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

Armenian
Genocide and
Holocaust Denial
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News at a Glance

● U.S. President George W. Bush called on Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat on Thursday to instruct his people to lay down their arms. *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported. "The signal I'm sending to the Palestinians is stop the violence... I can't make it any more clear. And I hope that Chairman Arafat hears it loud and clear," Bush told reporters when asked if he was sending a signal to the Palestinians by not inviting Arafat to the White House.

Following Bush's remarks, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell called Arafat to reiterate U.S. demands that he condemn violence and terrorism, arrest perpetrators of terrorist acts and resume security cooperation with Israel. The leaders' remarks came as Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs Edward Walker, in testimony on Capitol Hill, attacked Arafat for continuing to foment violence. Walker said the United States is "perplexed" by Arafat's behavior, and that this week's suicide bombings and the killing of 10-month-old Shalhevet Pass in Hebron were designed by the PA to force an Israeli reaction during the Arab summit.

He also said it is reasonable to believe that Arafat launched the current round of violence to gain concessions after the failed Camp David summit, marking the first time that a senior U.S. official accused Arafat of orchestrating the violence. Bush also called on Israel to "exercise restraint in its military response," but did not ask for a total halt to military actions. Israel "should take steps to restore normalcy to the lives of the Palestinian people by easing closures and removing checkpoints," Bush said, adding that Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has already expressed a willingness to do so. A senior Israeli official in Washington said, "We did not hear criticism of the bombing, but rather understanding for the actions of the Israeli Government and appreciation for the restraint Israel has shown until now."

Ari Feinstein's 'Leila' Opens in Providence

New Clothing Store Brings NY-Boston Fashions to RI

By Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

On March 24, Ari Feinstein's newest women's clothing store "Leila" had its grand opening to a large and crowded fanfare that included numerous restaurant owners from both the Rhode Island and Boston area, famous designers from New York and, of course, his father, the renowned Rhode Island philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein, and his mother, Pat Feinstein. Located at on the East Side of Providence, Feinstein describes Leila as being "like the better's market - reasonably priced items that you're not going to find anywhere else... This is what retail is supposed to be."

He chose this particular location because he wanted a residential neighborhood that would enable him to see his customers on a regular basis. "I worked pretty hard to find this location, and I'm very happy with it," Feinstein said.

Despite his hosting duties, Feinstein was able to give the *Herald* insight into the way he sees his business. Feinstein feels that department stores have lost sight of some of the fundamentals of what shoppers are looking for - knowledgeable salespeople, a friendly, inviting environment and a quality prod-

uct. Feinstein continued, saying, "People want the best value for their dollar, that's number one. But number two [is that] they want to be treated with a certain amount of respect because this is a luxury... shopping is a luxury no matter how you slice it."

Boutiques, he continued, are the places people really want to shop at. Aside from the many beautiful and unique items Leila has to offer, it also presents "the sort of environment that people want to congregate in." When people go out to shop they want to feel comfortable, he said.

True to his word, Leila has a very open and friendly atmosphere that is pleasing to the eye without being overstyled or overbearing. Vibrant clothing and famous names like Kiko, Billinger-Gold and Avalin stand beneath a Soho-style décor of exposed ductwork with cathedral ceilings and fresh, original artwork. Besides these more versatile styles, Leila also contains numerous fashion-forward items as well such as Kusto and many others. Leila has a wide variety of items in stock, including skirts, blouses, slacks, dresses, swimsuits, bags, hats for women in their 30s, 40s or 50s, and for young girls and

toddlers as well.

Feinstein named the store after his sister, and his other store in Brookline shares her name as well. "I love my sister to death," said Feinstein. "When she left town, I kept missing her. This is to pay homage to her and let her know I'm still thinking about her."

Successful themes and fashions to Providence but with many new ideas thrown into the mix as well.

Feinstein got into fashion by accident. He originally owned a graphic design company and began talking with a friend in women's wholesale. "The next thing I know I'm out selling goods



Ari Feinstein at the grand opening of 'Leila.'

Herald Photo by Jon Rubin

Feinstein's Brookline store has been in business for five years already and is a considerable success. He hopes to transfer many of his suc-

cessful themes and fashions to Providence but with many new ideas thrown into the mix as well. Located at 135 Elmgrove Ave., Leila's phone number is 453-1200.

Kosher Mealsite Play Is a Hit

by Seth T. Bromley
Editorial Assistant

Last Thursday, Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston, the host of Jewish Family Service's Kosher Mealsite, was also the site of an original play, produced and performed by Mealsite patrons.

The play, entitled "The Passover Miracle," was written by Silvia Shockett, and directed by Susan Cotsoridis, a JFS volunteer. It told the story of a young (at heart) Jewish couple, portrayed by Myron Winoker and Shirley Weiss, who meet at a Passover seder and fall in love.

obstacles such as last-minute script changes and the din of the snack-crunching audience.

The Kosher Mealsite program offers a hot kosher lunch to Jewish seniors on Monday through Friday. Also available as part of the program are regular discussion groups, exercise programs and health screenings. "People get more than just a hot meal," said Paul Segal, executive director of JFS. They also get a chance to get out of the house, to meet people, and to have a good time, he said. To find out more

Materialism, Judaism and Why A Good Sunday School Teacher Is Hard To Find: An Interview with Carol Ingall

Her Teverau lecture will be on April 22 At Temple Emanu-El

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

Carol Ingall, currently on sabbatical from the Jewish Theological Seminary, has been asked to give the annual Joseph Teverau Memorial Lecture on April 22 at Temple Emanu-El at 7:30 p.m. Her presentation is entitled, "Chicken Soup for Affluenza: Jewish Responses to Materialism." Taking some time out of her busy afternoon to speak with the *Herald*, Ingall spoke articulately about many elements of modern Jewish existence. Ingall acknowledged that Jews are not an ascetic people, but still believes that a little bit of moderation never hurt anybody. "Money is instrumental," she said, — best used when either invested in communities or used to "promote

learning." The problem of materialism's conflict with traditional Jewish existence is nowhere as prominent as it is in the United States, Ingall said. "American values are so attractive [that] the voice of Jewish texts is muted in the din of acquisition."

The sweet scent of material gain has also done some damage in the realm of Jewish education. In order to best illustrate this point, Ingall spoke first about the prevailing presence of women in education. "Jewish educators are mostly women — it's all become feminized," she said, adding that it has been that way for some time in both Jewish and secular education. This changed somewhat in the 1970s



The cast of "The Passover Miracle" takes a bow.

Herald Photo by Seth T. Bromley

Also appearing in the performance were Marilyn Feinstein, Sophie Winoker, Rose Alberts and Lillian Schwartz, who narrated and sang. The cast did an outstanding job, overcoming

about how to participate in the Mealsite and its programs, call Jewish Family Service at 331-1244 or Ronda French, the Mealsite coordinator, at 781-1771.

(Continued on Page 15)

HAPPENINGS

Entertainment for Children

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

April

Create "attractive" verse, grow plants in newspaper and solve a history mystery at Providence Children's Museum

- 8 **Magnetic Poetry.** 1, 1:45 and 2:30 p.m. Kids age 5 and up join Ray Davey, poet laureate of Providence, to celebrate National Poetry Month with a giant wall of magnetic words. Create truly "attractive" verse!
- 9 **Creative Studio.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Kids 3 and up use their ingenuity to create works of art with foam, pipe cleaners and other reusable materials.
- 10 **Parent Talk.** 1 to 2:30 p.m. Preschoolers ages 2 to 4, play in Littlewoods while adults chat with a parenting expert about their questions and everyday challenges.
- 11 **Enviro-Science.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Make newspaper flower pots and plant seeds. Kids age 5 and up watch seeds grow into plants to add color to every spring garden.
- 12 **Time Detectives,** 3 to 4:30 p.m. It's springtime! Kids age 7 and up dig into a history mystery. Use real archaeological tools to find clues and uncover the surprising solution.
- 13 **Sing and Dance!** 9:40 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. The museum's Preschool Friday series (March 30 through May 25) continues as preschoolers, age 3 to 5, join in Mother Goose rhymes, sing and move to recorded music, and watch as adults are invited to take part in the fun! Each session is 20 minutes long. Pre-registration is recommended for this popular series. Please 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.
- 14 **Really Reptiles.** 1, 1:45 and 2:30 p.m. Join "Mr. D," a regional reptile and invertebrate educator, to learn about the wonders of our scaly friends. Kids 5 and up meet a live alligator, snakes, lizards and lots more!
- 15 **Spring Hunt.** 9:30 to 5 p.m. Super sleuths age 5 and up search the museum for the signs, shapes and symbols of spring.

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Calendar: April 6 Through April 12

- 6 **Festival of One Act Plays** is presented by the Roger Williams University Performing Arts Center. "The Midlife Crisis of Dionysus," "Daughter of a Traveling Lady," "Necropolis," and "Freeze Tag" will be shown at 8 p.m., April 6 and 7. The Performing Arts Center is located at One Old Ferry Road, Bristol. Tickets are \$3, \$2 for seniors and students. Call 254-3666 for reservations or information.
- The Wickford Art Association** hosts its annual Open Juried Photography Show starting April 6 and continuing through April 18. An awards reception will be held April 8 at 1 p.m. Call 294-6840. The Wickford Art Association is located at 36 Beach St., North Kingstown.
- The Rhode Island School for the Deaf** presents "Fiddler on the Roof" at 7 p.m. in the school's gymnasium. The performance will be both signed and voiced. The school is located at One Corliss Park, Providence. Call 222-6998.
- 7 **Parenting Matters 2001: Parenting is Hard Work**, a daylong conference at Toll Gate High School in Warwick starts at 8 a.m. The conference, sponsored by Hasbro Children's Hospital and Bradley Hospital, features workshops on discipline, learning disabilities, and other behavioral health tips. Admission is \$25. For more information, visit <www.lifespan.org> or call 444-4800 or (800) 927-1230.
- WaterFire Providence** begins at sunset. Nearly 100 bonfires illuminate the waters of the Providence River. Stroll along the cobble riverbank walkways as fires dance atop the water and music echoes from Venetian-style foot bridges. WaterFire typically occurs on designated Saturday evenings, weather permitting. WaterPlace Park and Riverwalk, Providence, call 272-3111 or visit <www.waterfire.org>.
- The Greg Abate Jazz Quartet** plays at CAV, 14 Imperial Place, Providence. Tickets are \$8, the show begins at 9:30 p.m. Call 751-9164.
- 8 **The Providence Athenaeum** hosts "Semana Santa — Holy Week in Seville: Religion and Popular Culture," a program by Maricarmen Margenot. The program starts at 3 p.m. and is free. The Providence Athenaeum is located at 251 Benefit St. Call 421-6970 for information.
- Coast Guard Safety Talk**, a morning of discussion and demonstrations by the Coast Guard, will be held at the Kayak Centre, 9 Philips St., Wickford at 9:30 a.m. Call 295-4400 or visit <www.kayakcentre.com>.
- Open the Doors to Freedom**, an interfaith second night seder with Perspectives, The Rhode Island Jewish Young Adult Project, starts at 6:30 p.m. Michael Simon will talk about freedom in the story of Passover through a modern "perspective." Call Jamie at 863-0357.
- "Getting Connected: The Importance of Community-Based Archaeology,"** a talk by Leah Rosenmeier, a graduate student in anthropology, will be held at 4 p.m. at the Haffenreffer Museum of Archaeology, 300 Tower St., Bristol. Call 253-8388.
- 9 **Pawtucket Red Sox Opening Day** game starts at 6:05 p.m. The AAA affiliate of the Boston Red Sox faces the Ottawa Lynx at McCoy Stadium, Ben Mondor Way, Pawtucket. Call 724-7300 or visit <www.pawsox.com>.
- 10 **Business Expo 2001**, New England's largest business to business exposition, features more than 395 business exhibitors, free professional development seminars, and 20,000 business professionals in attendance. Speakers include Chris Matthews, anchor of MSNBC's "Hardball with Chris Matthews" and Tim Russert, NBC's Washington Bureau Chief and host of "Meet the Press." The expo will be held at the Rhode Island Convention Center, One Sabin St., Providence. Call 521-5000 for information.
- "Rhythm and Blues and the Development of Rock and Roll,"** a lecture and listening program will be held at the Barrington Public Library at 7 p.m. Presented by Ron Dufour, chairman of the history department at Rhode Island College, it is the second program in a four-part series. Admission is free and open to all. The library is located at 281 County Road, Barrington. Call 247-1920.
- 11 **Linda Chavez-Thompson**, vice president of the AFL-CIO, will speak on "The Revival of American Labor" at 7 p.m. in the Solomon Center for Teaching on The College Green. This lecture is free and open to the public. Call 863-2896.
- Lori Novak, T.C. Colley Visiting Artist** at Rhode Island School of Design, speaks at 7 p.m. at the RISD Auditorium, South Main and College streets, Providence. Novak's photographs, installations, and Web projects have been featured in numerous exhibits. The event is free and open to the public. Call 454-6100 or visit <www.risd.edu>.
- "A Tribute to American Musical Theatre,"** with numbers from "Fiddler on the Roof," "The King and I," "Oklahoma" and more, features the Rhode Island College Pops Orchestra. The concert begins at 8 p.m. in Lila and John Sapinsley Hall at Rhode Island College. Admission is free.
- 12 **The Virginia Lynch Gallery** opens its 18th season, presenting the paintings, prints, drawings, collages, and mixed media of seven distinguished artists. The opening reception will be held at 2 p.m. at the gallery, 3883 Main Road, Tiverton. Artists include Todd Bartel, Eleanor Burnette, Yizhak Elyashiv, Joel Janowitz, Alfredo Lorenzo, Michael Rich, Al Ring and JoAnn Rothschild. "Dracula" is presented by Brown University Theatre at 8 p.m. at Leeds Theatre, 77 Waterman St., Providence. Additional dates are April 13 through 15 and April 19 through 22. All shows are at 8 p.m. except April 22 at 3 p.m. Admission is \$14, \$10 for seniors, \$5 for students. Call 863-2838 for reservations or information.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT	12-13
CLASSIFIEDS	15
FEATURE	10-11, 15
HAPPENINGS	2
JEWISH COMMUNITY	4-9
OBITUARIES	14
OPINION	3

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OPINION

Living Responsibly

by Velvel "Wally" Spiegler
Did you ever wonder why some people seem to succeed in every area of life, while so many others just plod along? How do they do it? What is the secret to personal effectiveness?

Adverse conditions spare no one; life hands out its share of distress, yet successful people seem to have mastered the knack of overcoming obstacles. Success is hardly measured in economic terms, but rather in the ability to transcend adversity. As I look back over my years, I pride myself as a person who transformed from a youth struggling with self-esteem issues to an adult who walks with his head held proudly. As I grew older, I somehow learned a lesson that has carried me forward on the road towards personal achievement and happiness. What I learned, in a single word, was responsibility.

This doesn't mean that successful people never fail; some of them have a repeated history of defeat. Edison struggled with untold failures until he came up with a workable lightbulb, but his responsibility to himself kept him persistently working until his momentous breakthrough. Being responsible to yourself is the key to mastering every facet of life. Such adjustment is shown to be the key to personal effectiveness in virtually every sphere of life — from working on one's marriage and pursuing a career to developing into an increasingly whole and balanced human being. It is both a psychological and a principle of positive Jewish values.

Responsibility is intimately linked with independence. An independent person is one who takes responsibility for himself, and can fulfill personal needs

without making demands upon others. Codependents, whose happiness is dependent upon the acceptance of others, always walk a tight rope between contentment and despair. In my early adult years, I used to feel dependent on my parents for their approval of my every decision. Disapproval meant hanging my head in shame — not a very pleasant way to live. Once I learned to take responsibility for myself, a new person emerged.

Self-responsibility is the acid test for maturity. One characteristic of children is that they are almost entirely dependent.

Self-responsibility is the acid test for maturity.

They require grown-ups for the fulfillment of their needs. As they mature, they increasingly rely on their own efforts. One characteristic of socially evolved adults is that they learn to take responsibility for their own lives — physically, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually. This is the virtue of independence and self-reliance, an ideal of healthy development that is basic to the Jewish tradition of survival.

How do we shirk accountability? We're so conditioned to denying responsibility that we're forced to employ professionals to do the job for us. Rabbis are hired to restore spirituality in a world dominated by materialism. Doctors are supposed to reinstate our health when we choose to live unhealthy lifestyles, and therapists presume to help us cope in a hostile world.

Our ancestral father, Abraham, serves as a good

model for self-responsibility when he, under G-d's command, left the land of his origin to initiate the birth of the Jewish nation. Moses took full responsibility as well, even under strong protest, to usher a nation of slaves out of Egypt, under the aegis of G-d's supervision. As a result of living in exile so long, we have learned to stand up for ourselves, to take charge of our lives in hostile host countries, obstinately striving toward greater accomplishments. Responsibility is a Jewish characteristic.

Responsibility is a Jewish characteristic.

Blame is perhaps the greatest hindrance to self-responsibility. Grownups are quick to blame their parents for their unhappiness, when indeed it's their own lack of self-responsibility. We blame our bosses, our spouses, our teachers, our elected officials, and even the government as our source of woes. What we don't stop to consider, however, is when we fail to own up to our distraught feelings, we compensate by passing the buck.

"Independence and self-responsibility are indispensable to psychological well-being. The essence of independence is the practice of thinking for oneself and reflecting critically on the values and beliefs offered by others — of living by one's own mind. The essence of self-responsibility is the practice of making oneself the cause of the effects one wants, as contrasted with a policy of hoping or demanding that someone else "do

(Continued on Page 15)

L'Chaim in Bnei Brak!

by Jonathan Rosenblum

Here's an interesting fact just in Bnei Brak, Israel's most religious city, also has the highest average life expectancy: 81.1 years for women and 77.4 years for men.

What makes the finding even more curious is that Bnei Brak also happens to be Israel's poorest city, thus confounding the expected correlation between increased wealth and health. Moreover rates of smoking among males remain high, and even a casual glance around the streets of Bnei Brak will serve to establish that news of the benefits of exercise and a low-fat diet has not yet reached most of its inhabitants.

A growing body of scientific evidence suggests the key to the longevity of Bnei Brak residents may well be their religiosity. Fully three-quarters of the 300 studies to date of the relationship between religious belief and health have shown a positive correlation. Various studies have shown that religious belief and regular attendance at religious services is associated with reduced doctors visits, a reduced incidence of certain forms of cancer and heart disease, and lower post-operative mortality and quicker rates of recovery.

The *Harvard Health News Letter* recently devoted a full issue to the impact of religiosity on health and courses in healing and spirituality are proliferating in American medical schools.

While none of the studies conducted to date can establish a causal link between religious belief and improved health, the associations shown are sufficient to give pause. A Duke University study showed that those who attend religious services once a week are half as likely to have elevated blood levels of interleukin-6, which is

associated with some cancers and heart disease.

A 1995 Dartmouth medical school study of 232 patients recovering from open-heart surgery found that none of the 37 patients who described themselves as deeply religious died over the first six months, while 21, or 10 percent, of the rest did. Those who received strong community support reinforced by strong religious belief were 14 times as likely to survive as those who had neither.

One California study, conducted more than 28 years and published in 1997 found that those who attended religious services weekly had a one-third lower death rate. Even when a strong community support structure is kept constant, religious belief appears to have an independent salutary effect. A study comparing residents of kibbutzim with those of religious communities in Israel more than 16 years found that the religious community had consistently lower mortality rates for the entire period.

While some of the findings of positive correlations between a religious life and improved health can be explained by factors not uniquely associated with religion — healthier lifestyles, greater community support, reduced rates of stress, which Harvard researcher Dr. Herbert Benson has found to be related to prayer, and a generally upbeat, optimistic attitude — at least one finding has completely stumped the scientists. Two Duke University researchers presented a study of 150 students suffering from acute heart disease at the American Heart Association in which patients who were prayed for did significantly better than those who were not prayed for, even when the patient was completely un-

(Continued on Page 8)

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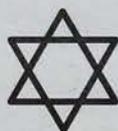
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Candlelighting

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Oops!

So a 93-year-old man is lying on his deathbed when a seductive aroma wafts into his room. He sniffs for a minute and identifies it: the chocolate chip cookies that are his wife's premier recipe. His favorites! Despite his infirmity, he struggles to his feet, makes his way to the stairs, painfully holds the railing as he descends to the kitchen. There he clutches the doorway, a chair, and finally reaches the table whereon lie the fabulous treats.

Just as he is about to lift one to his mouth, he hears a shriek. It's his wife, who has discovered the incipient theft. "Morris! What are you doing? Those are for the shiva!" So she forgot herself. So instead of having rachmones for her ailing husband, she thought of the guests. So she was human. So she made an error. Was it such a sin?

Last week we began the book of Leviticus, Vayikra, with the portion for which the book is named. It continues the narrative of Exodus by explaining the priestly duties regarding the

sanctuary. Embodied in this chapter are many instructions on how to make sacrifices at the altar in atonement for sins. But while sin is mentioned many times, the context in which it is discussed changes. When the Torah says "if he shall sin," that

is usually followed by a specific list of sins. However, when it says in Vayikra, "if he shall sin through error," this phrase typically stands alone.

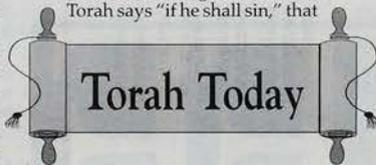
How do we sin? There are many ways to explain it, but one could say there are two broad categories. The first is what one might call a premeditated sin. We know it's wrong, either long before we commit the act, or perhaps just before we do it. But the thought is nevertheless in our minds that we are crossing the line into evil. On the other hand, there is what we might call, as Torah does, a "sin through error." Oops, I forgot. I

reacted out of instinct. I didn't weigh my action before I performed it.

The distinction is not made explicitly in Vayikra, but there obviously is one. Otherwise, why use the phrase "sin through error"? Wouldn't the word "sin" be enough? This is meaningful when we repent for our actions. If one sins through error, it can be acknowledged that this part of the fabric of being human: the constant battle of our flesh in conflict with our spiritual nature. Perhaps this is why the penalties discussed in Vayikra are sacrifices on the altar, rather than more severe punishments. But when we sin, period, that is more significant, and requires a more serious evaluation of one's actions.

So look at what you did this week. Was it just a spontaneous reaction to someone reaching for the cookies? Or was it something you knew you shouldn't do... but did anyway?

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



JEWISH COMMUNITY

Weizman Institute Scientists Block Loss of Eyesight in Animals With a Glaucoma-Like Disease

Weizman Institute scientists have succeeded in stopping the progressive loss of eyesight in animals with a glaucoma-like disease. Their innovative study, reported in the March 6, 2001 issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences U.S.A.*, suggests that Copaxone, a drug developed at the Weizman Institute of Science to treat multiple sclerosis, may also stop, or at least slow down, the loss of eyesight in people with chronic glaucoma.

Glaucoma, which affects 1 percent of the adult population, is the main cause of blindness in adults. The majority of patients with chronic glaucoma have increased pressure inside the eye due to defective drainage of the transparent fluid that bathes the eye and nourishes it outer cells. This increase in intraocular pressure (IOP) damages the optic nerve, causing it to degenerate and often leading to loss of eyesight.

For many years, the search for improved glaucoma therapies focused on correcting the eye's drainage system to reduce IOP. Eventually, however, it became clear that reducing the pressure was not enough to halt the ongoing degeneration of the optic nerve and did not eliminate the risk of blindness. Scientists concluded that a crucial factor was being overlooked and they set out in search of this missing link.

Approximately five years ago, Professor Michal Schwartz of the Weizman Institute's Neurobiology Department proposed a new concept to account for the continuing degeneration of the optic nerve that occurs after the

pressure in the eye has been reduced. Schwartz suggested that while the initial damage to the optic nerve is indeed caused by increased eye pressure, secondary factors triggered by the initial damage contribute to the nerve's ongoing degeneration. The offending factors include chemicals that play an important role in the life of a healthy nerve, but when the nerve degenerates, their concentrations increase to a toxic level. One of these chemicals is the neurotransmitter glutamate, which spills from damaged nerve cells and adversely affects healthy neighboring cells.

In line with this concept, Schwartz developed an original strategy for tackling the problem. To protect the nerve from harmful substances coming from the body itself, she recruited the immune system, whose well-known role is to protect the body against outside "invaders." This approach at first raised a few eyebrows, mainly because it involved cells that, when activated, usually cause one of the autoimmune diseases in which the body mistakenly attacks itself, such as juvenile diabetes or multiple sclerosis. The concept of using these "enemy" cells to heal the body seemed uncanny.

Schwartz, who has also developed an immune-based therapy for spinal cord injuries now being tested in a clinical trial, believes that — contrary to accepted wisdom — autoimmunity can play a beneficial role in the body. A series of studies in her lab has shown that immunization with fragments of proteins belonging to myelin, the protective sheath of the nerves, can prevent degeneration of the damaged optic nerve. However, the use of such protein fragments, or peptides, for immunizing people is fraught with risk because some of these peptides cause the immune system to attack nerve fibers, leading to multiple sclerosis. Since humans vary greatly in their genetic makeup, it is difficult to establish which of the

peptides would cause disease in a specific patient.

Looking for a safe alternative to these peptides, Schwartz and her group, in collaboration with Professors Irun Cohen and Michael Sela of the Weizman Institute's Immunology Department, demonstrated that immunization with Copaxone, a synthetic compound that reacts with cells that respond to self-protein, protects the damaged optic nerve from neuronal degeneration. Copaxone was developed at the Institute by Dr. Dvora Teitelbaum, Professor Ruth Arnon and Professor Michael Sela as a drug for multiple sclerosis.

In the present study, the scientists sought to establish how Copaxone produces its protective effect on the nerve. This research — conducted by Professor Schwartz, Dr. Eti Yoles, and graduate students Jonathan Kipnis and Hadas Schori — showed that immunization with Copaxone shields the nerve from the toxic effects of the neurotransmitter glutamate. These findings strongly suggest that Copaxone immunization is a potential therapy for glaucoma, in which the optic nerve undergoes degeneration and glutamate levels rise. Indeed, in another series of experiments conducted together with scientists from the U.S. company Allergan, Inc. (who developed the rat model that simulates chronic glaucoma), Copaxone immunization proved even more effective. In rats immunized with a single injection of Copaxone, only about 4 percent of nerve cells died in the glaucoma-affected eye, compared with 28 percent in rats that were not immunized. Thus, immunization with Copaxone dramatically protected the nerve from pressure-induced death.

Following the success of this research, trials in human patients with glaucoma are expected to be soon. Scientists hope that the trials will be facilitated by the fact that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has already approved Copaxone.

Professor Michal Schwartz holds the Maurice and Ilse Katz Chair of Neuroimmunology. Her research is supported by the Alan T. Brown Foundation to Cure Paralysis, the Glaucoma Research Foundation and the Jerome and Binette Lipper Award.

The Weizman Institute of Science, in Rehovot, Israel, is one of the world's foremost centers of scientific research and graduate study. Its 2,500 scientists, students, technicians and engineers pursue basic research in the quest for knowledge and to enhance the quality of human life. New ways of fighting disease and hunger, protecting the environment, and harnessing alternative sources of energy are high priorities at Weizman.

Service For New Moms Initiated by Hebrew University Researcher

A new service being offered to new moms, called Visiting Moms, is based on the logical principle that no one is better equipped to assist new mothers with the sometimes overwhelming changes that a new baby brings into the household than someone who has already "been there, done that."

Visiting Moms was started and is directed by Dr. Marsha Kaitz of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Psychology Department, whose expertise and research are in the areas of parenting, parent-child relationships and child development. Kaitz, who was on sabbatical last year at Harvard University, based the program on a model developed at the Jewish Family and Children's Service of Boston.

The Irving B. Harris Foundation of Chicago provided seed funding to help support the development of the Visiting Moms program, which is based on a cadre of volunteer mothers. After receiving training from experts in how to help new mothers cope, the volunteers then meet with the new mothers in their homes, offering personal warmth, support and advice on home care. The goal is to help build self-esteem and competence in the new mother so that she can develop an ongoing, healthy relationship with her baby. The service is designed to be offered until the child is 1 year old.

Kaitz explains that while there are other services that help deal with entrenched family problems, there are relatively few that focus on early parental support and prevention of difficulties for the young mother who isn't necessarily in distress,

yet may find herself "over her head" in trying to cope with all of the changes that a new infant introduces. As an example of the need for such a program, Kaitz points out that about 15 percent of new mothers suffer from some form of clinical depression after birth. This can have a detrimental effect not only on the mothers, but also on other family members, especially the newborn, she says, citing studies that have shown that babies exposed to maternal depression can themselves show symptoms of depression at a very early age. But even in less extreme cases, says Kaitz, "the early postpartum period can be very difficult, and many new mothers feel distressed because of fatigue, feelings of isolation and curtailment of freedom of movement." The new mother may also feel incompetent and inept in her new role, and have no close family connections to turn to for assistance and advice.

Kaitz says that the program is an outgrowth of research which shows that "the first year of an infant's life and the first year of the mother-infant relationship are extremely important — perhaps the most important period — in the infant's life." It is a time, she said, when the mother-child relationship is "sketched." The project has been launched with an initial small group of volunteers and new mothers. Expansion is expected with distribution now getting under way of explanatory posters and brochures to clinics, community centers, doctors' offices and other locations, initially in the Jerusalem area, but hopefully later in other parts of the country.



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Elana Rothberg Engaged to Lance Helling

Dr. Kopel and Sharron Rothberg of East Greenwich, R.I., announce the engagement of their daughter, Elana Rose Rothberg of Miami Beach, Fla., to Lance Bennett Helling of Coral Gables, Fla., son of Lawrence and Abby Helling of Coral Gables, Fla.

The bride-to-be graduated East Greenwich High School and Arizona State University with a bachelor of arts. She is a producer with CBS.sports.com in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Her fiancé graduated from Ransom-Everglades High School in Coral Gables, Fla., and the University of Michigan with a bachelor of arts. He is vice-president of sales for Superior Window Corp., Miami, Fla.

The bride's grandparents are Esther Rothberg of Cranston, R.I. and the late Maurice Rothberg, and Charles Jamison of Miami, Fla., and Gaye Jamison of North Miami, Fla.

The bridegroom's grandparents are Estelle Breslow of Miami, Fla., and the late James Breslow, and Mildred and Julius Helling of Cranbury, N.J.

The date of the wedding is Feb. 9, 2002.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

UJC Reports Continuing Progress of Ethiopian Aliyah

Since January 2000, more than 3,000 Ethiopian Jews have made aliyah and they continue to leave for Israel at the rate of approximately 400 per month, according to a site visit report by the Subcommittee on Ethiopian Aliyah of United Jewish Communities. The group, which represents UJC's Israel/Overseas Pillar, recently made its third fact-finding mission since October to monitor developments and current conditions in Ethiopia.

"It has been widely acknowledged that our interest and presence since June 2000 have made a difference," the subcommittee said in its follow-up report.

The monitoring visit, chaired by Caryn Rosen Adelman of Chicago, found that virtually all Ethiopians now serviced by the compounds in Addis Ababa and Gondar have completed the application and interviewing process. "These applications representing over 18,000 persons are now with the Interior Ministry in Israel awaiting investigation, processing and adjudication," the subcommittee report said.

The group observed a group of 94 Ethiopians departing for Israel, and noted that while absorption facility space in Israel is very limited, the Jewish

Agency for Israel has reiterated that everyone approved for aliyah will be brought to Israel in fewer than 30 days.

Meanwhile, the group found, clinics operated by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee continue to provide high quality medical services, family planning counseling and nutritional supplementation. "We found no evidence to support the periodic charges that these health services are inadequate," the report said. "In fact we have evidence to the contrary. We learned that the ratio of doctors to the overall Ethiopian population is one of per approximately 21,000; while for the Falas Mura in Addis, we have 2.3 MDs for 8,000, and in Gondar we have two MDs for 8,000."

Among its recommendations, the subcommittee voiced the hope that Israel's Ministry of Interior will find the resources to act upon applications quickly to avoid additional unnecessary languishing of the Falas Mura population. It also added: "It is not too soon to begin to consider our approach to those who will not be going to Israel," including the possibility of vocational support and training, and the closing of the compounds.

A copy of the report will be available at <www.ujc.org>.

They'll Be Climbing The Walls at The JCC During April Vacation Week!

Children in kindergarten through grade six have many opportunities for fun awaiting them at the Jewish Community Center at Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, during April school vacation. Supervised programming includes swimming each day.

On April 16, they'll be literally climbing the walls during a trip to Rhode Island Rock Climbing Gym. Professional supervision, use of safety harnesses, and age-appropriate activities insures the safety of all participants.

Tuesday's destination is Battleship Cove in Fall River. Children live history aboard the Battleship Massachusetts, dive into science aboard the Submarine Lionfish, and cruise through time aboard the destroyer Joseph P. Kennedy. A number of special activities are also scheduled within the Battleship Cove Museum.

On April 19 the Thames Science Center of Newport brings "Adventures in Kid Chemistry" to JCCRI. While the younger children enjoy some silly science, those in grades three through six will investigate chemical concoctions and molecular magic. By popular demand, the children skate at USA Skates in East Providence on April 20. The program on April 21 includes a hands-on Earth Day ceramics project led by JCCRI enrichment teacher, Heather Delaney.

Children need to bring a dairy lunch, bathing suit and towel each day. Registration features a special early bird daily rate. For more information, call Charli Lurie, director of Children, Youth and Camp at 861-8800 ext. 147.

Reaction of Foreign Minister Peres to Terrorist Attacks

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said that Israel is in the midst of a difficult struggle on many fronts, and that the sniper fire in Hebron and the bombings recently are part of a wave of broad terrorist activity. According to Peres, the Palestinians and the Arabs are seeking to achieve an imposed peace rather than an agreed peace.

Peres added that, in the UN Security Council, Israel is contesting the stationing of an international force. There is no need for an international force; Israel is not initiating any action. "If they won't fire at us, we won't fire at them," he said.

Peres also noted the current Arab summit as an arena of confrontation against Israel, and said that Arafat must come out publicly and explicitly against terrorism. What he is trying to achieve at the summit meeting is — instead of the long-time demand of "territories for peace," to which Israel has agreed — "territories for no peace."

"There is no alternative but to sit down at the negotiating table and to clarify the differences of opinion — without terrorism, without violence and without coercion."

(Communicated by the Foreign Ministry Spokesperson)

Tales of a Hametz Seller: Edward Adler

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

Edward Adler finishes up the transaction, makes a joke or two, and then hands you a handkerchief. You take it, and he quickly takes it back. "This symbolizes the transfer. It's done," he says.

And with that, you just agreed to let Edward Adler, ritual director of Temple Emanu-El, sell your hametz (leavened products) for you. Adler has been buying and selling hametz for Passover for almost 30 years in Providence. "A lot of people are selling it [through me]," he said proudly, and he isn't joking — he has a list of people waiting to let Adler sell for them as long as your car. His daughter and his granddaughter are on it, along with pharmacists, foot doctors, accountants, psychiatrists, insurance agents and "all the rabbis," he said. The Bureau of Jewish Education and the Jewish Community Center all entrust Adler to sell their hametz as well.

The holiday of Passover requires Jews to rid their houses of hametz, since Jews are forbidden to own any during this time. After a meticulous cleaning of the household, Jews confine all the remaining hametz in their house to a secure place and seal it. They then must sell the contents to a non-Jew, since no Jew would be permitted to own it. "The selling of the hametz comes straight from the Talmud," Adler says, pointing to a large volume on the shelf of the sanctuary at Temple Emanu-El. Most people choose to have a person well-versed in the ways of Jewish law, usually a rabbi, make the transaction for them.

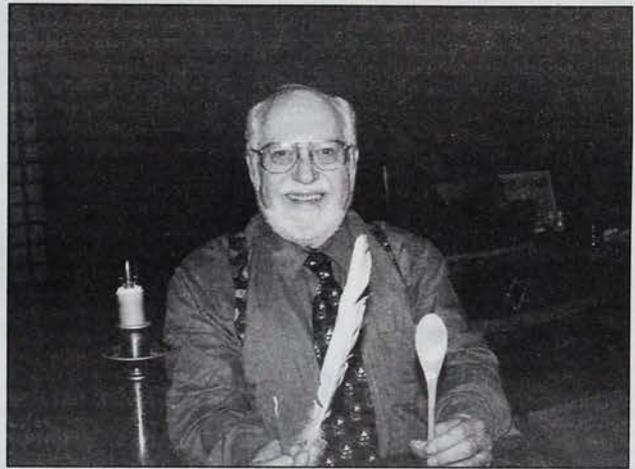
The document used to transfer the hametz also comes from the Talmud, and Adler uses an extra-long version that is extremely official-looking and filled with lots of "legalese." It looks legal because, in fact, it is. The buyer obtains the legal right to all of the hametz until after Passover is over, when Adler buys it back. Adler's written version even uses the term "Power of Attorney" on behalf of the seller.

Not all versions are that extensive, however; Many ver-

sions used by people are not much more complicated than, "I, the signer, agree to have _____ sell my hametz according to the commandments of Jewish law."

The document must be cosigned by two witnesses, in Adler's case Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer

hametz. "When I am eating an apple," he said, "I say the blessing for fruit and I eat the apple right after. There is no talking between the prayer and the deed." For this reason, we cannot speak after the blessing over hametz is recited until we have



Edward Adler displaying a feather and spoon used to search for hametz.
Herald photo by Jon Rubin

and Rabbi Wayne Franklin of Temple Emanu-El, and signed by the non-Jew who will be buying the hametz. The buyer will put up a down payment for the hametz, which is refunded at Passover's end. The amount of the down payment is not significant or usually very large. "Ten dollars, one dollar, whatever," Adler said. "It's symbolic."

All the hametz that is not sold is burned outside at 10 a.m. This exact time is reached when we remember that in Judaism daytime is split into thirds. At this time of the year, the amount of available daylight is divided by three and we arrive at the time of 10 a.m. for the burning of the hametz. But why do we have to burn the hametz — why not just throw it away or bury it? "It's gotta burn," Adler said. "Once it's destroyed, you know you don't own it anymore. End of story."

He also explained the reason why we are not supposed to speak during the search for

rounded up all the hametz in the house. Adler went on to speak about why there are ten pieces of hametz that we hide. "Ten pieces, ten commandments," he said, then added, "Ten is a nice big number." It is also assumed that in looking for ten pieces you will be searching quite diligently through any sized house, therefore ensuring that no hametz is left unfound.

Adler took a few minutes to explain how the searching of the hametz works. He even had a "hametz removal kit," which contains a wooden spoon, a feather and a candle all ready for use. These simple items are used, Adler said, because they must be disposed of after coming in contact with hametz. It wouldn't make sense, Adler said, to make the objects expensive only to throw them away after using them.

Adler takes his position seriously. He feels his job is "very important. People are trusting you to take the responsibility to sell their hametz for them." "Plus," he added, "it's a mitzvah."

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Appreciating a Diamond

One may wonder why we even include the wicked son in the text of the Pesach ceremony. After all, since he is obviously uninterested in what is going on, why bother?

More puzzling may be the "answer" the wicked son receives, the son we have insisted be included in our seder - "if he had been there, he would not have been redeemed!"

But the reason we include even the wicked son to the seder, is because he is our child. A Jewish child, who may have deviated a little from the "straight and narrow" still remains and is absolutely and unequivocally, our child.

No matter how much we have done for our children, it is not enough, it is never enough. We have been allotted a few short years to instruct and teach them the Jewish way and values - utilize this precious commodity. Don't wait until they are 18 or 21, it's never too early to begin.

They need to be present at the seder, let them throw in their questions and bring up their doubts. And then, respond!

It's too late you think? Think again! Our rabbis have taught; "If he had been there, he would not have been redeemed," refers solely to the exodus from Egypt. In the future redemption, even the wicked child will be redeemed by Moshiach. And who are we to judge who is wicked? When we look at another person are we seeing the superficial, external qualities, or do we appreciate the hidden aspects, sometimes deeply bur-

ied beneath the physical traits? Is he really the wicked son?

The fifth Chabad Rebbe; Rabbi Shalom DovBer Schneerson [1861-1920], had scores of devoted followers who were themselves great scholars.

A simple, unlearned and unremarkable man was accorded great honor and affection by the Rebbe. This puzzled many of his followers and finally one Chassid, a learned and righteous man himself, approached the Rebbe and inquired about his manner.

The Rebbe did not reply. A few days later, the Rebbe requested of this Chassid, who was a diamond merchant of great expertise, to bring samples of his wares for the Rebbe to view.

The Chassid came as requested with his most exquisite stones. He proceeded to display the diamonds and name the value of each one: "This one is valued at 100 rubles; this one 500."

Withdrawing a diamond from the display he proclaimed: "This one is worth 2,000 rubles!" The Rebbe shrugged and said to his Chassid: "With all due respect, the 500 ruble diamond looks exactly like the 2,000 ruble diamond, if not more glittering and beautiful." The merchant replied: "In all modesty Rebbe, to truly appreciate the value of a diamond one must be an expert." The Rebbe gave him a broad smile in return. "Yes, you are right. And to truly appreciate the quality of a soul, one must also be an expert!"

We are not such experts.
Submitted by Rabbi Yossi Laufer, Chabad CHAI Center of West Bay

Sarensos Celebrate Their 50th Wedding Anniversary



Bernard and Florence Sarensen of Cranston, R.I., recently celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They renewed their wedding vows at Temple Torat Yisrael, Cranston, R.I., at which Rabbi Bloom officiated. A reception was held following the services at the Potowomut Country Club, East Greenwich, R.I.

The honor was given by their children, Carol Berman, Judith and Jeffrey Paige and Michael and Kim Sarensen. The bridegroom was escorted by their granddaughter, Stacy Berman, and the bride was escorted down the aisle by their grandsons, Justin Paige and Matthew Sarensen. They were married March 4, 1951.

JFS Home Care Bids a Fond Farewell to California-bound Fanny Sherman

After 14 years of caring and friendship, Fanny Sherman, who celebrated her 101st birthday this year, is saying farewell to Jewish Family Service Home Care to embark on a new chapter in her life. She has moved to California to live in an assisted living facility near her son, Alexander and his family.

Sherman's association with Jewish Family Service began when her sister, Rona Gutman, needed some assistance. Fourteen years ago, Sherman herself became a client. "This is the best thing. I could not stay here in the apartment without them," she said.

She has established a close bond with the Certified Nursing Assistants who have cared for her. Recently, she was feted at a party in her home with past and present Home Care staff who have cared for her over the years. Another day, some of the Registered Nurses and Certified Nursing Assistants also took her out to lunch.

Certified Nursing Assistant Signe Entwistle, who has been with her since the beginning, has developed a warm relationship with Sherman. Because they both love to be outside in the sunshine, the two routinely go to the waterfront at nearby parks to feed the ducks and soak up the fresh air for an hour or two whenever the weather is nice enough. Entwistle said, "We CNAs know we are working in someone's home. Each client is treated with independence and, most of all, dignity."

Sherman, who signed up for JFS Lifeline/RI when it first became available, recalls that a

few days after she had it installed, she broke her shoulder. Her son, Alexander, said, "She fell and they came right in and took care of her. It was a blessing." Sherman adds, "This is the best thing you can have." She used the personal emergency response system again in

Sherman, because of some physical limitations, finds that the help she gets makes it possible for her to do more of the things she enjoys, saying, "Without it, I could not do anything. It is a very big effort putting on stockings and shoes, and takes a long time." She has been



Fanny Sherman shares fond memories of 14 years together with Certified Nursing Assistant Signe Entwistle from Jewish Family Service Home Care. Photo courtesy of JFS

1993 when she broke her hip. Sherman, who prides herself on her mental acuity (and is a very competitive Scrabble player), says, "My bones can break but the brain has no bones. You cannot break it."

A heart murmur diagnosed at age 12 has not seemed to affect Sherman. She said, "Doctors told me I have heart trouble. They are all dead already..." She attributes her longevity to her daily yogurt. Also, she never smoked or drank alcohol.

an active participant in the community, belonging to social organizations, serving as a volunteer for 23 years and attending the mealsite program at the Jewish Community Center.

Fanny Sherman's friends can write to her at her new address: Mrs. Fanny Sherman, Sunrise Assisted Living, 12291 South Newport Ave., No. 77, Santa Ana, Calif. 92705.

For more information on the elderly services available through Jewish Family Service, call 331-1244.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

My Uncle Sonny

By Hannah Reich Berman

He had many names. Born in Providence in 1932, the youngest of Benyamin and Esther (Hassenfeld) Oelbaum's five children, he was named Ira. When people referred to him as Esther's 'zeendeleh' (sonny), the name stuck, and Sonny he was called. Years later he was known as Yisroel.

An adorable, dark haired little boy with a sweet disposition, he had a contagious laugh and delighted in teasing his European born mother when she read stories to him and pronounced "Peter Rabbit" as Petter Robbit. There were few Jews in Providence and the devoutly religious Oelbaums were afraid that without a strong Jewish education their son might lose his Jewish identity. So when Sonny was ten, his father enrolled him at Yeshiva Torah Va'adath in New York and made arrangements for him to live with a family until he was old enough to live in the dormitory. Although they worried about sending such a young child away, the decision was made and with heavy hearts they sent him off. His parents visited him often in New York and brought him home for holidays. While he always came

back to visit, he never lived at home again.

Esther died when Sonny was 15 and Benyamin passed away four years later. His brother and sisters, all married with families, worried about him continually and their phone calls to him always ended with his sisters pleading for a visit from him. As he got older, Sonny came to Providence less often but when he did come we were thrilled.

His oldest sister, Ruth, lived in Queens and, since he had become close to her daughters, he went there frequently. Although Sonny had deep feelings for his family, he wasn't demonstrative. We all loved him, however, and knew he loved us back. He called and took me to dinner and the movies when I moved to New York, visited when I got married, and came to the hospital when I had my babies. Elusive yet always there, he was somebody you thought you knew and then weren't sure you knew him after all. Would he have been more open and affectionate if he'd remained with his family during those formative years? Possibly. But what he became was a kind and sensitive person, respected and well loved.

At age 15 he helped the Hagannah, collecting guns for Israel and teaching other boys how to shoot. He was caught and ordered to appear in court where the judge, a Jewish woman, was sympathetic to the cause and let him off easy. His brother and sisters were aware of Sonny's exploits but never told their father. On one occasion, however, Benyamin was reading a newspaper that featured a picture of a judge and a story about young boys charged with gun smuggling. The identity of the boys wasn't revealed because of their age and the picture showed only the backs of the offenders' heads. But Benyamin pointed to the picture and remarked that it was possible that Sonny could be involved in something like this.

A highly intelligent boy and

a brilliant mathematician, Sonny attended Yeshiva University and remained deeply committed to Judaism and Jewish causes. While vacationing in Israel, an acquaintance gave him the name and phone number of a local girl and the man we thought of as a confirmed bachelor agreed to call her. As soon as he met Leah Ohali he knew she was special. Unfortunately, their first date was just before he had to leave, so the courtship continued by telephone. Shortly thereafter Sonny took a leave of absence from his job at IBM, returned to Israel to be with Leah, and then applied for a transfer to IBM's Tel-Aviv office. When he next called his sister Trude it was to ask her to come to Israel — he was getting married. At the time, he was 40 years old and he left the United States as an adult, much the way he'd left Providence as a child — he never looked back and he never came back. Leah's family, seeing immediately that he was a gentle soul, welcomed him warmly and, in return, he lavished kindness and attention on her elderly parents. Sonny and Leah went on to raise three beautiful children and by now he was known as Yisroel. Not wanting to disrespect their wishes, none of us addressed him as Ira or Sonny again.

For many years, only Trude and her husband traveled to Israel to see him every year. Later on his sister Edith made the trip, followed by nieces, nephews, and cousins. When we attended the Bar Mitzvahs and weddings of his children, he was overjoyed to have his family there. I've been to Israel many times over the years, and never missed a single Shabbat at Yisroel's home. I loved every minute of my time there and, for me, it will never be the same again. I dread the thought of going back and not seeing my uncle. My sister's sons moved there and as soon as they met him they were hooked — just like the rest of us they were crazy about him. One night a week Yisroel sat down to learn with those boys and it was the highlight of his week — and theirs.

Always charitable, Yisroel paid for Bar Mitzvahs, parties and new suits for sons of poor Russian immigrants. When the Yom Kippur war broke out, Leah and their baby went into a shelter, and Yisroel, not yet in the reserves, felt he had to do something for the country, anything. He ran errands for a hospital and later drove an ambulance: Spotting a distraught man, desperate to reach his son at the front line, Yisroel offered to help him find the boy. They drove for hours, stopping soldiers along the way to ask if anyone knew of his whereabouts, until they located him. Days later, when a casualty list was distributed with that boy's name on it, the father reassured the family that he'd seen his son after that list was compiled. It was another soldier with the same name who was listed and, because Yisroel was determined to help a stranger, an entire family was spared needless grief.

Stories that display the character of my uncle Yisroel are endless, and for the people who were privileged to have known him he lives on through these tales, and his kindness will never be forgotten.

Just before Purim he passed away unexpectedly, at

age 69. Several years back he'd extracted a promise from his son that when "his time came" there would be no eulogy. A modest man all his life, he remained that way until the end. His son Benyamin told the mourners about that special request and then he honored his father for the last time by saying nothing more. A rabbi friend of Yisroel's summed it up neatly — without actually giving a eulogy. He said very simply that for Yisroel to have died just before Purim was most fitting. Nowhere in the Magillah is Ha'shem's name mentioned yet we know that he is present throughout and responsible for everything that happened. That's the way Yisroel lived his life. He didn't need to be mentioned or to have his name all over his good deeds, but they were his mitzvahs never the less.

Not wanting any fanfare, he never allowed anyone to make a fuss over him. His family was with him around the clock for the three months he was ill, but he died alone in the early morning hours — just that short window of time when no one was around — and I can't help but think that's just the way he wanted it.

African Dance Aerobics Comes to the JCCRI

Do you want a change in your work-out routine? Looking for an exciting new exercise experience? Then the Jewish Community Center of Rhode is the place for you. Beginning April 6, the JCCRI will be offering a new African Dance Aerobics class on Fridays at 9 a.m. The hour-long class will be based on traditional West African dance from Mali, Guinea and Senegal. Instructor Kaeli Abrahams Sutton has studied bodywork and traditional African dance forms for more than 12 years, both in the United States and while living in Senegal. Since her return in 1997 she has continued to train with master African dancers here in the United States.

The class is for all levels and is free for JCC members. Non-members call for aerobics prices. For information on this and our other fitness programs, please call Lisa Cournoyer, fitness director, at 861-8800, ext. 210.

The JCCRI is located at 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence.



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The Hillel Foundation at URI seeks an energetic, motivated candidate to be our Hillel Director beginning July 2001.

The position requires a versatile individual with strong fund-raising and management skills. The individual is responsible for the day to day running of the Hillel Foundation, including finances, programming, administering, and overseeing Jewish life on campus.

A Master's degree or higher is required and relevant campus and community experience will be well regarded.

Please send a resumé and cover letter to Henry Winkelman, The Search Committee, c/o Hillel at URI, 34 Lower College Road, Kingston, R.I. 02881 by April 16, 2001.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Zurier Chairs Bequest Society Position

Culminates Lifetime Commitment to Jewish Community

by Elisa Silverstein

Heath Melvin Zurier is spearheading an initiative at the Jewish Federation to recognize members of the community who have included JFRI in their estate plans. The society, which has yet to be named, will be the first time JFRI has acknowledged these donors during their lifetime.

Zurier and his wife, Janet, are no strangers to charitable giving or to the JFRI Endowment Fund. Together they have established a family Philanthropic Fund and a Charitable Remainder Unitrust. They have helped establish funds that memorialize family members and friends, thereby building community today and for the future. Janet Zurier, past president of the former Business & Professional Women's Affiliate at JFRI, helped pioneer the Women's Alliance Endowment Fund. They say they are glad to have been able to leave their children the opportunity to one day decide how the income from their philanthropic fund will be distributed.

Where did this charitable consciousness originate? Mel Zurier's parents were children of Lithuanian immigrants who settled in Providence in 1900. Both

of his parents worked very hard; his father was a laborer at Brown & Sharpe and his mother had a dry goods store. "They were blue-collar workers and there was very little money in the house," Zurier remembers, "but we always had a pushke that we would give to regularly." His father served on the board of the Hebrew Free Loan and young Mel would accompany his father to board meetings on Sunday mornings.

When Zurier returned to Providence as an adult to practice law, he says, "I just found myself involved with many agencies and on a number of boards." And the rest is history. Mel and Janet Zurier each has held a number of leadership positions with JFRI and other agencies in the Rhode Island Jewish community. He is an honorary vice president of the JFRI Board of Directors and honorary vice chairman of the Endowment, and he serves on the Endowment Executive Committee, the Investment Committee, Gift Acceptance Committee and Professional Advisory Council. Both Zuriers are active leaders at Temple Beth-El in Providence and at Jewish Family Service. He also is very

involved with and has written for the RI Jewish Historical Association. In the general Rhode Island community, Zurier chairs the state Ethics Commission.

The Zuriers have utilized a number of different types of endowment vehicles for different purposes. Their Philanthropic Fund was established when Janet retired from the Providence public school system. "Her friends wanted to make contributions in her honor. We felt that setting up a philanthropic fund at the Federation was the perfect way to commemorate the many years she dedicated to the school system and would make contributions to causes we both cared about, including the Martin Luther King School." The Zuriers also use the fund to fulfill their annual commitment to the JFRI campaign. A philanthropic fund, also known as a donor-advised fund, is a veritable "charitable bank account," which enables the donor to help the community while realizing important tax advantages. These types of funds are also a perfect way to begin or enhance a planned-giving program.

The Zuriers also established a Charitable Remainder Unitrust, or CRUT. About his CRUT, he says,

"We needed to free our financial portfolio of some appreciated stock and knew that the taxes would be significant. Establishing the trust enabled us to make a significant gift to the JFRI endowment, reduce our taxable income and receive an annual income from the fund." A CRUT is a good way to reduce one's taxable income on appreciated assets and free-up other assets for children and grandchildren, and benefit the community.

As a well-known attorney, Mel Zurier acts as trustee for a number of clients' trusts and financial portfolios. When he feels it is appropriate, he will recommend establishing an endowment with JFRI. "If the notion of a charitable gift 'makes sense,' JFRI is the place to set up this kind of trust," he says. "Federation's reputation as an organization of more than 50 years is indisputable, and as an umbrella organization, a JFRI fund will help support lots of kinds of services, helping lots of kinds of people."

Can the JFRI Endowment Fund be seen as a mitzvah? Absolutely. For many people in the community, the Endowment Fund is an important vehicle, representing different opportunities and meeting different types of needs. The Zuriers are models within our community. They are generous with their dollars and their time. They have utilized many options available through JFRI to accomplish several goals, whether funding specific programs and agencies in perpetuity, fulfilling their annual campaign pledges, or providing a vehicle for their children's philanthropic decisions in the future.

L'Chaim in Bnei Brak!

(Continued from Page 3)

aware that he or she was being prayed for.

There is a close correlation between depression and higher mortality rates among older people. The large family size in the Orthodox community and the great stress on the mitzvah of honoring one's parents help ensure that Bnei Brak's elderly will be frequently visited by several generations of descendants and experience the satisfaction on a constant basis of witnessing their own continuity.

From an early age, the primary mental activity of most Bnei Brak males is Talmudic study, and they continue to learn all their lives, even after they have retired from other pursuits. It is not unusual to see hundreds of young men in their 20s eagerly hanging on the Talmudic discourses of Torah sages in their late 80s or even 90s, with both sides shouting back and forth in vigorous debate. The constant source of intellectual stimulation provided by Torah study helps preserve mental acuity and with it life satisfaction.

Finally, Orthodox Jews have much higher rates of marriage and lower rates of divorce, and there is an abundance of evidence establishing the positive effects of marriage on health. Nine of 10 married men alive at 48 will make it to 65. The comparable figure for never married men is six out of 10, and divorced and widowed men fare only slightly better.

Of course no number of studies establishing a correlation between religious belief and health can provide that faith to those who lack it. But those who already possess that faith will not be surprised that following G-d's instruction book turns out to be good for you.

Am Chad Resources: Jonathan Rosenblum, a columnist for the Jerusalem Post, where this article first appeared, serves as Am Echad's Israeli director.

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Dear Joshua and Trine:

- I have already included JFRI in my will or living trust.
- I would like to include JFRI in my will. How should I phrase it?
- I am interested in establishing an Endowment. Please send me information.
- I would like to meet with a JFRI planned giving professional.

Name: _____ Telephone: (____) _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

PHDS Fifth Grade Hosts Special Guest

The fifth-grade class of Angela Sheehan at the Providence Hebrew Day School played host to a special guest who taught the children some important lessons in living. Their guest was a man named Mike from an organization called Insight. Mike is blind and Insight is a group that sponsors a variety of programs in productive living for the blind. The fifth-graders were transfixed in their seats as Mike described how he became blind from diabetes in his early 20s. He explained how he and other blind people could still experience and "see" the world around them in many ways. Mike talked about how he "sees" with his "Mind's eye" — images that he can recall when he was sighted. He described how he is acutely aware of the space

around him and how he uses his sense of touch to appreciate many things, including his rock and fossil collection.

Sheehan's class had just finished reading the book *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor. This is an award-winning novel about an 11-year-old boy who is blinded during an air attack in World War II and finds himself adrift on a life raft with an old man



Photo courtesy of PHDS

and a cat. *The Cay* is an adventure story of a young, newly blinded man who learns how to survive on an uninhabited island with a clear message that friendship is color blind.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

JCPA Condemns Palestinian Terror Attacks

Dr. Leonard Cole, chair of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, issued the following statement expressing outrage over the spate of terrorist attacks recently in Israel:

"We express our outrage and deep sorrow at the loss of life and offer heartfelt condolences to the families of those brutally murdered in this week's terrorist attacks in Israel. Our prayers also go out to the injured for a full and speedy recovery.

"It is long past time for Chairman Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority to implement fully their obligations under agreements with Israel and dismantle the terrorist infrastructure in Palestinian-controlled areas that enables such attacks to be launched. We support Israel's measured response and defensive strikes against the Palestinian terrorists.

"Our dismay at this week's attacks is deepened by the appalling statements made at the Arab summit in Amman, which included Syria's President

Bashar al-Assad comparing Israelis to Nazis.

"As Israel faced terrorism within her borders and slanderous attacks at the Arab summit, the Palestinians also launched a diplomatic attack at the United Nations. We thoroughly reject these attempts to internationalize the conflict by seeking a United Nations observer force for the territories.

"President Bush and his administration earn the highest praise for exercising the United States' veto over the one-sided Security Council resolution, the passage of which would have only exacerbated the situation.

"A resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict will not be found through one-sided Security Council resolutions, nor through anti-Israel diatribes at Arab summits and certainly not through terrorist pressure. Peace can only be achieved if the Palestinian Authority will end the violence and incitement, which will make possible negotiations between the parties."

Robert Klein, M.D. to Head Asthma Center at Hasbro Children's Hospital

Robert Klein, M.D., has been named director of the Asthma and Allergy Center at Hasbro Children's Hospital. Klein, a professor of pediatrics at Brown Medical School, has been charged with creating a major asthma center in Rhode Island.

According to Klein, the center will have three primary emphases. Most critical to the center's mission is a commitment to clinical excellence in the treatment of asthma, allergies and related respiratory illnesses. Wellness and disease prevention along with the most up-to-date comprehensive care for acute asthma problems are central to the creation of this center of excellence. A second emphasis will be research into asthma and related respiratory problems. The third major area of concentration will be asthma education. The center will work closely with the hospital's well-known CVS pharmacy Draw A Breath asthma education program and other Rhode Island health care agencies and providers.

"Unlike most other childhood illnesses, asthma has been growing at an alarming

rate, particularly in urban areas," Klein said. "Already more than 15,000 Rhode Island children are suffering from asthma, and that number is expected to increase dramatically."

Klein came to Hasbro Children's Hospital from the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler where he was professor and chairman of pediatrics and director of the Center for Asthma, Allergy and Lung Disease for eight years. Previously he served as chief of pediatrics and director of asthma and allergy at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center/Dartmouth Medical School. He has been the recipient of many grants, among them an ongoing multi-center grant with colleagues from Rhode Island Hospital/Brown Medical School, the University of Texas at Tyler and the National Jewish Asthma Research Center. It seeks to understand why asthma patients and their fami-



lies often have difficulty recognizing asthma severity and may postpone starting treatment of a serious episode.

Klein's association with Rhode Island Hospital and its Hasbro Children's Hospital has actually been a long one. He has co-authored 18 scholarly publications with physicians and psychologists from Rhode Island Hospital since 1990.

UCLA Professor Speaks on the Politics of Genocide Denial

by Seth T. Bromley
Editorial Assistant

Denial is the final step in the process of destroying a people, said Professor Richard Hovannisian, whose lecture, "The Armenian Genocide: Truth and Denial," was held March 26 at Temple Beth-El in Providence. Hovannisian spoke to a large crowd that came out, despite icy weather, to hear him speak about the genocide of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire in 1915 and the 85 year-long effort to cover up and deny those events.

Hovannisian is a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, the director of Near Eastern Studies there, and the chairman of the Armenian History Foundation. The lecture was sponsored by the program Facing History and Ourselves as well as the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum. Hovannisian is a scholar of modern Armenian history and has written two books: *The Armenian People from Ancient to Modern Times* and *The Republic of Armenia*.

Hovannisian began by relating how he became interested in

the history of the Armenian people in general, and the genocide of 1915 in particular. A sec-



ond generation Armenian-American, Hovannisian's grandparents and parents immigrated to the United States after the Ottoman Empire began its purges during World War I.

He said that while growing up in Arizona, "I heard stories of exile, torture, humiliation, rescue, escape and of making it to America." He added: "Survivors were not special in the community — everybody was a survivor." Hovannisian said he felt a sense of guilt, being born an American and not being able to imagine living anywhere else, and because he saw that what his parents and grandparents had gone through had made his life better. Eventually he wanted to learn more about his heritage, and "I felt the pain of looking up Armenia in the library and never finding anything... This was an ancient people and no one knew anything about them." Of his study of the genocide, Hovannisian said: "It isn't fun, it isn't pleasurable, it isn't satisfying." He was simply driven to the subject, he said.

The focus of his speech was on what he called "the struggle between remembrance and denial." For 80 years, the nation

of Turkey (which was created from the lands of the Ottoman Empire when it collapsed after World War I) has refused to officially acknowledge that the Armenian genocide took place, and has spearheaded efforts to stop other nations from recognizing it themselves.

Hovannisian traced the at-

tempts of the Turkish government to "blackmail" nations that have proposed resolutions acknowledging the Armenian genocide. He cited France as one nation that passed such a resolution, and suffered severe economic and diplomatic penalties

(Continued on Page 15)

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FEATURE

'Night Heron' Will Cruise Wickford Harbor Waterways

Flounder fishing trips, back-water boat trips, marine science sampling cruises, free Earth Day cruises, and wine-tasting sunset cruises are all part of the schedule of events that Night Heron Harbor & Nature Cruises has planned for Wickford Harbor this April. The 57-passenger excursion vessel Night Heron will kick-off the spring season with a marine science sampling cruise at 10 a.m. on April 14, departing from the Wickford Village Waterfront Park off Brown Street in Wickford, R.I. The cost of the 2-hour cruise is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children aged 4 to 11. Teachers are invited to ride for free on any of the Night Heron's regularly scheduled marine science sampling cruises.

Spring flounder fishing trips are scheduled for April 21 through April 28 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Bait will be supplied and passengers can either rent fishing rods or bring their own. Fishing on the Night Heron will be a unique experience because the lines will be dropped down through a "moon pool" in the center of the boat. The Night Heron is fully enclosed, allowing anglers to

fish in comfort despite cool winds.

At the other end of the entertainment spectrum, the first Night Heron sunset wine-tasting cruise of 2001 will sail from Wickford at 6 p.m. on April 20. This event will feature a selection of fine wines and hors d'oeuvres. The price for this adults-only event is \$30 per person. The Night Heron is not heated, so dress warmly. Reservations are required.

The Night Heron will help to celebrate Earth Day 2001 by offering a free nature cruise on Wickford Harbor at 10 a.m. on April 22. Knowledgeable naturalists will explain the importance of the estuarine environment on the marine life that lives in our coastal waters.

At 10 a.m. on April 25, the Night Heron will take advantage of the high tide for a Backwater Boat Tour that will explore the secluded coves and salt-marshes of Wickford's inner harbor. Marine-life samples will be collected for on-board observation. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 4 to 11.

The excursion vessel Night Heron is Coast Guard certified to carry 57 passengers and was

specifically designed and constructed to explore southern New England's many shallow estuaries. The Night Heron's "floating classroom" program has been popular with school groups and the boat has become a popular venue for private parties and group outings. The Night Heron's unique approach to harbor and nature cruising has made it an award-winning summer activity and the Night Heron is now expanding both its season and its geographic range.

After leaving Wickford on May 4, the Night Heron will spend the month of May cruising on Mt. Hope Bay and the Taunton and Sakonnet Rivers from a base at Battleship Cove in Fall River, Mass. In June the Night Heron will spend a week on the Westport Rivers in Westport, Mass., before returning to the Snug Harbor Marina in Wakefield to begin its regularly scheduled summer cruises on June 21.

Reservations are recommended for all Night Heron harbor and nature cruises, and required for most spring cruises. For reservations and further information, call 783-9977 or (888) 644-8476, or visit <www.NightHeron.org>.

American Cancer Society Plans Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society's Greater Providence Relay For Life is just around the corner. Register your team today by calling the American Cancer Society at 722-8480. This celebration of life brings Greater Providence together in a unified effort to fight cancer.

Former and current cancer patients, their families, businesses, civic organizations, and the public are invited to take part in this exciting team event. The relay will take place from 6 p.m. June 1 to 11 a.m. June 2 at the Mt. Pleasant High School track in Providence.

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's version of an athletic relay, but with a new twist. Relay For Life is a family-oriented event where participants enjoy the camaraderie of a team and raise funds to support the activities of the American Cancer Society. Participants camp out at the relay site and when they are not taking their turn walking or running, they take part in fun activities and enjoy local entertainment.

Teams from companies, organizations, hospitals, and schools collect donations and

can win individual and team prizes for their efforts.

"Relay For Life brings the progress against cancer to the forefront," said Carol Trudel, event chair. "Many participants are our family, friends and neighbors who have been cured of cancer themselves. Their involvement is proof of the progress that has been made not only in cancer cure rates, but in the quality of life following cancer treatment."

"The funds raised enable us to continue our investment in the fight against cancer through research, education, advocacy, and services to patients," said Trudel. "Due to the generosity of corporate sponsors like Colonial Knife and R.W. Bruno Engineering, the money raised by participants goes directly to the American Cancer Society's lifesaving programs."

This year's honorary chairperson is Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr.

Information about how to form a team or become involved in Relay For Life is available from the American Cancer Society at (800) ACS-2345 or on the Web at <www.cancer.org>.

Hebrew University Footraces Bring Diverse Groups Together

Continuing a long-held tradition, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem brought together runners with diverse backgrounds for the university's 50th annual foot races, which are held in Israel each February. The event is sponsored by the Cosell Center for Physical Education, Leisure and Health Promotion — named for the legendary sportscaster Howard Cosell and his wife.

The annual event features the oldest continuously run footraces in Israel. This year's event attracted 730 participants who ranged from 8 to 80 years old. The races are open to the public and usually include Jews and Arabs, both young and old. The footraces consist of the 5-kilometer Frankel Race, the 2.3-kilometer Magnes Race and the 10-kilometer Amzaleg Race. Among the children who competed this year were a group of Arab youths from Mujihad, a village in the Galilee, who ran their race barefoot. One of the village girls, Nugidat Saree, won first place in the 16-year-old age group in the 5-kilometer Frankel Race. She also finished in a dead heat with Jonathan Davis, head of the university's division for development and public relations, who topped the over-50s category in the Frankel Race for the second year in a row, finishing with a time of 19 minutes, 45 seconds.

Another group of competitors consisted of Ethiopian children from the Mevasseret Zion

Absorption Center, who came with Coach Abbebe Gassasa, a former coach of the Ethiopian national marathon racing team. Gassasa came to Israel for the Tiberias Marathon in January of this year and has remained ever since. The Ethiopian children also are participating in a special sports program that was created by the Cosell Center.

Adin Talbar, a university alumnus, competed in the senior citizens group. He has been competing annually since the first footraces held in 1951, at which time he finished first among students. Another veteran of the event is Shaul Ladani, who — like Talbar — competed this year for the 44th time. Ladani is a former Israeli champion in walking competitions.

The Howard and Ma'ry Edith Cosell Center for Physical Education, Leisure and Health Promotions honors a remarkable man and his relationship to The Hebrew University. Established in 1986, the Cosell Center is based within the University's department of physical education, which has functioned since 1958 on its four campuses. The Cosell Center annually serves more than 20,000 people on the three university campuses in Jerusalem and the Rehovot campus, making it the largest such center in Israel. The participants are students, faculty and staff members, alumni and their family members, as well as members of the community at large.

Adoptive Families Celebrate at Adoption Options' Birthday Party



Kelly Alper paints faces at the Adoption Options third annual birthday party.

The threat of a huge snowstorm forecast for the next day could not keep away the 16 families who came together at Adoption Options' Providence office to celebrate, at the program's third annual birthday party for adoptive families. The group even had a contest to see who could guess how much snow would actually fall (The person who guessed the least ended up winning).

Children had their faces painted, made artistic tails, played games, colored, danced to the music, played with balloons and enjoyed the refreshments. "In addition to the fun with their children, parents also had an opportunity to network with others, share stories and form play groups," said Adoption Coordinator Betsy Alper.

Some families had adopted internationally, and their children were born in Guatemala, Russia and Brazil. Others had adopted within this country, some were trans-racial adoptions. All celebrated the joys of becoming a family.

Two of the adoptive parents, Kaki Accola and Katie Gates, helped the Adoption Options staff organize the event. "They were wonderful," said Alper.

Adoption Options is a non-sectarian, comprehensive adoption program under the auspices of Jewish Family Service. For information, call Adoption Options at 331-5437 or toll-free at (800) 337-6513.

Memorial Schedules 'Look Good... Feel Better' Seminar

The premise is simple: When you look good, you tend to feel better. The problem for cancer patients is that it can be difficult to enjoy the image in the mirror when the hair falls out and the skin cracks with dryness.

The answer is a seminar called "Look Good... Feel Better" that is being sponsored at Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island on April 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The program is co-sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

"Look Good... Feel Better" helps cancer patients cope with the unpleasant side effects of cancer treatment, like dry skin, blotchiness, discolored fingernails and the loss of hair, eyelashes and eyebrows.

"By choosing treatment, the patients help themselves recover on the inside. This program helps them treat themselves on the outside on the outside as well," said Gilda Medeiros, the social worker in charge of the program.

A local beautician will be on hand to give the patients makeovers and share quick and easy makeup tricks to help them look and feel more like themselves again. Patients will learn how to compensate for hair loss, including how to use scarves and turbans stylishly.

"They learn how to choose a wig, care for it and make it look more natural," Medeiros added.

People are asked to report to the information desk in the main lobby. To register for the program, call 729-2789.

FEATURE

Sierra Club and Clean Water Action Blast Decision to Withdraw Protections for Drinking Water

The Sierra Club recently expressed grave concern over the Bush Administration's decision to withdraw the recently revised standard for cancer-causing arsenic in America's drinking water. The move rejects an effort by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency earlier this year to protect more than 22 million Americans from this poison, further delaying the much-needed and long-awaited clean-up and signaling another Bush Administration bow to industry.

"This move is the latest in several recent environmental attacks by Bush that put industry ahead of the American public," said Alicia Karpick, director of the R.I. Sierra Club. "Along with delaying the arsenic rule, he reversed a campaign promise to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and delayed the protection of the last remaining wild areas of our national forests."

"EPA scientists know the level of cancer-causing arsenic in our drinking water is unsafe and should be lowered," stated Sheila Dormody, state director of Clean Water Action. "Americans cannot afford to delay new protections against arsenic any longer. The Bush Administration needs to focus more on the needs of Americans and less on the demands of special interests."

The arsenic-reduction rule withdrawn today recently would have provided addi-

tional protection to 22.5 million Americans from cancer and other health problems, including cardiovascular disease and diabetes, as well as developmental and neurological effects. After decades of study, the Bush Administration will stall by demanding more public comments.

According to the National Academy of Sciences, long-term exposure to low concentrations of arsenic in drinking water can lead to skin, bladder, lung, and prostate cancer. Non-cancer effects of ingesting arsenic at low levels include cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and anemia, as well as reproductive and developmental, immunological, and neurological effects.

The EPA's statement that further public comment is required ignores 25 years of public comment, debate and missed statutory deadlines. In 1975, the EPA adopted the 1942 Public Health Service arsenic standard as an "interim" measure, promising to revise it promptly based on modern science. The PHS recommended the arsenic standard be lowered to 10 parts per billion in 1962. In January, 2001, after decades of regulatory development, public comment, debate, millions of dollars in EPA research, and at least three missed statutory deadlines (in the 1974, 1986, and 1996 Safe Drinking Water Acts), the EPA finally issued the new 10 parts per billion standard.

Cities of Cranston and Providence Win Feinstein Award

Thanks to Mayor John O'Leary and Mayor Vincent Cianci, the cities of Cranston and Providence have each won a \$5,000 award in the U.S. Conference of Mayors drive for signers to the Feinstein petition calling on the President and Congress to end hunger in our country.

Cranston was one of the four cities raising the greatest percentage of signers, with 2,219 signers. The other cities were Providence, with 5,554 signers, Leominster, Mass., and Beaumont, Texas.

The petition started by local philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein has garnered 853,421 signers to date.

Free Photography Contest Open to Providence Residents

The International Library of Photography announces that more than \$60,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Amateur Photography Contest. Photographers from the Providence area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of more than 1,300 prizes. The deadline for the contest is May 31. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

"Everyone has at least one memorable photo that captures a special moment in time," stated Pamela Roberts, contest director. "When people learn about our free photography contest, they suddenly realize that their own favorite photos can win cash prizes, as well as gain national exposure," continued Roberts.

To enter, send one photograph in only one of the following categories: people, travel, pets, children, sports, nature, action, humor, portraiture, or other. The photo must be a color or black-and-white print (unmounted), 8 inches by 10 inches or smaller. All entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back, as well as the category and the title of the photo. Photographs should be sent to: The International Library of Photography, Suite 101-2611, 3600 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Entries must be postmarked by May 31. You may also submit your photo directly on line at <www.picture.com>.

The International Library of Photography is an organization dedicated to bringing the work of amateur photographers to the public's attention. You can view the work of more than 1.1 million amateur photographers at their Web site <www.picture.com>.

For Women: How to Talk to Your Doctor

Why do even those women who run companies, litigate cases in court or manage complex family households become intimidated when visiting a doctor's office?

The Healthy Women, Healthy Lives program, created and run by Hadassah, has found that few women prepare for a doctor's visit in the same way they might prepare for a professional or family-related event. The program — which offers materials on subjects ranging from breast cancer and osteoporosis to nutrition and exercise — suggests that careful homework and planning can help every woman make a visit to her doctor a success. Here are some tips for mastering your M.D. visits:

1. Compile and regularly update a family medical history, and bring it to every visit.

Dr. Ellen Wolfson, a Greenwich, Conn., internist and Hadassah member, even suggests sending this family history to your doctor in advance.

2. Ask a new doctor for a preliminary meeting.

"Not every doctor will do this," Wolfson admits. "But I think the degree of comfort on both sides is important to a good doctor/patient relationship, so I do it. During this visit, I tell patients how I run my office, when and how I can be

reached, and answer any questions about my educational background and style."

3. Make a separate (also on-going) list of all medications you take to bring to your doctor's visit. Include brand or generic name and dosage amount and frequency.

"Don't forget to include herbals and over-the-counter preparations," warns Dr. Wolfson. "Not all interact well with prescription medications. And remember that eye drops and nose drops are also medicine — for some reason, many patients forget."

4. Take a friend or relative with you as your second set of ears.

Wolfson explains, "Sometimes, particularly if you're discussing a potentially serious or worrisome symptom or illness, anxiety can diminish your ability to clearly take in information. A trusted second person can listen carefully to the discussion and take notes."

5. Don't hide anything! You're there for help. If you're hindered by embarrassment, or even denial, you will lessen your chances of being helped.

"Before each visit, write down your symptoms, if any," Wolfson said. "Even if they are vague, note them as best as you can. Bring this written record to your visit, and refer to it as needed."

6. Be sure you understand your diagnosis. Don't leave the office until you do!

Ask questions, or have your "visit buddy" ask questions. "It's important that you know your diagnosis, the nature of your illness and the treatment steps that will follow," advises Wolfson. If you've forgotten, call later and ask.

7. When necessary, go for a second opinion. Bring all your notes with you. Both before and during an illness, learn all you can on the Internet or through other research.

Speak to your doctor about this information, and understand that not everything you read is either appropriate for you or medically on target. Only a professional can help you sift through the data.

Hadassah provides Women's Health programs in schools, churches, and community centers throughout the country. Its 300,000 members make Hadassah the largest women's organization in the United States. Hadassah promotes health education, social advocacy and volunteerism, along with many other issues. For information about attending a seminar or becoming a Hadassah volunteer, call Membership Information at (800) 664-5646; e-mail: <membershipinfo@hadassah.org> or check out <http://www.hadassah.org>.

The Life of an Old Stinky Sneaker Will Now Smell a Bit Sweeter

Roger Williams Park Zoo Sponsors Sneaker Drive

From an UnBEARable Wearables Sneaker Drive to a Trash Band Parade, six full days of free activities are planned at Roger Williams Park Zoo during school vacation week, April 16 to 21.

An annual event, Conservation Week and Earth Day celebrations highlight the zoo's year-round mission to teach about the environment and the importance of the Earth's di-

verse inhabitants. This year's theme is recycling and features the zoo's first-ever sneaker drive. Instead of turning old shoes into trash, the zoo is inviting the public to give shoes new life and help the environment. Sneakers in any condition will be collected daily at the entrance. Rubber soles from unwearable shoes will be transformed into surfaces for playgrounds and athletic fields. Any shoes that are in good condition — 'bearable wearables' — will be reused by donating them to

charity.

In keeping with the weeklong recycling theme, activities include a Match the Trash recycling game, special theater performances and a Responsible Shopper game where guests test their knowledge about choosing environmentally friendly products. Zoo artists in residence will be making treasures from trash and kids will be invited to make their own keepsake locket treasure at

(Continued on Page 15)

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ACT's Storybook Theatre Presents 'Beauty and the Beast'

The All Childrens Theatre Ensemble performs "Beauty and the Beast," a humorous adaptation by Joanne Fayon of an old classic tale, recommended for ages 3 to 11. On one side of the forest we find that Lorabella and her family have fallen on hard times. On the other side of the forest, the Prince of BonFleur has been placed under a spell and transformed into a hideous beast. Only true love and kindness can break the spell to restore the castle and its inhabitants to their rightful nature.

"Beauty and the Beast" Creative Arts Theatre provides young theatergoers the opportunity to make their own prop to use during the performance. Advance registration is required for this hands-on creative experience.

"Beauty and the Beast" performances are April 7, 14, 21, 28, and May 5 at 10:30 a.m. — Creative Arts Theatre at 9:45 a.m., at the Vartan Gregorian School Cafeteria, 455 Wickenden St. (Fox Point) in Providence. The building entrance is on East Street. Tickets are \$4 for children, \$6 for adults; CAT is \$2 per person. For reservations or information, 435-5300 or e-mail: <ACTinRI@aol.com> Group rates and educational packages are available.

ACT's Storybook Theatre



PICTURED TOP TO BOTTOM are Johnston residents Sacha Kaufner as Sittina and Jessica Feula as Singing Rose.

Photo by Joanne Fayon

creates an environment and theater magic with minimal sets, costumes and props while calling on the imaginations and involvement of the audience.

La Bella Notte Travels to Venice

La Bella Notte, a beautiful night of food, wine and music, will be held again this year with a Venetian theme at Johnson & Wales University. La Bella Notte Venezia is scheduled for April 6, in the ballroom at the Radisson Airport Hotel, a Johnson & Wales education facility, in Warwick, R.I. This third annual event will feature regional Italian cuisine prepared by chefs from Johnson & Wales University, fine wines and music performed by the Providence Mandolin Orchestra.

The menu includes antipasto, spinach agnolotti with smoked chicken and goat cheddar cheese mousse, roasted salmon with a Dijon mustard and almond crumb crust, seared loin of veal seasoned with an anise and fennel rub, and sun-dried tomato and roasted carrot risotto. For dessert, a spectacular pastry display will be offered.

As in the past, the event is sponsored by Johnson & Wales and the Feinstein Community Service Center, which is housed within the John Hazen White School of Arts & Sciences at Johnson & Wales. The event is a fund-raiser for the Rhode Island Community Food Bank.

The program will conclude with the awarding of numerous prizes, including a seven-day trip for two to Venice, courtesy of Johnson & Wales University; two complimentary tickets on Southwest Airlines; and wine verticals. Only 100 raffle tickets at \$100 each will be sold.

Tickets for La Bella Notte Venezia are \$75 per person. For additional information, call the Feinstein Community Service Center at 598-2989.

Community Players Announce Auditions For 'Ballyhoo'

The Community Players, currently celebrating their 80th season, will hold auditions for the Tony Award-winning play, "The Last Night of Ballyhoo" on April 8 at 5 p.m. and April 11 at 7 p.m. at Jenks Junior High School, Division Street, Pawtucket, R.I. (across from McCoy Stadium).

Director Vincent Lupino is looking for: Two women (early to mid 20s), two women (middle 40s — early 50s), one man (late 40s), and two men (early to mid 20s). Note: One of the young men must have or be willing to have red hair.

Auditioners will be asked to do readings from the script. The show will be produced at Jenks Junior High School on June 15, 16, 17, 22, 23 and 24.

For further information, call 885-3352.

RISD Program Offers High School Students Chance to Experience Art School First Hand

Pre-College Program Begins
on June 25; Financial Aid
Deadline is April 18

Deciding on a major course of study in college can be an important one for young people, forever chang-

ing the course of a life. Most college students don't get the chance to test-drive their major.

The RISD Continuing Education Department offers high school students who have an interest in art or design an op-

portunity to participate in an intensive six-week program imitative of the actual art college experience. The Pre-College program for high school students between 16 and 18 years of age offers the chance to pursue a rigorous curriculum chosen from a wide variety of visual arts and design disciplines. Students will work hand in hand with a distinguished faculty to explore the tools and techniques necessary for a future career or personal enrichment in the arts.

Approximately 400 high school students from across the country and around the world will participate in this

year's program.

RISD's Pre-College program is open to high school students who have completed their sophomore, junior or senior year by June 2001. Many students create portfolios for college admission purposes while others study simply to expand their knowledge of fine and applied arts. A full schedule of activities provides cultural enrichment and entertainment on evenings and weekends. RISD offers financial aid for Rhode Island residents and minority students.

For more information, contact the Pre-College Program, RISD/CE at 454-6204 or at <www.risd.edu>.

'Line' Presentation at Brown University

On April 2 to 20 Brown University presents "Line" at the Sarah Doyle Gallery, featuring artists Nancy Adams, Jeanne Arthur, Carol Bates, Ellen Blomgren, Karen Bouchard, Kate Champa, Christianne Corbat, Marge Dalenius, Candis Dixon, Claudia Flynn, Judi Israel, Arlene McGonagal, Mara Metcalf, Allison Newsome, Stephen Oliver, Sarah Powers, Alex Punchak, C.W. Roelle, Maria Scaglione, Valorie Sheehan, Monica Shinn, Ruth Shouval, Rodie Siegler, Kassie Stovell, Jan Swearer, Pat Warwick, Troy West, and Beth Whitney. The opening reception is April 6 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Gallery hours are Mon., Tues., Wed., and Fri. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thurs. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sat. noon to 4 p.m.

The Sarah Doyle Gallery is located at 185 Meeting St., Providence. Call 863-1781.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Edgar Allan Poe at the Library

Area residents are invited to hear Edgar Allan Poe recite from "The Raven," "The Tell-tale Heart" and other works as actor Mel Harold brings Poe to life. His program, "In Search of Poe," will be presented at the Barrington Public Library on April 9 at 7 p.m.

Poe's work *Murders in the Rue Morgue* established him as the father of the mystery novel. He is also credited as the creator of the modern short story, having written *The Cask of Amontillado*, *The Gold Bug* and *The Pit and the Pendulum*. During his life, however, he was best known for his poem "The Raven." His literary genius, along with a tragically short life, has made Poe as intriguing as any of his fictional characters.

In portraying Poe, Mel Harold will trace the development of the ideas that led to the macabre stories, poems, and his little known satirical works. He will share events from his life as well as discuss the substance abuse problems that plagued him and likely led to his death.

This presentation is recommended for Middle and High School students, as well as adults. The program is free and is sponsored by the Friends of the Barrington Public Library. The library is located at 281 County Road, Barrington. For more information, call 247-1920.

Trinity Rep Presents 'The Cider House Rules'

The novel was a bestseller. The screenplay won an academy award. Now, Trinity Rep presents the New England premiere of the play, a sweeping two-part theatrical adaptation by Peter Parnell ("The West Wing") of the bestseller by America's most imaginative storyteller, John Irving. The grand-scale epic chronicles the coming-of-age of Homer Wells. Raised in a Maine orphanage by a humble but dedicated doctor, Homer journeys into the world and grows from a boy of remarkable insight to a vigorous and committed young physician. "The Cider House Rules" deals with adult themes and is intended for mature audiences. Directed by Artistic Director Oskar Eustis, "The Cider House Rules, Parts I & II" runs from April 13 to June 17. "The Cider House Rules" tickets are now on sale at the Trinity Rep box office. For tickets, call 351-4242. "The Cider House Rules" is sponsored by Cox Communications, <OSO.com>, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts.

Filled with dynamic energy and vision found only in live theater, the play evokes the novel's quirky characters, epic scope, and gritty social themes. "The Cider House Rules" presents a poignant, funny and compelling tale of self-discovery. Parnell (now a writer on NBC's "The West Wing") developed a script that holds true to Irving's novel. And now Eustis ("Angels in America," "The Mu-

sic Man," "Long Day's Journey Into Night," "Into the Woods") is working at interpreting that script in a uniquely captivating Trinity Rep style. The play premiered in Seattle in 1994, after workshops here at Trinity Rep and across the country at Bread Loaf, Julliard, Seattle Rep and even the Civita Festival in Umbria, Italy. Trinity Rep's production marks the first time that both parts of the play will be performed on the east coast. The play was previously performed at Seattle Rep, Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles and the Atlantic Theatre Company in New York (Part I only).

"This wonderful and important epic does all the things that theater does best. This is a heart-breaking, life-affirming masterpiece and I'm delighted to have a chance to present it here in New England, its natural home," said Eustis.

The much-anticipated production of "The Cider House Rules" features a huge cast comprised of Trinity Rep's acting company and 27 kids from the Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts area, many of who were featured in this season's production of "A Christmas Carol." This is the first production of "The Cider House Rules" to feature child actors in these roles. In addition, guest performers from the cast of Trinity Rep's production of "The Piano Lesson" — Ricardo Pitts-Wiley, Keskhemnu and J. Bernard

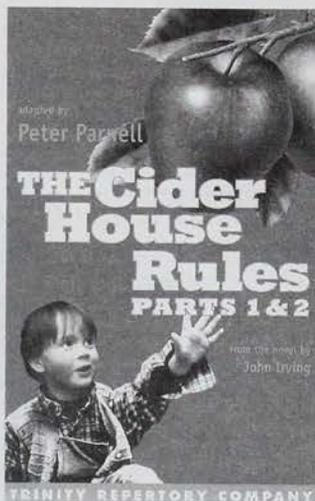
Calloway will join Trinity Rep company members Brian McEleney as Dr. Wilbur Larch, Stephen Thorne as Homer Wells, Janice Duclos as Melony, Ann Scurria as nurse Angela, Barbara Orson as Nurse Edna, Mauro Hantman as Wally and Conservatory students such as Tanya Anderson who will be playing the role of Candy.

Audience members can look forward to another exciting collaboration between director Eustis and set designer Eugene Lee and musical director Amanda Dehnert, the same team who wowed you with their production of "Into the Woods." Rounding out the members of the design team are Bill Lane (costumes), d.m. Wood (lights), and Peter Hurowitz (sound).

Ticket prices for "The Cider House Rules" range from \$30 to \$42, with discounts available for students, seniors, and disabled. Patrons will have the opportunity to see the production on two dates or in a single rich, marathon day of theater. For specific dates, times and package pricing call the Trinity Rep box office at 351-4242. For spe-

cial group rates of 10 or more individuals, contact Dee Davis at 521-1100, ext. 223.

Following "The Cider House Rules, Parts I and II," the season concludes with Yasmina Reza's



"Art." Summer Shakespeare opens in June with "Macbeth" and continues through July and August in conjunction with "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Trinity Rep is conveniently located just a few blocks off I-95 with indoor parking right next door. For more information on the theater or the individual plays, visit our Web site <www.trinityrep.com>.

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OBITUARIES



W. ERNEST CHORNEY

JOHNSTON — W. Ernest Chorney, 80, of Marigold Circle, a former corporate sales manager and vice president, died March 27 at Cherry Hill Manor.

He was the husband of Viola (Ranallo) Chorney. Born in Providence, a son of the late William and Belle (Feldman) Chorney, he was a lifelong resident of Rhode Island.

A graduate of Hope High School, he attended Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston.

He had served the town of North Providence for 35 years as the welfare director for the Department of Human Services; he was scheduled to retire on April 1.

He had previously been employed as sales manager and vice president of Providence Lubricating Co. and Rhode Island Oil Co., and was a past treasurer of the New England Quaker State Representatives.

He was a member of the state Welfare Directors Committee, and of the Housing and Development Committee for the Town of North Providence. He was a former member of the Town Planning Committee and a former member of the board of the Visiting Nurses Association.

A Navy veteran of World War II, he was a former member of the Naval League of Rhode Island.

He was a member of congregation Sons of Jacob. He was a trustee of Lodge 2440, Sons of Italy in America, and a member

of the Travelers Club.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Deborah E. Capuano of North Kingstown; and two grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Morris and Martin Chorney.

The funeral was held March 29 at Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

RUTH FAIN

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — Ruth (Max) Fain, 97, of Hawthorn St., died April 2 at St. Luke's Hospital, New Bedford. She was the wife of the late Daniel Fain.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Harry and Katie (Konisky) Max, she had been a lifelong resident of Rhode Island before moving to Massachusetts in 1997.

She was a former member of Temple Torat Yisrael and the Majestic Senior Guild.

She is survived by two sons, Gilbert Fain of East Freetown, Mass., and Robert Fain of Scituate, R.I.; one sister, Fay Levine of Florida; two brothers, Leo Max of Pawtucket and Norman Max of Warwick, seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Herbert Fain.

A graveside service was held April 4 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made

to Tifereth Israel Congregation, 145 Brownell Ave., New Bedford, Mass. The family was assisted with arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

WILLIAM FEINBERG

WEST HARTFORD — William Feinberg, 84, of Mountain Road, West Hartford, died March 14 at Beechwood health and Rehabilitation Center in New London. He was the widower of Irene Epstein Feinberg.

Born in Fall River, Mass., he served in the U.S. Army as a tech sergeant during World War II.

He was executive vice president of the Hoffman Motor Group before retiring in 1998. He was a member of Temple Beth El in Fall River, Mass., and the Greater Hartford Jewish Community Center.

He is survived by a brother, Joseph Feinberg of New London; and three sisters, Ann Gregory of Los Angeles, Calif., Lillian Kline of Fall River, Mass., and Belle Steiner of Mashpee, Mass. He was the brother of the late, Barbara Laws.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Greater Hartford Jewish Community Center, 335 Bloomfield Ave., West Hartford, Conn. 06117.

DR. ALLEN I. NOVOGROSKI

LANTANA, Fla. — Dr. Allen I. Novogroski, 91, of Lantana, and formerly of Providence, a retired dentist, died March 29 at his home.

He was the husband of the late Bemice (Cohen) Novogroski. Born in Westerly, he was a son of the late Max and Esther (Horowitz) Novogroski.

He was a graduate of Brown University and of the Harvard University School of Dental Medicine.

A dentist with an active practice in Providence from 1938 until 1974, he was a former president of the Rhode Island Dental Society of Oral Medicine, and a member of the American and Rhode Island Dental Associations.

He is survived by three sons, Dr. Edward Novogroski of Waterbury, Vt., Mark Novogroski of East Montpelier, Vt., and Herbert Novogroski of Holliston, Mass.; a sister, Reva Paisner of Providence; and a grandson. He was the brother of the late Arthur and Joel Novogroski and Ruth Altman.

A graveside funeral service was held April 4 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

OSCAR RAIKEN

PROVIDENCE

— Oscar Raiken, 90, of Maude Street, Providence, died March 30 at his home. He was the husband of Esther Raiken and the late Sylvia (Don) Raiken.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a son of the late Samuel and Maime Raiken, he had lived in Long Island until 1982 when he moved to California and then to Rhode Island in 1997.

He was the owner of the Samuel Raiken Monument Company of Brooklyn, a business started by his father in 1907. He was a designer of monu-

ments until his retirement in 1982.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Gail Maizel of East Greenwich and Lois Raiken of Syosset, N.Y.; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was also the father of the late Allen Raiken and the brother of the late Leo Raiken and Rhea Sondoff.

Funeral services were held in Great Neck, Long Island.

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

DR. MORRIS SWEET

SMITHFIELD — Dr. Morris Sweet, 80, of Harris Road, a retired dentist and businessman, died March 29 at Miriam Hospital, Providence.

He was the husband of Janice (DeCourcy) Sweet. Born in Providence, a son of the late John and Sarah (Nachimovitz) Sweet, he had lived in Smithfield for 18 years. He was a summer resident of Watch Hill.

He had practiced dentistry and owned offices in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. He was the founder and owner of the former Astor Jewelry Co., Pawtucket.

An avid horseman, he previously owned a horse breeding farm where many equestrian events were held.

He was a member of the Westerly Yacht Club. He was a lifetime member of the William Cutler Olympics, which was founded at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island.

He graduated from Providence College and Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Robert Allyn Sweet of Cranston; a brother, Dr. Gustaf Sweet of Highland Beach, Fla.; and three sisters, Frances Perlow of Providence, Eleanor Dwares of Warwick and Helen Izen of Boca Raton, Fla. He was a brother of the late Evelyn Wax.

The funeral service was held April 1 at Sugarman-Sinai Memorial, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to Emmanuel College Athletic Fund, 400 The Fenway, Boston, Mass. 02115. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

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Sheloshim (First Thirty Days)

The secondary period of mourning is called Sheloshim which includes the first thirty days after the funeral. The rent ribbon or garment is worn during the Sheloshim period except on the Sabbath and Festivals. Mourners should not participate in any festivity or amusement during these thirty days. In the case where the deceased was a parent, this principle applies for the entire first year.

Unveiling of Memorial

There is no rule on how long after death the unveiling can take place. It is suggested that a memorial or monument may be erected any time after Sheloshim and preferably before the first year is ended.

Visitation at Graves

Visitation at graves of departed may be made as often as one wishes following the period of Sheloshim.

It is customary to visit graves during the months of Elul and Tishri, prior to the High Holy Days particularly.

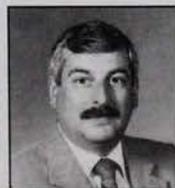
Hold Tight To Today

When the day looks good enough to frame and keep, all of us want it to never end... just as we want good health, good friends and good times to last forever.

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FEATURE

Carol Ingall Sunday School Teacher

(Continued from Page 1)

and 80s, when many women were set their sights on overcoming gender barriers and became doctors, lawyers and many other positions rather than educators.

Today, said Ingall, women don't feel the same need to break these barriers and are beginning to follow their "natural instincts" to become teachers once more. In terms of high scores on SATs, GREs and other tests, the new crop of both male and female Jewish educators is brighter than ever, she said.

However, although the students are both bright and capable, their numbers are still very small. "We can't possibly keep up with demand," she said regretfully, noting the recent increase in Jewish nature centers and summer camps as well as day schools and high schools. She attributes the decrease in admittance rates in part to the topic of her lecture — materialism. Places like JTS require about three years of post-graduate work, and this is seen by many as a time that could be better spent in law school or other higher institutions.

Indeed, for those who are very salary-minded, a Jewish educator's salary can't stand up to the big bucks that a corporate job in a major metropolitan city would offer. Many students who are prime candidates for JTS are just coming out of expensive and high-ranking schools and want to get to work on making money quickly.

Besides the threat to the Jewish community that material wealth poses, there is another danger that is already built into many of our most prized Jewish institutions. Ingall brought up the fact that during their teenage years, many Jewish youths who are struggling to figure out who they are have the tendency to break away from their Jewish origins. She urges, however, that this sort of migration is not the end of the world and that "we can't tear out our hair about it," she said. "You leave and then you appreciate what you left."

Those who move away from their Jewish heritage return, more often than not, when they have families and children of

their own. But this perpetuates a vicious circle of its own. "What makes [synagogues] so appealing to families can sometimes make them unappealing to singles," she said. Of course, there are many exceptions to the notion that Judaism is "losing" its young adults. Ingall brought up B'nai Jeshurun in Manhattan, which weekly brings in around 800 singles for services, as well as Perspectives, the energetic Jewish young adult group in Rhode Island.

Ingall has taught Jewish history at the New England Academy of Torah at Providence Hebrew Day School, ran the bar and bat mitzvah program at Temple Emanu-El, and later became executive director of the Bureau of Jewish Education until she left in 1990. She has written two books on the subject of values and education: *Maps, Metaphors and Mirrors: Moral Education in Middle School* (1997) and *Transmission and Transformation: A Jewish Perspective on Moral Education* (1999), which won the National Book Award for education. Ingall is married and has two children, Marjorie and Andrew.

Ingall has been interested in education since a very young age. She spoke about how "rigid and unloving" the public education system was in Boston where she grew up. When she was 8 she began going to Hebrew school, which she described as being nothing less than a "refuge." "It was the best part of my day," she said. She noted that her Hebrew teacher, Molly Stein Glanz, was very youthful and vibrant and made education in general so much fun that Ingall decided she wanted to teach as well. She remarked that she is still in contact with her Hebrew teacher today. "I call her before Rosh Hashanah every year," she said.

Ingall loves her position at JTS and her role as a Jewish educator, but admits that she never would have believed that things turned out this way. "I originally thought I would teach high school... I got into Jewish education as a sort of a part-time gig!"

exotic creatures from the land down under. Presentations will be made throughout the day, seven days a week.

In addition to daily Conservation Week events, Claudine Schneider, former Rhode Island Congresswoman, will be appearing as part of the zoo's Conservation Lecture Series. The presentation will be held on April 18 at 7 p.m. at the Museum of Natural History in Roger Williams Park. Conservation Week wraps up on Saturday with the zoo's Earth Day Celebration. Several local organizations will be on exhibit at the zoo's environmental fair, offering information on local and backyard conservation efforts.

UCLA Professor Speaks

(Continued on Page 11)

from Turkey as a direct result. The United States Congress also considered such a resolution recently, but dropped the matter after executive branch officials lobbied against it, fearing strained relations with an important strategic ally.

Hovannisian said this denial forces Armenians all over the world to devote precious intellectual and monetary resources "to prove something that the world already knows." He said "The price of denial is very heavy" for both the victims and for the perpetrators. "How therapeutic it would be if the grandchildren of the victims and the grandchildren of the perpetrators could sit down and openly discuss the past." Instead, he said, "Falsification, deception and half-truths attempt to turn what was, into what may have been, into what was not at all."

Hovannisian went on to explain that when outright denial starts to fail, rationalization and relativization are used to downplay the harsh realities. The claims made toward this purpose include: that stories are exaggerated wartime propaganda; that victims posed a security threat with connections to foreign enemies; that the intent was to simply relocate the population; that reported deaths were actually from other causes; that the number of dead is far less than claimed; and that genocide is a myth created for economic and political purposes. He said these argu-

ments are often used not only to deny the Armenian genocide, but the Holocaust and many other instances of state-sponsored murder as well. This erasure of the memory of the atrocities, "the banishment of recollection," is intended to complete what was started 85 years ago.

Finally, Hovannisian offered his views on why there is such a conflict about an event so far in the past. "Why such a tempest about this? There are almost no survivors left, and few of their descendants have ever even seen the land from which their parents and grandparents came." If the genocide were re-affirmed, he said, the next question would ultimately be: "What next?" If the nation of Turkey accepts responsibility, the next step may be restitution and compensation. This is what Turkey is afraid of, said Hovannisian.

He said that among those in the Armenian community, "there is almost no thought given to this, no demands, no positions." But, he added, if the admission of guilt is made someday, there would be intense pressure for Turkey to atone for it through some form of monetary or territorial compensation. This is something that Hovannisian believes Turkey must accept, however. The only way it can ever move beyond the crimes of the past, he said, is to follow the lead of Germany after World War II and "acknowledge its guilt and do whatever it takes for redemption."

Living Responsibly

(Continued from Page 3)

something" while one's own contribution is to wait and suffer. It is through independence and self-responsibility that we attain personal power," states Nathaniel Branden, a prominent psychologist, in his book *Taking Responsibility*.

We are a long way from fully understanding and accepting the practice of self-responsibility as a way of life, and everything it entails, personally and socially. To many people some of what it may be is not only challenging but also distressing. But there are stirrings of awareness. It just

may be that self-responsibility is an idea whose time has come.

Velvet "Wally" Spiegler lives in Rehoboth Mass. He is a certified polarity therapist and a student and teacher of Jewish mysticism whose primary interest is in Jewish approaches to the healing of mind, body and spirit. He can be reached for comments or questions at his Web site at <www.geocities.com/Jewishlink>.

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(Continued from Page 11)

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