, Colleyville, Texas, located outside of Fort Worth, is in just its second year of existence. With more than 50 member families, it already boasts a religious school with more than 65 students, a Sisterhood and Brotherhood, a Torah study program, and an adult social club. This past October it unveiled the plans for its brand new synagogue building, which its members hope will house their sanc-

tuary and religious school for generations to come.

Temple Beth Tikvah of Fullerton, Calif., which contains 250 member households, has served the Reform Jews of northern Orange County, Calif., since 1964. Affiliated with the Union at its inception, its declining membership caused it to break away in 1991. As a solution to its membership problem, it undertook a unique initiative, and twinned itself with Adat Ari, a local Conservative temple. The two congregations now share worship space and several programs, and offer both Reform and Conservative services during the High Holy Days and Shabbat.

Temple Beth Tikvah of Roswell, Ga., has been growing for 13 years since 30 families residing in the Atlanta area — an area with a rich and vibrant Jewish community — came together to create the temple. Since then, the membership of the synagogue has ballooned to nearly 450 households, and enrollment in the religious school has swelled to more than 300

children. Organized as a liberal congregation with traditional learnings, the congregation strives to encourage a high degree of ritual observance in its members and models its worship on the pattern of Reform and Progressive Judaism in Germany and the United Kingdom.

Temple B'nai Moshe was organized and chartered in 1924 by a group of Orthodox Jews in LaSalle, Ill. Over the years, the congregation evolved into a Reform group, although its membership has remained constant, at around 30 families, since its inception. With Union membership, B'nai Moshe will not only be able to use the Reform seminary's student rabbi program, but will also benefit from the Union's department of small and new congregations, which provides help to congregations with under 250 members.

The UAHC is the synagogue arm of the Reform Movement in North America, and represents 1.5 million Reform Jews in more than 900 congregations in the United States and Canada.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Sharon Victor with 63% of Israeli Vote

(Continued from Page 1)

right and centrist voters tipped the election in Sharon's favor. During the end of last week, Sharon gained ever-increasing support from Israel's fervently Orthodox community, as well as gaining a fair portion of the Israeli swing vote as well.

There was a great deal of commotion throughout Israel during the elections. There were numerous protest rallies in cities all over the state. One rally prevented Barak from entering a polling place in Tel Aviv. Palestinians organized a "Day of Rage" to coincide with the elections, and some minor gunfire in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip occurred, although no one was reported hurt. Israel had completely closed off access to both the West Bank and Gaza during the elections to deter terrorists. The 3 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza are not eligible to vote. There were also reports of voting fraud; some people entered the polls only to find that someone else had voted in their place. Israel's Army Radio attributed this to fake identification cards.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell spoke on behalf of the

Bush administration on Sharon's victory: "This administration will keep its fingers crossed the next Israeli leader will exercise restraint and won't be tested any time soon," Powell said.

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, upon hearing of Sharon's victory, reacted with caution. He asked for a Lebanese and Syrian partnership with Israel to create a "New Middle East." Sharon's victory is expected to arouse enmity in the Arab community, who view Sharon with distrust in recalling his invasion of Lebanon in 1982, amid other offenses. Certain members of the Arab community have expressed fears that Israel's attitude will become more hostile under Sharon.

Now that Sharon is in power, the future is unclear. Sharon has expressed great interest in creating a unity government and joining with the Labor party. Some analysts believe that Sharon's rightist tendencies will be sufficiently balanced by a coalition government, while others disagree. Sharon faces a difficult first few months in office, since the deeply divided and weakened Knesset is not up for re-election. Sharon has promised that Jerusalem will remain the eternally united capital of Israel. He was somewhat more vague on the issue of Palestinian resistance and the peace talks, although he has promised (and is expected to) be far more involved in security affairs and quelling violent outbreaks than Barak had been.



Ehud Barak

Sharon's proposed period of "non-belligerency" contains no timetables or assigned dates like the ones Barak implemented. Concerning the ever-changing peace process, Sharon claimed during the election that, "Time is not against us... I [have] never believed in a window of opportunity." The period of non-belligerency is intentionally not a binding peace agreement; Sharon believes that under the current Palestinian leadership and circumstances, any sort of peace agreement would not hold. This idea is appealing to the many Israelis who are tired of both apparently ineffectual diplomacy and of unceasing violence.

The Israeli Central Election Committee will announce the official results of the election on Feb. 13. Sharon now has 45 days to form a new government.

## Gallery 401 Exhibits Benjamin Gross and Jorge Corporon

Gallery 401, the art gallery at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, on Providence's east side presents an exhibit by artists Benjamin Gross and Jorge Corporon now through Feb. 28.

Gross is an assistant professor in the art department at Salem State College, teaching printmaking courses as well as Web design, multimedia design, and video and animation. He describes his work as speaking "in a language that allows the viewer to grasp life's bliss and opportunity."

Corporon, originally from New York, currently lives in Providence, creating furniture from his art. His bold and bright pieces are intended to create a sense of nostalgia and fun.

The opening reception is tonight from 5 to 8 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

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## Rabbi Jagolinzer Joins Campus Ministry

Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer was recently named Jewish chaplain at Johnson & Wales University. He also serves as director of Hillel at Johnson & Wales University and Roger Williams University.

Rabbi Jagolinzer has been the leader of Temple Shalom in Middletown, R.I., since 1974. In addition to his duties as religious leader of the temple and educational director and teacher at the Samuel Zilman Bazarisky Religious School, he has been an active community and interfaith leader. He is currently president of the Aquidneck Island Clergy Association and immediate past president of the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis.

Rabbi Jagolinzer is a member of the faculty of the University of Rhode Island and Salve Regina University.



Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer

## Young Judaea Initiates First Youth Solidarity Mission to Israel

At the initiation of its student leaders, Young Judaea, the Zionist Youth Movement sponsored by Hadassah, has organized its first high school solidarity mission to Israel, taking place from Feb. 14 to 20. Sixty-seven Young Judaeans, ages 15 to 18, have initiated, organized and raised money to participate in this groundbreaking show of support for the people and the government of Israel.

"Our young people have distinguished themselves with both their commitment to Israel and their tenacity in undertaking grassroots fund-raising to pay for their own trips," said Doron Krakow, national director of Young Judaea. Young Judaeans from almost every major city in the country — as well as towns like Billings, Mont., and Eugene, Ore. — collected money door-to-door in order to meet their \$25,000 goal. This grassroots fund-raising campaign was devised to maximize nationwide discussions of Israel in the synagogues, stores and neighborhood homes the students canvassed for support.

"We didn't want to just sit back and watch history unfold," explained Josh Scharff, national mazzkir (president) of Young Judaea. "Our vision is to actively help bring about real changes in attitude toward Israel at this critical time. We hope that our Youth Solidarity Mission will both buoy the Israelis' spirit and energize the American Jewish community to visit Israel and support its struggle."

The peer-led mission is primed to use the momentum of the trip to return home as emissaries of good will, carrying their message of support to local public arenas nationwide. The group has even included attendance at a workshop on "Effectively Getting the Message Out" in their crowded agenda.

Also on the Youth Solidarity Mission itinerary are visits designed to reach out to many segments of Israeli society. "We will be at the Knesset; meet with political leaders; tour an army base; have a reunion with the Young Judaeans on our Year Course in Israel and with Tsotim, our sister movement in Israel; and visit Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Kerem," said Scharff. "The visit to the hospital is a critical component of the mission. We want the victims of the violence to know that American kids share in their suffering."

"Israel needs support now," stated Scharff. "We are answering its cry for help, and we hope that others will follow our lead."

## Correction

The wrong information was provided at the annual meeting of the Chased Schel Amess Association Jan. 28. It was said, and reported, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars would be adding a permanent memorial at Lincoln Park Cemetery. The Jewish War Veterans is the group that is adding a permanent memorial at the cemetery.

## J Connection Presidential Affair Party

On Feb. 18 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., join The J Connection for the Presidential Affair Party at SW1, located at 48 Winter St., in Boston's Downtown Crossing near Park St. T. Leave your political views at home and come out to party with DJ — Larry the Musical Dynamo, hors d'oeuvres, door prizes and wacky presidential trivia. The cost is \$15. For more information, go to <www.thejconnection.com> or call (617) 312-5410. For directions to SW1 call (617) 423-6767.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Domestic Violence in The Jewish Home

NCJW Holds Discussion and Film Screening

by Jon Rubin  
Assistant Editor

In all of the stereotypes that Jews give to themselves, the existence of domestic violence in a Jewish home is nowhere to be found. There are many reasons for this absence, including the belief that Jewish women are too dominating to let it happen, that Jewish families are intrinsically different from other families, and that since we haven't heard of it, it must not happen. But despite what we think, Judaism is not immune to domestic violence, and it does happen.

On Jan. 31 at Temple Beth-El, the National Council of Jewish Women, R.I. section, had a discussion about domestic violence in the Jewish home in front of a large audience of both NCJW members and guests. A panel of experts was present to answer questions, including Rabbi Wayne Franklin of Temple Emanu-El, Erin Gisherman Minior, director of professional services for Jewish Family Service, and Deborah DeBare, executive director of the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

The normal minutes of the meeting were skipped in order to provide time for the entire presentation. NCJW member Roberta Segal presided over the discussion. During the screening of the film "To Save A Life," which discussed domestic violence in the Jewish community, Segal asked members of the audience to write questions for the panelists on note cards provided.

appears to be at the very opposite of everything Judaism teaches, sometimes women deny that it is happening. The social pressures of Judaism are enormous, especially with children involved. Rather than expose their vulnerabilities to the Jewish community and deal with the expectant shame, battered women will often "close ranks" and hide it to save face. The price they pay for this decision is enormous.

The film's juxtaposition of Jewish music with tales of domestic violence made apparent exactly how alien tales of domestic violence feel to Jews. Together, the music and stories made a frightening and powerful combination. The women in the film spoke about the terror they faced inside their own homes, the dread, the fear for their safety and for the safety of their children. They described the slow, gradual change in their husbands, from a few disagreements and minor temper tantrums to furious, physical violence.

A number of Jewish traditions and laws were discussed that teach against domestic violence. The Talmud says plainly that, "A Jew must honor his wife more than he honors himself." The teaching *Shalom Ba'it*, or "a house of peace," is taken to mean by some women that the institution of marriage is more important than their suffering—that an "intact" household with a married couple is the highest Jewish ideal. Rather, the film explained, *Shalom Ba'it* is being profaned by the

feel unsafe is an indicator that something is wrong, the film said.

The final issue brought up by the movie was the topic of forgiveness for a husband who truly does want to stop and mend his ways. As was later mentioned by one of the panelists, the overwhelming majority of men who attend rehabilitative programs for domestic abuse are only there because the court system required them to, and are not interested in reforming themselves. "The reality of the repentance cannot be stated verbally," the film declared, but exists only through action. Two of the women in the film left their abusive husbands, but one woman remained with her husband through his rehabilitative process. However, that path is not always feasible, the film said. A rabbi in the film said that in some cases and with some women, "certain sins just cannot be forgiven."

Both the women who had been abused and those who helped them recommended that women should seek support from their rabbis, friends, local domestic violence centers and even women's shelters in order to escape the threatening home environment and give them time to think and plan their actions. The film stressed the importance of human involvement: "Healing doesn't just come from G-d, but from [us] as Jews and human beings."

After the film, the three panelists took some time to talk about domestic violence and to answer the questions audience members had written down. Rabbi Franklin remarked that, "There are many steps in the process of repentance, the only first of which is [saying] 'I'm sorry.'" He stressed that in order for a person to be truly repentant, they cannot commit the same crime again once they have promised not to.

Next, DeBare said that although the film dealt only with married couples, the roots of anger exist in teen couples and even into younger children. Many programs exist to educate people as to which sort of actions are acceptable in a relationship and which are not, she said. DeBare seeks to teach that "violence is not an alternative," and that women should not remain in a house where there is violence. She stressed that prevention and support groups are not enough, however, and that we need to enforce domestic violence laws, make sure health care professionals and police are trained in spotting victims of domestic violence and to make

husband's abuse, and the woman's safety should be the first priority. *Pekuach Nefesh*, or saving a life (including your own), should always be the woman's main interest.

Domination and threats often keep a woman inside an abusive relationship. The husband may keep a financial hold over his wife, withholding funds or giving her a meager stipend which is decreased or cut-off if she "disobeys." Worst are the threats of physical violence if she leaves or tries to get help, or threats he may make towards the children in order to gain control over her. Psychological abuse is another manner of gaining control. Any form of behavior that makes the woman



Eunice Greenfield, NCJW co-president Herald photos by Jon Rubin

sure that "domestic violence is everyone's business."

Lastly, Minior spoke about some telling statistics about Jewish women in domestic violence situations: whereas non-Jewish women on average are involved for five to seven years in a violent relationship before seeking help, Jewish women wait much longer, from nine to 19 years. She told about her experiences working in an emergency room, and how women would create lies to conceal the true nature of their injuries.

The meeting concluded with a "Call to Action." Some sug-

gested plans from the NCJW were to form a coalition to address domestic violence in the Jewish home, to assist in supporting appropriate legislation, to develop a program to address teen dating violence, and to encourage temples and organizations to speak out against domestic violence.

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For information or suggestions, contact Roberta Segal at 245-0867, or the NCJW of Rhode Island co-presidents, Ellie Elbaum at 272-3649 or Eunice Greenfield at 943-3760.



ERIN GISHERMAN MINIOR (right), Deborah DeBare and Rabbi Wayne Franklin speak about their experiences with domestic violence.

The film was a hard-hitting documentary which had a variety of people, including rabbis, psychiatrists and Jewish women who had been in abusive relationships, talking about the painful world of domestic violence. It began by discussing some universal "Jewish Myths," such as "Jewish men never beat their wives." Over the course of the film, three Jewish women quickly put this myth to rest with their gripping and harrowing stories of long-term abuse.

"Myths," one of the rabbis in the film explained, "are destructive. They prevent us from facing realities." One of the underlying dangers of domestic violence is that because it isn't supposed to happen, because it ap-

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## A New Jewish Jazz Emerging

by Luke O'Neill  
Herald Editor

The Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club jazzed it up a bit this past Sunday afternoon with some head-bobbin' and toe-tappin' tunes. William Miles, the Stotsky professor of Jewish historical and cultural studies at Northeastern University, was the guest speaker for the Leisure Club's Feb. 4 meeting.

Miles, who specializes in questions of ethnic identity and culture, precluded his talk by saying he's not a specialist in music, but instead he's "exploring for the first time this 'new world.'" This new world he was referring to is "The New Jewish Jazz"—the title of his talk. While he asked his audience to think of him as "a DJ with a Ph.D.," Miles shared different styles of jazz as he and his audience of nearly 40 learned of this emerging musical world together.

Miles, a recipient of four Fulbrights and author of six books, pointedly asked his audience of elders: "What is jazz?" Answers ranged from syncopation, blues-related, improvisation and simply a form of music. Miles then quoted jazz definitions from distinguished dictionaries and encyclopedias to point out the evolution of the music.

The 1938 *Oxford Companion to Music's* jazz definition partly reads "Jazzmen were largely musically illiterate improvisers." The next definition in the book, alphabetically, is for Jewish music with the section heading: "A great musical tradition." The definitions show the stark contrasts between the two musical styles at that time, said Miles, who is also a professor of political science.

The 1944 *Harvard Dictionary of Music* portended that jazz had no future. Forty-two years later

the same book (now titled the *New Harvard Dictionary of Music* in 1986), says jazz evolves and expands—"all styles of jazz have continued to thrive." The 1968 *Golden Encyclopedia of Music* offers a definition, which Miles said is his favorite, that states jazz has many styles and that "it is difficult to define."

Miles then asked his audience for some famous Jewish Jazz artists. Benny Goodman, George Gershwin, Harry James and Irving Berlin were names that were mentioned. However, as Miles suggested, these musicians didn't perform klezmer music perhaps because they saw it as "old shtetl," and because "it wasn't hip, it wasn't cool, it wasn't American."

"A musical paradox of contesting mainstream music while still being anchored in the older, familiar tunes...."

"But today," he said, "klezmer has come to be cool, hip and 'in.'" Miles added that people have called klezmer "Jewish soul music," perhaps borrowing the notion of soul from African American traditions.

"By the 1970s and 1980s," said Miles, "the embarrassment of the old musical tradition among the Jews began to dissipate." The notion of yiddishkeit as being something "anachronistic" and old was gone, he added. Miles said that Jewish music at this time began to join the other "in" musical tradition called World Music, or an alternative music—with mixed results.

The new Jewish music, according to Miles, is a mixture of avant garde and gimmickry. The gimmickry, he said, comes from such band names as Shtetl Metal, the Klezmatiks, Dr. Dreidle and Iceberg (the last two being take-offs of rappers Dr. Dre and Ice Cube).

The aim of his talk was to introduce the audience to what's currently unfolding under the rubric of Jewish alternative music. Miles admitted that he, and others, may not like all the music presently coming out under the rubric of "Jewish Jazz," but added that many people are listening to it and thinking of it as representative of the "new Jewish musical movement"; so, it could behoove the Jewish community to listen to the music, he said, and become educated about it if the movement becomes more popular.

The major momentum behind this new Jewish alternative music, said Miles, is the music label called The Knitting Factory. Equipped with visual and aural aids, Miles showed overhead projections of CD covers and played snippets of new Jewish music. The CD cover for the album *Knitting on the Roof*, from the aforementioned label and a take-off of "Fiddler on the Roof," shows a fiddler on a roof, but in lieu of a Jewish shtetl roof in Europe, the roof in the faint background of the CD cover is the Twin Towers.

The first cut Miles played was a newer version of "Sunrise, Sunset"; and although familiar, as some audience members closed their eyes and gently bobbed their heads, this newer version has a younger voice as does the next song, "If I Were a Rich Man," normally associated with Zero Mostel, still has the familiar rhythm, but again, a newer twist.

Miles played Uri Caine's "Hava Nagila," which he referred to as an "atonal" version that's "jazzy," "disharmonic" and almost a "cocktail music version." Miles described Caine as one of the big names now in Jewish alternative music.

Yossi Piamenta, who is known as the "Hasidic Hendrix," is known for his Hasidic Rock. Miles played Piamenta's upbeat song "David and Goliath." Miles then played music from the group Hasidic New Wave with their CD called *Psycho Semitic*, led by Frank London and the song "Blues in Exile."

Another artist "critical" to the Jewish musical movement along with London, said Miles, is John Zorn and his series of Masada albums. Playing Zorn's song "Sheloshim," Miles described the song as "new Jewish mysticism played out in a musical context." One audience member said the music sounded more Jewish than jazz with an emphasis on instrumentation. Miles later added that the fusion of traditionally cultural musical styles may not destroy or "denigrate" certain traditions, but that "it's just more music, and more different kinds of music."

Miles introduced his audience to King Django who has a merging of genres with Jamaican

and Jewish roots sounds. King Django has the Lion of Judea jumping out from the Star of David on his CD cover for his album *Roots and Culture*. "Is it more Jewish? Or is it more Jamaican? More ska?" Miles asked of the music. "It's up to the listener to decide."

Steven Bernstein, the next artist featured, has a heavy emphasis on trumpets and bongos and which Miles described as "New Orleans music with an Afro-Cuban beat with traditional Jewish liturgical music." Bernstein has a CD called *Diaspora Soul*.

Miles then played Wolf

After a dizzying array of music and playing the scholarly DJ, Miles offered this explanation of new Jewish jazz: "A musical paradox of contesting mainstream music while still being anchored in the older, familiar tunes. I see it as yearning to communicate something which is ineffable and can only be communicated through music and being both inside and outside—being in the hip present, but also in the un-hip past—wrestling with horns and strings." This "wrestling," he said, harkens back to when Jacob wrestled with a mysterious angel until his hip became



WILLIAM MILES, RIGHT, gave a talk on "The New Jewish Jazz" last weekend at Temple Emanu-El in Providence.

Herald photo by Luke O'Neill

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Krakowski's "Shabes, Shabes," which has a Gospel blues backup band, from the CD *Transmigrations*. Krakowski, born in a refugee camp in Europe in 1947, is considered the creator of Yiddish rock and one of Miles's favorites.

Miles said that a taste of how some people are "latching onto" the Kabbalah as a way of merging music and Judaism with being "hip" is the band Zohar Keter (Zohar being the Jewish book of mysticism and Keter meaning crown). Zohar Keter's CD cover features a kabbalistic design and their song "Insight" is one that can be listened to with your eyes closed on a cloudy day, Miles said.

Klezperanto, a new Jewish band, is akin to the idea of Esperanto. Just as Esperanto merges many different languages, Klezperanto merges many different musical styles. The band's song "Diddley Scmidley," which Miles said is his daughter's favorite, starts out with classical klezmer then several other musical styles are fused in, including jazzy New Orleans and banjo-picking country.

unloose—which, to Miles, playfully "means and which makes Jews literally the first 'hip' people in recorded history."

Miles and others agreed that jazz is continuously evolving and may be tricky to define.

Klezmer music, which is not familiar to Israelis, could catch on in Israel, and if it does, said Miles, it could be because this new alternative Jewish music catches on in the international arena.

One man asked if this new Jewish music is authentically Jewish or are people tacking on a Jewish motif to albums. Although the newer music may not invite as much communal sing-along or recognizable melodies, said Miles, "We can't control even our own musical tradition. It's out there and it will be transformed in very odd ways."

Miles has conducted fieldwork in a Reform Jewish kibbutzim in the Negev Desert and during his last sabbatical, he and his family spent six months at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Miles, his wife and their two children are members of Temple Emanu-El.



# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## What Can Passover Teach Us About Judaism?

Noam Zion Gives an Enlightening Second Look at The Seder

by Jon Rubin  
Assistant Editor

Noam Zion is trying to get this point across: Our Passover seders are good, but they aren't always living up to their potential. All too often, we are missing something vital. Yes, we have our family and friends and lots of food, and the long, long service. What's missing then? Our full participation. "The discussion is the heart of a rabbinic-style seder," Zion said last Sunday at the Rabbi William G. Braude Memorial Lecture at Temple Beth-El entitled, "The Politics of Passover: The Four Children in Art and Midrash."

Rabbi Braude was rabbi at Beth-El from 1930 to 1974. Braude was a rabbi and scholar who was internationally renowned for his work translating the Sefer Ha-Aggadah, or "Book of Legends." This was the fourth memorial lecture honoring Rabbi Braude, who published more than 90 works of translation and reinterpretation in his lifetime. In the spirit of Braude's work of making ancient texts more meaningful and relevant to modern readers, Zion, who lives in Israel and has been teaching at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Israel since 1991, sought to explain the true intentions of the Seder.

Zion brought with him copies of the Haggadah that he wrote which helps create a more lively and meaningful experience. It is called *A Different Night: The Family Participation Haggadah*, which he co-authored with David Dishon. Zion began by saying that the Haggadah does not teach the story of Exodus in a traditional manner. Instead, it expounds, uses metaphors, reveals a broad spectrum of events, even contains midrashim. Its purpose was to create an event which was more than just plain old responsive reading.

Zion remarked that the ancient rabbis chose to emulate the Roman style of dining, which was to recline and leisurely eat and discuss matters of law and philosophy while doing so. It is

in this spirit, Zion said, that we recline on Passover, so that all men and women will inherit the status of rabbinic scholars, relax themselves, and discuss Jewish history as if we were lively "talk show moderators" leading our own discussions.

Zion liberally used the word "agadah" in his presentation, which means a playful, imagination interpretation. The one agadah that he focused on most of all was the story of the four sons: the wise, rebellious, simple and the son who does not know how to ask a question. Zion said that to understand the role of the story of the four sons, we need to examine the point in the Haggadah where it is located — at the very center of the service. Its purpose is to engage the children (who may be getting a bit sleepy at this point) and get them involved in the service.

But the story of the four sons is there to assist the parents as well. We can take the four sons as personality types, and from the Haggadah we can learn how to adapt Jewish history to different types of personalities. "It helps parents without a Jewish professional background to be sensible to different learning styles. [The] rabbis put it there to be sensitive to [a] heterogeneous gathering."

Rather than a set story with a single, narrow meaning, the story of the four sons is actually a rich and varied tale. Zion illustrated this by going through some of the many artistic interpretations of the four children made by artists around the world. Looking at a few representations, it becomes clear that the archetypes of "wise," "rebellious," and so on are not constant, and sometimes reveal completely different interpretations of what they appear to be.

For example, a four sons picture Siegmund Forst drew in 1958 has the wise son looking like Moses, wrapped in a tallis and carrying a Torah. The wicked son is rather blatantly stamping his foot on a Sefer Torah. Another drawn by Tzvi

Livni in Israel in 1955 shows the wise son as a "kubbutznik," dressed in relaxed work clothes and carrying a copy of a Haggadah. The rebellious son is depicted, as Zion put it, as a "city-slicker from Tel Aviv," with a shirt and tie and a handkerchief sticking out of his pocket.

Another more whimsical version done by Dick Codor depicts the four sons as the four Marx brothers, with Groucho as the wise son leaning over a book (still smoking a cigar), and Chico as the rebellious son standing with his back turned to us, hands full of money and a pair of dice on the ground. Some drawings were even more revealing; more than a few had many of the sons resembling each other, so it was more difficult to determine who was wise and who was simple.

This difference in opinion points to what Zion feels is one of the main purposes of the Haggadah. Each of the four children is asking a question (or perhaps thinking of asking one), to which answers are provided. "[And] the answer to their questions is a history lesson," Zion said. This questioning, this interactive relationship with the text is what the Seder is all about. "Jews always answer a question with a question," Zion joked.

"The job on Pesach is to tell your children why you choose to be Jewish," Zion said. "The Haggadah opens up a discussion for Jewish education." Don't treat the text as unquestionably authoritative, he said, use it as a discussion for Jewish living. "Don't treat the text in the Haggadah as sacrosanct." Bring up your own questions and add them to the Seder. Use the Haggadah as "a series of



NOAM ZION, of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Israel, at Temple Beth El

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

gambits to get discussions going."

Zion brought up an organization called P'tach, which stands for Parents for Teaching Torah to All Children. P'tach is a Jewish parents organization for learning disabled children and for those who are simply resistant to traditional methods. From the hyperactive to the unmotivated to the extremely difficult child, the Seder can act as a way to start a Jewish discussion about how different children learn in different ways.

Zion ended his presentation by stressing his three main points: First, that the Seder should undoubtedly serve as a review of Jewish history and classical texts. Second, that

rather than be boring and predictable, "[Jewish practice in the home] can be incredibly enriching if we bring content into them." Third, he recommended that "this Pesach, make sure you have an interesting discussion of the best and worst methods of Jewish education."

The Jewish parents resource P'tach may be contacted at American Friends of P'tach, 175 5th Avenue, Suite 2318, New York, N.Y. 10010.

Copies of Zion's fascinating and interactive Haggadah, *A Different Night: The Family Participation Haggadah*, can be ordered from Haggadahs-R-Us at (216) 321-6717.

### JSV Announces Trip to Italy

Jewish Singles Vacations, a group tour operator for Jewish singles from across North America, will be offering a trip to Italy this spring. The trip will take place from April 28 to May 9. The itinerary will feature Rome, Florence, Venice and Milan. The trip is for Jewish singles ages 30 to 49.

For more information, contact: Jewish Singles Vacations, P.O. Box 211, Brookline, Mass., 02446-0002, phone (617) 782-3396, e-mail: <jsv@tourgroups.com> or Internet <www.tourgroups.com/jsv/>.



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### Temple Torat Yisrael to Hold 'Winterfest'

Temple Torat Yisrael, located at 330 Park Ave., Cranston, is hosting Winterfest on March 3. Winterfest is a dinner dance and the temple's third annual silent auction. Items being offered vary from autographed sports paraphernalia, to household items, to restaurant gift certificates, and much, much more. (Donations are welcome for the auction.)

This annual event is open to the public by purchasing tickets through the temple. The R.S.V.P. date is Feb. 20. Cost is \$25 per person, and tables of 10 can be made up upon request. All are welcome at this fun, fund-raising event. For more information, call the temple office at 785-1800 or Linda Weisman at 732-4439.

### JFS Asks Donors to Help in Feinstein Challenge

Jewish Family Service is once again participating in the Feinstein Challenge and is asking donors to help. For the fourth straight year, Rhode Island philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein is offering \$1 million this March to non-profit, anti-hunger agencies throughout the country. He will divide the money among all those agencies using his offer to help them raise funds from March 1 to April 30. Each agency will get a proportion of his \$1 million representing their proportion of the total raised and reported to him in response to this offer. JFS Executive Director Paul L. Segal says, "We hope our constituency will support us in this endeavor. Donations in response to the challenge given between March 1 and April 30 will benefit Jewish Family Service."

JFS provides counseling to individuals, couples, families, adolescents and the elderly and their families; alcohol and substance abuse therapy and referrals; Family Life Education workshops; a continuum of services to the elderly which includes counseling to the elderly and their families, information and referral, outreach, Home Care Service, Lifeline RI, the JFS Mealsite in Cranston and Kosher Meals on Wheels in the Cranston/Warwick area; and Adoption Options, a comprehensive adoption service. The agency is the coordinating agency for resettlement of Jewish refugees from Eastern Europe and other countries.

For further information about the services of JFS, call 331-1244.

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# HEALTHWISE

## American Heart Month Events For February

February is American Heart Month — the time of year the American Heart Association goes into high gear with its life-saving messages, programs and events. "This time of year is filled with ways for everyone to learn how to save a life, how to reduce their risk of heart disease and stroke, and how to have fun and participate in events to support research and education," said Nancy Thomas, director of communications for Southern New England.

The theme for February is "Be An American HeartSaver." There are three things you need to do to be an American HeartSaver. First, know the warning signs of heart attack. Second, know how to call 911. Third, learn CPR. The American Heart Association encourages people in the month of February to answer a call to action to sign up for a CPR class, offered at one of their community training centers. The network of

centers are convenient to every community. To find one near you, call (877) AHA-4CPR or log onto the Web site at <www.americanheart.org>.

Each year, Valentine's Day culminates the AHA's efforts to raise funds for research and education. Hearts in Bloom provides beautiful pink tulips for companies participating, and on Feb. 14 there are several locations where individuals can purchase their tulips directly: These sites are:

- East Side Marketplace — Providence
- East Side Marketplace — Newport
- Nordstrom's, Providence Place mall — Providence
- Warwick Mall — Customer Service Center — Warwick

There is still time to volunteer to deliver the more than 30,000 bouquets that are expected to be received on Feb. 13. To volunteer, call 274-4544.

## Sealants: An Investment in the Future

"Seal out decay, it pays," say is Dr. Andy Molak, president-elect of the Rhode Island Dental Association. "February is National Children's Dental Health Month and time to celebrate our children. Sealants are one of the best ways to keep them cavity free. Sealants are investments that can last a lifetime." Dental sealants act as a barrier, protecting the teeth against decay-causing bacteria. The sealants are usually applied to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth (premolars and molars) where decay occurs most often.

For more information about dental sealants, oral health care and National Children's Dental Health Month, visit the RIDA's Web site at <www.ridental.com>.

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## Telephone Pioneers Donate Heart Pillows to The Miriam Hospital

The Northern Rhode Island chapter of the Telephone Pioneers of America recently donated heart-shaped pillows to The Miriam Hospital to comfort cardiac patients. The pillows are a group of retired Verizon Communications workers. The pillows are used to maintain pressure over cardiac patients' chests while they cough and sneeze. Shown from left are (front row) Pat Lamothe of North Smithfield; Ginger DeNicola, R.N., nurse manager of The Miriam's cardiovascular thoracic ICU; Roberta Smith of Lincoln and Sally Irons, director of volunteer services and the call center for The Miriam, (back row, left to right) Sandra Coletta, chief operating officer of The Miriam; Joan Darlington of Cumberland; and Mary Ryan of Millville, Mass.

*Photo courtesy of The Miriam Hospital*

## Safe Sitter Classes Offered by Hasbro Children's Hospital

Every month, boys and girls ages 11 to 14 are invited to enroll in a two-day Safe Sitter program held on the Rhode Island Hospital campus. Lifesaving instruction on preventing and managing injuries, caring for a choking infant or child, and rescue breathing is combined with helpful tips on managing difficult behavior and other problems faced by sitters or siblings.

The Safe Sitter program, sponsored by Hasbro Children's Hospital, provides a wealth of useful information for boys and girls who are currently working as sitters and those who may do so in the future. Twenty-five dollars covers materials for the two-day sessions, including a take-home *Safe Sitters Manual* and twice-daily snacks. Scholarships are available. The sessions meet from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on consecutive Saturdays, or during school vacations. In the coming months, the program will be held on:

Feb. 21 and 23, March 3 and 10, April 16 and 17, and May 5 and 12.

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## New England Tech Holds Health Fair

The Student Activities office at New England Institute of Technology will hold its annual Health Fair on March 14 in the college's Center for Technology and Industry, 2480 Post Road, Warwick, R.I. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Forty-five medical related vendors will be available to answer questions relating to their products or care offered. Also, during the day-long event, which is open to the general public, college personnel will hold a clothing and an old eye-glass drive. Medical technicians will be present to take blood pressure readings, body compositions, vision screening, body fat analysis, grip strength, and glaucoma screening.

Vendors interested in participating in Health Fair 2001 should contact Tammy Capezza at 467-7744.





# HEALTHWISE

## Volunteers Needed!

*Deliver American Heart Association Tulips, Saves Lives!*

Celebrate American Heart Month and the Valentine's Day season by delivering tulips to groups participating in the American Heart Association's Hearts in Bloom campaign. Funds raised by this campaign support research and education. "It's a great way to get involved, have some fun and make a life-saving difference by supporting the AHA's biggest public fund-raising effort," said Nancy Thomas, director of communications for the American Heart Association.

Volunteers are needed on Feb. 13 for a variety of tasks. Both individuals and companies can participate. Companies with vans or delivery vehicles are particularly needed for delivering the larger orders of flowers and vases. Individuals who can work together and have cars are also needed. In addition, volunteers who would like to not deliver, but can help in packing the tulip orders are also needed.

Tulip packers begin as early as 3:30 a.m. at the R.I. National Guard Armory on North Main Street in Providence. Delivery people are needed to pick up orders and start their deliveries beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Ar-

mory. Drivers are particularly needed for the following areas of Rhode Island: Newport County, South County, and Northern Rhode Island. All deliveries must be completed by noon.

In addition, individuals who may want to help out as troubleshooters on either Feb. 13 or 14 are needed. These people would go out to companies who have received their orders but may have a broken vase or missing bouquet. Troubleshooters work on assignments given from the American Heart Association's office at 275 Westminster St., downtown Providence.

"There are many ways to help out for Hearts in Bloom. When you think about volunteering, we hope you will think about the individuals you know who have been effected by heart disease or stroke. Our funds save lives. With enough volunteers, we'll raise even more dollars. And, all volunteers receive a complimentary bouquet for their assistance," Thomas added.

To volunteer, call the American Heart Association's Hearts in Bloom volunteer hotline at 274-4544, or toll free at (888) 863-4052.



## Public is Invited to Take Diabetes to Heart

Diabetes and its link to heart disease will be explored in a free community health event at Rhode Island Hospital on Feb. 13 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Taking Diabetes to Heart is an effort to raise awareness of the heart-related difficulties often associated with diabetes. Free health screenings available that evening include tests for blood sugar, cholesterol, foot health, blood pressure and stroke risk assessments. Speakers will address medical management of diabetes along with behavioral concerns like stress management, exercise, diet and smoking cessation. Free parking, refreshments, resource booths, prizes and entertainment will be part of the event in Rhode

Island Hospital's George Auditorium.

While the program is open to all, pre-registration is required. For more information, or to register, call 444-4800 or toll-free (800) 927-1230.

## How to Keep Your New Year's Resolution to Lose Weight

*Weight Watchers Offers Diet Tips For Realistic Weight Loss Goals*

It's no surprise that losing weight ranks as one of the top New Year's resolutions. With every festive occasion celebrated with food, most Americans tend to overindulge during the holiday season and gain an average of 7 to 15 pounds.

During the post-holiday season, many people try to lose that extra padding. For those with chronic weight problems, the task of losing weight can seem particularly daunting this time of the year.

With more than 37 years experience in weight loss, Weight Watchers understands the seasonal patterns of diet-ers.

These tips will help turn your New Year's resolution into reality:

**1. Just start! Don't worry about every detail of a weight loss program.** Stay focused on the steps immediately before you. Don't be overwhelmed by the number of pounds you want to lose. Remember, just getting started is an important accomplishment.

**2. Set your first major goal at losing 10 percent of your current body weight.** A 10 percent weight loss is both medically significant and achievable. Recent medical research indicates that a sustained 10 percent weight loss can reverse the negative effects of obesity, resulting in lower blood pressure and cholesterol, and a longer and healthier life.

**3. Control portions and you control your weight.** You can avoid those extra pounds while

still enjoying each morsel of food you put in your mouth. Remember, the amount you eat is even more important than what you eat.

**4. Learn to count your successes.** Celebrate every pound you lose as you move toward your goal weight. Don't fret about the weight you haven't

**6. Accept that you will make mistakes along the way.** What you do about any mistake is what's important. Pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and continue with your healthy eating habits.

**7. Dieting does not mean deprivation: You don't have to give up your favorite foods.**

Many of the foods you love — and that you may have thought of as diet breakers — can be eaten in good conscience and good health. If buying a big jar of your favorite snack leads to temptation, Weight Watchers recommends you buy single serving sizes instead. Love ice cream? If you feel a craving, go to the store, buy one single-scoop ice cream cone. You will have more control than if you buy a quart and put it in the freezer.

**8. When you do experience a lapse, don't give up.** If you succumb to that pile of French fries or that dish of chocolate mousse, don't despair and give up. Lapses are normal. Knowing you can get back on track is an empowering skill to learn.

To learn more about Weight Watchers visit <[www.florineonline.com](http://www.florineonline.com)>, or call (888) 3-FLORINE for information about meeting times and locations.



Florine Mark, president and CEO of Weight Watchers

shed. A positive attitude is key.

**5. Start with small steps, not big leaps.** Ease into a new routine, then change your habits gradually. For example, walk an extra five minutes a day, and increase the pace gradually.




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# FEATURE

## Faculty Member's Art Exhibit Highlights Black History Month

An exhibit of new paintings and drawings by University of Rhode Island art professor Robert Dilworth highlights a series of events to celebrate Black History Month at URI.

The exhibit runs through Feb. 28 in the Lobby Gallery of URI's Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education, 80 Washington St., Providence. An opening reception will be held Feb. 8 at 5:30 p.m., with a brown bag "Meet the Artist" talk Feb. 9 at noon. The gallery is open Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.

The pieces in the exhibit were all completed in the last six months and reflect the plight of African-American men and the stereotypes they fall into.

"They are large figurative pieces that operate on many levels," explained Dilworth. "The figures are usually combative, though in some instances they are tender and caring for one another. They have a kind of religious tone to them as well, and they reflect internal conflicts."

Dilworth earned his B.A. at Rhode Island School of Design



"Unclaimed and Untitled" from Miffed: New Figurative Works by Robert P. Dilworth

and MFA in painting at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Also as part of Black History Month, URI's Feinstein CCE will host The Black Diaspora: A Celebration in Song and Dance on Feb. 16 at 5:30 p.m. in its Paff Auditorium. This event celebrates the contributions by people of African heritage to the performing arts, and will include a performance by the band TWYCE.

## R.I. Foundation Announces Scholarships

The Rhode Island Foundation has announced the availability of college/post secondary and/or graduate scholarships from 29 of its endowment funds. While most are open to residents from throughout the state, several serve specific geographic areas, as well as particular areas of interest including art education, nursing and media/advertising. Just some of the year 2001 scholarships include:

- **Patty & Melvin Alperin First Generation Scholarship** and **David M. Golden Memorial Scholarship**: to benefit college-bound Rhode Island high school graduates whose parents did not have the benefit of attending college; May 18 deadline.

- **Bach Organ & Keyboard Music Scholarship**: to support organ or piano student music majors who are residents of Rhode Island or attending college in Rhode Island and are in pursuit of a post-secondary education; June 1 deadline.

- **Cataract Fire Company #2 Scholarship**: to benefit high school seniors who are residents of Warwick and entering their first year of a four-year post-secondary institution; April 26 deadline.

- **Antonio Cirino Memorial Art Education Scholarship**: to provide support for Rhode Island residents who are graduate students in arts education, with preference given to visual artists; May 11 deadline.

- **Edward Leon Duhamel Freemasons Scholarship**: to provide tuition support to descendants of members of the Franklin Lodge of Freemasons in Westerly or of other Freemasons in Rhode Island; May 31 deadline.

- **Patricia W. Edwards Memorial Art Scholarship**: to provide art classes at Rhode Island School of Design for high school students from Providence, Pawtucket, East Providence or Central Falls; May 11 deadline.

- **Aldo Freda Legislative Pages Scholarship**: to further the education of Rhode Island legislative pages enrolled in a college or university; May 4 deadline.

- **Rhode Island Advertising Scholarship**: to benefit Rhode Island students, college sophomore or above, studying film-making, television, or advertising; April 2 deadline.

- **Rhode Island Association of Former Legislators Scholarship**: to provide college scholarships to graduating seniors who are Rhode Island residents and have distinguished themselves by their involvement in outstanding public service; April 20 deadline.

- **Rhode Island Commission on Women/Freda Goldman**

**Education Award**: to provide financial support for Rhode Island women to pursue their education or job training beyond high school; June 4 deadline.

- **Marilynne Graboys Wool Scholarship**: for Rhode Island women with financial need who plan to attend graduate school to attain a law degree at an accredited institution; June 15 deadline.

- **Sergeant Cornel Young, Jr. Scholarship**: to benefit a junior or senior from a Providence high school who has overcome a serious obstacle in his/her academic path and who plans to attend a post-secondary degree-conferring institution; May 1 deadline.

For an application form, send a self-addressed envelope to: Scholarship Coordinator, The Rhode Island Foundation, One Union Station, Providence, R.I. 02903, noting the fund/funds for which you wish to apply. Additional eligibility requirements are available at the Foundation's Web site <www.rifoundation.org>.



## ACS's Daffodil Days Springs into Action

### Offers 'Gifts of Hope'

The American Cancer Society announces the start of its 2001 Daffodil Days Festival. Bouquets of 10 fresh daffodils are only \$6 each and can be ordered now through March 2 by calling (800) ACS-2345. The bouquets will be available starting March 19. Call for delivery options in your area.

"By doing something as simple as buying flowers," said Lauren Burch, regional executive for income development at the American Cancer Society, "you can help fight cancer. Not only can you help by becoming a coordinator to help sell the flowers in your workplace, but you can now order a 'Gift of Hope.'"

The "Gift of Hope" is a bouquet of 10 daffodils delivered by an American Cancer Society volunteer as an anonymous gift to a cancer patient. This special gift is available at \$15 each. For more information on the "Gift of Hope," to get a company coordinator packet, or to place an order for daffodils, call (800) ACS-2345.

As the first flower of spring, the daffodil is also the American



Photo courtesy of ACS

Cancer Society's symbol of hope that cancer can be beaten. Proceeds from the Daffodil Days campaign will support local patient service programs in Rhode Island like *Road to Recovery*, a program that transports patients to their treatment appointments; *Reach to Recovery*, a one-on-one visitation program for women with concerns about breast cancer; and *Look Good... Feel Better*, a unique program designed to help patients maintain their personal appearance while undergoing treatment for cancer.

## Call For Entries

Newport Exhibition Group has announced the call for entries for the sixth annual Fine Furnishings Providence Show, to be held Nov. 2 to 4, at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence. Interested artists and companies must submit an application, five slides of their work and a \$30 application fee to be considered. Categories include wood, fiber, glass, ceramic, stone, metal and mixed media. Applications are available online at <www.finefurnishingsshow.com> or call 846-1115, ext. 217 or (800) 582-7846. The application deadline is April 13.

The Fine Furnishings Providence Show, the only one of its kind in the Northeast, is a juried show for artisans and companies who design and make furniture and accessories for the home, office and garden.

The show features more than 200 artists from throughout the country who exhibit traditional and contemporary furniture, lighting, floor coverings, tabletop items, and a wide range of decorative accessories in order to expand their business through wholesale and retail sales. Wholesale buyers are from galleries, catalogs, home decorating retail stores, hospitality businesses, interior and architectural design firms and gift stores.

## Ruskay Named Chair of Professional Advisory Committee

John Ruskay, executive vice president and CEO of the UJA Federation of New York, has been appointed chair of the Professional Advisory Committee of the Hornstein Program in Jewish Communal Service at Brandeis University. Ruskay succeeds Allan Finkelstein, president of the Jewish Community Centers Association, who held the position for the past three years.

The Hornstein Program is a master's degree program that prepares people for professional leadership positions in the Jewish community. It features specialized training in formal and informal Jewish education, community relations, fund-raising and development. Among the degrees offered is a new double degree, an MA/MBA in human services and Jewish communal service, given in conjunction with Brandeis's Heller School. For future Jewish educators there is the joint MA with Brandeis's department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.

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## Local Doctor Presents Research in Texas

Providence Nephrologist Marc S. Weinberg, M.D., F.A.C.P., clinical associate professor of medicine, Brown University School of Medicine, and clinical professor of medicine, Boston University, presented his research on emerging strategies for hypertension management in San Antonio, Texas, on Dec. 2.

In his presentation entitled, "Optimizing Treatment through Complete RAS Blockade," Weinberg discussed an overview of the RAS system, rationale for complete RAS system, combination treatment for complete RAS blockade and ATI vs. AT2 receptors and use of Supramaximal doses of Angiotensin receptor blockers to limit renal failure and reduce renal protein leakage.

The presentation was given at the National Cardiovascular Consultants Meeting, Hyatt Regency Country Resort, San Antonio, Texas.



## Memories

by Hannah Reich Berman

When my doctor, Jack Reich, gave up his private practice to become an anesthesiologist, my mother took me to Dr. Clara Loitman Smith. This lovely lady became my pediatrician until I left Providence in my late teens. Before the first visit to her office, my stomach was in knots due to vague memories of a much earlier time that began to surface and those recollections were not pleasant.

I was about 5 years old when my mother took me to Dr. Utter and, although he was a brilliant diagnostician, he had very little tolerance for the frightened child that I was. My mother said that he was so good, he was a doctor's doctor and that only made me wonder, *then why does he have to be my doctor?* As it turned out, he probably shouldn't have charged my mother a dime because our visits to his office were as beneficial for him as they were for me. I got my inoculations and, in return, he got a workout that included aerobics and the 50-yard dash. The action usually started when I spotted the needle with the glass syringe in his hand — I ran and he gave chase. Apparently he was in better shape than I thought because it never was a real contest. He always caught me, yanked my unwilling arm, and plunged the pointy dagger home, seemingly oblivious to my howls of fear and pain.

Fortunately, our association was brief and I'm not certain who was happier, Dr. Utter or I, when my mother started taking me to Dr. Reich instead. This was my kind of doctor! He was

the physician I came to know and love and the fact that his wife Edith was my mother's cousin meant that our relationship was personal as well as professional. If he happened to be out when my mother phoned, Edith answered the questions and, although she wasn't a doctor or a nurse, she always dispensed sound advice. My mother came to rely on her almost as much as she did on Jack, and my father used to joke that we had two doctors for the price of one. Come to think of it, I wonder if that's how the idea of getting a second opinion got started.

Until this very day I still can't figure out how Edith knew so much just because she happened to be married to an M.D. Eventually those days came to an end as Jack moved on to his new position, and I wasn't too thrilled to learn that I'd be seeing a different doctor from now on. After so many years, meeting another member of the medical profession wasn't high on my list of preferences, and I didn't believe that another physician could possibly be as gentle and as patient with me as Jack had been. I was informed that this "new" doctor was a female, which was unquestionably a plus, but, until I actually met her, I was still worried. The examination room and waiting room were on the second floor of Dr. Smith's home on Olney Street, and patients entered through the front door since there was no separate entrance to the office. As we stepped into the foyer my mother whispered "shush," as though we were intruders, in order to remind me that we

were in the living quarters of the doctor's home and must be careful not to disturb her family — that didn't do much to calm my nerves.

Luck was with me! When we got upstairs and into the office, I discovered that Dr. Smith was not only a wonderful doctor, she was a warm and sensitive lady who immediately put me, the all-time coward, at ease. Part of my fear stemmed from the fact that my mother revered all doctors as though they were G-d, but I sensed immediately that Doctor Clara, as I came to call her, was an OK person. As she and my mother chatted warmly and easily about all sorts of things, I found myself relaxing. House calls became a thing of the past and, sick or not, we schlepped to the doctor's office — which flew in the face of everything I had always been told about going outside with a fever.

Our dentist was Dr. Rouslin but my mother always referred to him as Dr. Rouslin the son. She apparently did that to differentiate between him and his dad, Dr. Rouslin the father. I was about 11 years old before I realized that those were adjectives and not actually a part of their names. The office, in downtown Providence, was in the Caesar-Misch building that stood on the corner of Empire and Westminster Street, above Harris Furs. Although visits to the dentist were (and still are) my least favorite pastime, he was as kind and as understanding as Dr. Smith was and he tried hard to make it bearable for me. I remember the terror I felt when that drill was pushed in my direction and the heavy cold metal was placed in my mouth. Even now I break into a cold sweat when I think about it. The only thing missing from the scene was a hard-hat, which probably should have been a required part of a dentist's uniform, since the noise and vibration from that drill could have put a jackhammer to shame. I was quite a challenge but apparently Dr. Rouslin was up to it and, like Dr. Smith, he treated me with kid gloves until I matured sufficiently and got over my fears — sort of!

As a teenager, I found myself in demand as a baby-sitter. My parents' close friends, the Krigers, asked me to watch their four sons on a Saturday night and I was thrilled with the idea of being in charge of younger children and getting paid for the privilege. Other jobs came my way as word got around (by my mother, I suppose) that I was available. I baby-sat for Gigi and Frances, the twins Joel and Gabby, and another set of twins, Brenda and Joyce and their big brother Danny. These were all relatives of ours, presumably

because back then, family was the all-important thing and although my parents' relationships with outsiders weren't exactly non-existent, they were somewhat limited. If one of my charges woke up crying, I was more than happy to hold and comfort him or her, but when the little ones were asleep I had other plans. I watched television, tied up the telephone with calls to my friends, and depleted every piece of candy in the house; talk about a sweet deal! I realize now that no one ever bothered to check my credentials, which was a good thing for me since I had none. And to prove a point, I panicked one Saturday night when the lights went out at the Krieger's house on Warrington Street.

Plunged into total darkness, I groped my way to the telephone to call — who else? — my parents for help. My heart pounded in my chest and, thanks to an active imagination, I began to hear weird sounds and see strange shadows. My mother answered the phone, and in a voice shaking with fear, I told her what had happened. Fortunately she knew exactly where Ceil and Seymour Krieger were that evening and she told me to hang up so she could phone them. Within minutes, that felt like hours — as the song goes — she called me back with reassurances and instructions on how to turn off the *Shabbos* clock which had been mistakenly left on from the night before. I was overwhelmed with relief. Apparently, although being in charge of younger children made me feel and act like a big shot, inside I was a quivering mass of jelly, still a child myself, who was happy to know that my parents were there for me in every crisis.

Nearly all of our relationships back then, business as

well as professional, had a personal touch to them and I never knew how much I missed that until recently. What a pity that today's children have been cheated out of the kinds of experiences we had. I wonder how large and impersonal chain stores, massive (warehouse sized) supermarkets, ATMs and help-yourself-style stores can ever compare with what we had as kids. Teenagers still baby-sit, of course, but the referrals for the jobs usually come from their own pals and not from their parents retinue of friends and family. Pediatricians are still



taking care of the children but specialists have become the order of the day so it's rare for child and doctor to have the close and special relationship we had back then. Pimples need the dermatologist, hay fever needs the allergist, a broken finger needs the orthopedist and so on and so forth. Today, the pediatrician and the general practitioner (if you can still find one) have become something of a referral service.

There is a plus column of course. The light drills that the dentists now use have minimal amounts of noise and vibration and today's pediatricians are trained in the art of psychology as well as medicine. Waiting rooms, overflowing with toys and books for children of all ages, have a calming effect for the fearful, anxious child. Specialists are just that, so medical problems and questions are attended to promptly and expertly, without a lot of the guesswork we once had to endure. Answering machines allow us to screen our calls and to be selective about whom we spend time talking to. And last, but not least, the one-stop speed shopping leaves extra time for me to ruminate about the early days and then share it with you.



### R.I. Bankers Association Donates to Salvation Army's Energy Fund

The Rhode Island Bankers Association has donated \$4,500 to the Salvation Army's Rhode Island Good Neighbor Energy Fund. The association donated money raised at their annual golf tournament at the Wanumenton Golf and Country Club in Middletown. The tournament was supported by members of the banking community and related vendors.

The Salvation Army's Rhode Island Good Neighbor Energy Fund provides assistance to more than 20,000 Rhode Island families in temporary financial crisis who cannot pay their energy bills and do not qualify for federal or state funds. The Salvation Army projects this year's efforts will assist nearly 3,000 families. Families in need can apply for assistance at any Salvation Army office in Rhode Island, or by calling 421-0956.

Pictured from left to right at a check presentation are: Warwick resident Major Robert Pfeiffer, Salvation Army Rhode Island State Coordinator, and Cranston resident William Farrell, Administrator for the Rhode Island Bankers Association.

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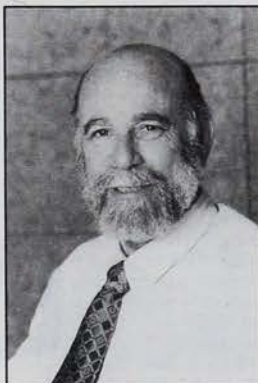
## FEATURE

### Hermesh Appointed President of El Al Israel Airlines, Announces New Developments

El Al President David Hermesh took over the reins of Israel's national airline in November of 2000. President Hermesh, based in El Al's head office in Israel, oversees the overall activities and development of Israel's national airline, which services more than 50 destinations worldwide from Tel Aviv. He comes to El Al with extensive managerial experience and international business expertise.

Hermesh had an impressive career in the Israel Defense Forces and the Ministry of Defense. He was the Defense Ministry's representative to North America, based in New York. Hermesh retired from the Israel Defense Forces as a brigadier general.

Hermesh, 54, was born in Israel and holds a B.A. in economics and marketing from Bar Ilan University. He is married and has four daughters.



El Al President David Hermesh

Hermesh announced the latest news from Israel's national airline at a press conference held in New York City recently.

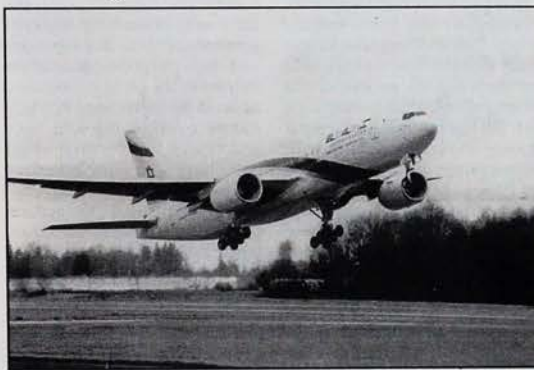
Among the many issues ad-

ressed, Hermesh revealed El Al's new strategic plan to focus on business travelers, since business travel between the United States and Israel is up 37 percent in the last six months. Toward this end, El Al has purchased three new Boeing 777s, the first of which was delivered last week. These will replace the 747-200s in El Al's fleet; now only 777s, 767s and 747-400s will be flown on the United States-Israel route. Among other amenities, the 777s have the most comfortable seats available and personal TVs and telephones at every seat. Business and First Class seats are equipped with modems. Each 777 will carry a total of 298 passengers. The 777, the world's largest twinjet aircraft, is the size between the 767 and 747.

El Al is also investing almost \$15 million to upgrade the First and Business Class sections of all long-range 747-400 and 767 aircraft. In addition, El Al is investing \$3 million in a new terminal at JFK, which is scheduled to open this summer.

Hermesh stated that El Al is the number one carrier between the United States and Israel and plans to remain in that position.

El Al, Israel's national airline, has almost four times the number of weekly non-stop flights to Israel from the United States than any other airline. El Al is the only airline offering First Class service on non-stop flights between the United States and Israel. Visit El Al at <www.elal.com>.



Photos courtesy of El Al Airlines

### JCPA Welcomes Ariel Sharon, Demands Arafat End 'Cynical' Violence

Leonard Cole, chairman of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, released the following statement congratulating Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on his election victory:

"Just months after U.S. elections, the people of Israel now have spoken through their country's democratic process, the only one that exists in the entire Middle East. We congratulate Ariel Sharon on his victory and wish him well as he turns to the challenging task of forming a new coalition government."

"Over the years, Israel has had prime ministers and gov-

ernments with differing approaches to the challenges facing the nation. Clearly, Sharon's decisive victory signals a desire for some change in policy direction. What has remained constant since the founding of the modern state of Israel, however, is the universal yearning of the Israeli people for security and peaceful relations with their Arab neighbors. Reflecting this desire for a better future, Prime Minister-elect Sharon has stressed repeatedly that he intends to pursue unconditional peace negotiations with leaders of the Palestinian Authority and the Arab states.

"No doubt some in the international community, particularly in the Middle East, will misinterpret the election results as a setback to prospects for peace. The reality is that peace with the Palestinians will be possible only when Chairman Yasser Arafat and the PA fulfill, once and for all, their commitments under the Oslo Accords to combat terrorism and end the incitement and anti-Israel rhetoric.

"The cynical campaign of violence conducted in recent months from Palestinian-controlled areas, in part fomented by PA authorities and in part permitted to continue with their acquiescence, must come to an end. Syrian support for Hezbollah terrorist activity along Israel's border must cease as well. We urge Chairman Arafat and leaders of Syria, Lebanon and the other Arab states to reject the path of conflict and instead pursue peaceful coexistence with Israel.

"The organized American Jewish community cares deeply about the continued security and economic growth of Israel and we look forward to reinforcing the unique partnership that exists between our community and the people of Israel."

### URI Feinstein Center Helps Launch \$1 Million Challenge

The University of Rhode Island's Feinstein Center for a Hunger-Free America helped launch the Feinstein 2001 National Million-Dollar Challenge to hunger agencies across the country by recognizing fund-raising efforts of regional non-profit organizations. Since it began in 1997, the challenge has helped raise \$100 million to fight hunger in America.

The event took place on Feb. 5 in the Paff Auditorium, Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education, URI Providence Campus, Providence.

For the past four years, the Feinstein Challenge has encouraged anti-hunger organizations throughout the country to energize their fund-raising efforts. This year, the Feinstein Challenge will divide \$1 million proportionally based on the amount raised by organizations during the months of March and April.

To set the stage for 2001, URI's hunger center will highlight non-profit organizations from Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island who have used the Feinstein Challenge in the past to enhance their programs and fund-raising efforts. The groups shared their fund-raising techniques and programming successes with other non-profits in attendance through presentations and roundtable discussions, creating an opportunity to learn how to

make the most of the 2001 Challenge.

Speakers at Monday's event included Cranston philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein, Feinstein Foundation; Ron Gallo, president Rhode Island Foundation; Robert L. Carothers, president of the University of Rhode Island.



Alan Shawn Feinstein

Organizations that participated in the \$100,000 Regional December Feinstein Holiday Challenge received their challenge money award at the event.

Last year, in response to the Feinstein National Million-Dollar Challenge, more than 1,400 organizations representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia raised more than \$32 million. In Rhode Island, 48 agencies raised more than \$683,000.

### Love Poems Sought in Poetry Contest

If you have written a love poem, listen up! The New York Poetry Alliance is sponsoring Poetry 2001, a free contest open to everyone. A \$1,000 cash prize will be awarded to the winner. There are 28 prizes in all. The deadline for entering is March 3.

"This is our most challenging contest to date," said Contest Director Dr. John Cusack. "With winter's bite still in the air we'd like to see what poets have to say about love, whether religious or romantic. We expect our contest to produce exciting new discoveries."

To enter, send poem 21 lines or less to: New York Poetry Alliance, Box 1588, New York, N.Y. 10116-1588. Or enter online at <www.freecontest.com>.

### Cantors

(Continued from Page 3)

between familiar melodies and innovative ones as he was always attuned to the needs of the worshippers. As I peered out into the congregation during the repetition of the *Amidah*, I could see that half of the congregants were following along in their *siddurim* and the other half were simply gazing in a daze at our amazing *Shlichat Tzibbur*. By the end of the emotionally charged morning, there was barely a dry eye in the congregation."

Future visitors are encouraged to repeat Hazzan Glassman's *mitzvah* and visit this and other beleaguered congregations and communities.

Israel's challenges are likely to remain. And we know that each of us has the opportunity to extend our hand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters

in Israel who are building the country that we have been dreaming of in our prayers for 2,000 years. When I was a boy, I couldn't quite understand why my grandparents were buying me those Israel bonds. But as a man, I understand that each of us can have a hand in making that dream come true.

On behalf of the many members of the Cantors Assembly who have been traveling to Israel and will continue to do so, I invite you to come to Israel and to sing a beautiful new song before G-d and before the people of Israel.

Cantor Jack Chomsky serves Congregation Tifereth Israel of Columbus, Ohio. He is treasurer of the Cantors Assembly, the professional organization of cantors of the Conservative Movement, which can be found at <www.cantors.org>.

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



## Spring Blossoms Early at Flower & Garden Show

*Stop and Smell The Hybrid Polyanthas*

Need a way to cure those winter blues? Looking for some new gardening tips or designs for spring planting? Why not attend the eighth annual Rhode Island Spring Flower & Garden Show, Feb. 15 to 18, at the R.I. Convention Center. This

year's show will feature 25 display gardens and garden vignettes, an estimated half million flowers in bloom, 50 tons of rocks, enough mulch to cover two football fields, 275 garden product exhibitors, numerous guest speakers and educational presentations. Such characteristics make the Rhode Island Spring Flower & Garden Show one of the largest and most attractive flower and garden shows in the nation.

The show will feature award-winning gardens crafted by some of New England's finest nurseries and designers, including nationally acclaimed Allen C. Haskell of New Bedford, Mass. The show also features the expertise of many more gardening enthusiasts. Show Designer, Charles Carberry, said, "In keeping with the show's Down the Garden Path theme, each full-size exhibit will have a walk-through path. Guests can delight at the wonderful immersion experience they will feel as they stroll through each beautiful garden."

Other highlights of the 2001 show include the first annual Rhode Island Spring Flower & Garden Show Special Events Series. Located on the fifth level in the grand rotunda room, guests are invited to several tea times. Walk down

the garden path through a themed Alice in Wonderland Garden into a spectacular special event. Enjoy tea with Alice and sample some of Rhode Island's best pastries. Evening wine tastings will also be offered in the grand rotunda room. Guests 21 and over may sample some of the area's finest wines and delectable cheeses in a casual atmosphere overlooking the City of Providence. Tea tickets are \$35 per person and evening wine tasting tickets are \$50 per person. For both special events, reservations are recommended, call 253-0246.

Make sure to visit the all new gardening bookstore presented by Borders Bookstore. Located on the fifth floor, the store will feature horticultural literature focusing on garden design, garden ornaments, indoor gardening, trellis and arbors and much more! Several book signings will take place in the store as well.

The show will feature a daily line up of guest speakers and demonstrations.

Located on the third level, the Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs will hold its standard flower show competition. Pathway in Time is this year's theme and will be interpreted by more than 200 amateur gardeners in spectacular floral arrangements and vignettes.

Put on your 3D glasses because this year's show has a special garden feature. The Greenwood Adventure in 3D is an enchanted journey for

the entire family. Experience an unforgettable, visually interactive adventure through nature's four seasons. The nature characters are waiting to guide and educate all who journey.

Be sure to see some of Rhode Island's youngest gardeners display their award-winning Children's Fanciful Flowerboxes.

Inspired by the magnificent garden displays? Then browse the show's biggest garden and marketplace ever! Visitors will find everything needed to cultivate a personal garden oasis including plants, books, furniture, birdhouses, hard-to-find tools, and unique gardening gifts — all in more than 275 booths.

The R.I. Convention Center is located at One Sabin St. in downtown Providence. Visitors can park in the Convention Center Garage for \$7 per day, the Providence Place mall garage and use the pedestrian walkway connector, or park free at Roger Williams Park Zoo, then take the Flower Show Shuttle. Shuttle runs Thursday and Friday only between 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. and costs \$3 per person round-trip.

Show hours are Feb. 15 through 17, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Feb. 18, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$11 advance, \$13 weekdays, \$14 weekends, seniors/students \$12 weekdays, \$13 weekends, groups 20 or more \$10; children 6 to 12, \$7, under 6 free. Advance tickets (\$11) are available at Citizens Bank branch locations throughout Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts.

For more information, call the show's ticketing coordinator at 253-0246 or visit <www.flowershow.com>. For general show information, call flower show management at 421-7811.

## Savage Ancient Seas...

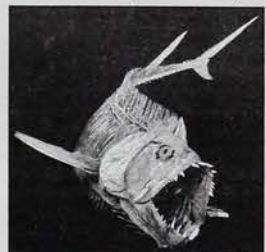
*Not Just Another 'Fish Story'*

Imagine a North America of 70 million years ago when the last of the great dinosaurs roamed the earth and a shallow sea covered the middle of the continent. It is the spectacular, strange creatures of this sea — giant reptiles, schools of carnivorous fish, flying pteranodons — that are the subject of an exciting new exhibition. Visitors to the Museum of Natural History and Planetarium in Roger Williams Park can venture back through time and below the sea for an up-close look at ferocious and mysterious creatures of the Cretaceous. Savage Ancient Seas exhibit is now open.

The Museum of Natural History is hosting this spectacular array of prehistoric "monsters." The marine mammals in this ancient sea lived between 90 and 65 million years ago. Most of them disappeared from the Earth — along with the dinosaurs — in the mass extinction at the end of the Cretaceous period. The period started with a mild climate and ended much

ferocious carnivorous fish (Xiphactinus) looking for an easy meal. Enjoy this rare opportunity to see a cast of a "coelacanth" — a 400-million-year-old species of fish thought to have become extinct with the dinosaurs but discovered alive in 1938. These fish, a living link to the past, can still be found today.

If you thought dinosaurs were ferocious, wait until you



**Xiphactinus audax, 12-foot-long carnivorous fish**

*Photos courtesy of Museum of Natural History and Planetarium*

see these Cretaceous creatures that lurked beneath the waves. "They are the real life 'sea monsters' of myth and legend... imposing and mysterious," said Tracey Keough, director of the Museum of Natural History and Planetarium. "They're why dinosaurs were afraid to go into the water."

Educational kiosks containing touch stations and specimens are located throughout the exhibit. Visitors will learn how these creatures lived, and how they are believed to have become extinct. Kiosks and text panels tell the story of how animals sank to the bottom of the sea when they died, where they were buried in chalky sediment layers and eventually became fossilized. Fossils from the museum's own collection will be on exhibit also, including a tooth from a 50 ft. long shark and a 70-million-year-old giant quahog.

Savage Ancient Seas runs through May 8.

The museum is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Planetarium programs are Saturday and Sunday 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Museum admission is \$2 or \$1 for children under 8. Admission to this special exhibit is included with the regular admission price. Planetarium admission is \$3 or \$2 for children under 8 (includes museum admission). For more information, call 785-9457, ext. 221.



**Archelon ischyros, 17-foot-wide sea turtle**

colder — reptiles held sway over the seas, with mosasaurs and plesiosaurs plentiful. The seas were rich with huge sharks, giant bony fish with heads like bulldogs and turtles the size of Volkswagens.

The exhibit includes many prehistoric marine skeletons, including actual specimens and casts of those that are too fragile to be moved from their permanent homes, mounted in extraordinary three-dimensional displays. Visitors to Savage Ancient Seas will see the skeleton of the largest sea turtle ever discovered on land or sea. Measuring 15 ft. high and 17 ft. wide the Archelon ischyros is a spectacular sight. Other creatures on display include a pack of pteranodons (flying reptiles closely related to dinosaurs) ready to take flight, a giant marine lizard (Platecarpus mosasaur) chasing down its prey and

## 'Funny Valentines'

The Theatre Company has announced the production of "Funny Valentines" by Dennis R. Anderson. The show features Ken Koury, Richard Manoogian, Kelly Ann Maurice, Bethany Stone and Ruth Waterman.

The show times are Feb. 8, 9, 10, 16, and 17 at 8 p.m. General admission is \$15, seniors/students \$12. Dessert buffet included. Theatre Company is located at the Pawtuxet Valley Center for the Performing Arts, 1 Harris St., Coventry. Call 827-0091.

## The Academy Players Present 'The Boys Next Door'

The "Boys Next Door," written by Tom Griffin and directed by Tom DiMaggio, has performances on Feb. 8 to 10 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 11 at 5 p.m., and Feb. 15 to 17 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 18 at 5 p.m.

It is presented at The Greenwich Odeum, Main Street, East Greenwich. Tickets are \$15 at the door with general seating. Tickets may be purchased in advance, reservations not required.

Call 885-6910 or 885-9119 for more information.

Pictured at right: Bob Mignarri and Janette Gregorin in "The Boys Next Door."

*Photo courtesy of Academy Players*



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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### 'Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out' Comes To PPAC

Sesame Street Live's all-new musical extravaganza, "Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out" opens on Feb. 15 at the Providence Performing Arts Center. Big Bird, Elmo, Cookie Monster and their Sesame Street friends invite local children and their families to attend this musical camping trip. They're setting off on a toe-tapping, eye-popping, imagination-grabbing excursion from Feb. 15 to 18.

#### Dancing Sheep, Boogying Bats

"Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out" finds this troop of happy campers scouting for a place to set up camp. They discover that Big Bird's nest is too small. At Snuffy's cave, the problem is the dripping water. Ernie's house has dancing sheep. The Count has boogying bats, Oscar has ants, Elmo has fish and everywhere there's music and dancing. A special feature of "Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out" is a 15-minute show-within-a-show peek into "Elmo's World" with his fish friend, Dorothy, and Mr. Noodle. Reflecting Sesame Workshop's commitment to academic and social education, "Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out" includes practical lessons such as counting and lessons about teamwork

and dealing with the unexpected. In the end, children discover that sometimes, there's no place like home.

"Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out" is a Broadway style musical produced by VEE Corpora-

tion in cooperation with Sesame Workshop and The Jim Henson Company.

Performance times are Feb. 15 at 7 p.m., Feb. 16 at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., Feb. 17 at 10:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.; and Feb. 18 at 1 and 4:30 p.m.



Photo courtesy of ©1999 CTW Sesame Street Muppet Characters

tion in cooperation with Sesame Workshop and The Jim Henson Company. Each "Sesame Street Live" production features the original voices heard on the unprecedented award-winning television series. Authenticity and integrity are maintained with costumes, scripts and sets created under the supervision

Ticket prices range from \$12.50 to \$20 and are on sale to the general public at the box office or Ticket-master. On opening night, Feb. 15, all regular seats are only \$12 each. Special group rates are available to parties of 15 or more — call 421-2997, ext. 3121. Call 421-ARTS or visit <www.ppacri.org> for more information.

### OSLO Presents 'That's Amore!'

The Ocean State Lyric Opera will present an evening of romantic songs in "That's Amore!," a concert being held on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 8:15 p.m., at Brown University's Grant Recital Hall (the corner of Hope and Young Orchard streets) in Providence. Singers from OSLO will perform a program of some of the most romantic music ever written, including standards by Rodgers and Hart, Gershwin, and glorious duets by Puccini and Verdi.

The concert marks the first recital of the year for the opera company. Audiences familiar with OSLO productions will recognize some of the voices from past performances with sopranos Kara Lund and Loriana DeCrescenzo, mezzo-soprano, Valerie Nicolosi, tenors Ron Rathier and Fred Scheff, and baritone Frank Haggard. Loren Mitchell will accompany the ensemble on piano.

Concertgoers who wish to begin or end the evening with a romantic meal can present their tickets for a complimentary glass of Pierre Côte du Rhone at Chez Pascal located at 960 Hope St., a short distance from Grant Recital Hall. Chef Pascal will be preparing a delightful Valentine's Day dinner for two. Dinner reservations should be made by calling 421-4422 as space is limited.

Tickets to "That's Amore!" are \$20 each and may be purchased by calling the Ocean State Lyric Opera box office at 331-6060 or at Chez Pascal Restaurant, 960 Hope St., Providence.

### Sculpture and Photography at Barrington Library

Two exhibits are featured this February at the Barrington Public Library — an exhibit of color photography by Sandi Tinyk and stone sculpture by Norbert J. Morrison. Tinyk's photographs are of the English countryside and gardens, both famous and lesser known. All of the photographs were taken over three separate visits touring England gardens and visiting the Chelsea Flower Show.

The stone sculptures exhibited by Morrison are one-of-a-kind handmade pieces of art. He does not use electric and pneumatic tools. The pieces are sculpted from several types of stone, including alabaster, Vermont marble and soap stone. Morrison is a self-taught sculptor. He has only been sculpting art for the past year-and-a-half and has already created 20 pieces.

These exhibits are located on the main floor of the library. They can be seen during library hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through

Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m.

### Museum of Modern Art Acquires Photographs

Glenn D. Lowry, director of The Museum of Modern Art in New York, recently announced the acquisition of more than 300 works from the Thomas Walther collection, widely recognized as the preeminent private collection of modernist photography. Assembled over the past 20 years, the Walther collection includes outstanding works by virtually every leading European and American photographer of the 1920s and 1930s.

Lowry stated, "The explosion of photographic creativity between the two World Wars is one of the great episodes of 20th-century art. The Walther Collection is magnificent in quality and comprehensive in scope, and it dovetails perfectly with the strengths of our collection — in all mediums. This is one of the museum's most important acquisitions of the past two decades."

Particularly notable are key groups of pictures by André Kertész, Karl Blossfeldt, El Lissitzky, Aleksandr Rodchenko, Umbo (Otto Umbeh), Alvin Langdon Coburn, as well as important works by August Sander, Max Burchartz, Albert Renger-Patzsch, Paul Strand, Alfred Stieglitz, and Edward Steichen. Overall, the acquisition includes 328 modernist works by some 135 photographers and 50 pictures from Walther's collection of amateur snapshots, a selection of which was published in his acclaimed book *Other Pictures*.

The focus of the collection is the emergence of photography as a self-conscious creative art, in all its diversity. It includes such celebrated works as Lissitzky's "Kurt Schwitters" (1924), Umbo's "Mystery of the Street" (1928), Strand's "Porch Railings, Twin Lakes, Connecticut" (1916), Stieglitz's "Music No. 1, Lake George" (1922), and Hagemeyer, John P. Heins, and Kertész's "Chez Mondrian,

Mondrian's Studio," and "Mondrian's Glasses and Pipe, Paris" (all 1926). In addition, scores of outstanding but unfamiliar works enrich and complicate the outline of photographic modernism.

Peter Galassi, chief curator, department of photography, notes, "Walther's famously discerning eye is as adventurous as it is demanding. His collection splendidly demonstrates the importance of photographic modernism and simultaneously encourages us to rewrite its history."

The greatest strength of the collection lies in European experimental photography of the 1920s and 1930s.

In collecting American photography, Walther has given particular attention to the evolution from turn-of-the-century pictorialism to the bold modernism of the 1920s and 1930s. The complexity of this artistic passage is traced not only through the work of groundbreaking photographers such as Coburn, Weston, and Strand, but also through distinguished but as-yet-uncelebrated pictures by Anne Brigman, Gertrude Brown, Johan



UMBO (Otto Umbeh). "Mystery of the Street," 1928. Gelatin silver print 11 7/16 x 9 1/4". The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Thomas Walther Collection. Purchase

Hagemeyer, John P. Heins, and Kertész's "Chez Mondrian,

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By Joseph Kesselring

Directed by Andrew G. Bobola

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### 'Then and Now'

The Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery at Providence College, River Avenue, will display Riva Leviten's works on paper exhibit called "Then and Now," from Feb. 18 to March 30. Opening reception is Feb. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. Leviten shows her work eyeing her own development and the connections that are revealed. Gallery hours are Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. when school is in session. No weekend hours unless noted. For more information, call 865-2401. Image at right is Leviten's "Carnival One," mixed media encaustic on braced luan 24"x32".

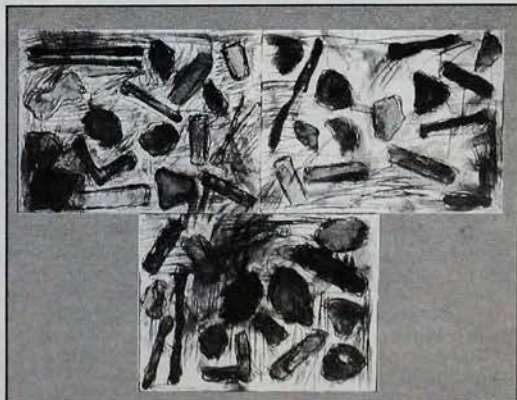


Photo courtesy of Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery, Providence College



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## It's Party Time, By George! 'Arsenic and Old Lace' Together Again

### Festive Washington's Birthday Celebration Kicks Off Week of Family Fun

With the closeness of the 2000 election still resonating throughout America, it's interesting to note that the original George W. — Washington, that is — was elected to the office of president unanimously, the only man in our nation's history to accomplish such a feat. The "Father of Our Country" was the most famous and popular man in the United States, and his birthday — Feb. 22 — was cause for celebration during his lifetime, as it has been ever since.

"Early New Englanders, like other Americans throughout the young nation, revered Washington," said Jack Larkin, director of Research, Collections, and Library at Old Sturbridge Village, the living history museum in Sturbridge, Mass. that re-creates a Washington's Birthday Celebration Feb. 17 to 19 this year.

Washington's birth was first celebrated in 1781, toward the end of the Revolutionary War, when the French General

celebration of his memory, with public dances and balls.

"Some are surprised to hear about the general revelry that accompanied Washington's Birthday celebrations in early New England," continued Larkin.

Old Sturbridge Village recreates what was one of the period's biggest parties on Feb. 17 to 19 this year, with special events honoring the man who was America's first national hero. There will be toasts, singing, and dancing, with the chance to visit village ladies as they ready themselves for one of the most festive occasions of the year. The village also offers free admission to anyone named George or Martha on President's Day itself (Feb. 19).

With George Washington's Birthday Celebration, Old Sturbridge Village reverts to daily operations and will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. seven days a week. The winter version of the Village's popular Family Fun Days will be the very next week, Feb. 20 to 25, coinciding with school vacation week around the region. Offerings include musical perfor-

Rhode Island's oldest community theater, The Community Players, announce the opening of Joseph Kesselring's hit comedy "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Produced with much success in New York and on the road by Lindsay & Crouse, "Arsenic and Old Lace" has become one of America's most popular comedies. A mild-mannered drama critic discovers the shocking truth about his two elderly aunts. The charming and seemingly harmless old ladies have the most disagreeable habit of poisoning their gentlemen callers and burying them in the cellar. The antics and activities of their brothers, one of whom thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt, makes for a theatrical experience filled with non-stop laughter.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" is a comic gem that reminds us to beware of nice old ladies offering elderberry wine!

Produced at Jenks Junior High School on Division Street in Pawtucket, across from McCoy Stadium, performances are scheduled for Feb. 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18, with Friday and Saturday curtain times at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students (through high school). Discount rates are also available for all performances for groups of 20 or more.

Come and experience live theater at its best!



PAT LAVORNIA, left, of North Kingstown, and Bonnie DerManelian of Cranston star in The Community Players' production of the hit comedy, "Arsenic and Old Lace," in Pawtucket from Feb. 9 to 18. Photo by Bill Donnelly, Donnelly Photography

For reservations, call 726-6860.

### Community Players Announce Auditions

The Community Players will hold auditions for the musical "Little Shop of Horrors" on Feb. 11 and Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. at Jenks Junior High School, Pawtucket.

Director Brian Mulvey is looking for:

4 women, ages 16 to 30, one lead and three "Motown" style singer/dancers; 4 men, ages 20 to 50, one lead, one older "Jewish," one for multiple roles, and

one with a big scary voice; 6 chorus/crew, including one full-body puppeteer.

Auditioners should prepare a song and bring the sheet music. (Music from the show will be provided.) There will also be cold readings from the script. Come dressed to move. Women should bring heels. All roles are open.

The show will be produced at Jenks Junior High School on April 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 and May 4 to 6.

For further information, call 781-6637.



WINTER SNOW often brings sleigh rides to Old Sturbridge Village, the re-created 1830s New England village in Sturbridge, Mass. Photo by Thomas Neill/Old Sturbridge Village

Rochambeau threw a banquet in honor of the American commander-in-chief. The following year marked Washington's 50th birthday, so another celebration logically followed and a tradition was established. After Washington's death in 1799, Congress declared his next birthday an official day of mourning, marked by memorial services, solemn processions, and speeches. Communities all across the nation started repeating the observance each year, and the day of mourning was soon transformed into a

mances, storytelling, and sleigh rides (weather permitting). Samson's Children's Museum, a recent addition to the Village, offers younger visitors ages 3 to 7 the opportunity to try on costumes and play in a pretend schoolroom and early New England kitchen.

Admission is \$18 for adults, \$17 for seniors, and \$9 for youths ages 6 to 15. Children under 6 are admitted free. Admission is good for two consecutive days. For more information, call the village (800) SEE-1830, TDD (508) 347-5383 or visit <www.osv.org>.

## Emmanuel Music in Boston

Emmanuel Music Evening Concert Series, will hold special Boston preview performances of a Lincoln Center world-premiere production.

In an unusual project, Emmanuel Music renews its association with famed director Peter Sellars and the amazing Lorraine Hunt Lieberson. Collaborating with New York's Lincoln Center, Emmanuel will

present two performances at the Emerson Majestic Theatre of a staging of three Bach Cantatas. The three cantatas are some of the most musically rich and complex of Bach's works, and in this staging, portray a journey from despair to hope. The production will move on to Lincoln Center, Paris, London, and Lucerne later in the season.

The following Bach Cantatas

will be performed: BWV 199, "Mein Herz schwimmt in Blut," BWV 82, "Ich habe genug," and BWV 170, "Vergnügte Ruh."

The two performances are Feb. 26 and Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. at the Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston. Patron tickets are \$100; reserved seats: \$45, \$30, and \$15. For information, call (617) 536-3356.



If you have an event you would like featured on our Arts & Entertainment Pages, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940 or fax to 726-5820.

### 'Steel Magnolias' Starts This Weekend at City Nights

City Nights Dinner Theatre announces performances of the comedy "Steel Magnolias." The show is produced by David Jepson and opens Feb. 10 and runs as follows:

The evenings of Feb. 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, matinee on Feb. 25, evenings of March 1 to 3 and a matinee on March 4.

"Steel Magnolias" is a warm and wonderful show set in a small Southern town. Slow down your style of living and relax in Truvy's beauty shop in Chinquapin, La., where everybody who's anybody comes to have their hair done and swap stories and gossip. The outspoken, wisecracking Truvy dispenses shampoos and free advice to a delightful assortment of characters.

City Nights is located at the center of downtown Pawtucket at 27 Exchange St. There are four parking lots within a half a block of the theater.

Tickets for the dinner and show totals \$23 to \$26 a person. Arrival time for evening performances is from 6 to 7 p.m. with dinner served at 7 p.m. Sunday matinee arrival time is from noon until 1 p.m. with dinner served at 1 p.m. Curtain is approximately an hour after serving time. Cocktails and soft drinks are available at the bar for all performances. Show only is \$14 to \$17 per person.

Reservations are also being taken for the hilarious comedy "Bedside Manners," which opens March 17. Tickets for City Nights are by reservation only. For reservations or other information, call the box office at 723-6060.

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# OBITUARIES

## HYMAN COHEN

NORTH DARTMOUTH — Hyman Cohen, 89, of Huntington Avenue, died Feb. 1 at St. Luke's Hospital. He was the husband of Anne (Fineman) Cohen.

Born in New Bedford, a son of the late Morris and Sarah (Grossman), Cohen, he had lived in the New Bedford area for his entire life.

He was the owner and operator of the Hyman Cohen Cattle Farm in North Dartmouth until retiring 10 years ago. He also operated a cattle farm in Tiverton, R.I., and an egg business in North Dartmouth.

He was a former member of Tifereth Israel Synagogue and its Brotherhood and Ahavath Achim Synagogue. He was also a member of The Knights of Pythias.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a son, Allan Cohen of Centerville, Mass.; a daughter, Pearl Black of Downingtown, Pa., and three grandchildren. He was also the brother of the late James and Al Curhan, Lou Cohen, Phyllis Rosenthal and Lil Schatz.

A graveside funeral service was held Dec. 4 at Plainville Cemetery, New Bedford, Mass.

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

## FANNIE COURLANG

PROVIDENCE — Fannie Courlang, 97, of Randall Street, a bookbinder for 25 years before retiring in the 1960s, died Jan. 29 at Charlesgate Nursing Home.

She was the wife of the late George Courlang. Born in Scotland, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Bloomberg, she immigrated in 1925 to Boston, where she lived before moving to North Miami, Fla., in 1968. She was a Providence resident since 1980.

She loved to crochet and knit afghans and enjoyed playing bingo.

She leaves a daughter, Elaine B. Marcus of Smithfield; a son, Bertram Courlang of San Diego, Calif.; and five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was the sister of three late sisters and two brothers.

A private funeral service was held Jan. 31. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of Rhode Island, 245 Waterman St., Providence, R.I. 02906. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## JAMI H. HIRSCH

BARRINGTON — Jami H. Hirsch, 24, of Evergreen Street, an honor student died Feb. 2 at her home.

Born in Lawrence, Kansas, a daughter of Fern Rouleau and Steven Hirsch, both of Barrington, she had lived in Providence for the past few years while struggling with the effects of Multiple Sclerosis until this month, when she moved in with her parents.

She was a 1994 graduate of Barrington High School where she was a member of the National Honor Society. She attended Skidmore College and the New England School of

Photography. Jami enjoyed travel, scuba diving, art and music.

Besides her parents, Jami leaves her sister Kelli Hirsch of Santa Barbara, Calif.; her brother David Hirsch of Hilo, Hawaii; her half-sister, Leah Hirsch of Barrington; and her stepsister, Jennifer Rouleau of East Providence; her stepfather, Bob Rouleau; her stepmother, Susan Hirsch; her maternal grandmother Alice Singer of Sun City, Ariz. She was the granddaughter of the late Ray Singer and the late Maria and Hellmuth Hirschheimer.

A memorial service was held Feb. 4 at Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington.

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

## JOHN KAPLAN

PROVIDENCE — John William Kaplan, 91, of Highland Court, the former owner of Coletta & Kaplan Furniture, died Jan. 30 at Miriam Hospital.

He was the husband of the late Irene (Koirth) Kaplan. Born in New York City, a son of the late Isaac and Hannah (Zakin) Kaplan, he was a resident of Providence and Hollywood, Fla.

He was the owner of Coletta & Kaplan Furniture before retiring.

He leaves a son, Kenneth A. Kaplan of East Greenwich; a daughter, Gail C. Kaplan of Los Angeles; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Tobey Russo and a stepbrother

(Continued on Page 19)

## Compassionate Friends Meets

The meeting of The Compassionate Friends (a self-help support group for parents who have suffered the death of a child) will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 12 at Hasbro's Childrens Hospital, Dudley Street, Providence. Use parking lot C. The meeting is in Room 151.

For more information or directions, call 723-3321.

This is a general sharing meeting that will be open to the public, and members are encouraged to bring a friend or relative.

## Ask The Director

by Michael D. Smith F.D./R.E.  
Shalom Memorial Chapel



In the last "Ask the Director," I presented three questions that children most frequently ask. In today's column, I will present three questions parents most frequently ask.

**One of my children seems totally unaffected by a death in the family. My other child is having great difficulty adjusting. Do I need to do anything in response?**

Extreme situations can produce extreme and often unpredictable reactions. Therefore, making sure that your children know that you're there for them at these difficult times is essential. One way that your children can express themselves is to set aside time for them to discuss their feelings about death with you. The amount of time allocated is not as important as your setting aside a designated time in which your children can express their perceptions and feelings. Be prepared for some very tender and meaningful discussions. As a result, you and your children will establish an open line of communication that can have a positive effect on all aspects of your relationship.

**Since the recent death of a family member, my children have found occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries and holidays particularly painful. What can I do to help them during these times?**

People often find the first birthday, anniversary or major holiday after a loved one's death the most difficult because such occasions accentuate the sense of finality that follows a death. You can help your children by acknowledging in advance that such occasions will be difficult. Take the time to talk about the sad feelings that your children might experience. Be prepared. Your children may experience their sense of loss again and again. If the family is together for a celebration, pause for a moment to reflect on the good times that you shared with the person who died and on the sadness of your loss.

**Should my child be permitted to view a deceased person?**

If a child wants to see the deceased person, several factors must be considered. First, keep in mind what the child would see if he or she is allowed to view the person. If the person has died after a long illness and the child has witnessed physical changes in the person, the child's viewing of the body might not be too frightening. However, if the person's death is sudden, the child's viewing might be very upsetting, although his or her confrontation with the physical reality of death might still be advisable. If the child is going to see the decedent, you can prepare him or her by talking about what he or she can expect to see. Remember that the child often has the same need as an adult to say good-bye to a loved one. (Note that at traditional Jewish funerals, the body is not viewed. However, identification of the deceased person by immediate family members, if they desire, may take place any time prior to the chapel service.)

Questions are welcomed and encouraged. Send your questions to: "Ask The Director," c/o Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, RI 02920, phone: 463-7771, e-mail: <shalomchapel@aol.com> or write The Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, RI 02940.

Michael D. Smith is a licensed funeral director and owner of Shalom Memorial Chapel.

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## FEATURE

## Obituaries

(Continued from Page 18)

of the late Harry and Irving Kaplan.

Funeral services were held Feb. 1 at the Priest Chapel at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 400 Main St., Pawtucket, R.I. 02860. The family was assisted with the arrangements by the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## PEARL E. LEFTIN

CRANSTON — Pearl E. Leftin, 83, of Clifden Avenue, died Jan. 31 in Rhode Island Hospital.

She was the wife of Eli Leftin. Born in Canton, Ohio, a daughter of the late Simon and Bessie Gordon, she lived in Cranston for 45 years.

She was a graduate of Northeastern University, Class of 1937. She was a member of Temple Torat Yisrael and its Sisterhood, and Hadassah. She was a volunteer at the Providence Center.

Besides her husband, she leaves two sons, Rabbi Barton B. Leftin of Coral Springs, Fla., and Dr. Howard Leftin of Fort Worth, Texas; a daughter, Joan Linda Leftin of Providence; a brother, Henry Gordon of Worcester, Mass.; and three grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Jacob Gordon.

The funeral service was held Feb. 2 at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Temple Torat Yisrael or The Providence Center. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston.

## LOUIS R. LISS

COZUMEL, Mexico — Louis R. Liss, 89, of Pembroke Drive, Del Ray Beach, Fla., a retired real estate investor, died Jan. 21. He was the husband of Jean Scheinman Liss and the late Rosalyn L. (Goldfarb) Liss.

Born in New York City, he was the son of the late Nathan and Fanny (Siegel) Liss and lived most of his life in the New Bedford, Mass., area.

He was a graduate of New Bedford High School and attended the New Bedford Textile Institute, the University of Pennsylvania, the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce and Mitchell School of Design.

He served with the 265th Combat Engineers in the European Theater during World War II and was national trustee for the Historic Preservation of the 65th Division Association.

He was the former owner and manager of Lewis Manufacturing Co., the former president of Schneider Tanning & Finishing Corp., the former vice president of Winfield Manufacturing Co., and the former owner and manager of Rockdale Home Builders.

He served as the chairman of the real estate division of the United Fund, New Bedford, was a member of the New Bedford Historic District Study Commission, and served as vice

chairman of the New Bedford Historic District Commission.

He was a past president of the New Bedford Board of Realtors and was a recipient of the Realtor of the Year Award in 1974. He was a member of the Massachusetts Association of Realtors and served as a regional vice president and on its board of directors. He was a member and former director of the Massachusetts Home Builders Association, a member of the Home Builders Association of South Eastern Massachusetts, and a member of the National Association of Realtors.

He served as the clerk and a member of the New Bedford Building Board of Appeals and was a member of the New Bedford Growth Policy Commission. He served as the organizer and coordinator of the New Bedford Economic Delegation to the Louisiana oil industry. He was a past president of the New Bedford Taxpayers Association and a past president of the Greater New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce. He served as treasurer of the Public Arts Council and was a member of the Greater New Bedford Forum, the Old Dartmouth Historical Society, the New England Chapter of the Architectural Historians and the American Institute of Historic Preservationists.

He was a former member of the board of directors of Tifereth Israel Congregation, a member of the Wamsutta Club, both in New Bedford, and served on the board of directors of the Friends of Touro Synagogue in Newport, R.I.

Survivors include his widow; two daughters, Ayan Liss Rubin of Baton Rouge, La., and Bryna Miller of Texas; three sons, Stuart F. Liss of Bedford, Mass., and Sidney Scheinman and Steven Scheinman of Florida; a sister, Florence Egendorf of Rancho Bernardo, Calif.; and 11 grandchildren.

His funeral was held at the Dartmouth Funeral Home, 230 Russell Mills Road, Dartmouth, Mass. Burial was in Plainville Cemetery, New Bedford. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## HAROLD ROGERS

GREENVILLE — Harold Rogers, 89, a retired service station owner, died Feb. 1, at Village at Waterman Lake, Greenville.

He was the husband of Gertrude (Furie) Rogers of Cranston. Born in Mannheim, Germany, a son of the late Moritz and Julia (Neu) Rosenberger, he had lived in Worcester, Mass. for 62 years before moving to Greenville three months ago.

He was the proprietor of the former Rogers Mobil Station for 45 years before his retirement 15 years ago.

While living in Worcester, he was a member of B'nai B'rith. He entertained at local nursing homes, playing keyboard and leading sing-alongs. He was an arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Linda Goldman of West Warwick, and a grandson. He was a brother of the late Ernest and Sigfried Rosenberger.

A graveside funeral service was held Feb. 4 in B'nai B'rith Cemetery, St. John's Road, Worcester. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Mark Goldman Scholarship Fund, c/o R.I. College, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence R.I. 02908. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I.

## MARY SALTZMAN

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — Mary Saltzman, 92, of Hawthorn Street, died at home Jan. 26. She was the widow of William Saltzman.

Born in Worcester, daughter of the late Ruben and Annie (Levin) Brunel, she lived in New Bedford since 1932.

She was a graduate of Worcester Commerce High School and a member of Tifereth Israel Congregation and its Sisterhood. She was also a member of Hadassah.

Survivors include two sons, Henry Saltzman of New Bedford and Michael Saltzman of Dartmouth; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a sister, Beatrice Comen of Worcester.

She was the sister of the late Dora Chase, Yetta Willis, Evelyn Weisberg, Benny Brunel and Henry Brunel.

Her private graveside funeral service was held Jan. 28 at Plainville Cemetery.

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

## Ten Star All-Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All-Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys ages 8 to 19, and girls ages 10 to 19 can apply. Players are selected by invitation only. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill, and Christian Laettner.

Camp locations include: Bristol, R.I.; Redlands, Calif.; Thousand Oaks, Calif.; Babson Park, Fla.; Gainesville, Ga.; Rochester, N.Y.; Lock Haven, Pa.; Fort Worth, Texas; Blacksburg, Va.; Olympia, Wash., and many others.

College basketball scholarships are possible for players named to the All-American Team. For an evaluation form, call (704) 568-6801 anytime.

## Is Your Child Becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvahed?

Send in your bar/bat mitzvah announcements, along with a picture, to The Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940.

## Volunteers Needed

Providence IceFire Winter Carnival 2001 is coming to the city and we need volunteers. We are looking for groups and organizations interested in performing community service.

All volunteers will receive a letter of appreciation from the Providence Tourism Council and from Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr.

Providence IceFire Winter Carnival 2001 events go on from March 2 to 4. We will need the volunteers to show up one hour before and stay one hour after all scheduled events. All interested volunteers should call the Providence Tourism Council at 861-0100 to set up a schedule and time.

## American Cancer Society Seeks Volunteers

The American Cancer Society seeks volunteers to support its resource center at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence. The center, scheduled to open in April, will feature the American Cancer Society's Cancer Information Database as well as books, cassettes, videos and American Cancer Society pamphlets designed to support and educate. Volunteers will work directly with cancer patients and their families, helping them find information and locate other community services.

The resource room will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All volunteers will be trained on the computer system. If interested in helping cancer patients and their families with this valuable service, call 722-8480, ext. 250.

## CAT SITTING

EAST SIDE CAT SITTING SERVICE — "Loving Care When You Can't Be There" References. (401) 272-0557. 2/22/01

## ENTERTAINMENT

STEVE YOKEN, PROFESSIONAL DISC JOCKEY, BAR/BAT MITZVAH SPECIALIST. Package includes — 2 dancers/facilitators for both teens and adults, New York light show, candle-lighting ceremony and dance contests. Fall River (508) 679-1545. Boston Party Planners #1 Choice. 2/15/01

## FREE

FIND LOVE FOR FREE IN FEBRUARY on-line at www.theconnection.com. Just click on Meet Your Match and use our video and matching services for free throughout February. 2/22/01

## OLD ESTATE ITEMS

BUYING OLD ESTATE ITEMS INCLUDING: CIGARETTE LIGHTERS, COLORED PLASTIC RADIOS, FOUNTAIN PENS, MATCH SAFES, WATCHES. — CALL 421-3040. 3/15/01

## WANTED

SILVERPLATE AND STERLING trays, pitchers, tea sets, etc. Doesn't have to be polished. (781) 344-6763. 2/22/01

Send Classbox Correspondence to: Class Box No. The R.I. Jewish Herald P.O. Box 6063 Providence, R.I. 02940

R.I. Jewish Herald classified ads cost \$3 for 15 words or less. Additional words cost 12 cents each. Payment must be received by Monday at 4 p.m. prior to the Thursday when the ad is scheduled to appear. This newspaper will not, knowingly, accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the R.I. Fair Housing Act and Section 804(c) of title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwelling/housing accommodations advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

## YOU'RE LEAVING?

TAKE TIME TO LET US KNOW. WHENEVER AND WHEREVER YOU GO, WE WANT YOU TO TELL US. TELL US — NOT THE POST OFFICE. THEY DON'T TELL US EVERYTHING, YOU KNOW!

Call 724-0200

## RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

## CLASSIFIEDS

15 words for \$3.00 • 12¢ each additional word

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To include a box number, send an additional \$5.00. All responses will be mailed to the Herald via box number, and forwarded to classified advertiser. Payment MUST be received by Monday afternoon, PRIOR to the Thursday on which the ad is to appear.

Thank You. RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD P.O. BOX 6063, PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02940



# A Happy Hadassah Chanukah .....

The Rhode Island chapter of Hadassah held a special welcome to Chanukah with residents of Shalom Apartments, Hadassah members, guests and some 33 children. The celebration took place on Dec. 28 at Shalom Apartments and entertainment was provided by Rabbi Mark Bloom of Temple Torat Yisrael, Cranston. Sherri Pollack, a member of Hadassah, read *Harry the Hanukkah Duck* to the guests. Menorah lighting, dreidel spinning and food were enjoyed by all. *Photos courtesy of R.I. Hadassah*



A "rocking" good time



Jamie Liner and Rabbi Mark Bloom

## UAHC Promotes Two Rabbis

Two rabbis who have been helping Reform congregations through their service in regional offices of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations have been promoted to positions in the New York headquarters.

Rabbi Richard Address, who served as director of the Pennsylvania Council since 1978, is moving to New York City as the full-time director of the Department of Jewish Family Concerns, which he has served on a part-time basis since 1997. Rabbi Address was instrumental in creating the department, which provides guidance and resources on issues ranging from divorce and aging to bioethical issues, eating disorders, and other concerns.

Rabbi Sue Levi-Elwell, formerly the associate director of the Pennsylvania Council, has succeeded Rabbi Address as director.

Rabbi Peter Schaktman, who served as the associate director of the Greater New York Council of Reform Synagogues for more than four years, became director of the UAHC's Department of Small and New Congregations in December. The department serves the unique needs of small congregations (fewer than 250 households) and congregations that have joined the Union within the past two years.

Rabbi Schaktman, who was the acting director of the New York region following the death of Rabbi Julie Spitzer, served congregations in Lake Charles, La., and Houston, Texas, before joining the UAHC in 1996.

UAHC is the central body of the Reform Movement in North America, and represents 1.5 million Jews in more than 900 congregations across the United States and Canada.



**Shhh!**

It's Harmony Lodge's Silent Auction on Feb. 28 at 6:30 p.m. at Touro Hall, 45 Rolfe Square, Cranston. Friendship Lodge welcome. Please bring a canned good for charity.

Bring your checkbook and bid on some great prizes and restaurant gift certificates. All proceeds go to Touro's Welfare Fund. Plus, welcome your new brothers at our initiation. Enjoy an American chop suey dinner. All just \$5 or five bagel bucks in advance. (Money returned when you check in). Ten dollars at the door, if space is available. R.S.V.P. by Feb. 19 to Touro Fraternal Association, P.O. Box 3562, Cranston, R.I. 02910.

## Nominations Invited For Heschel Award

The Jewish Peace Fellowship, America's foremost organization promoting non-violence in the Jewish tradition of *shalom*, invites nominations of an Israeli peace organization for JPF's Abraham Joshua Heschel Award for 2001.

JPF was founded in 1941 to establish the right of Jews to conscientious-objector status, based on the Jewish religious tradition of *shalom*. It fosters Jewish alternatives to violence and war. It also provides counseling and educational materials to those who have a sincere conviction, motivated by Jewish tradition, conscience and ethics, that does not allow them to participate in all forms of war. Its members represent all of Judaism's traditions and branches.

JPF's Heschel Award honors the work and memory of one of America's outstanding Jewish theologians, who was a member of the Jewish Peace Fellowship.

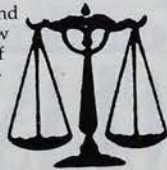
Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel (1907-1972) was born in Poland, the son of a Hasidic *rebbe*. He came to the United States from Nazi Germany in 1938, where he taught at Hebrew Union College and the Jewish Theological Seminary. During the 1960s and 1970s, Heschel was actively involved in the civil rights movement and protests to end U.S. military involvement in Vietnam.

Nominees for the Heschel Award are expected to manifest a dedication to the Jewish tradition of *shalom*, and to be in the forefront of the struggle for peace and reconciliation among Israeli Jews, Israeli Arabs and Palestinians.

Nominations should be submitted before **March 15** to the Jewish Peace Fellowship by mail (Box 271, Nyack, N.Y. 10960-0271), or by e-mail to <jpfusa@usa.net>.

## RIBA and Roger William's School of Law Produce Show

The Rhode Island Bar Association and Roger William's University School of Law have embarked on producing a series of public awareness and educational television shows.



Coordinated by the RIBA's public relations committee, the goal is to educate the public in an entertaining manner on legal issues affecting Rhode Islanders. The first topic to be addressed in a two-part series is "Violence in public schools and the juvenile court process in Rhode Island," and will be aired on Thursday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for the next several weeks on Cox Cable Public Access Channel 13.

Panelists included: Hon. Jeremiah S. Jeremiah, chief judge of the R.I. Family Court; Hon. Sheldon Whitehouse, R.I. attorney general; East Providence Police Chief, Gary Dias; Jennifer L. Wood, Esq., chief legal counsel for the R.I. Dept. of Education; Robert D. Oster, Esq., president of the Rhode Island Bar Association and RWU Professor Andrew Horowitz.

Area high school students were invited to participate as audience members and to ask questions of the panelists. Program moderators were Dean Harvey Rishikof and RIBA members David N. Bazar and Tom Mirza. The taping took place at the Roger William's University School of Law Moot Courtroom.

RIBA will distribute the video to area schools to educate all Rhode Islanders about our legal and judicial system.



## Tiny Tot Tshuvah

Aliya Thaler, left, uses a glue stick to make her greeting card with a little help from Michelle Smuller. Children at the Jewish Community Center learned about mitzvot and how to make Jewish gift items for themselves and others Feb. 4. *Herald photo by Jon Rubin*