

# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

Mother's  
Day!  
page 10

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

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## Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum Honors Students

by Seth T. Bromley  
Editorial Assistant

The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum held a student awareness day Monday, April 23, with students from across the state in attendance. The day began at Nathan Bishop Middle School in Providence, where the RIHMM's executive director, Marla Dansky, gave out awards to students who participated in a statewide contest in which entrants created a piece of art commemorating the Holocaust. Awards were given out for fiction, poetry, paintings, sculptures and more. The highest honor given out, the Morris Gastfreund Award, a \$100 scholarship, went to Tal Bar-Zemer, a high school senior at The Wheeler School in Providence, for her story about members of her family who survived the Holocaust.

Selma Stanzler, president of the museum, said she gives credit to the teachers who participate in the museum's free workshops on the Holocaust. "We talk about respecting differences... we tell kids 'don't be a bystander... we talk about the importance of one person..." She said she wanted to invite more teachers to attend the workshops, which are funded by an endowment from Alan Shawn Feinstein. Stanzler also thanked Feinstein for subsidizing the transportation costs for the day's

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## Taking on the Politics of Poverty

Meet Social Activist

Nancy Gurwitz

by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

Declaring war on a persisting social affliction like poverty can be daunting — what sort of policies to enact? Where to even begin?

Nancy Gurwitz, however, isn't letting the enormity of the problem bother her. She has a plan — several of them, in fact.

Gurwitz is the director of the Poverty Institute, which is located at Rhode Island College, although it exists independently from the university. They have made it their mission to push through what they feel are the necessary reforms to allow a greater share

"Tzedakah," she said proudly, "means both charity and justice."

to the Americans who need it most.

There are many branches in all forms of social action, and the Gurwitz and the Poverty Institute involve themselves in "policy advocacy" — tackling the confusing and difficult legal issues that affect millions of low-income Americans. This sort of work is especially important, she said, because the federal government underestimates poverty and doesn't adequately address it. She produced numerous lists and figures from national agencies concerning poverty and economic difficulty, and showed how they didn't seem to jibe with more local assessments.



Nancy Gurwitz, director of the Poverty Institute in Providence outside the Providence Post Office.

"We're sort of an information clearinghouse," Gurwitz said. She remarked that the Institute "breaks down the numbers" into something that makes more sense to people. "People who are poor don't get the correct information," she said.

The Poverty Institute has existed at RIC since 1999, and currently has about half a dozen students interning there. Al-

though admittedly not a very observant Jew, Gurwitz, who is married with two children, said she finds inspiration in the Jewish tradition. "Tzedakah," she said proudly, "means both charity and justice." She worked with the Temple Beth El Social Committee with many of their

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## Dedicated Volunteers Return Year After Year At Wheeler's 53rd Annual Clothing Sale



Marsha Hersh holds up a donated toy designed to help children learn the Hebrew alphabet. Herald photo by Jon Rubin

by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

It's called the Wheeler Clothing Sale, but anyone who's ever been to it knows that clothes make up only a small part. It accumulates donated items slowly throughout the year, absorbing objects from basements, junk drawers, closets and neglected attics. Students and volunteers lug the whole mess of objects into the gymnasium where everything is organized. And then, for just four days the gymnasium is host to only one type of game — bargain hunting.

The gigantic 53rd annual

Wheeler Clothing Sale took place from April 26 to 30, and if you didn't make it this time, you'll have to wait for next year. From jewelry to neckties to silverware to old eight-track players, the sale is like a flea market but without the shady characters and the bad hot dogs.

The Wheeler Clothing sale would be an impossibility if it wasn't for the legions of volunteers who return, year after year, to pitch in and help sort, price, and sell thousands and thousands of items. Thanks to their hard work, the whole event is

(Continued on Page 4)

# HAPPENINGS

## Entertainment for Children

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

### May

- 6 **First Free Sunday.** 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The museum is open for free on the first Sunday of every month. Families can play, learn and have fun together in the museum's hands-on exhibits, all free of charge.
- 7 **Creative Studio.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Kids age 3 and up create amazing works of art with a variety of materials — recycle cool things that folks might otherwise throw away.
- 8 **Parent Talk.** 1 to 2:30 p.m. Preschoolers, ages 2 to 4, play in Littlewoods while adults chat with a parenting expert.
- 9 **Geo-Mazing.** 3 and 3:45 p.m. Kids age 5 and up celebrate the renovated Shape Space exhibit by wrestling with an ancient Chinese puzzle. Make a goose, a turtle, and other shapes with tangrams. Make and take home your own set of tangrams.
- 10 **Time Machine.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Today is the anniversary of Mother's Day, first celebrated in 1908. Learn about the traditions through the years. Kids age 7 and up make a classic gift to put on Mom's breakfast tray.
- 11 **Animals Alive.** 9:40 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. The museum's Preschool Friday series (March 30 to May 25) continues as preschoolers, age 3 to 5, meet a lively kitty, listen to *Six Dinner Sid* by Inga Moore and create a cat mask to wear home. Each session is 20 minutes long. Pre-registration is recommended for this popular eight-week series. Call 273-KIDS, ext. 234 for enrollment information. There may be space available for walk-in registration for individual sessions. There is a \$1 fee above the price of admission for walk-in registration. Check at the admissions desk.
- 12 **Pick a Perfect Pet.** 1 and 2 p.m. Kids 5 and up meet a vet and learn how to choose the best pet for their families. Cuddle with a guinea pig, stroke a turtle and learn about the responsibilities of owning an animal pal.
- 13 **Buttons for Mom.** 1 to 3 p.m. Let the world know how special your mom is! Kids 3 and up honor Mother's Day by making a colorful button for that special lady to wear. The museum also celebrates the day by admitting all mothers and grandmothers free of charge from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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## Calendar: May 4 Through May 10

- 4 **"The Taming of the Shrew,"** by William Shakespeare, will be performed at the Roger Williams University Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. Additional dates are May 5, 10, 11 and 12. A Sunday matinee will be held at 2 p.m. on May 6. The Performing Arts Center is located at 1 Old Ferry Road, Bristol. Call 254-3666.  
**Collage Concert at Rhode Island College** will feature ensembles from the music, theater, and dance departments. The performance, which will be held in Sapinsley Hall on the RIC campus, begins at 8 p.m. Admission is \$7, with student and senior discounts. Call 456-8194.  
**"The Golem,"** an original play by Alix Sobler, opens at Production Workshop, 5 Young Orchard St., Providence. Additional dates are May 5, 6, and 7. All shows are at 8 p.m. and are free to the public. Call 863-2776.
- 5 **RISD Alumni Spring Art Sale** will be held outdoors on Benefit Street in Providence from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale will feature 140 exhibitors offering items designed and created by RISD alumni, including fine art, jewelry, ceramics, glass, furniture, clothing, rugs and photography. For information, call 454-6614.  
**The Jewish Theatre Ensemble of Rhode Island** presents the musical comedy, "Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh," at 8:30 p.m. in the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island. Another performance will be held May 6 at 2 p.m. Tickets in advance are \$10, \$8 for seniors and children; \$12 and \$10 at the door. Call 861-8800.  
**Rock and Bowl with Perspectives,** a community of Jewish students and young professionals both married and single, at Lang's Lanes, 225 Niantic Ave., Cranston. The night will start at 10 p.m. and attendance is \$7. Call Andy Weiser at 435-5035.  
**Roger Williams Park Tree Planting Day** will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Roger Williams Park, Providence. Gardening tools will be provided. Call 785-9450, ext. 243.
- 6 **The R.I. Watercolor Society** holds its annual members show through June 1. The show, located in the gallery at Slater Memorial Park, Armistice Boulevard, Pawtucket, is free and open to the public. Call 726-1876 for information.  
**Temple Beth-El** hosts a marrow donor drive for Max Dwares of Cranston. The drive will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The public is encouraged to participate. Temple Beth-El is located at 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Call 453-8564 or (800) 283-8385, ext. 564.  
**A Fine Art Auction,** sponsored by Congregation Ohave Shalom/Young Israel of Pawtucket and the Providence Hebrew Day School, begins at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person. Congregation Ohave Shalom is located at 671 East Ave., Pawtucket. Call 722-3146.  
**The Five Cantors** perform at Congregation Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick, at 3 p.m. Tickets range from \$18 to \$50, all proceeds benefit the family programs at Am David. Call 463-7944.
- 7 **The Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club** presents an information program "Jews and the Natural World," followed by "The Proper Use of Medications and New Trends in Pharmacy." The program starts at 10 a.m. Temple Emanu-El is located at 99 Taft Ave., Providence.  
**The Pawtucket Family YMCA** will offer a six-week yoga course, to be held on Mondays at 7 p.m. The course costs \$35 for full members, \$50 for activity members, \$60 for non-members, and \$55 for senior citizen non-members. For information, contact Fitness Director Sue Jack at 727-7900. The Pawtucket Family YMCA is located at 20 Summer St., Pawtucket.
- 8 **The Bureau of Jewish Education** will hold its 50th annual meeting at 7 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Gloria Feibush will be installed as president for a second term. For information, call 331-0956.
- 10 **Rhode Island College** presents its Senior Art Show in the Bannister Gallery. Admission is free. The exhibit will be open until May 19. Call 456-8194.  
**Gallery 401 at the JCCRI** presents the new exhibit "Four Views/The Holocaust." Artists featured are Harriet Goldman Caldwell, of Connecticut; Berta R. Golahny, of Massachusetts; Sandra Aarons Krupp, of Rhode Island; and Caroline Novak, of Toronto, Canada. The opening reception will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Admission is free. The JCCRI is located at 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Call 861-8800.

## Jewish War Veterans Cutoff Date June 15, 2001

The Jewish War Veterans of Rhode Island would like to remind the Jewish community that the cutoff date to submit any deletions, omissions, errors or corrections of the names to be inscribed on the Memorial Wall of Honor is **June 15, 2001**. Contact Irv Levin at 941-6032 or Charles Abrams at 944-0539.

## Roger Williams Park Needs Tree Planting Volunteers

On May 5 and May 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., help to beautify Rhode Island's most famous historic park by volunteering for Roger Williams Park Tree Planting Days. Organized group tree planting will take place rain or shine.

Gardening tools will be provided. Park officials do request that only adults volunteer for these plantings. A snack will be provided, but please bring a lunch.

Reserve your spot by May 3 by calling Mary Ellen Flanagan, landscape design department, at 785-9450, ext. 243.

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## Getting In Touch With Our Inner Slaves

by Rabbi Avi Shafran

The word "slave" doesn't generally inspire positive feelings. For Jews, though, especially during the weeks after Passover, it should.

To be sure, the images evoked when we think of servitude tend to be of economically or racially oppressed classes, of men and women being treated as if they were something less than fully human.

There are other types of servitude as well that have little or nothing to do with class. For example, whether we choose to confront it or not, we are all servants — indeed slaves — to a considerable host of masters. Most of us are indentured to one or another degree to any of a number of physical and psychological desires. Some are relatively innocuous, like the craving for a particular food — or for food in general — or the yearning to be entertained or pampered or allowed to sleep late. Other desires are more sinister, like the compulsion to ingest some addictive chemical, or the lust to lord oneself over other people, or the coveting of property or persons.

In contemporary times, many of us are enslaved virtually without even knowing it — chained to our work, taking orders from advertisers, moving to the dictates of the arbiters of style, addicted to the media or to the Internet. Oddly, every modern opportunity seems to morph into a

new master; new options pull us even further from true freedom.

It seems almost as if it is a hard-wired part of human nature that we serve. Indeed, Judaism maintains, it is, and for good reason: Because we are meant to be servants. We just have to choose the right master.

The Jewish concept of freedom, or *cherut*, does not mean being unfettered, but rather fettered to what is meaningful; it doesn't mean independence but rather subservience — not to the mundane but to the divine.

The life of a libertine is not freedom but quite its opposite, enslavement to perceived pleasures, to substances and possessions, to the dictates of society. Meaningful freedom, paradoxically, is being indentured — but to the ultimate master, the Master of all. And so as we count the days, literally, from the holiday of freedom to the holiday of Torah, we express (and, hopefully impress on ourselves) just how inextricably the theme of Passover is linked to that of Shevuot, how the ultimate expression of true freedom is having the courage and mettle to throw off the yoke of temporal masters and commit ourselves to what is meaningful in the ultimate sense: the will and law of G-d.

*Am Echad Resoures — Rabbi Avi Shafran serves as director of public affairs of Agudath Israel of America.*

## A Romance With Food

by Velvel "Wally" Spiegler

"Ice cream was the secret ingredient in Aunt Molly's rugelach. Oy! Were they fantastic." "My grandmother's brisquet, it melted in your mouth." Such are the recollections of food whenever Jews get together, usually around a sumptuous meal. I overheard this conversation recently:

"How was your seder?"

"Great, they started with matzo ball soup, homemade gefilte fish and the main course was roast chicken with matzo farfel stuffing."

Not a word about the seder.

We have both a fascination and romance with food more than any other ethnic group I know. Cooking for Shabbat in some households begins early in the week, every week. Kitchen aromas beckon us, as roasts and kugels warm in the oven. Often, before Pesach women are chopping, dicing, sautéing and baking weeks before the big meal. We celebrate the major life cycle events — the baby naming, the bar/bat mitzvah, and the wedding reception — with a festive meal. Is all this effort simply religious observance or are there deeper spiritual implications?

Jewish customs dictate certain foods for each holiday: latkes at Chanukah, dairy at Shavuot and apples with honey for the New Year; Shabbat would not be complete without challah and gefilte fish. Each holiday brings with it the flavors of the customary foods. But no meal should be eaten without invoking the proper blessing before the meal and the grace after the meal. These blessings are supposed to transport us to a more subtle level of

understanding that distinguishes eating in a spiritual state from "fressing" — Yiddish for eating unconsciously. When blessings are said before and after a meal with the proper intention, eating becomes a contemplative exercise, a meditation. Just as we can reflect on a candle flame or a melody, we can focus our attention on eating. By opening our awareness to the experience of slowly chewing and tasting our food we can transform eating into an act of worship.

By paying careful attention to the food we eat, we can appreciate our connection to the universe. Each morsel we taste reflects the droplets of moisture and the rays of solar warmth that sprouted the grain, the vegetables and the fruit. Imagine how farmers harvested the crop and brought it to market, so that food processors could convert it into edible products for our tables. We can also appreciate how each mouthful we swallow gets converted into usable energy that enables us to perform our daily chores and G-d's work.

We should understand food beyond its role as physical sustenance; food is also our best medicine. Each one of the innumerable food products we have available to us contains a unique combination of nutrients essential to our health. Beyond the macronutrients — carbohydrate, protein and fat — in every natural food, there lies some combination of micronutrients — vitamins and other important organic substances — that operate synergistically and are found only in whole foods. No one knows for sure, but there is evidence that many

of our major diseases result from a lack of some necessary component in our diets.

What is Jewish food? I often wonder that myself. I used to attend business meetings at the now defunct Concord Hotel that maintained a strictly kosher kitchen. Non-Jews were often seated at the same dining table with other Jews in the enormous, ornately festooned dining room. At a meat meal when someone asked for butter, they got margarine; when they asked for cream they got the non-dairy version, thinking they got what they asked for. At one dinner, a few days into the meeting, someone at the table asked me, "When are they going to bring out the Jewish food?"

I can remember from my growing up days, certain foods that were always on the table: gedempte fleisch (pot roast), borscht (cold beet soup) and mamaliga (corn meal mush, a Romanian staple). I never knew it was Jewish food. To me, it was just food. But today, besides the Eastern European favorites, we've grown accustomed to the influx of foods from Israel. We consume a fair share of felafel (fried chickpea patties), hummus (pureed sesame dip) and pita, the pocket bread of the Middle East.

What can we learn about our spiritual condition from what we eat? The laws of kashrut may not have any bearing on our physical soundness, but it certainly affects our spiritual connection. Cleanliness or purity from a spiritual perspective contains the ability to perceive the presence of G-d, as opposed to impurities (emotional stuff like anger or fear) that

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### Like something? Don't like something? Let us know.

The *Herald* welcomes Letters to the Editor and opinions on subjects of interest to the Jewish community. All letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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### Candlelighting

May 4, 2001  
7:28 p.m.



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## Your Daily Dose

A book was written recently by a scientist who studies the biologic activity in caves. Who can explain how people get interested in such things? To most of us, this is a strange area of inquiry. What, after all, can come of it?

Well, there's an answer. A strain of bacteria he and his colleagues have discovered far from the intrusion of either humans or sunlight turns out to be an antagonist for breast cancer. Not any other kind — just breast cancer. Now how does it come to be that a bacterium that must survive deep in the earth just happens to like attacking breast cancer?

Here's another puzzler: Bees, the developers of one of our favorite condiments, honey, are also manufacturing other products in those busy hives. One of these materials can be used as an antibiotic for humans. This news did not include mention of whether the bees use it instead of streptomycin. But it is curious that there in the little hexagonal chambers lies yet another wondrous substance.

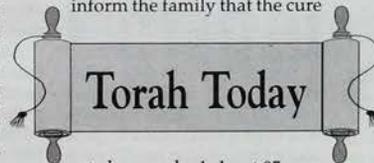
And let's not leave the healthcare news without complimenting humans as well. It was recently reported that doctors treating children with leukemia, doctors who have to deliver this news to distraught parents, can now also inform the family that the cure

recognition of the need for strict attention to cleanliness in attending to patients. The potential to spread germs had not been microscopically demonstrated to them, so they blithely went from patient to patient, increasing exponentially the risk of infection.

The methods to deal with all sorts of bodily ills are all around us. When the L-rd promises us "dominion" over the earth, He did not mean just the ability to rule. He meant the ability to use all of its blessings for good. The blessings in caves, in hives, in rain forests.

And the blessings within ourselves: the knowledge and insight to devise new weapons against leukemia, or cancer, or any other scourge. And that knowledge and insight can also be put to use by those of us who do not spend our days curing physical ills: we can cure ourselves and others of the evils that infect all of us. The mitzvot are the pharmaceuticals of Torah — and they're on a shelf in your house.

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



rate has reached about 85 percent. The next time you read that our medicinal defenses against various illnesses are having trouble keeping up with new strains of disease, consider that progress is also being made in these and many other areas.

Tazria-Metzora, which we read last week, begins with a discussion of purity and cleanliness. It is particular to childbirth and circumcision, but of course stands for an overall dedication to matters of physical health. How many centuries have we not until the 1800s that physi-

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Ukrainian Shtetls Show Thriving Jewish Community

A delegation of five New York-based rabbis led by Martin Horwitz, director of the Jewish Community Development Fund in Russia and Ukraine, were deeply impressed by the profusion of Jewish community life making a renaissance in even the smallest shtetls of Ukraine.

Rabbis Joy Levitt (Jewish Community Center of the Upper West Side), Julie Schonfeld (Society for the Advancement of Judaism), Michael Strassfeld (Anshe Hessed), Joshua Saltzman (American Jewish World Service) and Lewis Warshauer (Jewish Theological Seminary) were among the participants of the tour.

As Rabbi Michael Strassfeld put it, "I had not realized to what extent I had overlooked the richness of Jewish life in the former Soviet Union."

Zvenigorodka, four hours southeast of Kiev, is currently a town of some 30,000 inhabitants including a small but energetic Jewish community of 120. Before World War II, Zvenigorodka was home to more than 8,000 Jews. Seventy years of Communist rule, the murderous ravages of war and attrition due to emigration might have led the delegation to expect a complete lack of Jewish presence in the region. But thanks to the JCDF's support of the Association of Jewish Organiza-

tions of Small Towns in Ukraine, Jewish life in Zvenigorodka is flourishing and continues to develop.

Community members are repairing the old synagogue, returned to the local Progressive (Reform) congregation by the state, with their own hands.

The American rabbis were surprised to learn that, rather than proving divisive for the community, mixed marriages often comprise an important synergistic element and lead non-Jewish spouses to actively participate in their children's Jewish education. As two members of the rabbis' delegation were women, a thing as yet unheard of in Ukraine, the Jews of Zvenigorodka had a chance to experience the more liberal flavor of American Judaism, a far cry from the strictly ultra-Orthodox Chabad movement, which is virtually the only Jewish presence in the countries of the former Soviet Union.

Rabbi Julie Schonfeld commented: "The word may seem a bit grandiose, but I felt transformed by the experience of sitting next to a young Moscov Hillel student, a participant in the JCDF program to 'Bring Shabbat to Provincial Communities,' who had just returned from a Kabbalat Shabbat through Havdalah Shabbat weekend in a far-off Siberian city."

## Discover Your Jewish Roots at The Genealogy Institute

Whom do you call when you want to locate relatives who immigrated to Buenos Aires in 1928 — and you don't read or speak Spanish? Where do you go when you want to locate the town of your grandmother's birth? What do you do when you don't know your great grandfather's name, and it is time to name a newborn child?

The Genealogy Institute at the Center for Jewish History is a welcoming place where individuals can begin a challenging, exciting and emotional search for their own history. The center is home to the combined collections of the American Jewish Historical Society, American Sephardi Federation, Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, encompassing 100 million archival documents, one-half million books, and tens of thousands of photographs and other materials. Center Genealogy staff and volunteers can show nearly everyone of Jewish descent how to find some information that is relevant to his or her own history.

The Center Genealogy Institute (which can be reached at (212) 294-8324) is open Monday through Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Thursday, noon to 8 p.m. The institute also is open one Sunday a month from 12:30 to 2 p.m., when the Jewish Genealogical Society of New York hosts its monthly meeting at the center.

The first Thursday of the

month features a free 20-minute workshop on beginning Jewish family history research, led by institute staff or volunteers. Volunteers who can translate Yiddish, Hebrew, Russian and other languages are on-site regularly or can be contacted to assist patrons in translating short letters, postcards and documents. All basic services are provided free of charge.

Every day individuals walk into the center wondering, "Is there anything here for me?" "Where is my history?" Jewish family history research can be daunting and challenging, with multiple languages and records in depositories around the world. Even the multiplicity of databases on the Internet can be overwhelming.

The Center Genealogy Institute is visited not only by local residents, but tourists from around the country stop by frequently. The institute also welcomes mail, fax and e-mail inquiries; it is preferred that e-mail inquiries be sent through the center's Web site <www.cjh.org>.

## Family/Shabbat Dinner at Ahavath Achim

Ahavath Achim Synagogue invites you to the Robert Genesky Family Shabbat Dinner on May 11. Kabbalat Shabbat services begin at 6 p.m. with Shabbat dinner following services.

The theme will be "Do Not Forsake The Elderly." Charles Sisson, executive director of Coastline Elderly Services, will speak on this important topic. The cost for dinner will be \$10. Reservations are required. Please call (508) 994-1760.

## Jewish Fraternity Honors Rhode Island Founder Roger Williams

Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity, Inc. recently honored Rhode Island founder Roger Williams with a ceremony and reception at the United States Capitol building in Washington, D.C. As a part of the ceremony, David Nable, president of the Beta Zeta Epsilon chapter at the University of Maryland-College Park, addressed the assembled guests. The ceremony took place at the Roger Williams statue in the Capitol. Following the ceremony, the fraternity hosted a reception where ZBT National President Ronald J. Taylor, M.D., recognized members of congress with the ZBT Defender of Religious Freedom Award.

The Roger Williams Day celebration has been a tradition in ZBT since the early 1920s. Roger Williams' advocacy of religious tolerance and freedom continue to remain a fundamental pillar in the U.S. Constitution. ZBT is the nation's oldest and largest historically Jewish fraternity with more than 50 years of non-sectarian brotherhood.

Regarding Roger Williams, ZBT National President Taylor commented, "Williams was centuries ahead of his time; he defined and set the standard for the fundamental principles of religious freedom and separation of church and state long before the creators of our Constitution. His legacy of religious tolerance has allowed America to become the envy of the world, a country where religious, racial and ethnic hatred are not tolerated."

Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity was founded in 1898 in New York City. It currently has more than 80 chapters and colonies with more than 100,000 alumni. ZBT is a brotherhood of Kappa Nu, Phi Alpha, Phi Epsilon Pi, Phi Sigma Delta and Zeta Beta Tau.

## Board of Jewish Education Appoints Board of Directors

For The Year 2001/2002

President, Gloria S. Feibish; vice presidents, Pat Cohen, Eleanor Lewis, and Selma Stanzler; treasurer, Robert Greenberg; associate treasurer, David Resnik; secretary, Steven Schechter; and associate secretary, James Pious.

### Term Expires 2002

Lana Israel, Karen Jacober, Barbara Jagolinzer, Jane Kaufman, Cantor Richard Perlman, Leonore Sones, Joyce Steingold, Irving Waldman, David Yavner and Charles Ziegler.

### Term Expires 2003

Sheila Alexander, Paula Bodo, Michael Goldenberg, Sergey Goldgaber, Joan Gray, Bill Kolb, Howard Mintz, Mark Ross, Wendy Spellun, Michael Weiner.

### Term Expires 2004

Allan Brenman, Howard Bromberg, Barbara Feldstein, Linn Freedman, Sharon Gaines, Ken Hersh, Rabbi Mitchell Levine, Karen Ostrowsky, Arlene Rogol, and Cheryl Teverow.

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**Honorary Vice Presidents** — Maurice Glicksman, Sidney Goldstein, and Ezra Steiglitz.

**Honorary Board Members** — Rennie Brown, Edith

## Wheeler's Annual Clothing Sale

(Continued from Page 1)

always smoothly run, very well-organized and amazingly profitable.

On April 18, before the crowds rushed in and turned the gym into a zoo, the volunteers were putting the finished touches on the racks of clothes, the mountains of jewelry and the tables of oddities and knick-knacks. All of the volunteers are hardworking and extremely happy to be there. Take Deedee Whitman. She has been volunteering at the clothing sale for many years and felt that the clothing sale has created a really vibrant group of people, almost like a community. "The same great friends come in year after year," Whitman said. "I get to watch their kids grow up... It's just remarkable."

A corner of the room was dedicated to reams of books, from the musty smelling novels that have been read hundreds of times to the children's book that looked like it was bought yesterday.

Once a rarity, computers and other hardware have become increasingly prevalent at the sale over the years. This time, the sale sported no fewer than 20 computers, along with scanners, joysticks and printers. Somewhat recent Macintoshes stood beside ancient PCs from days long gone by. Melissa Power, who is one of the heads of cashiers, remarked that, "We have kids buying old computers for two dollars just to take them apart."

The clothing side of the clothing sale is certainly well-represented. They had rows upon rows of shirts, pants, skirts, dresses, jackets, ties and more. They even had a women's boutique for some of the fancier items, including a rack of furs.

Marcy Granoff and Jane Jacober were running the boutique this year. Jacober remarked that many local colleges stop by and purchase items for their theater departments. RISD routinely finds prized items to take into its fashion collections, as well.

Some of the more exotic clothes received this year were four tuxedos, genuine oriental kimonos, and even a band outfit in great shape that looked at least 70 years old.

Proceeds from the clothing sale went to help fund Wheeler programs and events, and also to other functions outside the school as well. A cell phone collection drive collected more than a dozen cellular phones which will be used to help victims of domestic violence. The clothing sale also works with the Clothing Collaborative, which gives clothes to people who are going off welfare and returning to work.

Amy Sugerman and Leslie Chazan were working the jewelry section. All of the extensive novelty jewelry they had at the cloth-

ing sale was new, and the two praised the generosity of Rhode Island families, jewelry companies and a novelty business. Sugerman and Chazan were thrilled to be there. In fact, just 24 hours before this year's sale began, they were already thinking about next year.

Even though the clothing sale does a great job of advertising (some of this year's leaflets were even put in Spanish), Chazan remarked that despite the large amount of donations this year, they could always handle more. "If anyone has anything to donate, send it over here," she said.

The final preparations ended that afternoon, and the Wheeler faculty were allowed first picks at the items. A sense of relief was felt throughout the room as the first sales were rung up. Tomorrow the real sale began, which was up and running at a fun and furious pace. In those short days the racks and tables went from overflowing to bare. Once it ended, a few intense hours of clean up left the gym empty once again...until next year.

Even as volunteers were sweeping the floors, people were still trying to get in to the sale and see if anything was left. And all of the hard work of those vital volunteers, as always, paid off tremendously. This year's sale brought in \$69,100 gross, even better than last year. Congratulations to everyone involved, and see you next year!

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Rabbi Mitchell Levine Awarded Fellowship

Congregation Beth Shalom is proud to announce that our Rabbi Mitchell C. Levine has been awarded the Daniel Jeremy Silver Fellowship for the academic year 2001-2002. The Fellowship, established in honor of the late Rabbi Dr. Daniel Jeremy Silver (Harvard class of 1948) of Cleveland, Ohio, by his family and friends, is awarded annually to an active congregational rabbi who has demonstrated exceptional intellectual and academic ability and interest, originality and energy in the pursuit of Jewish scholarship.

The Fellowship provides generous funding for one semester at Harvard. It is intended to allow the recipient to begin, continue, or complete a piece of serious research in some area of Jewish scholarship before he or she returns to congregational life. Rabbi Levine's research proposal concerns a fresh approach to Hilchot Niddah (the laws of Mikveh use).

## Local Woodworker 'Saw' His Calling with Judaic Woodcarvings



Al Resnick has carved many beautiful Jewish objects out of wood. Visit his work at <a href="http://www.guthrieweb.com/reshon">www.guthrieweb.com/reshon</a>

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

### Social Seniors of Warwick to Meet

The Social Seniors of Warwick will meet May 9 in Congregation Am David at 1 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by Dan Beagan. A trip to Whites of Westport for lunch and the show "Vegas to Broadway" is planned. Make reservations for the installation on June 12 to be held at the West Valley Inn, Cypress Room. The group also is planning a trip on the Vista Jubilee on July 19. Contact Tillie Orleck or Anne Margolis for any information at 941-6439.

by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

Al Resnick doesn't think his art is groundbreaking, but he knows that there still aren't a lot of people who do what he does the way that he does it. Resnick makes small woodcuttings in a workshop inside his house, more often than not containing Judaic art and imagery. The designs are fairly simple and straightforward, a welcome diversion from the ample amounts of overworked and over-styled Judaica. Resnick's work is a great example of how one can bring Jewish imagery easily inside the home.

Resnick has lived in Rhode Island all of his life. After retiring in 1990, Resnick became inspired by the famous west coast artist Stuart Erwin. Resnick took one look at his wood sculptures and thought, "Hey, maybe I could do that." Without any experience or mentorship, he bought a small scroll saw and went to work in the early 90s.

His first big hit came at the bagel boom that struck America almost nine years ago. Resnick explained that before Dunkin Donuts and the other big breakfast places cornered the market, the bagel mainly found its home in bagel shops and Jewish bakeries. Seeing an opportunity for woodworking, Resnick carved out a few bagel slicers (a small wooden tablet with a groove for safe slicing) and started selling bagel slicers directly to the stores themselves. Lots of bagel slicers.

The word about his work spread and he also sold his bagel accessories to people in his neighborhood. "I did very well," he said, cracking a smile. When bagels eventually went mainstream and people began flocking to the supermarkets, Resnick found it almost impossible to get through the bureaucratic red tape, and therefore lost his favorite outlets.

(Continued on Page 16)

## Taking on the Politics of Poverty

(Continued from Page 1)

community-based projects, including volunteering at Amos House as well as starting a high holiday food drive. "The people of the Social Action Committee are deeply concerned about their community and their state," said Gurwitz.

Gurwitz described her background as both "liberal and Jewish" and stated that in her family questioning things was encouraged, even things that were traditionally accepted. "We had great discussions," she said. "Jewish education and culture are what you make of it, and what attracted me was the justice aspect."

Her activist spirit came from her father, who worked with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and other civil rights groups in the 1950s and 1960s. Among his many accomplishments, he helped to break the color barrier of the Boston Celtics. When she was 16 she worked in a daycare center when all the clients were black and poor. Being surrounded by those directly affected by economic hardship really opened her eyes to the importance of social action. She saw the impoverished faces, the pregnant teenagers and the jobless drifters and decided to get more involved.

She worked with community organizers in college and met with administrative resistance. But she strove on despite the adversity ("I just couldn't turn my back on these people..." she said)

and created the "Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Poverty" and helped organize other activists. "I was just drawn to the issues" she said.

pedestal beside the speakers, holding in her hands the scales of equality which were weighed heavily against the housing interests of Rhode Island.

The protest was flashy, well organized and described the issue in a way passersby could easily understand. The groups frequently declared that 80 percent of the capital gains tax cut will benefit those taxpayers earning over \$100,000 a year, to which protesters booed and shouted for reform. The message of the protest was clear: once again, policy decisions were being made with only the rich in mind, while the poor were being passed over in a flurry of misleading numbers.

The crowd grew steadily as the protest continued, and passing cars honked their approval. Gurwitz gave numerous interviews and made sure everything ran smoothly. She is both a leader and a part of many movements, but she tries to keep her focus simple.

"The big way people are oppressed is economically," she said. "It doesn't matter if you're white, black [or] Hispanic... If you're poor, nothing's going to change."



A girl holds up a sign to passing motorists protesting the condition of housing in Rhode Island.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

Gurwitz doesn't just sit behind a desk for 40 hours a week—she's out there in the community generating interest and support for her issues. On April 16, Gurwitz was involved in a large protest outside the Providence Post Office with a consortium of groups who were opposed to the capital gains tax cut. Numerous progressive groups, from SOAR (Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships), the Feinstein Center for a Hunger Free America, the Green Party and the Coalition for the Homeless, to name a few, showed up to hold signs and listen to the many speakers explain why the tax cut is harmful to Rhode Islanders.

In a media-savvy presentation for which Gurwitz emceed, speakers stood before a podium covered with graphs displaying the declining income of Rhode Island families and the ever-widening income inequality. A woman dressed as lady liberty stood silently on a

## Matthew Joseph Hochman Will be Bar Mitzvahed

Howard and Elaine Hochman, from Gaithersburg, Md., would like to announce the bar mitzvah of their son, Matthew Joseph Hochman. Matthew is a student at Ridgeview Middle School in Gaithersburg, Md., and is the grandson of Irving and Ruth Moerman of Silver Spring, Md., and the late Edith and James Hochman of Providence, R.I., and Delray Beach, Fla.

Matthew's bar mitzvah will be held at on May 26 at Temple Kehilat Shalom in Gaithersburg, Md.



## Holocaust Memorial in New Bedford

Rabbi Barry D. Hartman, of Afavath Achim Synagogue, leads the mourners Kaddish at the Yom HaShoah memorial service in New Bedford on April 19. Herald photo by Seth T. Bromley

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Passover at JFS Mealsite



Naomi Gold lights the candles during the Passover celebration at the Jewish Family Service Kosher Mealsite in Cranston. Rabbi Mark Bloom, of Temple Torat Yisrael led the model seder.



Paul L. Segal, Jewish Family Service executive director, and Fred Cohen, a longtime, key volunteer in the Moe's Chitim program, enjoy the conviviality at the JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston, where more than 80 seniors braved torrential rain to celebrate Passover together. Torat Yisrael's Rabbi Mark Bloom led the program. For information about the Jewish Family Service Mealsite, call Ronda French, JFS Mealsite Coordinator at 781-1771 during Mealsite hours, or anytime at Jewish Family Service, 331-1244, extension 42.

## Reform Judaism Magazine Explores the Rituals Surrounding the End of Life

Death is a time of emotional upheaval for people of all faiths. Whether we mourn parents, children, friends, or spouses, the pain of loss forces us to feel longing, grief, and remorse along with a seemingly endless variety of emotions. Fortunately, the religious rituals surrounding the death of loved ones can often help us ease our pain, channel our emotions in a more constructive direction, and move ahead with our lives.

As part of its continuing coverage of how Reform Jews can apply Jewish teaching and tradition to cope with the difficulties of life in contemporary society, *Reform Judaism* magazine has devoted the "Focus" section of its Spring 2000 issue to five articles on the powerful rituals through which Jews can sanctify the end of life and come to terms with the losses that remain. Providing in-depth analysis of issues ranging from the funeral oration to the five traditional Jewish times of mourning, the "Focus" allows readers to closely examine the many ways that Judaism helps survivors handle loss.

"Tender Truths," the first article in the section, explores the meaning and the potential of

the *hesped*, or funeral oration. According to Rabbi Margaret Moers Wenig, the author of the piece, eulogies that offer excessive or exaggerated praise are forbidden by Jewish tradition; according to the Shuchan Aruch, or code of Jewish law, he who delivers such an oration "brings evil upon himself and upon the deceased." With this in mind, Rabbi Wenig offers guidelines for a more balanced oration, in which the speaker shows that a person's failings do not erase his or her merits; that weaknesses are often the flip sides of strengths; and that for every one of the deceased's failings, there may have been an admirable quality. "A *hesped* which evokes compassion, forgiveness, or praise from individuals who otherwise might have harbored anger against the deceased rises to [a special] level of piety and loyal love," she writes.

Anne Brener, a scholar of Jewish spirituality and healing, examines the five traditional Jewish times of mourning as the basis for creative ways to remember those who have died. In "Relationships Never Die," she urges grieving survivors to

identify some of the physical, emotional, and intellectual qualities of the deceased that continue after death, perform *mitzvot* in his or her memory; and use the four Yizkor (memorial services) and the *Yahrzeit* (which marks the anniversary of the death) to both remember the loss and move forward at the same time.

Finally, in "Dancing in the Kitchen of Memory," psychotherapist and author Nadine Kraman reflects on the art of making gefilte fish — "a dance which my mother and father had perfected over the years" — and mourning her father. In the deeply personal account, she comes to terms with her father's life: not just the sad final days, when he visibly weakened before his family's eyes, but the better times as well: his sense of humor, his leadership, and, of course, his skill at cooking one traditional Jewish dish. As she and her mother cook, they both manage to make peace with death — albeit with sticky hands.

*Reform Judaism magazine* is published quarterly by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the central body of the Reform Movement in North America.

## Caritas Inc. Seeking Nominations For Jason Abraham Youth Award

Caritas, Inc., a statewide agency dedicated to the treatment of adolescent substance abusers and their families, is currently accepting nominations for the Jason Abraham Youth Award to be presented on Oct. 18. The award recognizes those R.I. youths (ages 12 to 19), one male and one female, who have made a commitment to reducing or preventing the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs by their peers.

The Jason Abraham Youth Award was first introduced on June 26, 2000. Debra and Louis Abraham lost their son, Jason, to the perils of drug addiction

in April 1999 and are now committed to reaching out to other families and teens so that other Rhode Islanders do not have to face the loss of a son or daughter.

Nominees will be judged on criteria including community involvement, leadership skills, volunteerism, and prevention activities. The award recipients will receive a plaque, \$500 savings bond and public recognition at the 30th Year Celebration of Caritas, Inc., to be held at the Providence Marriott. For information about nominations or sponsorship, call Michele Berard at 722-4644, ext. 302.

## Art Exhibit Call for Entries At Striar JCC

Local artists are invited to submit original works for a juried exhibition in the Perkins Gallery at Striar Jewish Community Center in June. The Creative Community Art Exhibit 2001 welcomes submissions in all media, including oil, acrylic, watercolor, drawing, pastel, printmaking, photography, fiber art, 3-dimensional and more. Work must be original and not previously shown in the Perkins Gallery. A \$5 non-refundable fee per piece is payable upon registration. Artists may enter up to three pieces. The Creative Community Art Exhibit will be held from Wednesday, June 23 to Sunday, June 24, 2001. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, June 10, from 2 to 4 p.m. Striar JCC is located at 445 Central St., Stoughton. For more information about the Creative Community Art Exhibit, please phone Perkins Gallery Committee Chair Laura Rosenspan, (781) 784-2668.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## PHDS Honors Dr. Steven and Naomi Schechter

The Providence Hebrew Day School/New England Academy of Torah is excited to honor Dr. Steven and Naomi Schechter with the Amudim Award 2001. We recognize this special couple for their service to the Day School and to the Providence Jewish community as a whole.

Steve is a member of the executive committee, and the chair of the scholarship fund-raising campaign. Naomi is a member of the Parents, Teachers and Friends organization, and is a willing volunteer at the school. They are active members of Congregation Beth Shalom, where Steve is a member of the board of directors, and served as president from 1993 to 1995. He is currently the president of the Vaad HaKashrut of Rhode Island, and is an active member of the Jewish Federation in the Maimonides Society. He is also recording secretary of the Bureau of Jewish Education. Naomi is a member of N'Shei Chesed, an Orthodox women's community organization.

The Schechters are known for their warmth, friendliness, and

hospitality. Naomi's love of cooking and entertaining combine to make her a wonderful hostess. Their home is often a gathering place for meetings and fund-raisers in the community. Their low-key style and ready smiles, combined with a love for the community bring them many friends and supporters.

Both Steve and Naomi have identical twins — each went to school together with his/her twin, through college. Naomi and her sister graduated from Simmons College in Boston with B.S. degrees in nutrition. Steven and his brother graduated from Queens College and following medical school, became doctors. Steven is a colon and rectal surgeon, treating his patients with warmth and sensitivity. He recently opened a new practice, where Naomi is the bookkeeper and office manager. They are truly partners in every sense.

Naomi lived in Brookline, Mass., until 1981, when she came to Providence. She learned about community service from her family — her parents, William and Judy (z"l) Abramson, were quite

devoted to the Young Israel there, and her grandparents on both sides were builders of Maimonides Day School.

Her son, Akiva Pearlman, 19, is currently in Israel for a year of study at Beis Medrash LeTorah, after which he will be heading off to college. His sister, Dena Pearlman, 17, is completing 11th grade at Maimonides High School in Brookline. Both Akiva and Dena attended Providence Hebrew Day School through the eighth grade.

Steve came to Providence in 1986, where he completed residency training in general surgery. He met Naomi here, and they married in 1991. Their two children, 9-year-old Aaron, and 6-year-old Avi, both attend PHDS. PHDS is very proud of all that Naomi and Steve have done, and are continuing to do.

Anyone wishing to honor the Schechters may do so by purchasing an ad in the PHDS Yearbook. The annual Amudim Award Dinner will take place on June 17. Call the PHDS office at 331-5327 for more information.

## Melinda Kortick Weds Matteo Morelli

Melinda Kortick and Matteo Morelli were married March 31 at Evelyn's Villa in West Warwick, R.I. The bride is the daughter of Stuart and Tamara Kortick of Warwick, R.I., and the bridegroom is the son of Michael and Paula Morelli, Sr., of Warwick, R.I. Grandparents of the bride are Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Labush of Del Ray Beach, Fla., and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Kortick, of Warwick, R.I. Grandparents of the bridegroom are Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Morelli, Sr. and Mrs. Marie Banach and the late Stanley Banach, Sr., of Warwick, R.I.



and David Winters.

The bride graduated from Toll Gate High School and is employed at Herb Chambers Cadillac/Mazda. The bridegroom graduated from Toll Gate High School and is in the R.I. Army National Guard.

The couple went on a cruise for their honeymoon and have made their home in Warwick, R.I. Judge Catherine Graziano officiated at the wedding. Marci Kortick, sister of the bride, was honor attendant. The bridesmaids were Sasha Morelli, sister of the bridegroom, and Lisa Bankauskas. Adam Morelli, brother of the bridegroom was best man. Ushers were Michael Morelli, Jr., brother of the bridegroom

## The Holocaust in American Life is JTS's May Selection

Like the sages of old, modern-day Jews enjoy gathering in small groups to dive headlong into heated debate over the great books of the day. The Jewish Theological Seminary is part of this tradition, adding its own decidedly high-tech, 21st century twist: the Book-of-the-Month series, featured on the popular <learn@jts> Web site. Excerpts from selected works are posted while participants are invited to join the spirited e-discussions, moderated by members of JTS's renowned faculty and other scholarly experts.

May's selection is *The Holocaust in American Life*. This important

and challenging book by noted historian Peter Novick details his acclaimed study on the long-term effects of the Holocaust on American life in general and Jewish life in particular. By examining the role of the U.S. government and American Jewry in the war years, Novick evaluates the initial silence regarding the Holocaust in the postwar years and chronicles the dramatic turn toward a "Holocaust culture" that American Jews embraced in the 1960s. Novick challenges the preconceptions regarding the Holocaust and questions society's understanding of the lessons learned from this disturbing time in American and European history.

Commented Ismar Schorsch, JTS chancellor, "[This is] a long overdue, endlessly fascinating and finely nuanced corrective to the temptation to turn the Holocaust from historical fact into world view." Discussion begins May 1. To learn more, visit <http://learn.jtsa.edu/topics/reading/bomonth/may>.

Founded in 1886, the Jewish Theological Seminary is the academic and spiritual center of Conservative Judaism, granting undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees through its five schools and offering enriching programs for the Jewish community in the United States, Israel and around the world.

## Hadassah Supports Legislation to Close Gun Show Loophole

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, applauds the Gun Show Background Check Act introduced on April 24 by Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI). The senator's bill would close a loophole in the Brady Handgun Violence Protection Act passed in 1993. The earlier legislation required background checks and a waiting period prior to purchasing guns from stores, but it did not include a provision for guns purchased at gun shows. If passed, the new legislation provides for the same requirements at gun shows.

Hadassah is the largest women's and largest Jewish membership organization in the country. The safety and well-being of women and their families is of primary importance to the organization. "Hadassah first expressed concern about gun violence in 1967, and has been advocating for stricter gun control laws ever since," explained Bonnie Lipton, Hadassah's national president.

Last year, in response to the ongoing scourge of shootings

plaguing schools, workplaces and communities, Hadassah issued new affirmations stating that current laws do not go far enough — nor are they enforced rigorously enough — to help prevent gun violence.

"We believe that Sen. Reed's legislation is critically important for addressing the epidemic of gun violence that continues to sweep the nation," comments Lipton. "By requiring background checks on purchases of firearms at gun shows, this bill will help prevent guns from getting into the wrong hands. We urge its passage."

Judy Palkovitz, national chair of Government Relations at Hadassah, was one of the featured speakers at a pre-legislative press conference called by Sen. Reed. Speakers from other organizations included Hand Gun Control, The Children's Defense Fund, the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, Physicians for Social Responsibility, the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and the Consumer Federation of America.

## Art Sign

group was brought to another room for a related activity.

The children were bursting with excitement, hopping up and down in their chairs as the museum docent explained that the children would become models and artists. Half of the children donned the costumes and props from the returned soldier painting they had discussed earlier and modeled behind a plastic see-through board. The rest of the children were placed on the other side of the board, given markers and asked to outline the bodies of their friends. One girl volunteered to do the drawing, saying, "I love this project, I'm going to be an artist." A boy who posed explained, "You know, it's not easy modeling for a painting."

Rabbi Lederfiend, who is the hearing son of deaf parents and the father of two deaf children said, "The trip to the museum was gratifying on so many levels. To see young Jewish children enjoying the works of a great Jewish artist while learning about their culture was immensely rewarding. Many of the children who benefit from Our Way activities have not had educational and

social opportunities such as this. Watching their faces light up as they learned hands-on fun was inspirational."

Our Way offers a variety of programs and services for the deaf as well as for family members, friends and anyone who interacts with the deaf and hard of hearing. To obtain more information about Our Way programs for the Jewish deaf and hard of hearing, please call (212) 618-8234, e-mail <ourway@ou.org>, or write to Our Way/NJCD, 11 Broadway New York, N.Y. 10004.

Established in 1969, Our Way is the only Jewish movement reaching out to the deaf and hard of hearing across the country and bridging the gap between the hearing and non-hearing worlds. Through a vast array of programs including holiday celebrations, a Jewish Deaf Singles Registry, Torah study groups, summer tours, family retreats, conventions and special publications in sign language, Our Way provides spiritual and social opportunities for nearly 1,000 deaf across the country.

## Our Way Sponsors Art Appreciation Trip

"I know, I know! It's Moshe carrying the Ten Commandments," answers 15 emphatic children describing the scene of a painting at the Yeshiva University Museum. During Passover, the Orthodox Union's Our Way for the deaf and hard of hearing hosted a trip to the YU Museum to celebrate the holiday and provide an activity for families with deaf or hard of hearing children on vacation.

The tour began with a walk around the gallery to study the works of 19th century German Jewish artist Moritz Daniel Oppenheim. The guide asked the children questions while Our Way Director Rabbi Eliezer Lederfiend translated the conversation into sign language.

The children, ages 6 to 12, were literally jumping out of their seats in order to be called on to answer questions, make observations and discuss their insights. After studying a painting that portrayed an injured Jewish soldier returning to his family's home on Shabbat, the

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## JNF Celebrating 100th Anniversary

*Organization Seeks to Thank Individuals Who Have Been Long-Time Supporters*

December 2001 marks the 100th anniversary of Jewish National Fund and the organization is kicking off its yearlong celebration with a special effort to contact its long-time supporters, particularly 10-, 12- and 50-year donors. JNF is an international non-profit organization governed by lay leadership, with more than 450,000 contributors in the United States and over 1 million worldwide. "As part of our celebration of our 100th anniversary, we want to locate each and every person who has helped JNF in its efforts to preserve and protect the land of Israel," states JNF President Ronald S. Lauder. JNF intends to honor these contributors and make them an integral part of the yearlong 100th anniversary celebration.

"We are so thrilled to be celebrating our 100th anniversary, said Russell F. Robinson, JNF executive vice president. "This momentous occasion gives us the opportunity to reflect on all that we have been able to accomplish, as well as all that remains to be done. It is also a time to thank those individuals who have supported our efforts, for without them, JNF would not be the success story that it is." Robinson continues, "JNF enabled Jews from around the world to come together to make the Zionist dream a reality. JNF's motto is Together, We Can, and our anniversary allows us to celebrate what we have been able to accomplish through our combined efforts."

JNF is encouraging individuals to share personal stories and

mementos with the organization: whether it's the memory of donating spare change through a JNF Blue Box as a child, or a first trip to Israel to see firsthand the impact that JNF has had on the land. In addition to allowing JNF to celebrate its supporters, the organization hopes that these stories will enable younger generations to feel a connection to the land of Israel.

The story of Emmy and Tony award-winning actor Hal Linden serves as an illustration of JNF's ability to connect its supporters to Israel and to Judaism. Linden was inspired to contact JNF almost four years ago after seeing a JNF Blue Box and reliving his childhood memories of saving his money to donate to Israel. He now serves as the organization's national spokesperson.

From its inception, JNF was charged with the task of fundraising in Jewish communities for the purpose of purchasing land in Eretz Yisrael to create a homeland for Jewish people. As a result, JNF's signature Blue Boxes, which were used to collect the necessary funds, are now known worldwide as a symbol of Zionism. JNF is currently the largest landowner in Israel, second only to the state.

Israel is facing its worst drought in recorded history and according to Lauder, may run out of water by 2012. For the last decade, JNF has been focusing its fund-raising efforts on raising the money to build dams and reservoirs, store recycled wastewater and capture rain water, all in an effort to help increase Israel's

(Continued on Page 15)

## Sharon Addresses Jewish Diaspora on Independence Day

The following is a message from the Prime Minister of the State of Israel, Ariel Sharon, given to the Jewish community of the Diaspora on Israel's Independence Day, 2001-5761:

"Dear Friends,  
"It is my pleasure to greet you on this 53rd Yom Haatzmaut from Jerusalem, the eternal capital of the Jewish people for the last 3,004 years, and of the State of Israel for the past 52 years and forever.

"I am proud of our achievements. We are a modern and vibrant country, and together with the help of Jews all over the world, we transformed the Zionist dream and vision into a living reality.

"Since our founding, we held the sword in one hand while reaching out for peace and building the country with the other. We also recognize the vital contribution of our soldiers and security forces — many of whom gave their lives so that we could make Israel a strong and secure homeland for the Jewish people.

"The past year has been a particularly challenging one for all of us. But, as we face the coming year, we are stronger and stand united. The National Unity Government, which I lead sends an important message to our citizens, as well as to all the national of the world. As Jews we must concentrate on what unites us. Our common history, heritage, and mutual interests bind us together to protect Israel today and for future generations.

"Together, we will successfully meet the challenges that lie ahead.

Sincerely,  
Ariel Sharon."  
Provided by the Information Department of the Consulate General of Israel to New England.

## Zamir Chorale of Boston to Play at Tifereth Israel

Tifereth Israel Congregation is pleased to announce that the Zamir Chorale of Boston will be performing at the synagogue, located at 145 Brownell Ave., New Bedford, Mass., on May 20 at 4 p.m.

Zamir means "nightingale" in Hebrew, an appropriate name for a choral ensemble specializing in the full spectrum of music arising out of the various Jewish traditions. Since its formation in 1969, this 50-member adult chorale, dubbed a "virtuoso outfit" by the *Boston Globe* has remained committed to the highest quality performance of music spanning thousands of years, four continents, and a variety of styles, both popular and classical.

The Chorale's repertoire includes Jewish liturgical pieces, major classical works, music of the Holocaust, newly commissioned compositions by contemporary Jewish composers, and Israeli, Yiddish and Ladino folksongs. Zamir currently has 12 recordings on the HaZamir label, ranging from Baroque masterworks to seasonal celebrations.

The Zamir Chorale has per-

formed at concert venues throughout the northeastern United States, including Boston's Symphony Hall and Tanglewood's Ozawa Hall. In 1999 Zamir celebrated its 30th season, with performances across New England and a 30th Anniversary Concert Tour of Eastern and Central Europe. During this concert tour of Europe, performances were given in synagogues and churches, concert halls and museums, cemeteries and concentration camps. In Warsaw, Lodz, Auschwitz, Krakow, Prague, Terezin and Vienna, honor was given to the dead and hope to the living. This concert tour was featured in a PBS documentary, "Zamir: Jewish Voices Return to Poland." The chorale has also toured Great Britain and Israel, appearing with the Jerusalem Symphony and Israel Philharmonic Orchestras under Zubin Mehta and Daniel Barenboim.

Tickets for this performance of the Zamir Chorale are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Tickets may be purchased by calling Tifereth Israel at (508) 997-3171 (major credit cards are accepted).

## Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum Honors Students

(Continued from Page 1)

events. Stanzler also thanked Feinstein for subsidizing the transportation costs for the day's events.

The second part of the program was a presentation by Julie Kohner, from Voices of a Generation. Kohner's mother, Hanna, was a Czechoslovakian immigrant and Holocaust survivor. Since her mother's death 10 years ago, Kohner has spoken all over the country in remembrance of her mother's ordeal.

Born in a small village in the Sudetenland in 1920, Hanna Bloch was just a teenager when she was forced to flee to Amsterdam to escape Nazi persecution. But her reprieve was short lived, and when the Germans invaded Holland in 1940, they captured her and sent her to Theresienstadt, and after that, Mauthausen. She survived the war, however, and eventually was reunited with and married her pre-war love, Walter Kohner.

The presentation included a film from a 1953 episode of "This



Julie Kohner

Is Your Life," which featured Hanna and retold her story. She was the first non-celebrity to be featured on the program. Now, decades later, Julie Kohner carries the message to yet another generation. "Sometimes when we think about history, we only think about the dramatic events," she said. "It can be hard to remember the individuals that took part in them." Kohner said that her mother's courage in talking about her experiences to educate the younger generation inspired her to do what she now does. "Eventually the survivors will no longer be alive, and it will be up to the historians and the descendants of the survivors to make sure they are remembered," said Kohner.

Following this presentation many of the students visited the RIHMM, where they got some fresh air and learned more history in the museum's memorial garden. Stanzler was on hand to speak to them about the museum's collection, where much of the artwork from the contest is on display.

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## Executive Director Position

The Jewish Community Center of RI is seeking to fill the position of Executive Director. The candidate must have outstanding skills and experiences in Planning, Strategic Thinking, Management, Leadership and Program and Service Development.

Résumés should be sent to:

**Richard S. Mittleman, Search Committee Chairman**

56 Exchange Terrace  
Providence, RI 02903

Fax # 401-331-5787

E-MAIL: RMITTLEMAN@CM-LAW.COM

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Local Temple Directory and Places of Worship

To include events for the Temple Directory, please call the Rhode Island Jewish Herald at 724-0200 or fax 726-5820. This listing is not yet complete.

### ✡ Conservative ✡

#### Congregation Am David

**Affiliation:** Conservative  
**Cantor:** Cantor Richard Perlman  
**Address:** 40 Gardiner St., Warwick, R.I. 02888  
**Phone:** 463-7944  
**Fax:** 463-9262  
**E-Mail:** <cantorRick@home.com>  
**Regular Service Times:** Monday and Thursday, 6:45 a.m.; Monday through Thursday, 6:15 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 7 a.m.; Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.  
**Religious School:** Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 4 to 6 p.m. Contact Cantor Perlman for more information.  
**Upcoming Events:** The Five Cantors in Concert, Sunday, May 6.  
 Harry Elkin Midrasha Graduation, May 20, 7 p.m.

#### Temple Beth El

**Affiliation:** Conservative  
**Rabbi:** William E. Kaufman, Cantor Richard Wolberg  
**Address:** Temple Beth El, 385 High St., Fall River, Mass. 02720  
**Phone:** (508) 674-3529  
**Fax:** (508) 674-3058  
**Regular Service Times:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday morning at 8 a.m. Friday evening 5:30 p.m. For special occasions 8 p.m. Saturday morning, 10 a.m.  
**Religious School:** Greater Fall River Hebrew School, including Temple Beth El students and Adas Israel students at Congregation Adas Israel, 1647 Robeson St. Monday and Wednesday afternoon and Sunday morning.  
**Upcoming Events:** 53rd annual donor luncheon, May 8, noon.  
 Annual Meeting, June 13, 7 p.m.  
 Celebration to Honor Cantor Richard Wolberg, June 24, 5:30 p.m.

#### Congregation B'nai Israel

**Affiliation:** Conservative  
**Rabbi:** Rabbi Sylvan Kamens (Interim Rabbi)  
**Address:** 224 Prospect St., Woonsocket, R.I. 02895  
**Phone:** 762-3651  
**Fax:** 767-5243  
**E-mail:** <cbi\_synagogue@yahoo.com>  
**Regular Service Times:** Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.  
**Religious School:** Wednesday, 4-6:15 p.m.; Sunday, 9:30 a.m.-12 noon.

#### Temple Emanu-El

**Affiliation:** Conservative  
**Rabbis:** Rabbi Wayne Franklin and Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer, Cantor Brian Mayer  
**Address:** 99 Taft Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906  
**Phone:** 331-1616  
**Fax:** 421-9279  
**Regular Service Times:** Sunday to Friday, 7 a.m.; Sunday to Friday, 5:45 p.m.; Shabbat morning, 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Shabbat evening, approximately 45 minutes before Shabbat ends.  
**Religious School:** Call temple office at 331-1616.  
**Upcoming Events:** Zamir Chorale, June 10, 7 p.m.

#### Tifereth Israel Congregation

**Affiliation:** The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism  
**Rabbi:** Rabbi Raphael Kanter, Cantor Nathaniel Schudrich  
**Address:** 145 Brownell Ave., New Bedford, Mass. 02740  
**Phone:** (508) 997-3171  
**Fax:** (508) 997-3173  
**Regular Service Times:** Daily 7:15 a.m., 5:45 p.m.; Friday evenings, 5:45 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m., Mincha/Maariv — same as Candlelighting; Sunday, 9 a.m., 5:45 p.m.

**Religious School:** The Bernard H. Ziskind School of Judaism, Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday morning, 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Call Emily Mathis, educational director, at (508) 997-3172.  
**Upcoming Events:** Zamir Chorale, May 20, 4 p.m.

#### Temple Shalom

**Affiliation:** The Conservative Congregation of Newport County  
**Rabbi:** Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer, Cantor Fredric Scheff  
**Address:** 223 Valley Road, P.O. Box 4372, Middletown, R.I. 02842  
**Phone:** (401) 846-9002  
**Fax:** (401) 682-2417  
**E-mail:** <jag5@edgenet.net>  
**Regular Service Times:** Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.; Minyanim for Jahrzeits as needed.  
**Religious School:** The Samuel Zilman Bazarsky Religious School, ages 4 to 18; Sunday 10 a.m.-noon; Monday and Wednesday, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Contact Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer for information.

#### Temple Torat Yisrael

**Affiliation:** United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism  
**Rabbi:** Rabbi Mark Bloom  
**Address:** 330 Park Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02905  
**Phone:** (401) 785-1800  
**Fax:** (401) 785-0182  
**E-mail:** <toratysrael@efortress.com>  
**Regular Service Times:** Friday, 7:30 p.m., except the first Friday of the month is 6 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Weekday evenings, 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Monday, Thursday, 6:45 a.m.  
**Religious School:** Tuesday and Thursday, 3:45-5:45 p.m.; Sunday, 9-11 a.m. Grades: Pre-Kindergarten to seventh grade.  
**Phone:** 785-1890  
**School Directors:** Jeanie Charness and Sue Sugerman.  
**Upcoming Events:** Young Adult Shabbat, May 6 at 6 p.m.

### ✡ Reform ✡

#### Temple Sinai

**Affiliation:** Suburban Reform Temple  
**Rabbi:** Rabbi David Lipman, Cantor Rennie Brown  
**Address:** 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02920  
**Phone:** 942-8350  
**Fax:** 942-3260  
**Email:** <ravlipman@aol.com>  
**Regular Service Times:** First Friday of month, 7:30 p.m., family service; Friday evenings, 8 p.m.; summer schedule, 5:45 p.m.; Saturday mornings always 10:45 a.m.  
**Religious School:** Call Leonore Sones, educational director, at 942-3466.

### ✡ Orthodox ✡

#### Congregation Adas Israel

**Affiliation:** Orthodox  
**Address:** 1647 Robeson St., Fall River, Mass. 02720  
**Phone:** (508) 674-9761  
**Fax:** (508) 678-3195  
**Regular Service Times:** Monday to Friday, 7:15 a.m.; Mincha Service, Saturday to Thursday evening, 18 minutes before sundown; Maariv Service, following Mincha; Mincha Service, Friday evening 6:30 p.m.; Maariv following Mincha; Shacharis Service, Shabbos, 8:30 a.m. and Sunday, 8:30 a.m.  
**Religious School:** Greater Fall River Hebrew School, Monday and Wednesday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Call (508) 674-9761.

#### Ahavath Achim Synagogue

**Affiliation:** Orthodox  
**Rabbi:** Rabbi Barry D. Hartman  
**Address:** 165 Maple St., New Bedford, Mass. 02740  
**Phone:** (508) 994-1760  
**Fax:** (508) 994-8186  
**E-Mail:** <RabbiBarry@aol.com>  
**Regular Service Times:** Shacharis, 7 a.m.; Mincha/Maariv, at sundown; Mincha/Maariv at 7 p.m., during daylight savings time; Shabbat Shacharis, 9 a.m.; Shabbat monthly beginners' service, 9:30 a.m.  
**Religious School:** Jewish Education Program, Mondays, Wednesdays, 3:30 to 5:15 p.m.; Bar/Bat Mitzvah classes; Post Bar/Bat mitzvah class. Call (508) 994-1760.  
**Upcoming events:** Robert Genensky Family Shabbat Dinner with Rabbi Elizabeth Bolton, Friday, May 11. Kabbalat Shabbat, 6 p.m. Shabbat dinner following services.  
**Other:** Talmud Class, Mondays 7:30 p.m.; Lunch and Learn, Tuesday at noon; Art of Jewish Prayer, every other Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

#### Congregation Sons of Jacob Synagogue

**Affiliation:** Orthodox  
**Rabbi:** Rabbi Abraham Jakubowicz  
**Address:** 24 Douglas Ave., Providence 02908  
**Phone:** 274-5260  
**Regular Service Times:** Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m.; Sunday, 7:30 a.m.; Saturday and Jewish holidays, 8:30 a.m.; U.S. national holidays, 7:30 a.m.  
**Religious School:** Contact Rabbi Jakubowicz at 331-1448 or Sons of Jacob at 274-5260.

#### Touro Synagogue

**Affiliation:** Orthodox  
**Rabbi:** Rabbi Mordechai Eskovitz  
**Address:** 85 Touro St., Newport, R.I. 02840  
**Phone:** 847-4794  
**Fax:** 847-8121  
**E-Mail:** <cji@touro-synagog.com>  
**Regular Service Times:** Friday evening 7 p.m., Saturday 8:45 a.m. (kiddush following), Jahrzeit services, upon request; daily services, July 1 to Sept. 4 at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.  
**Religious School:** Every Sunday 10 a.m. to noon. After school individual instruction. One session — Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Adult Education — Women's Rosh Chodesh class meets Monday 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Survey of the Bible, Wednesday 7 to 8 p.m.

### ✡ Hillels ✡

#### Brown-RISD Hillel Foundation

**Affiliation:** Friday night, Egalitarian Conservative, Reform, and Orthodox. Saturday morning, Egalitarian Conservative.  
**Rabbi:** Student led  
**Address:** 80 Brown St., Providence, R.I. 02906  
**Phone:** (401) 863-2805  
**Fax:** (401) 863-1591  
**E-mail:** <hillel@brown.edu>  
**Regular Service Times:** Friday, 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

#### University of Rhode Island Hillel

**Affiliation:** Pluralistic Community  
**Program Director:** Amy Saperstein  
**Phone:** 874-2274  
**Address:** 34 Lower College Road, Kingston, R.I. 02881  
**Phone:** (401) 874-2740  
**Fax:** (401) 874-2136  
**E-Mail:** <urihillel@hotmail.com>  
**Regular Service Times:** Most Friday evenings, 5:30 p.m. Call ahead to confirm time and place.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY



## Celebrate Mother's Day May 13 (Jewish Moms Too!)



### The Three Mother's Days

by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

Judaism doesn't have a mother's day — it actually has two. The first is fundamentally a part of Judaism, tracing its origins back thousands of years to Mount Sinai. "Kabade et Avicha v'et Imecha," (Honor thy father and thy mother). The Commandment is always in effect, so you could argue that every day we are commanded to give our mothers a day of respect and praise.



One could say that this strain of parental respect goes back even further than Sinai to the matriarchs and the patriarchs, and the respectful remembrance of their remarkable deeds. Although the patriarchs have for some time held a highly respected position in our weekly prayers, the matriarchs, Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel and Leah, have been gaining recognition and increasing prominence in both our prayers and our holidays.

The other day recognizing Jewish women is more recent, and is celebrated primarily in Israel on two levels. For the young children, it is called "Mother's Day" like in the United States. It lacks the fanfare and the weight of American Mother's Day and is not a full-fledged holiday in any respect.

The other Mother's Day incarnation is more historical and powerful, and is known as "International Day of Unity for Women." This day focuses on the matriarch Rachel, wife of Jacob, and her spiritual contribution to the Jewish people. This Mother's Day is celebrated on the 11th day of the Hebrew

month of Heshvan (usually in October or November), the traditional date of Rachel's death.

America's Mother's Day has its origins in the 19th century and became a national holiday in 1914. Its capitalistic thrust helped spread the idea of a mother-centered day around the world. Even despite the commercialized juggernaut that has reaped enormous profits off of the central idea of honoring one's mother, the day's intrinsic value is still as strong as ever.

The existence of the Jewish people owes itself to more than our synagogues, our fund raising efforts and our constant struggle against those who would destroy us — it also rests upon the strength, compassion and love of a Jewish household. And even though the Reform and Orthodox Jews may quibble over what a woman's place is to be in society, neither of them can deny that in raising one's children and preparing and sanctifying the home for all of our Jewish holy days, the mother has always done her share and then some. I know mine has, and mom, I appreciate it.

Mother's Day in this country is May 13, so you still have time to let her know how much she's meant to you. Whether she is in this world or moved on to the next, you can still take some time of your hectic life and give her your full attention. Judaism may tell us to honor her every day, but once a year we can make an extra-big production out of it and show her just how we appreciate all the loving, nagging, cooking and worrying she's done for us.

### Remembering Chana



Annie Treiber Frank circa 1906

by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

When Dorothy Fox-Levenson talks about her mother, she gets intensely drawn into her own vivid descriptions, and the conversation becomes almost a dramatic monologue in itself.

"My mother..." she starts, "would say Shalom Aleichem to everyone she met." She paints a picture of her mother, Annie (Chana) Frank, as a woman who taught by example, who loved Judaism with every iota of her being, and kept things running smoothly at almost a subconscious level. "She was kind to everybody," Dorothy said. "I never heard any yentehing (gossiping) as a child."

Chana Frank arrived in the United States in 1895 from Austria and moved to Providence. Her husband, David Frank, was also from Austria. They later moved from Providence to Phenix, a section of West Warwick. They were quite pos-

sibly the first Jewish family in West Warwick at the time, she said. "My mother... truly believed in the Almighty," Dorothy said, a belief so strong that to her it was just a fact, plain and simple. "[She] was so natural... doing good deeds was so natural for her," she said.

Even when Dorothy was a child, her mother never treated her like one; Dorothy had a bank account at age 4 which she maintained, was allowed to go to political rallies unescorted and was "a part of everything" the family ever did.

When describing her mother's culinary skills, Dorothy jumps out of her chair and starts waving her hands over the table as if warming them over a steaming pile of food. "Piccalilli, strudel, soups, gefilte fish, chicken, challah... she was a fantastic cook, she said."

Shabbats at her house were "uncomplicated, peaceful... There was a serenity that has



Annie (Chana) Frank (background), Dorothy Frank Fox and her baby daughter, Joyce Fox Starr. 1943

been, to this day, my source of renewal." Dorothy sat silent for a moment, and then said with a smile, "My mother lived a Shabbat every day of her life... I learned everything from her."

### She Is My Mother

by Reyna Habif  
©1981

She is my mother, my sister and my friend.  
She is my mother, my sister and my friend.

She'd always dry my tears,  
help me rid myself of doubts and fears.  
She is my mother, my sister and my friend.

Whenever I would cry, she wouldn't even ask me why.  
She'd make me laugh so hard I thought I'd die, my sister and my friend.

She always sees the sunny skies.  
Clouds never seem to block her eyes.  
She truly is a shining star, my sister and my friend.

She is my mother, my sister and my friend.

Dedicated to the memory of Stella Habif (1916-2000)

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## FEATURE

## Letter Carriers' Food Drive Set for May 12

What does your mailbox have to do with helping others? A lot! Just by leaving non-perishable food items by your mailbox on May 12, you can help countless others.

On May 8 at 10 a.m., organizers of the National Association of Letter Carriers' Food Drive will gather at the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, 104 Hay St., West Warwick, to draw attention to the hunger issue in Rhode Island and to formally kick off the drive.

Then, on May 12, letter carriers in more than 35 Rhode Island communities will be doing more than delivering the mail. They'll be picking up canned goods and other non-perishables left by residents on their routes as part of the National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive, the largest single-day drive in the nation.

Donations benefit the R.I. Community Food Bank and other local hunger relief agencies, which help more than 36,000 people each month.

"Last year's drive netted over 200,000 pounds of food," says Lawrence J. Burke, 2000 Food Drive Coordinator and Providence letter carrier. "This is truly a testament to the generosity of Rhode Islanders."

The drive is sponsored by the NALC, the AFL-CIO Community Services, the United Way of Southeastern New England and the United States Postal Service.

The cities and towns participating in the 2001 drive: Albion, Barrington, Bristol, Central Falls, Centredale, Coventry, Cranston, Cumberland, East Greenwich, East Providence, Esmond, Greenville, Jamestown, Johnston, Lincoln, Little Compton, Manville, Middletown, Olneyville, Naragansett, Newport, North Kingstown, North Providence, North Smithfield, Pawtucket, Portsmouth, Providence, Rumford, riverside, Smithfield, Tiverton, Wakefield, Warren, Warwick, West Warwick, Westerly, Woonsocket. In other areas, residents can drop by their local post office with a donation of non-perishables.

## Smarts Summer Institute at Brennan Middle School Filling Up

Registrations are being accepted for the SMARTS Summer Institute, now in its 15th year and located in Attleboro, Mass. SMARTS is recognized statewide for its dynamic program in the arts. The SMARTS Summer Institute offers an immersion into the arts through creative and technical training in creative writing, dance, drama, instrumental, vocal, visual arts, and technology. Research has shown that the arts contribute directly to cognitive learning, increased self-esteem and self-discipline, and improved critical thinking and problem solving skills.

This summer the theme is Walls and Bridges. The program

(Continued on Page 15)

## Study Says Non-Maternal Care is Okay For Kids

Good news for the working mother: According to information compiled by researchers at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, non-maternal care in children's early years does not negatively influence their development. The researchers' conclusions were published recently in the magazine, *Psychological Bulletin*.

Dr. Osnat Erel, Dr. Nurit Yirmiya and Yael Oberman of The Hebrew University School of Education conducted a statistical summary (meta-analytic analysis) of 59 experimental studies that examined the linkage between maternal versus non-maternal care. Research was analyzed on more than 20,000 children, ranging in age from 6 months to 7 years. Seven developmental outcomes were studied, including those related to the quality of the connection between mother and child, adjustment difficulties, social skills, and cognitive development. Nearly all of the studies examined were conducted in the United States.

Also examined were whether certain variables, such as the age at which the child begins the non-maternal care, the gender of the child, the number of hours the child spends in non-maternal care, and the social standing of the family, influence the child's development.

The analyses indicate that research to date offers no support for the notion that child development is either positively or negatively associated with type of care. Particularly interesting is that these findings hold true under the variable conditions involving the gender of the children, the age at which they were placed in non-maternal care, or the number of hours that the children spent in the "non-maternal" framework. "Women tend to believe that they're harming their children's development by going out to work, but there is no scientific proof for that," said Erel.

Erel did caution, however, that it is premature to reach an absolute conclusion that the type of care has no influence on the child's development. "There are still many variables on which research has not yet been conducted," said Erel. "These include measuring of the quality of the non-maternal care and the special needs of various children."

"In addition, the simultaneous impact of multiple variables on the linkage has not been studied," Erel continued. "Therefore, we still don't have an answer to complex questions, such as whether high-quality, non-maternal care influences children from different social strata in different ways."

## Peres to Meet Annan, Bush, Powell in U.S.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Shimon Peres arrived last week in New York to meet with United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan to discuss the issue of the UN troops posted in Lebanon, Israel Radio (Kol Yisrael) reported.

During his visit to the U.S., Peres is slated to travel to Washington and meet with U.S. President George Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell to discuss the U.S. involvement in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and to grant diplomatic and economic backing to efforts to reach a cease-fire.

Peres will also meet with the president of the World Bank to present his proposal for the economic rehabilitation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the establishment of economic joint ventures between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

## From Climbing Wall to Bouncy Castle, Pennfield's May Fair Reaches New Heights



HANGING IN THE HAY at Pennfield's May Fair.

Photo courtesy of the Pennfield School

The Pennfield School in Portsmouth will hold one of its biggest events of the year next month — the 30th annual May Fair — with enough attractions to keep your children entertained for hours.

From scaling the enormous rock-climbing wall to reaching new heights in the Bounce About inflatable castle, children will have fun and be helping a non-denominational school known for its commitment to academic excellence. The popular annual outing will be May 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine, at the school at 321 East Main Road.

Other major attractions include Marvellous Marvin's Circus Act and Circus Arts Workshop, the hysterical antics and balloon sculptures of local clown Warren Gray, the storytelling talents of Piper Padilla, and the magical predictions of a fortune teller. There will also be pony rides, an exciting windsurfer simulator (children must be 5 feet tall to ride), a cork pull with fabulous prizes, field games including tug-of-war, a lip-sync contest, a tea party,

children's crafts, and delicious homemade food and baked goods.

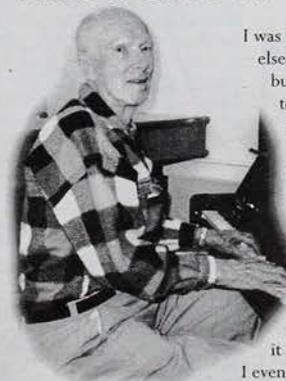
The silent auction features some of the best treats of the day. Participants will be able to bid for outstanding prizes, such as a Block Island getaway at the beautiful Hygeia House, a weekend in the Adirondacks for a family of four, a harbor cruise for four, a golf outing for four at Newport Country Club, autographed memorabilia, and much more.

Two raffles will be held, one with three \$500 prizes and another with three themed gift baskets, including a sports basket from Nike with a Nike golf bag and a gift certificate to Niketo.vn in Boston. Winning raffle tickets will be drawn between 3 and 4 p.m. The May Fair will also feature a white elephant sale offering unique costume jewelry.

The event is open to the public and admission is free. A small fee will be charged for some attractions.

Note: The climbing wall and Bounce About will not be erected in inclement weather.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## 'From Here and Back'

The Carriage House presents "From Here and Back" by the Bald Mermaids and Alison Kenner on May 11 and 12 at 8 p.m. Presenting a variation of their most recent solos and duets, The Bald Mermaids embody stylized modern dance with an organic raw quality. Alison Kenner's piece explores different aspects of personal relationships. The Carriage House is located at 7 Duncan Ave., Providence. Tickets are \$12. For ticket reservations, call 831-9479.

Photo courtesy of The Everett Dance Theatre



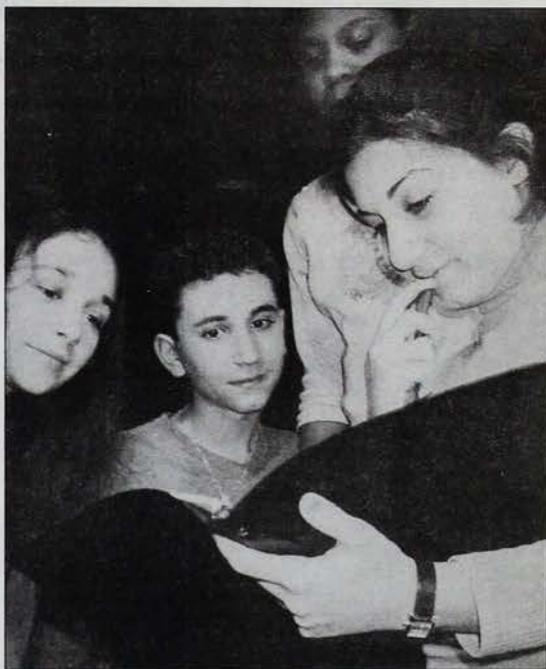
## Dance Ensemble Presents Tradition and Innovation

The Brown University Dance Ensemble's annual Spring Concert will be presented May 2 through May 6 in Stuart Theatre. All performances are at 8 p.m., with the exception of May 6, which will have two performances: a 3 p.m. matinee and an 8 p.m. show.

This annual event is the final production of the season, showcasing exciting new works of West African masked performance, Neo-classic European Dance Theater, street tap, and classics from American Modern Dance Masters. This 2001 Spring Dance Concert is one you won't want to miss.

Under the artistic eye of producer/choreographer Michelle Bach-Coulibaly, this spring season will bring together the works of New Works/World Traditions Dance Theater, Komme Josse Percussion Ensemble, The Dance Extension, RCJ Dance, as well as guest choreographers Melody Ruffin-Ward, Lowell Smith, Tony Rizzi, David Parsons and Ruth Andrien.

Tickets for the Spring Dance Concert are available at the Leeds Theatre box office, 77 Waterman St., Providence, or at the door on the nights of performance beginning at 7 p.m. in Stuart Theatre. Ticket price is \$14 regular admission, \$10 senior citizens (65 and over), and \$5 for student with identification. Phone reservations are accepted with Visa/MasterCard. Box office hours are Monday to Thursday, noon to 5 p.m.; Friday, noon to 4 p.m. and one hour before the performance. For more information or to make reservations, call 863-2838.



## Studying Script for 'Good Night, My Dear Fateema'

"Good Night, My Dear Fateema," by Warwick resident and Toll Gate High School senior Tamar Palandjian, will be performed at All Children's Theatre's fifth annual R.I. Youth Playwriting Festival at the Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St. (Fox Point) in Providence on May 11, 12, 18 and 19 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5. The setting for "Good Night, My Dear Fateema," is the Middle East, where women are treated as property and not given much choice, and where Fateema's father has arranged for her to marry an older man. Pictured clockwise from top: ACT Ensemble member Erika Mosley of Providence with Playwright Tamar Palandjian and Ensemble members David Gromet of Providence and Nicole Boucher of Cranston.

Photo courtesy of ACT

## America's Foremost Female Pianist at The Stadium Theatre

Hailed as America's First Lady of the Piano by the *New York Daily News*, Ruth Laredo will take to the stage at the Stadium Theatre Performing Arts Centre on May 6 at 2 p.m. Admission to the concert is free. The performance is co-sponsored by the Northern Rhode Island Council of the Arts.

Laredo has a distinguished worldwide reputation as a leading soloist, recitalist and recording artist. While she is particularly renowned for her pioneering recordings of the complete solo piano music of Rachmaninoff and the complete piano sonatas of Scriabin, her broad repertoire ranges from Beethoven to Barber.

A three-time Grammy nominee, Ruth Laredo has been widely praised for her recordings. She was the first pianist ever to record Rachmaninoff's

complete solo works for CBS Masterworks, which earned her a "Best Keyboard Artist" award from *Record World* magazine, and a Grammy nomination.

Stadium Theatre Foundation President Jeff Polucha stated, "The free admission is a thank you for all of the support we have received and continue to receive throughout the state."

Open seating will be available at this once-in-a-lifetime free concert. For more information, call the box office at 762-4545.

## 'Madeline' at Lincoln School



"Madeline," a program of classical and contemporary ballet will be presented at Lincoln School Auditorium, 301 Butler Ave., Providence. Times will be May 19 at 7:30 p.m. and May 20 at 1:30 p.m. The program will feature "Madeline," a new ballet based on the famous story of a Parisian orphan and her friends; "Les Petits Riens," a classical ballet presented on pointe to Mozart's theme of the same name; and "Drummin," a contemporary ballet set to "Ladies Can't Drum," by Simone LaDrumma. Tickets are \$25 and \$15. For information, call 847-5301.

## Eighth Annual Zeiterion Golf Classic Will be Held June 4

There are many golf benefits, but only one where the money raised exclusively supports children's programming is at the Zeiterion Theatre. The eighth annual Zeiterion Theatre Golf Classic will be held on June 4, at Acushnet River Valley Golf Course in Acushnet, Mass.

Registration is at noon with a shotgun start (scramble format) at 1 p.m. The all-day affair, coordinated by Zeiterion staff and volunteers, includes an ongoing barbecue lunch and dinner at the Century House. There will be a Las Vegas raffle, in addition to prizes, including golf-related items, that will be raffled off during the evening.

Levels of participation include Gold: \$1,200 for golf for four, carts, barbecue lunch, dinner at

the Century House, signage on the course, and a full-page ad in the golf program book.

Silver: \$600 for golf for two, carts, barbecue lunch, dinner at the Century House, and signage on the course. Individual: \$150 for golf for one, barbecue lunch and dinner at the Century House.

Opportunities still exist to support the event in addition to actually playing in it. Corporate sponsorship is available for individual holes at \$125 per hole. Program ads can be purchased by contacting Kathy at (508) 997-5664, ext. 18.

Zeiterion Golf committee members include co-chairmen Jason Hantman and George Sine, Dr. Gary Alves, Nancy Alves, Jean Dumas, Sandy Fogg, Mike Livingstone, Norma Lord, Gabe Souza, Dr. Rand Torman, and Barbara Warburton. The Zeiterion Theatre is supported, in part, by grants from the cultural councils of Acushnet, Barnstable, Berkley, Bourne, Brewster, Carver, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Harwich, Marion, Mashpee, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Orleans, Rochester, and Swansea, local agencies supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

The Zeiterion Theatre is located at 684 Purchase St., New Bedford, Mass. <www.zeiterion.com>.

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



## Eve Eliot - Overcoming the Power of Food

by Seth T. Bromley  
Editorial Assistant

Eve Eliot says that when life felt like root canal, she used food to numb the pain.



Eve Eliot

"We wouldn't expect anyone to go through a root canal without Novocain," she said, "and when I needed to numb, I started numbing with food."

Eliot, a Sephardic Jew originally from Brooklyn, N.Y., is the author of *Insatiable: The Compelling Story of Four Teens, Food, and Its Power*. A psychoanalyst and addictions counselor, Eliot uses her own life experiences in treating people with eating disorders. The book tells the story of four teenage girls whose shame, fear and insecurity compel them to binge, purge and refuse to eat in misguided attempts to feel safe and in control of their lives, according to the author. "It's a 'self-help' novel," Eliot said of *Insatiable*. "I wrote it to help young people who are stuck in an addictive cycle."

She said she wants young people with eating disorders to know that they are not alone, that there are people out there who understand. "During my own dysfunction, the reason it was so difficult to deal with was that I didn't have anyone I could talk to that understood the problem... People would ask me 'Why do you care so much about how you look?' But embedded in the thought that 'I'm too fat, I don't look good,' is a whole bunch of other meanings... It's not just about looks — that's just the tip of the feelings iceberg," she said.

Eliot said compulsive eating was a habit she got into when she was a child. Her mother died when Eliot was 11 years old, after a seven year battle with cancer. What made the ordeal more traumatic, she said,

was that her father and grandmother wouldn't tell her the truth about what was going on during all that time. "Whenever I tried to ask what was wrong, they would say 'don't worry about it, go play, go have something to eat.' That kind of treatment makes you distrust your instincts. And food helped quell that anxiety," said Eliot. "People eat inappropriately because sometimes we are not emotionally comfortable knowing what we know... Food, or the denial of it, creates physical sensations that very effectively remove our attention from that unwanted knowledge."

Eliot also says she struggles with the idea of her Jewishness. She says at times she feared that being Jewish contributed partly to her compulsive eating. "As some people say, a lot of our holidays are — 'they tried to kill us, we won, let's eat,'" she said. She also said she had difficulty dealing with the sense of differentness she felt, growing up Jewish in a community that seemed "99.9 percent Italian."

Eliot said that today she is still in search of what her Jewishness means to her. She said that she has especially embraced the story of the exodus ever since overcoming her emotional and physical problems. "We all have a narrow place to squeeze out of," she said. She recently helped a friend prepare a Passover seder, and she said that looking through different Haggadot had brought back thoughts about her Jewish identity.

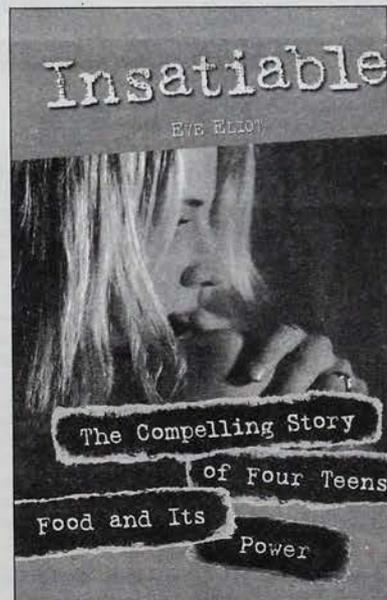
Eliot's triumph over addiction was a long process, she said. When she was in her teens, her doctor prescribed amphetamines to control her appetite, and she took them until her late 20s. By then, however, the side effects of the drugs had taken a dire toll on her health, and she ceased using them. "I knew it was a bad situation," she said, "I knew I couldn't go back to the drugs. I became extremely depressed, my weight ballooned, and I

couldn't take care of my body or my feelings." She tried a variety of approaches to control her weight without drugs, but nothing worked. "I felt ashamed and disgusted at myself... I wasn't happy [with myself] underneath how I looked. I was afraid I could never control myself, that I would never be normal; I still would've felt this way even if it weren't for my appearance," said Eliot.

Finally, she found out that by substituting healthier foods for high-calorie sweets, she could still eat a lot but without gaining weight. It wasn't easy to make this transition, but once she did, and her weight started going down, she realized: "I can be myself and still be an appropriate weight. I can be okay." She said that by eating healthier, she could still use food to cheer herself up, but without having to face the guilt over getting fat. "I had to develop my own way of feeding myself," she said.

Eliot said the most important thing for people in a similar situation to do is "to not beat themselves up" over the use of whatever they are addicted to "until they find a better Novocain."

Eliot is currently embarked on a tour through the Northeast in support of *Insatiable*. She appeared May 1 at Waldenbooks in Lincoln, and appears May 3 at



Barnes and Noble in Burlington, Mass. The book is available at bookstores and by calling Health Communications at (800) 441-5569. Eliot has a Web site, <www.menuforliving.com>, featuring information on eating disorders and holistic treatments for them.

## WhoDunnit's New Show is a Mystery-Lover's Delight

Show Dates are May 4, 5, 11, 12, and 19

When WhoDunnit's original "Murder in the Court" first opened in February to rave reviews, mystery fans got a glimpse of what they thought was impossible: a live mystery series they could follow, with great story lines and characters they could keep coming back to see. WhoDunnit has now responded to their eager requests with "Murder in the

teries, WhoDunnit has a very active following which is growing by leaps and bounds," said Ann Waterman, the author of both the play and its musical score. "The twists and turns in the story keep the audience intrigued, while the humor and the talented actors keep them thoroughly entertained. And our shows are suitable for the entire family."

Will there be a Murder in the Court III? "I can't give away any



Scene from "Murder in the Court II: Retribution." Playing now until May 19 at the WhoDunnit? Murder Mystery Dinner Theater at the Radisson Hotel, Providence, R.I., and Darling's (the Ramada Inn) in Seekonk. Photo courtesy of WhoDunnit?

murder in the Court II: Retribution." And it was well worth the wait. But audiences will enjoy "Murder in the Court II: Retribution" just as much if they have never seen the original — maybe even more.

"Murder in the Court II: Retribution" brings back the first show's most popular characters, including shady/sexy private investigator Emery Pierce (J. Schaefer), "good guy" defense attorney Edwin Meeks (Niles Welch), tough gal Rebecca Chandler (Greta Marszalkowski) and Judge Skyler Stern (Deb McGowan) who was revealed as corrupt in the surprise ending of "Murder in the Court I." It also introduces several new characters in WhoDunnit's fabulous tradition of combining great humor, fascinating mysteries and an outstanding musical score. This time Emery Pierce finds himself on trial for the murder of a popular TV newscaster whom he says he didn't know — but which of the characters are telling the truth, and which are involved in an elaborate scheme? Audiences will thrill to find out.

Unlike many other murder mystery theater groups, WhoDunnit thrives on its story lines. "Because we do real mys-

secrets just yet," said Waterman, "but fans of TV shows like "Law & Order" have been saying they've found a home here, and with the thrill of live theater. Our audiences have been enthusiastically clamoring for more, and we are listening."

"Murder in the Court II: Retribution" runs through May 19 at the Radisson Hotel in Providence, R.I., and Darling's (the Ramada Inn) in Seekonk, Mass. For reservations or more information, call the WhoDunnit office at (508) 336-8873, or visit <www.aswaterman.com/whodunnit>.

## Camp Gan Israel Sweepstakes

Camp Gan Israel is holding a sweepstakes for a free week at the camp, located at Congregation Am David in Warwick, and which offers sports, arts and crafts, swimming, and Jewish tradition. To enter, send the name of a child aged 4 to 10, along with a telephone number, to Camp Gan Israel Sweepstakes, Congregation Am David, 40 Gardiner Street, Warwick, RI 02888.

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# OBITUARIES

**JEANETTE BROOMFIELD**  
PROVIDENCE — Jeanette (Wexler) Broomfield, 88, of 1085 N. Main St., a former librarian, died April 22 at the Summit Medical Center.

She was the wife of the late Max Broomfield. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Hyman and Anna Wexler, she was a lifelong resident of Rhode Island.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood, and a former member of Ledgemont Country Club.

She leaves a daughter, Susan Kohn of Hillsborough, Calif., a son, Stephen Broomfield of Pawtucket; a brother, Irvin Wexler in New Jersey; and five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Sidney and Bernard Wexler and Lillian Wolf.

The funeral service was held April 24 in 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.

## ETHEL DANIS

**NEW BEDFORD, Mass.** — Ethel Danis, 87, of 200 Hawthorn St., died April 23 at St. Lukes Hospital.

Born in New Bedford, a daughter of the late Harry and Fanny Danis, she was the manager of the former Danis Jewelry Store in New Bedford. She was a lifelong resident of New Bedford.

She was the sister of the late Sylvia Schulman and Eleanor

Danis.

She is survived by a cousin, Sidney Dennis of Delray Beach, Florida.

A graveside funeral service was held on April 25 at Plainville Cemetery, New Bedford. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## OSCAR M. DAVID CRANSTON

Oscar M. David, 78, of 25 Glen View Drive, an attorney at the office of Oscar M. David Attorney & Counselor at Law in Providence for 40 years, retiring six years ago, died April 23 at Roger Williams Memorial Center, Providence. He was the husband of Dolores (Caroseli) David.

Born in Providence, he was the son of the late Michael and Gertrude (Yosolowich) David. He had lived in Cranston for 44 years, previously residing in Providence and Woonsocket.

He was a World War II Army veteran, serving in the European theater.

He was a graduate of Brown University, Class of 1950, with a bachelor's degree, and received his J.D. degree from Boston University in 1954.

He was a past master of Doric Lodge of the Masons, a member of the Brown Faculty Club, the Elks Club, and the Rhode Island Bar Association. He was a Cranston West Little League coach for many years.

He was a military history buff and sports fan.

Besides his wife, he leaves three sons, Michael N. David of

Great Falls, Va.; Andrew O. David of Cranston, and Oscar A. David of Winnetka, Ill.; a daughter, Christine F. David of Chicago; a sister, Mary (David) Baker of Brockton, Mass.; and three grandchildren. He was father of the late Lisa Mary David and brother of his late twin sister, Annie David.

The funeral service was held April 28 in Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston. Burial with military honors was held in Rhode Island Veterans Cemetery, Exeter. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the National Parkinson's Disease Foundation, Inc., Development Dept., 1501 N.W. 9th Ave., Miami, FL 33136-1494. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Shalom Memorial Chapel.

## DR. RICHARD E. DEUTCH

**MIAMI, Fla.** — Dr. Richard E. Deutch died April 19, hours after celebrating his 75th birthday. He was the husband of Felicia (Orovitz) Deutch. They were married for 46 years.

Born in Providence, he was the son of the late Edward and Bess Deutch. He moved to Miami in 1957.

He was a dentist who specialized in pedodontics. He graduated from Brown University in 1946 and received his D.D.S. from New York University College of Dentistry in 1950. He also served in the U.S. Navy as a Lt. jg.

Beginning in 1978, he created a chain of dentist offices housed inside department stores throughout South Florida. He also served as chief of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at Mt. Sinai Medical Center and in numerous leadership positions in civic, dental and philanthropic organizations. A passionate golfer, he served a six-year term as president of Westview Country Club.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Ellen Wolfson; two sons, Richard Jr. and David Deutch; a sister, Joy Field, of Providence; and seven grandchildren.

Services were held on April 20 at Temple Israel of Greater Miami, with burial at Mt. Nebo Memorial Gardens in Miami. Contributions can be made to the Mt. Sinai Medical Center Foun-

dation or Temple Israel of Greater Miami.

## FRANK FEINBERG

**FALL RIVER** — 84, of North Main Street, a watchmaker for 60 years, died April 26 at Catholic Memorial Home.

He was the husband of the late Zelda (Kaplan) Feinberg. Born in Taunton, a son of the late Morris and Bella (Czemopolski) Feinberg, he had lived in Fall River most of his life.

He was a 1935 graduate of Durfee High School and received a degree from BMC Durfee College of Technology/Engineering.

He had worked for Gilbert Jewelry and was a member of the American Watchmakers Institute. He had worked at Brown & Sharpe Mfg. Co. for 39 years, retiring in 1979.

He served in the military during World War II. He was a member of the Jewish War Veterans and the Knights of Pythias.

He leaves two sons, Robert Feinberg and Carl Feinberg, both of Fall River; two daughters, Cheryl Phillips of Somerset and Melody Viveiros of Fall River; a sister, Dorothy Goldstein of West Palm Beach, Fla.; and seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

A graveside funeral service was held April 27 in Hebrew Cemetery. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## WILLIAM L. FIERSTEIN

**North Providence** — William L. Fierstein, 80, of Nipmuc Trail, a retired librarian, died April 25 at Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of Mary Jane Fornare Fierstein. Born in Providence, a son of the late Max and Minnie (Pincus) Fierstein, he had lived in Cranston most of his life before moving to North Providence five years ago.

He was a librarian at Johnston High School for more than 25 years, a reference librarian at the Warwick Public Library for more than 20 years before retiring 25 years ago.

He served in the Navy for

two years as an electronics specialist during World War II.

He received a bachelor's degree in education from Rhode Island College, a master's degree in English literature from Boston University, where he also attended the doctoral program in English literature, and a master's degree in library science from the University of Rhode Island.

He enjoyed astronomy and chess and loved to read.

Besides his wife, he leaves three stepsons, Michael J. Kiernan of Miramar, Fla., Stephen P. Kiernan of Barrington, and John F. Kiernan III of Cranston, and six grandchildren.

The funeral was held April 27 in the chapel at Rhode Island Veterans Cemetery, Exeter. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, R.I. 02889. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## IDA LEVY

**WARWICK** — Ida Levy, 92, of 1200 Centre St., Boston, formerly of Shalom Apartments, 1 Shalom Drive, Warwick, a senior clerk at the Rhode Island Registry of Motor Vehicles for 20 years before retiring, died April 25, at the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for the Aged, Boston.

She was the wife of the late Louis Levy. Born in Brockton, Mass., and a daughter of the late Abraham and Bella (Tarlow) Lipsky, she had been a resident of Providence and Warwick most of her life.

She was a member of Warwick Social Seniors, Women's American ORT and Shalom Apartment Tenants Association. She was a life member of Temple Am David, Warwick.

She leaves three sons, Howard Levy of Lewiston, Maine; Stanley Levy of Wilmington, Del.; and Barry Levy of Stoughton, Mass.; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held April 27 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Insight, 43 Jefferson Boule-

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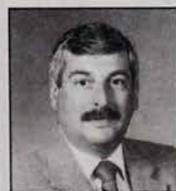
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## FEATURE

## Obituaries Cont.

vard, Warwick, R.I. 02888. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## PETER PERLOW

PROVIDENCE — Peter Perlow, 89, of 1 Butler Ave., proprietor and president of the former Astor Jewelry Co. for many years, retiring 25 years ago, died April 25 at Miriam Hospital.

He was the husband of Frances (Sweet) Perlow. A lifelong resident of Providence, he was a son of the late Samuel and Fannie Perlow.

He was a volunteer at Miriam Hospital for more than 20 years, and was affectionately known as "Uncle Pete." He was a member of B'nai Brith, and Temple Emanu-El and its Men's Club.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Barbara G. Ross, and her husband, Allen, of Purchase, N.Y., two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Murray Lowe and Joseph and Fred Perlow.

The funeral was held April 26 in Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the charity of your choice. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## MAX RATNER

FALL RIVER — Max Ratner, 93, of Rolling Green Drive, owner and operator of the former M. Ratner Inc., a textile-waste company, died April 25 at home.

He was the husband of Evelyn (Ostrov) Ratner. A lifelong Fall River resident, he was a son of the late Morris and Ida (Lifrak) Ratner.

He was a member of Adas Israel Synagogue.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Elaine Ratner of Berkeley, Calif.; a sister, Fay Silverman of Sun City West, Ariz.; and a granddaughter. He was father of the late Martin Barry Ratner and brother of the late Harry Ratner and Hoan Coyle.

A graveside funeral service was held April 27 at Hebrew Cemetery. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## BRENDA SMIRA

PROVIDENCE — Brenda (Medoff) Smira, 89, of 101 Highland Ave., died April 27 at Miriam Hospital.

She was the wife of the late M. William Smira. They were married for 48 years. Born in Woonsocket, a daughter of the late Rose and Abraham Medoff, she had been a resident of Providence for 45 years.

She was a member of Hadasah, the Brandeis Women's Association, and Temple Emanu-El and its Sisterhood. She was a life member of the Miriam Hospital Women's Association.

She leaves two daughters, Deborah Smira Levovsky of Boca Raton, Fla., and Carol Smira Trow of Cambridge, Mass.; a sister, Eve Goldberg of Providence; and eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Nancy Robbins, and Israel, Samuel J. and Edward B. Medoff.

The funeral service was held April 29 in Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the M. William and Brenda Smira Endowment Fund, c/o Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906 or your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## JOSEPH SOLINSKY

FALL RIVER — Joseph Solinsky, 86, of 538 Robeson St., Fall River, a supervisor at the former Louis Hand Curtain Factory for many years before retiring in 1982, died April 27 at the Fall River Jewish Home for Aged. He was the husband of Betty (Eisenberg) Solinsky.

Born in Philadelphia, Pa., a son of the late Samuel and Gertrude (Ludwig) Solinsky, he has been a resident of Fall River since 1945.

He was a member of Temple Beth-El and Congregation Adas Israel Men's Club.

Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, Helene "Honey" Deutsch of Needham and Rita Ramsden of Wakefield; one brother, Benjamin Solinsky of Philadelphia, Pa.; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Louis Solinsky.

A graveside service was held on April 29 in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Fall River. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to the Fall River Jewish Home, 538 Robeson St., Fall River, Mass. 02720. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## Smarts Summer Institute

(Continued from Page 11)

encourages innovative and dynamic thinking and collaboration among the various arts disciplines. Taught by professional artists and arts educators, the institute also promotes understanding of diverse cultures and values.

The elementary level, grades one to three, runs from July 2 to July 20; the junior level, grades four to seven, runs from July 3 to July 28 (no classes July 4); and the senior level, grades seven to 12, runs from July 9 to Aug. 4. All programs are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Financial aid is available.

For more information and registration, call the SMARTS office at (508) 222-8484.

## A Romance with Food

(Continued from Page 3)

shield our vision of the Divine. Summoning our will to eat according to the dietary laws helps us to recognize the impurities that hinder us from spiritual development. The sole function of the laws is to distinguish between clean and unclean, not for our bodies, but for our souls.

Eating, like so many other mundane activities, contains the prospect for spiritual growth. Judaism sees even the most mundane acts as a means of gaining G-d consciousness. Through eating we may begin to foster our relationship with G-d. The Torah presents us with the source material for our romance with food: the dietary laws, the holy food contribution for the Kohanim (the priestly class), and the sacrificial offerings; it's all about food. Is it any wonder that food enjoys such prominence among Jews everywhere? Bon appetit!

*Velvet "Wally" Spiegler lives in Rehoboth MA. 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 website at <www.geocities.com/JewishLink>*

## JCCRI Holds Annual Meeting May 9

The Jewish Community Cente of Rhode Island welcomes all to attend its 76th annual meeting on May 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. Co-Chaired by Stacy and Douglas Emanuel, the meeting will celebrate and highlight the multiple "communities" in the JCCRI family. The JCCRI is located at 401 Elmgrove Avenue in Providence. Call 861-8800

## Need to Come to See Us?

Directions to the Jewish Herald are:  
**From Points South:** 95 North to Exit 29 (Broadway Cottage St.) take Broadway (which is Route 1 North) up to third light, take right on to Webster Street. Go through one light over railroad track, within 100 feet look for an overhang sign Herald Press, R.I. Herald. Take driveway to second building.  
**From Points North:** 95 South to Exit 1 which is Broadway, Route 1 South. Go to third light, turn left on George Bennett Highway, then take third left to Webster Street. Look for overhang sign within 100 feet on right and take driveway to second building.

## JNF Celebrating 100th Anniversary

(Continued from Page 8)

water supply. Major fund-raising efforts are being carried out throughout the United States, "JNF, with the help of its loyal supporters, has been able to increase Israel's water supply by 6 percent since 1990. This is an impressive accomplishment given the obstacles we have faced, but so much more remains to be done," says Lauder.

People wishing to contact JNF can call (888) JNF-0099 to reach their closest regional office. JNF has 40 offices worldwide, and 22 regional offices in the United States. For more information on JNF offices around the United States, visit <www.jnf.org/map.html>. Those interested in finding out about the from Basel to Jerusalem trip should contact JNF Travel and Tours at (877) JNF-TOUR.

## Free Health and Happiness Workshops at EPOCH

EPOCH Assisted Living on Blackstone Boulevard located 353 Blackstone Boulevard, Providence, R.I., is hosting free Health and Happiness Workshops every Tuesday night from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the residence.

Dr. Dolores Seymour, author, motivational speaker, columnist and holistic counselor will conduct one of the educational series. Come learn about stress management, relaxation, positive thinking and much more! This event is free, open to the public and light refreshments will be served. For details, call Julie Fox at 273-6565.

## CAT SITTING

EAST SIDE CAT SITTING SERVICE— "Loving Care When You Can't Be There" (401) 272-0557 5/03/01

## JOB WANTED

FEMALE COMPANION, personal care or private duty assistant available. Please call Martha at (401) 276-0690. 5/10/01

## MOVING OUT OF STATE

EVERYTHING MUST GO INCLUDING: Artwork, sculpture, tools, antiques, bric-a-brac. 12 Manning St. Daily 10 a.m. until dark. 5/10/01

## PHOTOGRAPHY

SKORSKI PHOTOGRAPHY: Specializing in Weddings & Bar/Bat Mitzvahs. Free us for your next event & receive FREE 11x14. 821-7639 5/31/01

## WANTED

SILVERPLATE AND STERLING trays, pitchers, tea sets, etc. Doesn't have to be polished. (781) 344-6763 5/31/01

## WANTED TO BUY

CENTRAL EXCHANGE ANTIQUES is always interested in buying older items— china, glass, furniture, jewelry, etc. 29 years same location. (781) 344-6763 5/31/01

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

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

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## Local Woodworker 'Saw' His Calling with Judaic Woodcarvings

(Continued from Page 5)

Resnick started to diversify his work and spread out to other wooden creations. He made signs, refrigerator magnets and a large variety of Judaic objects. As he improved his technique, his Judaica became some of his best known products. Resnick began incorporating the Hebrew words "Chai" and "Shalom" into regular household items, such as napkin holders and bookends. Besides creating pieces and then selling them, he has also made many objects to order, including puzzles, menorot and the Magen David in many different styles and sizes.

"I've looked and I don't re-

ally see any kind of work like this locally — certainly no affordable stuff," Resnick said. He's searched online as well, but found their prices to be exorbitant and the selection rather limiting. That's where he comes in, he says. His items have a personal touch and are very reasonably priced.

Resnick still uses the same saw he has used for eight years, although he's added a few attachments. His website <www.guthrieweb.com/reshon> has pictures of many of his creations. He hopes it will help to get the word out about him and his work.

Al doesn't plan to turn his woodworking into a full-fledged business. "This is strictly part-time," he said. Resnick lives in Warwick and volunteers at the Rhode Island Blood Bank.

His proudest moment came when Temple Sinai in Cranston asked him to carve the first ten letters of the Hebrew Alphabet for the Ten Commandments that would be placed on the ark. He worked round the clock on those letters, carefully and meticulously crafting every side and angle.

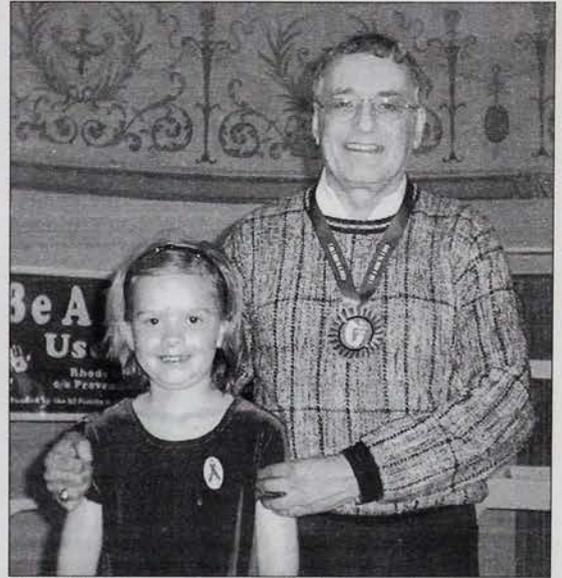
Resnick's work is functional and simple, and handcrafted with a personal touch that makes it special. His workshop is based inside his house, which he lives in with his wife Corinne. Working inside his house helps him generate new ideas. "It's endless, really... what you can do," he said.

## R.I. Children Honor Their Heroes

Students Attend Child Abuse Prevention Month Carnival

More than 450 students from kindergarten through eighth grade participated in the third annual "Be a Hero to a Child" Campaign sponsored by the Rhode Island Child Abuse Prevention Network. As part of the

Emily Allen of Woonsocket chose Alan Shawn Feinstein as her hero, who as she states in her essay, "shows kids how helping people is really important... Because of him, I know I can make a difference."



EMILY ALLEN, age 9, stands with her hero, Alan Shawn Feinstein. Photo courtesy of Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island

April "Child Abuse Prevention Month" activities statewide, the students were encouraged to describe their "Everyday Heroes" — those people who touch their lives each day by writing an essay or drawing a poster.

On April 18, at the Roger Williams Park Casino, a special hero celebration carnival was held in honor of many of the students and their heroes. After enjoying a smorgasbord of treats from pushcart vendors, face painting, games, and clowns, the guests all participated in a moving ceremony where the children read their essays and honored their heroes. Each child received a certificate of participation, as well as gifts of books from First Books, and passes for the Roger Williams Park Zoo. Each hero

was given a blue ribbon and medallion that said "I am a hero to a child."

Emily Allen of Woonsocket chose Alan Shawn Feinstein as her hero, who, as she states in her essay, "shows kids how helping people is really important... Because of him, I know I can make a difference." Feinstein was honored to be considered her hero and enjoyed the festivities thoroughly.

According to the R.I. Kids Count Fact Book, there are more than 13,500 reports regarding suspected cases of child abuse and neglect made to the Department of Children, Youth and Families each year. There are more than

3,000 children confirmed as child maltreatment victims each year in Rhode Island. During Child Abuse Prevention Month, the R.I. Child Abuse Prevention Network focuses its attention on raising awareness around the ways that adults can interact positively with children. Throughout the year, activities to support parents, caregivers, school personnel, health care and social service professionals are promoted in order to reduce these heartbreaking statistics. For more information about these activities and the Child Abuse Prevention Network, contact Kate Begin at Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island at 728-7920.

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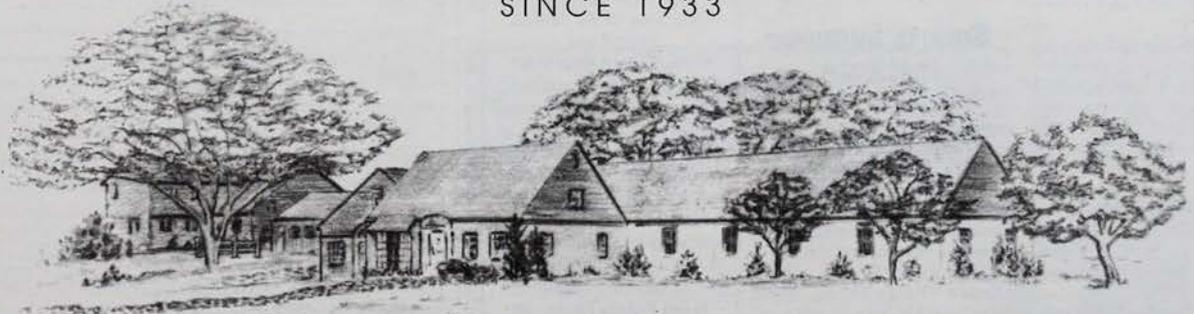


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