





## PETA, Tim McVeigh and Torah

by Sarah Cohen

Timothy McVeigh is finally gone. And what a saga his final days turned out to be. The sight of a hapless Louis Freeh admitting FBI incompetence in withholding documents, McVeigh's retrial request and his execution were the final chapters in an epic that seems destined for American immortality — or at least the miniseries.

His very name became a national Rorschach blot, eliciting seething passions on the thorny issue of the death penalty. A story this portentous was bound to prompt serious debate, as well as the appearance of the inevitable lunatic fringes.

For me, though, the nuttiest development to come down the McVeigh pike surfaced in a March 21 press release:

"Now that the Federal Prison system offers a vegetarian meal plan, Timothy McVeigh should not be allowed to take even more life," wrote PETA's Vegan Campaign coordinator Bruce Friedrich. "Make Timothy McVeigh's final meals meatless... Wiping meat off of all inmates' plates could help killers lose their taste for blood. This would send a powerful message... Feeding inmates bean burritos rather than baby back ribs might just help break the cycle of violence."

PETA, for all of you carnivores looking forward to the summer barbecuing season in blessed ignorance, stands for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Founder Ingrid Newkirk articulates its credo: "A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy. There is no rational basis for saying that a human being has special rights."

The movement's moral vacu-

ity is frightening, if entirely consistent with the contemporary desire to ignore the divine. In a world without G-d to decree a hierarchy in which all creatures exist to serve man, who in turn is created to serve his Creator, there is indeed "no rational basis" for granting humanity special status. "We're not the only species on the planet," reads one bumper sticker. "We only act like it."

A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy.

If PETA doesn't pull its punches, neither does G-d. In the book of Genesis, he lays out the order of Creation quite clearly. "Let us make man... and he will rule over the animals, and all living creatures of the earth."

And when G-d brings the flood, he destroys all life, "from man to beast to crawling creatures." Why destroy innocent animals when the sinners were the free-willed humans alone? Explains Rashi, the primary Torah commentator: "All was created for man, and since he is being destroyed, what need is there for [other living things]?"

The Torah's perspective is that animals do not have rights; humans, rather, have responsibilities toward them. The Torah prohibits cruelty to animals. Jewish law dictates even that your pets must be fed before you eat, and the Talmud tells a memorable tale about Rabbi Judah receiving terrible punishment for having failed to feel compassion for a calf frightened by a slaughterer's knife.

But the Torah's philosophy goes deeper. When a blessing is said before eating meat, spiritual "sparks" of holiness em-

## Who Suffers When We Cancel Trips to Israel?

By Erica Ernst

This summer Israel is going to be dramatically different: NIFTY cancelled their summer trips to Israel and numbers on all Israel programs are significantly down. I can understand the reasoning, particularly when I read the statement by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations president that "We don't make political statements with children." I don't believe we need to fight a war with young people, but we do need to arm youth with the experiences and knowledge so that they will truly understand Israel, particularly as the world once again equates Israel with conflict.

What I am the most afraid of is that every person who stays home from Israel this summer will miss out on the opportunity to truly understand Israel, and in turn their own Jewish identity. Before I traveled to Israel, I had no comprehension of what Israel was actually like. I had no idea that most of the time when you walk around Israel you don't feel the tension. I never once felt like I was in a war zone, but those are often the images that come over the evening news.

It's not just American youth that will be missing amazing opportunities this summer; I read a few days ago that both

the Palestinians and the Israelis will not send official delegations to the Seeds of Peace camp in Maine. This camp tries to create peace through person to person dialogue, bringing hope that these teens will be able to impact their communities from within. Again, there are concerns for safety since tensions could so high this summer. But what concerns me is that many kids who will not have this life-changing experience, and that many more kids who will take home the lesson that we should be scared of "the other side." When we tell American youth not to go to Israel this summer, we are perpetuating that same message of fear.

My Israel experiences have had a dramatic impact on my life; they have produced many of my friends, directed me on my career path, and forever intertwined me with Israel. While composing this, I almost was going to write that I was fortunate enough to be in Israel only during times of relative peace. But then I remembered that we almost thought we were going to have another Gulf war while I was on my semester abroad in the beginning of 1998. At Hebrew University in Jerusalem the staff took us on tours of the bomb shelter so that we would know where to go if bomb sirens suddenly went off. They

promised to get us gas masks within a few days.

And then suddenly the situation was over. I really almost forgot about the bomb shelter tour because I have so many wonderful stories that meant so much more to me. And generally that's what life in Israel was like for me — I was too busy touring ancient sites, meeting people from all over the world, learning and working to worry about bombs.

I understand that Israel is a much different place than when I was there just last year and that security issues are a legitimate concern. The shopping mall that I went to while I lived outside of Netanya was a bombing site a month ago.

Would I be afraid to go to the mall if I was living in Israel this year instead of last year? It's hard for me to tell from an ocean away. But the longer I am away from Israel, the fighting moves to the front of my mind instead of all of the other wonderful things about Israel.

Unless we continue to learn and experience so that we truly understand Israel, war and terrorism will be the first words we associate with it. I hope that there are at least some kids this summer whose first thoughts about Israel will be of Massada and hiking in the Galilee, and not the conflict.

(Continued on Page 15)

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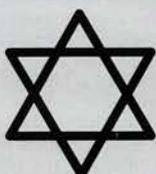
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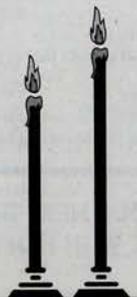
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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## World's Largest Rosh Hashanah Card Under Construction

### PHDS Students Pitch In

Thousands of cards from around the globe are coming in daily... 60,000 cards being made in first week.

A record breaking international effort to send a clear message of unity and support for the people of Israel has begun recently with the launching of the Card4Israel Project. The Israel Emergency Solidarity Fund and The Jewish Literacy Foundation are co-sponsoring this unprecedented undertaking, which attempts to reach Jewish children across the spectrum of Jewish life. Reform, Conservative, Orthodox and other major Jewish organizations have already signed on the project.

The youth/education divisions of the UAHC, United Synagogue and the Orthodox Union are participating in addition to scores of JCCs, Hillel Houses, Chabad Houses, Summer Camps and Jewish day schools.

The project called for every Jewish student to make a simple Rosh Hashanah card before the end of this school year. All individual cards will be sent to Baltimore where they will be assembled into huge panels this summer. The panels will be shipped to Israel, where final construction will take place. Children in Israel who have lost loved ones due to terrorism since last Rosh Hashanah will participate in the final assembly of the card, which is expected to be many thousands of square

feet. The card is expected to break the previous world record for a greeting card, which was set in 1990 in Ireland. The Rosh Hashanah card will be presented in a meaningful ceremony in Jerusalem — sent by the Jewish children of the world to all the children of Israel. It will be dedicated in memory of those Israeli citizens that have lost their lives due to terrorism since last Rosh Hashanah.

Kits containing blank cards and all pertinent instruction and information have been sent to hundreds of temples, day schools, Jewish Community Centers, and colleges across the country. Nationwide efforts by Reform, Conservative and Orthodox organization are underway to reach all students and summer campers. More than 2,000 Chabad emissaries worldwide have been enlisted to help spread the project to Jewish children around the globe.

Students at the Providence Hebrew Day School will be contributing an estimated 150 cards to the program. "We want [our children] to have a strong feeling and attachment to what is going on over there," said Rabbi Mordechai Nissel, dean of PHDS. "We are trying to cheer up the children of Israel... This is the least we can do."

Each card will have a child's original drawing and/or message on a half a piece of white paper (5.5 in. x 8.5 in.) with the student's name, address, age, e-mail, school or camp and

teacher written clearly on the back of the card (only one card per student).

Any child who wishes may send a card independent of a school or camp project. There is no age minimum or limit for participation. All completed cards should be mailed to:

Card4Israel Project  
17 Warren Road, Suite 18  
Baltimore, MD 21208

All cards received are scanned and uploaded to the Web site <[www.card4israel.org](http://www.card4israel.org)> before being assembled into the large panels. A child will be able to view his own card online, and even send it electronically as a "digital card" to a friend or relative. Every visitor to the Web site will be able to "sign" the giant card at the Web site or by sending an e-mail to <[nfo@card4israel.org](mailto:nfo@card4israel.org)> with their name and e-mail address.

### An Idea Becomes Reality

The Card4Israel idea was originated by Tobey Herzog, 24, who works with The Jewish Literacy Foundation. Herzog explained, "I'm hoping to capture the energy, enthusiasm, and concern of Jewish young people for the State of Israel and the entire Jewish people. I think receiving the highest card is bound to make just a few kids in Israel smile! Plus, it is an awesome opportunity to show that when we all work together, we can make history! When was the last time anyone saw hundreds of thousands of Jews working together as one?"

Neil and Susan Thalheim, the founders of the Israel Emergency Solidarity Fund, hooked up with the Jewish Literacy

(Continued on Page 15)

## JCCRI Ice Cream Social July 18

The JCCRI will be having an Ice Cream Social on July 18. It will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. In addition to ice cream, there will be children's entertainment, music, face painting, crafts, etc. — a great evening for all ages! Admission is \$10 per person. Ice cream for the event is being donated by Sundaes and Frosties.

This ice cream event will also serve as a fund-raiser for Max Dwares, who is an 18 year old member of the Jewish Community from Cranston. Max has leukemia and needs a bone marrow transplant. This fund-raiser is to help his family meet the enormous costs which his treatment requires. Please feel free e-mail at <[barbgr8050@aol.com](mailto:barbgr8050@aol.com)> if you have any questions.

## What it Means to Be a Reform Jew Living in The United States

by David Nogradi

For a long time I have been pretty much neutral on the topic of not only being a Reform Jew living in the United States, but also on just being a Jew living in the United States. In the past couple of years, though, and even during the past few weeks, I have learned more about my Jewish identity than ever before.

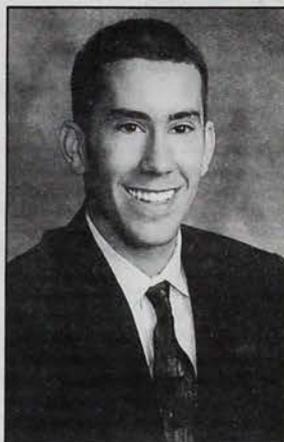
What has always bothered me is the fact that to some Jews, I am not considered Jewish as a result of being Reform, and also because of the fact that my mom wasn't born Jewish. Since her conversion wasn't supervised by the Orthodox, I am still not Jewish in some people's eyes. Ever since I became an active member of Reform Judaism in the fourth grade I considered myself Jewish, but that was as far as it went. It didn't really mean much else for me. The important fact still being, though, that I was Jewish.

As I got further along in the learning process and had first my Bar Mitzvah, and then my Confirmation, I really started to feel like a Jew. I started to get that feeling that I can't really describe inside of myself, when I went to services and sang the Sh'mah. Still, though, there was something missing and I couldn't really put a finger on it, but I found out exactly what it was while I was on "The March of the Living."

This was the single most incredible experience of my life by a long shot, and it just took place during the last couple of weeks. As our plane touched down in Israel, after having been in Poland for a week looking at all the camps, I felt pride. That was what had been missing. I was proud to be a Jew and I was even prouder to be a Reform Jew from the United States. There were members from all three of the main religious groups on the trip, and while I felt intimidated at times because there were many kids there who were more religious than me and who knew more than I did, I learned that I still felt like a Jew on the inside, no matter the ways in which I choose to practice. I was still so proud that it felt like my whole body was filled with being a Reform Jew. That is the main point right there. It wasn't just pride about being Jewish, but about being Reform.

Being a Reform Jew in the United States means having lots

of singing and energy at services. It means being open to the idea of having a female rabbi, or cantor. It means being free to think about things in a less rigid manner. As a Reform Jew, I don't look down on any other Jews, or consider anyone less



David Nogradi

Jewish than I am. I think at the heart of being Reform is being a good person and getting along with others. Just because someone belongs to another religion, like Christianity, doesn't mean that I have to feel like he or she is less of a person, or that they should convert. I firmly believe that there are many ways to be religious and still believe in G-d, and I can respect others for choosing what suits them best. The fact is that yes, I am a Reform Jew and that is my religion, but that shouldn't stop me from getting along with others.

Being a Reform Jew in the United States means being able to balance religion along with the rest of living life. It means being more relaxed and enjoying the religion than feeling smothered by it. It is about togetherness.

The last thing I would like to share is the final lesson I learned from my trip and that is, yes, I am a Reform Jew, but I don't think Jews should think about themselves in terms of being Reform, Conservative, Orthodox, etc. I think they should consider themselves as just being Jewish. We are all part of the same religion and we shouldn't look to be so divisive. When I asked a girl on the trip who was Conservative and leaning towards Orthodoxy what she thought about being Jewish, she replied in a manner that goes along with exactly what I believe. She said that as long as one is a good person and leads a good life, that in and of itself is being Jewish. That is what being a Reform Jew is all about in the United States. That is what being a Conservative Jew is all about in the United States. That is what being an Orthodox Jew is all about in the United States. Being a good person is at the heart of it all.

David Nogradi won the Chase Family Award at Temple Sinai in Cranston with this essay.



### Fancy Flowers at Chabad CHAI Center

Women from all around the West Bay area gather at the Chabad CHAI Center to learn how to make beautiful floral arrangements in honor of Shavuot.

Photos courtesy of Chabad of West Bay

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## New President Named by Hebrew Union College — Jewish Institute of Religion

Dr. David Ellenson to Serve as Eighth President

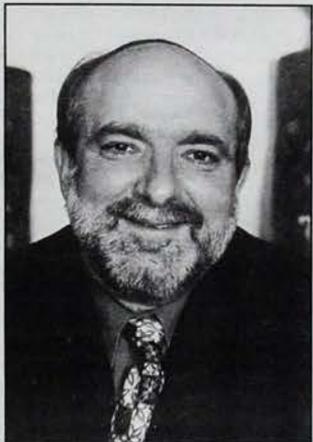
The Board of Governors of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion has unanimously chosen Dr. David Ellenson to serve as its new president. The announcement was made by Burton Lehman, chair of HUC-JIR's Board of Governors.

As president, Ellenson will serve as the chief executive officer of the College-Institute — the four-campus, international university which is the academic and professional leadership development center of Reform Judaism. HUC-JIR's centers of learning in Cincinnati, Jerusalem, Los Angeles and New York provide the academic and professional training programs for the Reform Movement's rabbis, cantors, educators, and communal service professionals, and offer graduate programs for scholars of all faiths.

Ellenson, who was ordained at HUC-JIR in 1977, is the eighth president in its 125-year long history, and will succeed Dr. Norman J. Cohen, acting president and provost.

"We are proud that Dr. Ellenson has accepted our invitation and look forward to his presidency with great enthusiasm," stated Lehman. "Dr. Ellenson is a distinguished rabbi and scholar, dedicated teacher, and committed leader of the Reform Movement. Associated with HUC-JIR for nearly 30 years, Dr. Ellenson is a beloved teacher and mentor to generations of HUC-JIR students. He is internationally recognized for his publications and

research in the area of Jewish religious thought, ethics, and modern Jewish history. His exemplary leadership and passionate commitment to Reform Judaism and the Jewish people



Dr. David Ellenson

worldwide will inspire HUC-JIR's growth in the 21st century. In selecting this eminent rabbi and scholar as president for this institution, we are proud to demonstrate the excellence of HUC-JIR's intellectual and religious mission."

"I am greatly honored to be called to serve as the president of HUC-JIR and pledge to advance the definition and fulfillment of its sacred mission. The College-Institute is a precious intellectual and religious resource for the ongoing life of the Reform Movement and the Jewish people. I hope to inspire oth-

ers to aid in the cooperative task of building and sustaining this institution as a source for good and blessing in the world," stated Ellenson.

Ellenson is the I.H. and Anna Gracell Professor of Jewish Religious Thought at HUC-JIR in Los Angeles. A member of HUC-JIR's faculty since 1979, he has served as lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor, and professor of Jewish Religious Thought. From 1981-1997, he also held the post of director of the Jerome H. Louchheim School of Judaic Studies.

Ellenson received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1981 and was ordained a rabbi at HUC-JIR's New York School in 1977. He holds master's degrees from Columbia, HUC-JIR, and the University of Virginia. He received his bachelor's degree from the College of William and Mary in Virginia in 1969.

Born in Brookline, Mass., in 1947, Ellenson was raised in Newport News, Va. He is married to Rabbi Jacqueline Koch Ellenson, ordained at HUC-JIR in New York in 1983 and chaplain at the Harvard-Westlake School in Los Angeles.

Founded in 1875, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion is the nation's oldest institution of higher Jewish education and the academic, spiritual, and professional leadership development center of Reform Judaism. HUC-JIR invites the community to an array of cultural and educational programs which illuminate Jewish history, identity, and contemporary creativity and which foster interfaith and multiethnic understanding.

## All Eyes on Me

Rhode Island Wind Ensemble plays at Beth-El



by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

Frank N. Marinaccio as he conducts the Rhode Island Wind Ensemble at the annual Grabert Irving Concert at Temple Beth El on June 3. Marinaccio led the ensemble in performances of "La Gazza Ladra" (the thievish magpie) by Rossini, "Fiddler on the Roof" by Jerry Bock and many others, filling the auditorium with a chorus of trumpets, clarinets, tubas, tympanis and other instruments. The concert was made possible by the Graubert Irving Fund.

Herald photos by Jon Rubin



## Germany and Israel Unite in Tourist Campaign

"In a historic effort to reach out, educate, and create bonds through travel, a unique relationship has been formed," said Udo Grebe, general manager of the German National Tourist Office North America, and Arie Sommer, Israel Commissioner of Tourism North America. The new relationship comes in the form of a tour program combining Germany and Israel. Partners in this effort are Tal Tours and Lufthansa, who have joined hands with the nations' tourist offices to offer extraordinary travel opportunities to two extraordinary lands.

It was in 1948 that the State of Israel was born, ending 20 centuries of tragic dispersion. A year later, in 1949, the Federal Republic of Germany was born out of the ashes of Nazi Germany — a democracy dedicated to Western values, justice, and tolerance. A half century later, the world is still coming to grips with the enormity and iniquity of the Holocaust, yet the tour program's organizers are convinced that remembering the past ensures that it is never repeated. As the world enters a new century, Israel and Germany are firm and trusted allies. Israel, 53 years young and four millennia old, has become what

it set out to be: a Jewish homeland reborn in freedom and security. And Germany, home to Jews for 2,000 years and a respected partner in the world, is home today to the third largest Jewish Community in Western Europe.

Contrasts and Similarities of Germany and Israel, a 14-day, 13-night tour of Frankfurt, Munich and Jerusalem, will tour Jewish Frankfurt and the picturesque Old City and bustling metropolis of Munich. Participants will also attend Ludwig's second musical near the Neuschwanstein Castle. Travelers will then fly to Israel to visit Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, with optional touring of the Galilee, Masada, and the Dead Sea. The program includes round-trip flights, round-trip airport transfers, rail between Frankfurt and Munich, daily buffet breakfast, four dinners, sightseeing in Germany and optional sightseeing in Israel, and 13 nights at a choice of elegant hotels.

For further information on tours to Germany and Israel, visit the German National Tourist Office's Web site at <www.visits-to-germany.com> or Israel's <www.goisrael.com>.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Next Year in Jerusalem

"A Passover seder with thousands of adults and a separate seder for thousands of children was more than I could ever imagine," reported Michael Resnick, the recently appointed administrative director of the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry.

His first visit to Addis Ababa coincided with the hectic preparations for Passover in the NACOEJ compound. "Everything was new to me," said Resnick. "Many women had babies slung on their backs as they worked. Others were nursing their children. There was bustling activity throughout the compound as people rushed to prepare everything for the holiday. Nothing could be done on Shabbat and the first seder was Saturday morning. Everything had to be ready by sundown on Friday."

In addition to the 7,500 Ethiopian Jews living in Addis Ababa, there are approximately 9,500 living in Gondar province. All are waiting for permission from the Israeli government to emigrate to Israel.

In one area of the Addis compound, a group of women was busy making haroseth; another was preparing maror, the bitter herbs. In a very large room where several hundred embroiderers and weavers create their beautiful pillow covers, matzoh covers, tallith, and other works of art that are sold by NACOEJ to provide income for these family heads, half the space was



ETHIOPIAN JEWISH WOMEN make matzoh in preparation for the NACOEJ compound seder in Addis Ababa.

Photo courtesy of NACOEJ

## Hadassah Stands Firm on Commitment to Israel This Summer

Bonnie Lipton, national president of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, made the following statement recently:

"Hadassah's ideology regarding Israel is unambiguous: as a Zionist organization, we believe that the best way to support Israel and keep it central in our lives is to visit our homeland and interact with Israelis. We are steadfast to these principles, especially during this difficult period. We are confidently moving forward with our Young Judaea summer Israel programs for high-school aged students and with our annual national convention to be held in Jerusalem, Aug. 5 to 9."

For several years, Young Judaea has been the largest provider of teen summer programs to Israel. Planning decisions about the operation of these programs each year are informed exclusively on the basis of Young Judaea's ability to provide for the comprehensive

safety and security of the participants. This year, as in previous years, we feel that we are able to maintain those same high safety standards. In order to do so, itineraries have been modified not to diminish in any way the impact of our programs and the extraordinary power of a summer in Israel.

This summer, Young Judaea will provide 216 teens with an experience of a lifetime: 107 will participate in Machon, an advanced leadership training program, 109 will receive an outstanding introduction to the people and land of Israel. Of that group, 65 will travel to Italy first to recreate history by following the footsteps of thousands of illegal immigrants who came to Israel after the Holocaust.

This year's national convention theme, "Dwelling Together in Unity," perfectly expresses the organization's views on Jewish peoplehood. It is the fifth convention held in Israel's capital city since 1978, and the first

since 1995.

Scheduled from Aug. 5 to 9, this annual gathering will include site visits to Hadassah's medical and educational facilities; an *Eishet Mitzvah* ceremony, for women who wish to celebrate their *bat mitzva* in the Holy City; study sessions; awards presentations; and visits from dignitaries including President Moshe Katzav and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. Among the highlights of the convention will be a "Legacy of Life" walk in downtown Jerusalem promoting the need to donate organs for lifesaving transplants, and the presentation of the Henrietta Szold Award, the organization's highest honor. More than 500 women and women are expected to attend the convention.

For more information about the 87th annual national convention, call toll free (877) 790-2676; for information about Young Judaea summer programs, call toll free (800) 725-70612.

taken over by the matzoh makers. While the embroiderers continued their work, long tables were set up with young boys and girls at work stations. Each had bowls of flour, water and a board on which to knead and roll out the dough.

In front of the room sat a young man at a desk with a clock. When he said "Go!" the young people raced to mix the flour and water, knead the lump of dough thoroughly, roll it out and score the ridges. The baker would run with his dough to nearby fires tended by adults where the matzoh would be quickly baked. All this had to be completed in 18 minutes to ensure that the matzoh would be kosher for Passover.

"This went on for most of the day," Resnick said. "I never saw so much matzoh in my life. Enough for 17,000 people!"

Rabbi Micha Peled came from Israel to supervise the Passover preparations. Agaru Kassa, an Israeli-Ethiopian who emigrated to Israel years ago, helped lead the Addis seder in Hebrew and Amharic. He frequently returns to Ethiopia to

help the Jewish community celebrate the holidays. A group of children recited the four questions and sang the traditional Passover songs.

"The entire service was very moving," Resnick recounts. "There wasn't much food. An American family could not have rejoiced with a seder meal consisting of eggs and potatoes, but this was the best we could do. Yet the shortage of food did not affect the joy of the people."

"I couldn't help thinking that this was the last major group of Jews waiting to make an exodus from their exile, to cross the Red Sea, to enter Israel and return to Jerusalem. What saddens me most is that more Jews will die from hunger and readily treatable disease before they are approved to go to Israel." The current rate of aliyah from Ethiopia is between 80 to 100 people each week.

For more information about NACOEJ programs in Israel and Ethiopia, write to NACOEJ, 132 Nassau St., Fourth Floor, New York, N.Y. 10038; phone (212) 233-5200; fax (212) 233-5243; e-mail <NACOEJ@aol.com>.

## Not Just Your Grandfather's Fund

by Elisa Silverstein-Heath

Many of us carry an image of the "types" of people who are likely to create an endowment fund. You know the stereotypes: older, retired, wealthy. In short, not "me, my friends or my peer group."

Well, these attributes represent only some of the donors who have created — and are likely to create — a fund with the Jewish Federation Endowment.

Alan and Bari Harlam are a philanthropic couple. Now in their 30s, with three small children, they give generously to both Jewish and non-Jewish causes and, like many young families, they determine their annual giving based on their annual income. "We feel that it is important that our children watch and learn with us about charitable giving," says Alan.

But in 1995, Alan and Bari went to the next level of giving. They decided to take some additional money and create a philanthropic fund with the Jewish Federation's Endowment. "It is a family tradition that with any successful business deal, a portion of the funds be dedicated for charity," explained Bari. "This just felt like the right thing to do."

By establishing the fund, the family can give to causes they care about in perpetuity. Their endowment ensures that the community can plan for needs that may arise in the future. "We wanted the community to be able to respond to those needs," they said.

The Harlams' approach to designing their fund was deliberately broad. By establishing their fund with JFRI they communicate their commitment to the Jewish community and to causes within it. "We also wanted our children to think about things broadly," says Alan,

and so they identified needs around Rhode Island which "struck a chord." Overall, 20 Rhode Island-based organizations receive annual allocations from the Harlam fund, ranging from the JFRI and Alperin Schechter Day School annual campaigns to the RI School for the Deaf, RI Food Bank and Trinity Repertory Theatre.

Why the focus in Rhode Island? The Harlams say they appreciate living in a community "where people tracked you down, invited you in." They said that when they arrived in Rhode Island, they did not take for granted the infrastructure here that makes up a great community.

Alan and Bari are pleased that their fund sets up a process for the children's philanthropic decision-making. "When we are gone, the kids will see what issues were important to us, and hopefully they will be well-informed in their own decision-making about the distribution of the fund's income."

Even if their children move from Rhode Island, Alan and Bari believe that the fund's focus here will make a statement. "We want them to become active and involved in their own communities, but also to remain committed to the R.I. community," says Bari.

Establishing an endowment fund at the Jewish Federation is for anyone, their parents, their children. Various types of funds can help meet an individual's financial and philanthropic purposes and the needs of the community. Call Joshua Karlin at 421-4111, ext. 173. As director of Gift Planning and Endowment he will be available to discuss which endowment is right for you.

As Alan put it, "This is a great message for the kids."

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## JEWISH COMMUNITY

# David Olesker Reveals How to Become an 'Overnight Israel Activist'

By Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

When you think of political activists, David Olesker is not the kind of person who usually comes to mind. Large, broad shoulders, three-piece suit, tzeitit peeking out from his jacket and a big, thick, black beard. Olesker is a pro-Israel activist and advocate whose methods and speeches are non-traditional, extremely innovative and undeniably potent.

On June 18, Olesker spoke to two lucky audiences about how the media works, how it can work against you, and how you can use it the media most effectively when it comes to supporting Israel. His visit was made possible by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and was co-sponsored by the Community Relations Council and the *Jewish Voice*.

Olesker spoke at a breakfast at the Jewish Federation in the morning, and gave a more in-depth presentation over dinner at Temple Sinai in Cranston. At Temple Sinai, Olesker, who is the director of the Jerusalem Center of Communications and Advocacy Training, spoke briskly and fluidly without notes for hours, seamlessly flowing from emotional story to anecdote to intelligent political tactic.

Olesker said that Israel is under attack, both through constant violence and in its frequently negative portrayal in the media. He maintained that

Israel needs spokespersons, people who can defend it against accusations of civil rights violations, racism and much worse. "I want you to become Israel advocates," he said. He said that American Jews have changed from active participants to a people who just throw money at a problem and hope it will go away. "The people of the book have become the people of the checkbook," he said. He wants Jews in the Diaspora to become active, effective advocates for Israel, and he then illustrated to the audience exactly how difficult this can be.

He went into a "simulation" where he assumed the role of a rather fiery civil rights activist (who possessed a fervent pro-Palestinian slant) on a mock radio talk show. He took questions from the audience, who tried to take issue with his "anti-Israel" opinions and arguments.

As they squabbled, an amazing thing happened: Olesker's inflammatory accusations—that Israel is a malignant occupying force; that it uses warplanes indiscriminately on civilians; that Shimon Peres is a warmonger; that Israel unfairly describes everyone who oppose its agenda as "terrorists" or "anti-Semites"—all these and more of Olesker's well-argued accusations seemed more plausible than any counter-arguments the audience could muster together. In other words, his anti-Israel rhetoric danced rings around

anything pro-Israel. He masterfully decreased the apparent relevancy of any opposing opinions while increasing the vital importance of his own arguments. He would raise the emo-

tion, Olesker revealed one of the secrets to winning a political argument: In order to come out victorious, you need to "subvert people's reliance on the media and media-related issues."

need to explain Israel's position to someone who is apathetic or resistant to alternative viewpoints. Olesker feels that winning arguments is most easily done when the questions and answers lie comfortably inside fields that benefit the one who is speaking. You need to size up your audience, he said, and pick topics that will interest them. "You need to engage people's emotions—inflammatory alone isn't enough."

Olesker stated the importance of using the following phrase at the proper moment: "That's not the issue. The real issue is..." This is just one method of changing the "conceptual framework" of the argument. Changing the conceptual framework can also be used more subtly. For example, a person could rely on "user-friendly" terms and avoided loaded terms and concepts that are thorny or those that are completely foreign, which would only result in confusion or distraction. One can establish a favorable conceptual framework from the beginning of an argument, therefore making the entire conversation on comfortable grounds from the inception.

But technique is only one part of Olesker's three-part advocacy system. We also need information, both background and current, to battle historical inaccuracies in the opposing

(Continued on Page 15)



DAVID OLESKER, director of the Jerusalem Center of Communications and Advocacy Training, spoke at Temple Sinai in Cranston.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

Chasing his role-playing exer-

Sound ridiculous? It's not.

In being a pro-Israel advocate a person frequently needs to ideologically and factually defend Israel's actions against a source that seeks to discredit it, whether a newspaper editorial, a talk show host, or just a person on the street. You may also

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Reunion Planned for July 15 for Members of the Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island

At the beginning of this century, times were tough for many people. Mortality rates were higher, people died younger and women sometimes did not survive the birth of their children. To meet the needs of children who had been orphaned, the Jewish community responded in 1909 with the founding of the Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island, which later became the Jewish Children's Home and Foundation of Rhode Island. It helped children whose families had come upon hard times. Through the time of its closure the home cared for hundreds of children, many of whom would later become community leaders — doctors, lawyers, successful business men and school teachers.

Anyone who is a former member of the Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island is invited to a reunion from 4 to 7 p.m. on July 15 at Camp JORI, which was the original camp used by the orphanage to provide summer fun for the children, at 170 Clarke Road in Narragansett. Readers who know of a relative or friend connected to the organization are asked to pass this information along.

The party will offer a chance to share memories with others, see the changes the camp has implemented, and tour the new property the camp purchased in 1999 in partnership with The Nature Conservancy. The new property, on Worden's Pond, makes it possible for the camp to expand programming, in ad-

dition to accommodating the increasing need for camper spaces.

"The reunion is a chance to talk with people they grew up with and may not have seen for 50 years," says Sherwin Zaidman, who lived at the Jewish Children's Home from age 6 1/2 to 17, "and this may be the last year to see the camp they grew up in at the same time as the new property." He fondly remembers summers in the camp, riding in a beach wagon and regular visits to Scarborough Beach.

Until 1942, the home cared for hundreds of children ages 3 to 17 with a staff of trained social workers. When the orphanage closed, its functions had been assumed by government social service agencies.

Camp JORI continued and broadened its mission to provide a peaceful summer interlude for children who were refugees from war-torn Europe. The camp eventually expanded its scope and became open to the public. When people began to arrive as refugees from the former Soviet Union, their children were offered summers at Camp JORI, where they could experience American culture amid the warmth of the community.

Zaidman has sent information about the reunion as far away as California and Florida. He says, "If anyone knows of anyone (from Camp JORI's early days), call me. We would like to reach them and see if they can come." For more information, contact Zaidman at 737-5418.



## Peter Pan at ASDS

Eli Rodrigues and Rachel Kerzer in the Alperin Schechter Day School production of "Peter Pan."

Photo courtesy of Steven Jablow

## North American Reform Movement to Hold Mission to Israel

Five-Day Journey Will Affirm Reform Solidarity With The Israeli People

The leadership of the North American Reform Movement will travel to Israel next month to demonstrate the movement's unconditional support of the State of Israel and the Israeli people.

*Aliyat Nefesh: A Spiritual Pilgrimage*, scheduled from July 29 to Aug. 3, is a joint mission with the leadership of every North American Reform organization. Congregational rabbis and leaders are also invited to participate.

The mission is designed to highlight the commitment of North America's largest Jewish religious movement to Israel and its continuing efforts to encourage adults to travel to there. Although trips for young teenagers were suspended this sum-

mer, visits by adults, college students, and older teenagers have continued unabated, including Reform participation in the Birthright program and congregational trips. Sixty-two Reform students will arrive in Jerusalem shortly to begin a year of study at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

"Reform Jews are committed to the mystery and wonder of the modern State of Israel," said Rabbi Eric Yoffie, who is spending two weeks in Israel this month and will return with the mission in July. "We are a religious movement, and our commitment to Israel is not conditional," he said.

Members of every Reform organization — including the

UAHC, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, Women of Reform Judaism, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the American Conference of Cantors, and the National Association of Temple Educators — will participate in the mission.

Arrangements for the mission, which includes round-trip flight on El Al from New York, transportation in Israel, and three nights at the Inbal Hotel, will be handled by ARZA Travel. The deadline for registration is July 3, and the cost per applicant is \$1,160 plus taxes. Information about the trip will be posted as it becomes available at <<http://rj.org/mission>>.



JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF RHODE ISLAND Summer Camps get underway this week and children will be greeted by the colorful "Welcome" banner painted by Maxie Formal, Leah Tinberg, Miriam Tinberg, and Samantha Kaufman.

Photo courtesy of JCCRI

## Prospective Adoptive Parents Invited to Informational Meeting July 5

Anyone interested in exploring the possibilities of adoption is invited to attend informational meetings offered by Adoption Options, the adoption program of Jewish Family Service. The meetings take place on the first Thursday of every month from 6 to 7 p.m. at the offices of Jewish Family Service. The next meeting will be held on July 5.

The agency is located on the second floor of the United Way building at 229 Waterman St. in Providence. The meetings are free and open to anyone interested in pursuing an adoption.

Adoption Options, a non-sectarian, non-profit, comprehensive adoption program is licensed in both Rhode Island and Massachusetts. The agency's Massachusetts office is located at 366 Winthrop St. in Rehoboth and can be reached toll-free at (800) 337-6513.

Call Adoption Options at 331-5437 or toll-free at (800) 337-6513 for information or to arrange a confidential consultation, or visit the Web site at <[www.adoptionoptions.org](http://www.adoptionoptions.org)>.

## Robert D. Miller Elected Touro Fraternal Chairman

There's been a change in leadership at Touro Fraternal Association, the largest independent Jewish fraternal order in New England.

Robert D. Miller of Warwick was elected chairman of the association's board of directors at the board's annual organizational meeting on June 13 at its headquarters on 45 Rolfe Square. He has served as vice chairman of the board since 1994 and also has been a president of the association.

Miller succeeds Arthur Poulten of Cranston who did not seek re-election. Poulten retired as Touro's board chairman, a post he assumed in January 1989. Since he has held the office for at least 10 consecutive terms, Poulten becomes a full voting member of the board for life under a constitutional provision approved by the association six years ago.

Other association officers elected at the meeting were Andrew Lamchick, West Warwick, vice chairman; Gerald Tebrow, West Warwick, secretary; and Gerald Hodosh, Cranston, treasurer.

Miller appointed Judah Rosen of Cranston as chaplain and Barry Shaw of Warwick, Inside Guard. All association officers serve one-year terms.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## ASDS Graduation

Below left — Aaron Abrams, Rustam Dinov, Gina Goldenberg and Zachary Matusow lead prayers at Temple Emanu-El on June 10.

Right — The eighth-grade class sit on the bimah at their graduation.

*Herald photos by Jon Rubin*



## PHDS and New England Academy of Torah Hold Graduations

*Students Look Back, Move Forward*

by Seth Bromley  
Editorial Assistant

Providence Hebrew Day School and the New England Academy of Torah held its commencement for eighth and 12th grade students on June 20, before a crowd of proud parents, peers, and teachers. Rabbi Mordechai Nissen, the school's dean, conducted the ceremonies.

Rabbi Yaakov Bekar, a teacher at the school, gave the opening address. He likened the graduates to the ancient scholars who, when they left Mount Sinai, were elated to be moving on. They weren't happy because their education was complete — rather, they were happy because it had only just begun. "PHDS is a virtual Har-Sinai," said Rabbi Bekar. He told the graduates that they too should look forward to their next challenge. "You can now move on to the next 'Har-Sinai.'"

In her speech, class valedictorian Leah Barth thanked her teachers and parents for giving her the chance to attend the academy. "Life offers us many opportunities, and one of the opportunities I'm grateful for was to go to a Yeshiva high school."

Others who spoke and presented awards to the students included Maureen Sheehan, school administrator; Rabbi Abraham Jakubowicz, of Congregation Sons of Jacob and Rabbi Mitchell Levine, of Congregation Beth Shalom.

An unexpected presentation by the high school graduates surprised and delighted the audience: the students displayed a slideshow of memorable photographs looking back on their four years at the school, providing commentary on the images as they were projected at the front of the room.

The 2001 graduates of the New England Academy of Torah are: Ruth Ena Ackerman, Leah Ayelet Barth, Ora Perl Kalfa, Yael Sarah Leah Silberberg and Abby Shifra Winkleman.

Graduates of Providence Hebrew Day School are

Avraham Gedalia Diamond, Eliezer Baruch Gerber, Max E. Goldin, Miriam Brocha Jakubowicz, Jennifer Elise Kessler, Joshua David Kirschner, Orli Beracha Mintz, Elan J. Noorparvar, Hannah D. Schacht, Naomi Winkler and Yisroel Yitzchak Yavner.



Right — The New England Academy of Torah Class of 2001, Ruth Ena Ackerman, Leah Ayelet Barth, Ora Perl Kalfa, Yael Sarah Leah Silberberg and Abby Shifra Winkleman.

Below — Leah Barth, the class valedictorian, leads the way during the processional.

*Herald photos by Seth Bromley*



## Welcome, You've Got Shabbat

*Orthodox Union Offers New E-Mail Feature*

Every week, Jews throughout the world take a respite from the chaos of daily life and are given the opportunity to celebrate the Sabbath with family and friends, and maybe even grab a little personal time. However, for many, their hectic weekly schedule throws them unprepared into the day of rest, not knowing what the time schedule is, what the weekly Torah portion is or what the news from the past week was. To combat this, the Orthodox Union has created a new Shabbat Shalom e-mail service.

Each week, subscribers will receive a brief e-mail containing information on the weekly Torah reading and any upcoming Jewish holidays. The e-mail will also provide links to:

- Time for Candlelighting, the end of Shabbat, and other important events;
- Words of Torah you can print out for your Shabbat reading;
- The week's OU kosher alerts;

- The week's newly OU-certified products;
- Shabbat recipe of the week;
- Trivia question of the week;
- Saying of the week;
- *Halachah* (Jewish Law) of the week;
- Audio link to a Shabbat song of the week.

Other features will be added over the coming months.

To sign up for the Shabbat Shalom e-mail, visit [www.ou.org/forms/shshreg.asp](http://www.ou.org/forms/shshreg.asp)

The Orthodox Union, now in its second century of service to the Jewish community of America and beyond, is the world leader in youth work, advocacy for persons with disabilities, synagogue services, adult education and political action. Its kosher supervision label, the (U), is the world's most recognized kosher symbol and can be found on over 250,000 products in 68 countries around the globe.

Visit the Orthodox Union Web site at [www.ou.org](http://www.ou.org).

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## JFS Gutterman Memorial Lecture Covers Technology and Families

A wife was ready to seek a divorce because she was frustrated that her husband did not answer her beeper when she called... until she found out the satellite was down. He had not been ignoring her urgent communications after all.

Another couple with a small child was working through the issues of constant business contacts made possible by cell phones, computers, etc. Both agreed that at home, technology would take a back seat and they would spend time as a family.

A young woman and her partner were dealing with issues of past Internet relationships. Committed to improving their relationship, they each closed their separate Internet accounts and traded passwords in an effort to begin trusting each other.

These are just a few of the cases that were used to illustrate the effect of technology on human relationships by the Ackerman Institute for the Family's Peggy Papp, MSW; Peter Fraenkel, Ph.D.; and Evan Imber-Black, Ph.D. at Jewish Family Service's second annual Julie Gutterman Memorial Lecture for mental health professionals held on June 8.

At one point, Fraenkel, an admitted "early adopter" of technology, demonstrated the pervasiveness of technology in our everyday lives as he pulled devices from his suit pockets. The collection included a PDA, a virtual pet, a folding keyboard, a CD player, a pen with

an adjustable grip, a cell phone, an adapter, percussion eggs, and more. He brought out from his briefcase a laptop computer, speakers, a portable printer and more adapters for the various devices for travel to other countries.

Mental health professionals attending the lecture were asked to respond to a series of questions about technology's impact on their day-to-day experiences, consciousness and quality of life. A few of the issues mentioned were: voice mail that is automated and the inability to connect with a real human being, the plethora of information that makes it hard to assimilate what is pertinent, ergonomic concerns about the physical impact of utilizing devices, the sense of immediacy where others expect that people are instantly available, the unsettling impact technology has on the business world, changing expectations and the smudging of boundaries between work and home.

On the positive side, participants felt good about the ability to talk to children away at college via instant messaging, having cell phones that allowed kids to reach their parents at all times, beepers that not only allow communication but provide a feeling of safety.

Participants left with much practical information about assessing technology's role in relationships and practical strategies for counseling families with issues related to technology.

## Israel Ministry of Tourism Breaks Ground With Innovative Web Site

The Israel Ministry of Tourism recently launched a completely revamped version of its <goisrael.com> Web site, it was announced in New York by Arie Sommer, Israel Commissioner for Tourism, North America. The newly planned site enables travelers not only to obtain the latest detailed information on travel to Israel, as well as details on "best deals" in travel to Israel. It also enables visitors to convert dollars to Shekels, check the latest weather in Israel, send pictures of Israel to friends, send an e-mail greeting, learn Hebrew phrases, and download Israel photos as desk-top wallpaper.

The new site has separate features for travelers in search of their religious roots in Israel, and a section entitled "World Travelers" includes little known facts on Israel's facilities and attractions. Additional separate areas deal with spa and well-being, ecotourism and archeology. Another new innovation is a press room that contains the latest press releases issued by the ministry and invites bona fide journalists to register. Also new, visitors can order tourism brochures and maps online. As in the past, visitors to the site can also click to learn "what today's headlines mean to tourists to Israel." For further information visit <www.goisrael.com>.

## Sing, Sing, Sing

(Continued from Page 1)

a love for Jewish music at a young age. "In some ways it started when I was 3 years old," he said. "On rainy days my mother would put 'Fiddler on the Roof' on the phonograph and I would listen to it all day. I'm told that at age 3 I had memorized all the words to every song." Mayer later attended the University of Connecticut and received a bachelor's degree in music, and was later ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary after a four-year program of study there.

Many cantors are part-time or volunteers, but full-time cantors such as Mayer and Cantor Judy Seplowin, of Temple Beth-El in Providence, play a much larger role in the congregation in addition to leading prayer services. Seplowin attended the Hebrew



CANTOR RIMMIE BROWN of Temple Sinai in Cranston.

Herald photos by Seth Bromley

"The classic Jewish understanding of the role of the cantor is that you are the congregation's representative to the Holy One...."

University College — Jewish Institute of Religion. She spent the first year of her training in Israel, where she said she studied right alongside religious students attempting to become rabbis and Hebrew educators. Due to her training, Seplowin said, "I have full clerical power, just like a rabbi. I preside over life cycle events such as weddings, funerals, unveilings, sometimes co-officiating with a rabbi, sometimes alone."

The typical duties of cantors also include making hospital visits and supporting those sitting shiva, as well as teaching children how to conduct the Torah and Haftarah readings for their bar or bat mitzvah. "Singing is only 10 percent of my job," said Seplowin. "We're present at ceremonies like weddings and graduations where people want to share their joy, and also at occasions like funerals when people need comfort," said Brown.

Singing may not be the only part of the cantor's responsibilities, but it is undoubtedly the most vital part. "My most important role is that of a spiritual catalyst, first and foremost during services," said Mayer. "The classic Jewish understanding of the role of the cantor is that you are the congregation's representative to the Holy One. During the service I stand in the middle of the congregation — I'm their representative to spiritual expression. But I'm not doing it for them — I'm helping us do it together."

"You're not there to perform or put on a show," Brown emphasized. "You're there to lead the congregation, to be their guide in prayer, to help them find their place in the service, and their place in their relationship with G-d."

Since the tradition of music in Judaism is so powerful, it is no surprise that many different musical styles and forms have

developed over time, adopting regional customs. Jews from Yemen, from the Middle East, from the Near East, from North Africa, Sephardic Jews, Ashkenazi Jews and others all have their own distinct musical styles. Seplowin said that during her time in Israel, she and her friends would "go shul-hopping, to get a taste of all the different styles." She said that

new concepts in his service: "We're transforming Saturday morning services, creating a hybrid of a traditional service with a new energy, and it has been an unbelievably spirited and joyful experience. Last weekend this place was rocking — there's no other word for it."

Unfortunately for synagogues across America, there is a short supply of these unique individu-



Cantor Judith Seplowin of Temple Beth-El in Providence

als, who are at the same time artists, clergy and teachers. Seplowin said "It's a great time to be a cantor... [but] it's a huge, huge commitment, both in terms of time and finances." A recent report by the International Cantor's Foundation pegged the average cost of cantorial school at \$30,000 a year for three or more years. For those who are inspired to this life, however, it is well worth the commitment. Brown summed up his passion for his work: "Imagine being able to do what you love all your life, and then getting to teach it to someone else — there's nothing better."

The art of hazanut is constantly in flux. Seplowin explained: "If you're a cantor in a traditional congregation, there is no accompaniment. The art of hazanut is dying out because people today want to hear what they can participate in. There is more demand for congregational melodies, less for true cantorial art, because you can't sing along." Without revealing specifics, Mayer talked about his results with trying some

in her present position she primarily chants Ashkenazi. Brown said that his philosophy is to use "a bisser of this, a bisser of that."

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Auction at Gatehouse Benefits Meals on Wheels

by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

It's common for food at the Gatehouse restaurant to taste superb, but on June 20, at the Dineout 2001 benefit auction for Meals on Wheels of Rhode Island, everything tasted exceptionally succulent. One-hundred percent — that's right — one-hundred percent of the money raised that evening went to benefit Meals on Wheels, the only large-scale meal delivery program in the state, serving over 2,900 meals per day. The Gatehouse graciously donated the rooms, staff and food for the event.

On a perfect afternoon on the breezy patio overlooking the Providence river, guests mingled, snacked on wine and cheese, and were privy to a fashion show showcasing the latest summer styles, courtesy of Ari Feinstein and his Leila Boutique in Providence. Guests then adjourned to the banquet hall for dinner and a live auction, which included among its prizes fine wines and trips to Newport, Block Island and New York.

Meals on Wheels provides nutritious meals five days a week to low-income Rhode Island residents who are financially or physically unable to prepare them alone. As Americans are living longer and longer the recipients of meals have grown older and older, and currently the average age of a meal recipient is 84.

Present at the engagement was Providence Mayor Vincent Cianci, who expressed his admiration for the organization. "Thanks to Meals on Wheels," he said, "our community is stronger, healthier and happier." Cianci cited the brightness that Meals on Wheels volunteer visits make in the lives of older residents, as well as paying tribute to Alan Shawn Feinstein, who was present along with his wife Pat. "[Alan] has been a big champion of fighting hunger," Cianci said.

Feinstein noted that the elderly are very much a hidden population in the state. He was happy that Meals on Wheels was able to effectively assist this large, largely unrecognized population. "It's simply an out-



MEALS ON WHEELS DIRECTOR of Development Denise Martin (left), Pat Feinstein, Alan Shawn Feinstein, Gatehouse Owner Hank Kates and Ari Feinstein at the Meals on Wheels benefit auction at the Gatehouse.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

standing program," he added.

Meals on Wheels has worked with Feinstein to create the Alan Shawn Feinstein Emergency Food Pantry, which gives meals to people still on the waiting list

for Meals on Wheels, people who require more than the five Meals on Wheels weekday meals, or to clients who require additional weekend nutrition.

To become a volunteer, call

Christine Crowley 351-6700 ext. 115. For more information about the Alan Shawn Feinstein Emergency Food Pantry, please call 351-6700 ext. 143 or e-mail lbeck@rimeals.org.

## New Master Installed at Redwood Lodge No. 35

James D. Hodges was recently installed the 122nd Master of Redwood Lodge No. 35 at Grand Lodge Freemasons Hall, Taunton Avenue, East Providence, R.I. by Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden Bradford Barco, assisted by Grand Master of Ceremonies Worshipful Wyman Hallstrom III. The other officers were installed by Right Worshipful Wyman Hallstrom Jr. and his son. They were: Simon Richardson, senior warden;

Jon Abedon, junior deacon; Micah Ross, senior steward; Andrew Kaplan, junior steward; Uryl Cadet, sentinel; Worshipful John Haidemenos, Tiler and Barry Miller, musical director. Right Worshipful Mark Freedman, master of ceremonies; Worshipful Samuel Miller, immediate past master, marshal; and Maurice B. Cohen, assistant secretary and a reporter to Freemason paper; Right Worshipful Edward Aron, editor and publisher for the *Redwood*

presented his wife Pam with a large bouquet of roses in appreciation for her encouragement and patience during his term of office. The master, James Hodges, was presented a gift of the working tools of Masonry by his nephew, William Tsingos, senior warden of St. Johns Lodge, Boston, Mass., to show his appreciation, admiration and affection for his uncle who encouraged him in Masonry.

A reception for the new master and his suite was given by the past masters of Redwood Lodge and a dinner followed. Honored by the master, members of the lodge and guests were Right Worshipful Jerry Cohen and his twin, Moe, on the occasion of their 80th birthday. They are third generation members of the lodge. A presentation to the Aaron Cohen Memorial Fund was made by Worshipful Stephen Gordon, a past master, in the name of the past masters of Redwood Lodge. Their maternal grandfather, Herman Paster,

their brother Herbert and several uncles and cousins were members of Redwood and Roosevelt Lodges.

Right Worshipful Howard Bromberg was Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

Honored for their membership for 50 years were Worshipful Bernard Goldberg, master of Roosevelt Lodge No. 42 in 1959 and Leonard Summer. They were presented Grand Lodge 50 Years Service medal by Right Worshipfuls Barco and Hallstrom. Mrs. Goldberg participated in the presentation to her husband. David Feinberg received his 50 Years Service medal from Grand Lodge.

A memorial service was held for departed brothers, Worshipful Bruce Doherty and Worshipful Benjamin Millman.

Redwood Red Velvet toast "to all brethren around the world who could not be with us tonight" was given by Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Malcolm Bromberg.

## Dwares Donations Will Be Sent to National Foundation for Transplants

The Dwares family was informed by the Bone Marrow Transplant Coordinator at New England Medical Center in Boston that a match has been found for Max's impending Bone Marrow Transplant. The donor is a 25-year-old Caucasian Male who lives in the United States.

The family of Max Dwares has set up a formal account for monetary donations with the National Foundation for Transplants. The account can be reached by going to <[www.transplants.org](http://www.transplants.org)>. Go to patient campaign and then click on Max Dwares.

Or, you may send a check for Max Dwares' medical account to:

National Foundation for Transplants  
PO Box 603051, Providence, RI 02906  
Provided by Congregation Beth Shalom



James D. Hodges

Frank Duffin, junior warden; Worshipful Andrew Sholes, treasurer; and Right Worshipful Gerald P. Cohen, secretary. Appointed officers were Right Worshipful Judah Rosen, chaplain; Gary Kaufman, senior dea-

builder, a monthly publication.

The new master received a gavel from his wife, Lela and his family. He presented her with a large bouquet of flowers to show his love and appreciation. Past Master Samuel Miller pre-

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## RISD Museum Presents 'About Objects' Now Through Sept. 9

When Curator of Contemporary Art Judith Tannenbaum began to organize the upcoming exhibition of modern and contemporary art at the RISD Museum, she had two main goals in mind — to present important works from the museum's permanent collection, and to explore some of the ideas and concepts of concern to artists in the second half of the 20th century.

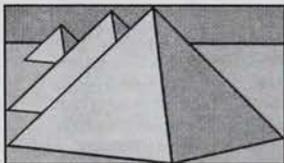
Works by 19 artists will be exhibited in "About Objects." A number of the works have not been on public view for many years. Two artworks make their debut appearance in the museum, including acquired sculptures by John McCracken and David Hammons.

The title of the exhibition, "About Objects," refers to common thematic connections among the works on view and to specific definitions that some of the artists were challenging. In the 1960s, a number of avant-garde artists created objects that were neither painting nor sculpture in the traditional sense, but rather hybrids that combined qualities of both two- and three-dimensional modes. Ranging from hard-edge, abstract forms to subtler, more textured assemblages, all of the works in this exhibition approach objects themselves a subject matter.

Visitors to the exhibition will see paintings that feature recognizable images (a Wimbledon trophy, the Pyramids of Egypt, domestic settings) together with sculptural works that emphasize the material characteristics of objects (wood, lead, Formica, resin, sand, stone), as well as hybrids that underscore the relationship of light and color to space and matter. Dating from

the 1950s to 2000, some pieces — such as those by Richard Artschwager, Bruce Conner, and Robert Wilson — immediately proclaim their material presence; while others by Louise Bourgeois, Roy Lichtenstein and Wayne Thiebaud depict objects in a simplified manner.

In addition to works from the museum's extensive collection, there are several objects on loan from collectors George H. Waterman III and Richard Brown Baker. Artists in the exhibition are: Richard Artschwager, Bruce Conner, Joseph Cornell, Tim Ebner, Richard Fleischer, David Hammons, Robert Irwin, R.B. Kitaj, Roy Lichtenstein, John McCracken, Betty Parsons, Haim Steinbach,



"Pyramids II," 1969, by Roy Lichtenstein, American, 1923–1997, oil on canvas, 38 9/16" x 68 5/8." Photo courtesy of RISD Museum

Wayne Thiebaud, Christopher Wilmarth, and Robert Wilson.

Hours are Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; third Thursday of the month until 9 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 senior citizens, \$1 for ages 5 to 18, \$2 for college students with valid identification. Free 5 to 9 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month, and for Free-For-All Saturdays (last Saturday of the month). For information call 454-6500 or visit <www.risd.edu/museum.cfm>.

## Jewish Spiritual Caregiving Comes Into Its Own

Jewish tradition is rich with wisdom for those who are facing illness, loss, challenge and transition. However, these needs have often been overlooked in the training of rabbis, cantors, chaplains and other caregivers. Because the wealth of Jewish tradition's insights have not been applied to this work in a comprehensive and accessible fashion, rabbis and others involved in pastoral care to Jewish people with real needs have often turned to literature and theory from the Christian tradition. Synagogues and Jewish institutions wishing to respond to the great spiritual hunger of those in the midst of pain and transition have lacked the resources they needed — until now.

For the first time, *Jewish Pastoral Care: A Practical Handbook from Traditional & Contemporary Sources* edited by Rabbi Dayle A. Friedman (Jewish Lights Publishing/April 2001/Hardcover/ \$35) offers Jewish caregivers and non-Jewish caregivers of Jews a rich source of professional support. This groundbreaking resource draws upon both Jewish tradition and the classical foundations of pastoral care to provide invaluable guidance for professionals and lay persons of all faith traditions engaged in pastoral care.

Offering insight on pastoral care technique, theory, and theological implications, the contributors to *Jewish Pastoral Care* are innovators in their fields, and represent all four contemporary Jewish movements.

*Jewish Pastoral Care* is a pioneering handbook for anyone called to care for Jewish people, including rabbis, cantors, chaplains, hospital staff, and volunteer who visit the sick and elderly. This resource provides basic theory and skills for caregiving in a variety of situations, including:

- Addictions and substance abuse
- Aging and dying
- Domestic violence
- Engaged and married couples

### COUNSELING

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## JEWISH PASTORAL CARE

### A Practical Handbook

from Traditional & Contemporary Sources

Edited by  
Rabbi Dayle A. Friedman

- Grief and bereavement
- and many other topics of need.

*Jewish Pastoral Care* is also a vital new reference for non-Jewish professionals engaged in counseling and caring for interfaith families and Jewish patients in a variety of setting. It is the definitive handbook for understanding Judaism and Jewish tradition in the context of pastoral care.

Rabbi Dayle A. Friedman, M.A., J.C.S., M.S.W., is a pioneer

in the professionalization of geriatric chaplaincy, in spiritual work with the elderly, and in the Jewish healing movement. She served for 12 years as director of chaplaincy services at Philadelphia Geriatric Center, where she developed the first clinical training program for rabbis in geriatric chaplaincy. She is currently the director of the Geriatric Chaplaincy Program and a spiritual director at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

## Philip Hamilton Comes to Waterplace Park

The Providence Parks Department, Office of Cultural Affairs invites you to Waterplace Park to celebrate its 25th Anniversary Concert Series. On July 6, at 7 p.m. the series will present Philip Hamilton.

Hamilton's music is a dreamy infectious mix of original up-tempo world beat and laid back jazz vocals. He blends jazz and acoustic soul with influences of rhythms from around the world providing the listener with an image provoked by his earthy yet atmospheric vocals. Hamilton describes himself as a "vocal artist." His voice comes across as one fluid instrument that makes about as many sounds as you can dream up. His performances are a landscape of sound that holds together as a complete evening. Each section does not seem separate from the others but an extension of each other.

Hamilton has released several of his own albums and provides vocals on a variety of other works. He has performed at many of the world's most exciting festivals including the Montreaux, Newport, San Sebastian, Montreal Jazz and Brazil's Globo — FM Music Festivals and Japan's NHK Music Series. In addition to being an inventive and soulful vocalist, he lends his talents to many other mediums including dance, theater, and television. He composed the theme to the Emmy Award winning PBS television series, "Say Brother," and was the featured vocalist on the movie soundtrack for "Harriet the Spy." His critically acclaimed score for "Ritmo y Ruido," a ballet by Tony award winning choreographer Ann Reinking, was commissioned by Ballet Hispanico and is currently part of their world tour repertoire. Hamilton continues to tour South America, Europe, and the United States.

"Hamilton's soulful, call and responsive vocals... will have you investigating bargain fares to Rio." — *Chicago Tribune*  
"An unusual energetic and inventive vocalist." — *The Washington Post*

The 25th Anniversary Concert Series is sponsored by the City of Providence, The Providence Parks Department, Office of Cultural Affairs, Capitol Arts Providence, a (501) c 3 non-profit organization, Bank Rhode Island, The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, and NBC WJAR TV.

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



## RISD Museum Presents 'FRENOTFREE'

Now to Sept. 9, Art  
ConText artist Indira  
Johnson's collaborative  
community outreach project  
culminates in exhibition.

Ever helped a friend move? Nurse somebody through an illness? Or some other simple act that you did for nothing that meant a great deal to someone else? How have you benefited from actions given by others? Everyday, we do or receive small and large acts for free. In our highly commercial world, how do we value these "free" acts? Are they really free? An upcoming exhibition at The RISD Museum explores these and related questions.

The project conceived and executed by artist Indira Freitas Johnson will culminate in FRENOTFREE, an installation that will include stories from the Providence community about acts that were given freely. The stories were gathered during the artist's residency at the Knight Memorial branch of the Providence Public Library where she has been working with a group of students learning English as a second language as well as a group of RISD graduate students.

Johnson, a ceramist by training, will incorporate these stories with her own artwork. Her project questions the nature of "free" labor and the way it is marginalized in contemporary society. FRENOTFREE investigates the symbolic value of energy transference that is present

in every form of exchange — physical, emotional, economic, or psychic. The exhibition draws the viewer into a deeper understanding of the dependence on each other for support, nourishment and courage.

Johnson's project is part of a collaborative effort between The RISD Museum and the Providence Public Library called Art



Indira Freitas Johnson  
FRENOTFREE  
(preparatory detail)  
ArtConText Spring 2001  
Photo courtesy of RISD

ConText which includes an artist residency in a public library branch and an exhibition in the museum. She is the eighth Art ConText resident. The exhibit will be up until Sept. 9.

Hours are Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; third Thursday of the month until 9 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$4 for senior citizens; \$1 for ages 5 to 18; \$2 for college students with valid identification. Free 5 to 9 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month, and for Free-For-All Saturdays (last Saturday of the month). Information, call 454-6500 or <www.risd.edu/museum.cfm>.

## Canada's 'Circo Comedia' Opens at Zeiterion

The Zeiterion Theatre's Summer Fun Series kicks off with a bang on July 11, with Canada's "Circo Comedia" at 10:30 a.m.

Smythe & Saucier are "Circo Comedia," combining daredevil students with unpredictable thrills. In the tradition of the Quebec circus, master acrobat Saucier performs feats from dizzying heights, while the clown, Smythe, gets carried away trying to help his buddy.

The duo have more than 20 years experience performing with circuses, including the acclaimed Cirque du Soleil. Much like Laurel and Hardy, these two spend more time foiling each other than they do anything else.

Tickets for this \$5 general admission show are available only at the Zeiterion box office, which is open Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The box office is located 684 Purchase St., in downtown New Bedford. To order tickets over the phone, call (508) 994-2900.

The Zeiterion Theatre is supported, in part, by grants from the cultural councils of Acushnet, Berkley, Bourne, Brewster, Carver, Dartmouth, Dennis, Fairhaven, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Orleans, Rochester, Yarmouth, Wareham, and Westport, local agencies supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

It is also supported by the City of New Bedford, the Acushnet Foundation, COM/Gas & COM/Electric, Crapo Foundation, Grimshaw-Gudewicz Charitable Foundation, and our Friends and Business Partners.

## Spotlight on China Inn

by Joann Doyle

The evolution of Louis Yip is a fascinating one — philanthropist, businessman, and restaurateur.

Yip left Hong Kong in 1974 where he and his wife, Florence, began their life together. They traveled to Vancouver, Canada, where they lived for two years working in an Italian restaurant. Yip laughed, "I cooked pizza, lasagna, lobster and steak!" In December of 1976, Yip and his wife decided to come to the United States. "I had a sister and brother-in-law in Cambridge, Mass. My brother-in-law was a chef at the Lucky Garden in Cambridge and was interested in pursuing a restaurant venture with my wife and I," Yip said.

Yip examined the New England area and found there were not any Chinese restaurants in Rhode Island. So the

genesis of his success began on Dexter Street in Central Falls. For the next 10 years Yip had the only restaurant in Rhode Island that offered Chinese, Cantonese and Szechuan foods. Yip chortled, "People were afraid to try some of the not so traditional type foods. Everyone wanted chop suey or chow mein." But before long his customers' fear lost out to the delicious food Yip offered: wonderful steamed dumplings (which is a traditional dish in northern China and my favorite), scallion pancakes, beef with Szechuan sauce. Yip laughed, "for a very 'long' few months all we ate were the steamed dumplings due to the customers' hesitance. Customers were very timid to try them! Now the dumplings are the number one item on our menu!"

Yip's clientele primarily consisted of physicians, professors from Brown University and RISD, as well as students. "Years ago if you wanted Chinese food you needed to travel to Boston," Yip said. "People were so happy we were here. There was a two hour wait before our restaurant changed location.

Yip's decision to change locations came in 1985 when he was approached by former Mayor Henry S. Kinch of Pawtucket. Kinch suggested he purchase the property of the former children's clothing store Roberts. Subsequently, the building was knocked down and the China Inn was erected.

If you have not been to the China Inn, it is a contemporary surrounding, very bright and lively. A beautiful skylight creates an enjoyable atmosphere, especially when the sun is shining! This is not your everyday, average Chinese restaurant. Yip has such style and a warm gracious manner, you cannot help but want to return to experience the delicious food and the lovely people who make his restaurant such a pleasant place to dine in.

Do not forget to admire the beautiful bamboo trees that surround part of the building. Yip said, "When we were developing a landscaping plan no one could find bamboo. A member of our church had some on their property and they gave me four or five stakes. The rest is history. It is especially beautiful in the winter when the snow has fallen."

The China Inn is located on 285 Main St., Pawtucket, R.I. The China Inn is non-smoking in the dining area, yet it is permitted at the bar. Credit cards are accepted and a lovely banquet facility is available for parties of up to 100 people. Catering is available also. For more information, call 723-3960.

### Sesame Chicken Salad

Shredded iceberg lettuce (approximately 1/2 head)  
Shredded chicken breast (cooked, 1 breast)  
Sesame oil  
Salt  
Pepper  
Ground Peanuts (Use food processor)  
Combine all ingredients and enjoy!

## Providence Jazz & Blues Festival Coming to Providence

CapitolArts Providence is proud to present the ninth annual Providence Jazz and Blues Festival on July 6, 7, and 8. Admission is free to this three-day event that starts July 6 in Waterplace Park at 7 p.m. The event continues on July 7 at 8:30 p.m. in cooperation with Waterfire Providence and culminates on July 8 from 1 to 6 p.m. in Waterplace Park. For a full schedule visit <www.caparts.org> or call the Providence Tourism Council at (800) 562-2895. This year the festival presents a wide array of artists whose work ranges from traditional to cutting edge. Bob Rizzo, the festival director says of the event, "Now in its ninth year the festival continues to evolve and change. This festival has always taken risks with its programming. I am proud of that. We are fortunate that in Providence we have a sophisticated audience that appreciates a festival that expands upon the definition of the genre."

The Providence Jazz and Blues Festival is sponsored by the City of Providence, The Providence Tourism Council, CapitolArts Providence and NBC 10 WJAR TV.

## July Exhibits at Cranston Public Library



Sue Bogle, Providence photographer, will exhibit her animal and cityscape photos in the Rear Gallery of the Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, from June 30 to Aug. 4. Pictures of Kobe, the new polar bear at the Roger Williams Park Zoo, will be among the animal photographs in the exhibit.

Erik Carlson and Erica Carpenter will present their exhibit "Base: Advancing the Post Military Landscape Quonset/Davisville" at the Cranston Public Library, from July 3 through July 28. Funded by the Rhode Island committee for the Humanities, "Base" is an exhibit of photographs and historical/impressionistic text documenting the deteriorated buildings and starkly stunning landscape of the Quonset Point and Davisville bases.

The project examines the historically important site as a landscape in transition, cycling from militarization to neglect and natural reclamation to pending (and hopeful) commercial reinvention. The photos examine how the coexistence of past and present, in the form of material culture, create a layering of history that may provide us with a deeper understanding of ourselves; who we are as where and what we have built — and rebuilt, and reimagined.

The exhibits are free and open to the public during library hours. Occasionally, summer programming may inhibit the viewing of the exhibit.

## China Inn



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# OBITUARIES

**SYLVIA FINKELSTEIN**  
DELRAY BEACH, Fla. — Sylvia (Cardon) Finkelstein, 86, of 3384 Lake View Boulevard, formerly of Providence, died June 20 at Rhode Island Hospital.

She was the wife of A. Archie Finkelstein. Born in Montreal, Canada, a daughter of the late Max and Masha (Mirkin) Cardon, she had lived in Providence for 45 years before moving to Florida in 1991.

She was a 1935 graduate of McGill University in Montreal.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El, a past president of its Sisterhood, a life member and past president of Hadassah, a member of the Miriam Hospital Women's Association, the Women's Association of the former Jewish Home for the Aged, and Temple Sinai in Delray Beach.

She was a former leader with the Girl Scouts.

Besides her husband, she leaves three daughters, Dr. Judith Finkelstein of Bethesda, Md., Mitzi Berkelhammer of Providence and Marcia Goodman of New York City; a brother, Norman Cardon of Montreal; and four grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Mary Korenberg.

The funeral service was held June 22 in Temple Beth-El, Orchard and Butler avenues, Providence. Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Providence. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hadassah, R.I., 1150 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02920. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## EVE LEAVITT

LAUDERHILL, Fla. — Eve Leavitt, 96, died June 19 at Florida Medical Center, Ft. Lauderdale. She was the wife of Dr. Benjamin Leavitt.

Born in Fall River, a daughter of the late Israel and Jennie (Lucknansky) Pokross, she had lived in Fall River for most of her life before moving to Florida in 1978.

She was a graduate of Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, class of 1926, and was a pharmacist at the U.S. Marine Hospital at Ellis Island, N.Y. from 1928 to 1930. She then was employed as a pharmacist in Fall River for four years.

She was a member of Temple Beth El, Fall River and past president of its Sisterhood, past president of the Women's Board of Charleton Memorial Hospital and a volunteer for 25 years at their Gift Shop. She was also a member of the Hebrew Ladies Helping Hand Society of Fall River.

Besides her husband of 71 years, she is survived by two sons, James P. Leavitt, Upper Saddle River, N.J., and Jay A. Leavitt, Tyron, N.C.; a brother, David Pokross, Belmont, Mass., and a sister, Ethel Miller, Boca Raton, Fla.; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A graveside funeral service was held June 21 at Beth El Cemetery, North Main Street, Fall River. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## MOLLIE LIPET

PAWTUCKET — Mollie Lipet, 86, of Hillside Avenue, died June 21 at Hillside Health Center.

Born in Pawtucket, a daughter of the late Louis and Bessie (Cokin) Lipet, she had been a lifelong resident of Rhode Island.

She leaves a brother, Joe Lipet of Jupiter, Fla., and a sister, Sophie Diamond of Pawtucket. She was the sister of the late James and Hyman Lipet.

A graveside service was held June 24 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## FAY SILVERMAN

SUN CITY, Ariz. — Fay Silverman of Spanish Gardens Drive, formerly of Fall River, died June 23 at Hospice of the

Valley in Sun City. She was the wife of the late Oscar Silverman.

Born in Fall River, a daughter of the late Morris and Anna Ratner, she had lived in Sun City for 24 years, previously residing in Florida.

She leaves a daughter, Beverly Harad of Boise, Idaho. She was the mother of the late Sheldon Silverman.

Private services were held June 25 at Agudas Achim Cemetery in Fall River. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston.

## ROSE STEINGOLD

PROVIDENCE — Rose Steingold, 92, of 355 Blackstone Boulevard, died June 18 at Epoch on Blackstone Boulevard. She was the wife of Charles Steingold.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Rubin and Lena (Riter) Woolf, she was a lifelong city resident.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood and Hadassah. Known for her needlepoint and knitting, she crocheted dolls for the Jewish Home for the Aged and other charities. She was an amateur painter.

Besides her husband of 71 years, she leaves a son, Kenneth Steingold of Providence; a grandson and two great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Sadje, Charles and Isadore Woolf.

The funeral service was held June 20 at Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## IRWIN J. WEINER

CRANSTON — Irwin J. "Sonny" Weiner, 78, of Hyde Street, who worked with flooring, died April 20 in Miriam Hospital.

He was the husband of the late Diane (DeDonato) Weiner. Born in Providence, the son of the late Samuel and Eva (Weiner) Weiner, he moved to Cranston 25 years ago.

He worked at Fain's Floor Covering and Ruggieri Flooring, Inc. He was an active member of the Kiwanis Club for 35

years, and a former president. He was a member of Temple Emanu-El, and Jewish War Veterans Post 23, and a life member of the Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association.

He leaves a stepdaughter, Debbie DeDonato of Cranston; a sister, Ruth Weiner of East Providence; several cousins, and many friends. He was the twin brother of the late Sylvia Weiner.

The funeral service was held

at the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906 or Kiwanis Foundation of NE, Hasbro, Childrens Unit, P.O. Box 613, Framingham, MA 01702. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## Jewish Leaders Respond to Second Federal Death Penalty

The following statement was released recently by Chairman of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs Leonard Cole.

"The recent execution of Timothy McVeigh and Juan Raul Garza and the anticipation of further federal and state executions prompt the JCPA to reiterate its position on capital punishment.

In the years since the U.S. Supreme court permitted capital punishment, the JCPA has continued to view the death penalty as incompatible with the traditional Jewish regard for the sanctity of life. Our concerns are magnified in light of recent data about the application of the death penalty.

Last year, the JCPA joined the American Bar Association's call for a moratorium on the death penalty until issues of fairness, impartiality, and risk of error are resolved. The JCPA urged the appointment of a commission to study the frequency with which

death row inmates have later been found to be innocent and the factors that contribute to wrongful convictions.

Studies have also raised questions about the role of racial bias and poverty in determining who is sentenced to death and about the lack of adequate legal representation for indigent people accused of capital crimes.

The JCPA reaffirms its call for the federal government and the 38 states that now permit capital punishment to establish a moratorium on the death penalty. The understandable desire for punishment of criminal behavior must not supersede the need for impartial justice."

JCPA, the public affairs arm of the organized Jewish community, serves as the national coordinating and advisory body for the 13 national and 122 local agencies comprising the field of Jewish community relations.

Everything is surely for the best. Today, too, you must know and remind yourself anew that G-d is very great and that His mercy up to now has helped you very much indeed. Believe that "G-d's kindness never ends and that His mercy never ceases." (Lam. 3:22) Believe that everything will soon turn into good, with G-d's help. Do not allow yourself to be drawn after the pain. Get into the habit of diverting your mind and forgetting your pain, especially the needless fears and downheartedness all your troubles have caused you. It is all folly and foolishness. The main thing is to forget about them and to present a pleasant and happy face. If you act happy, eventually you will come to be happy.

— Reb Noson of Breslov

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# FEATURE

## David Olesker

(Continued from Page 7)

argument as well as to defend one's own argument. He suggested choosing three good Web sites or news sources to regularly consult in order to stay current.

The third component of advocacy is *forum*, the organization of advocates and utilization of news mediums to spread their message. He asked members of the audience to send an e-mail to <jat.action-subscribe@topica.com>, which offers a daily pro-Israel action, like writing a letter, visiting a Web site or making a phone call, that takes less than 10 minutes to perform. He stressed that *organizing* was a crucial aspect of advocacy. He also suggested the two following books: *Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business* by Neil Postman (Viking Penguin, 1986) and *The Siege: The Saga of Israel and Zionism* by Conor Cruise O'Brien (Simon and Schuster, 1986). The latter book

is out of print, but he said one could find it in used bookstores or online.

Olesker said that by talking to other Jews (because, he said sadly, there are great divisions even within our ranks regarding Israel), as well as writing letters to congressman and calling into radio talk shows (which, Olesker said, are "unmediated media" and often very persuasive) that anyone can become an activist, even from within their own living room.

The public is not on the side of Israel on this current intifada, Olesker said. This is nothing new. If there is to be a change in public opinion regarding Israel, it must come from the Jews, he said. "If we don't have solid, bedrock support from the Jewish community, we have nothing," he said.

For more information about Israeli activism, please send an e-mail to <jat.action-subscribe@topica.com>, or contact the Jerusalem Center for Communications and Advocacy Training at <jccat@iname.com>.

## Different Types of Families

by Hannah Reich Berman

The other morning I made a startling discovery about the word "family." I arose early and, as is my custom, after washing and davening I went directly to my trusty computer to get the news of the day. I was confronted by my usual dilemma — Should I go to the local real estate site (real estate being my business) or to head for Arutz Sheva at <IsraelNationalNews.com> to get the latest news reports from Israel? As always, because my heart rules my head, the news from Israel won out.

I'm never prepared to face the reports of bombings and drive-by shootings, but I brace myself for the inevitable horror stories that will unfold before my eyes. On that particular day I read about the death of five-month-old Chaim Yehuda Shoham, killed in a Palestinian terror attack and, with a heavy heart, I wondered, as I always do, about the family. A first and only child, of parents married just three years — there are probably grandparents and assorted aunts, along with uncles, cousins, friends, and neighbors who are all left to wonder about the potential joys lost to them. What kind of joy he would have brought to them? Who might Chaim Yehuda have become? What might he have accomplished in life? All unknowable.

One would naturally assume that the Israeli Knesset is a kind of family with common goals, but that is apparently very far from the truth. The dictionary offers this definition, among others, of the word family — "a group of people united by certain convictions or a common affiliation."

The very next news bulletin on my screen that day was about Arab MK Azmi Bishara and his entreaties to the Arab world to "Unite against the warmongering Sharon government."

There's little purpose in repeating the rest of his diatribe; suffice it to say that he was in the appropriate company of known arch-terrorists, including PFLP and Hizbullah, and other Arab leaders. The irony of seeing a bulletin about this Arab MK and little Chaim Yehuda, within inches of each other, didn't escape me as I wondered about the family of Knesset members.

Following the report on Bishara's anti-Israel speech were quotes from the Likud MK Coalition leader and from Herut, Meretz, and Yisrael B'Aliyah MKs, as well as from the public security minister, the political parties registrar, the attorney general as well as an attorney from Kiryat Arba, who questioned the approach of the attorney general. Suggestions ranged from indicting him and outlawing his party to revoking his citizenship and/or invalidating his passport, both of which would leave him stranded in Syria. Every possible angle is being discussed and several solutions to the problem are up for consideration.

I'm trying to have confidence that this family of Knesset members will come up with the appropriate solution to the problem of an MK who travels to Syria, embraces terrorist organization leaders, and encourages Arab states to launch a full scale war against Israel. But I wonder about other families, such as the family of baby Chaim Yehuda. Given the opportunity, I wonder how they would handle this situation.

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## Rosh Hashanah Card Under Construction

(Continued from Page 4)

Foundation the minute they heard about Herzog's idea. They received an e-mail about the project during their recent second mission to Israel to visit with families of victims of terrorism. "It sounded like a phenomenal way to allow hundreds of thousands of children abroad to show that they care about what's happening in Israel," commented Thalheim. And when he described the project to some of the families of terrorist victims, they were equally enthusiastic about their own participation in the project.

"They suggested that the project unite Israeli families just as it unites children around the world." This was born the plan to involve children from cities and settlements alike in the final construction in Israel. "United by their losses, these children will have a chance to work together on something fun and fabulous," commented Susan Thalheim. The completed card will become a traveling exhibit throughout Israel until it finds its permanent home, which may well be the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

For more information on how to participate, contact The Jewish Literacy Foundation at (410) 620-1020 or The Israel Emergency Solidarity Fund at (516) 390-7162.

## YMCA Offers Yoga Class

The Pawtucket Family YMCA will offer a four-week Yoga course for ages 16 and up starting July 9.

The class will be held on Mondays at 7 p.m.

There are many health benefits of Yoga. Practicing Yoga can help increase your strength and agility, tone your muscles and joints, improve your overall health, gain a sense of calm as you let go of stress and bring balance, poise and self-confidence into your life.

The cost for a four-week session that meets once per week is \$24 for full members, \$34 for activity members, \$40 for non-members and \$37 for senior citizens who are non-members.

Yoga's simple and relaxing techniques can help create a healthy body and a wonderful sense of well-being.

For more information on this class, or any other fitness class, contact Fitness Director Sue Jack at the Pawtucket Family YMCA, 20 Summer St., Pawtucket, R.I., 727-7900.



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## 16 Rhode Islanders

(Continued from Page 1)

Bard from ASDS, Cantor Rennie Brown from Temple Sinai; Diane Ceret from Temple Beth El; Helena Friedmann from Temple Habonim; Avis Gunter-Rosenberg from Temple Beth-El; Joshua Karlin, who is a teacher at Harry Elkin Midrasa and director of planned giving at JFRI; ASDS teacher Risa Kolender; Ruth Lincoln from Congregation Agudas Achim; BJE Israel desk director Ruth Page; BJE Financial Administrator Claire Roche; ASDS Head of School Penney Stein; JCC Cultural Arts Director Sue Suls; BJE Director of Teen Education Rich Walter; Boston educator Shelley Bazis; and BJE Executive Director Minna Ellison.

Besides addressing particular issues regarding the teaching of the current crisis, the group will also discuss various teaching strategies in Jewish education. Once they return they will spread their knowledge to their respective communities and groups.

Page remarked that the purpose of the mission is to stand in the midst of the Israeli experience, and then "assimilate it, internalize it, [and] translate it into concepts that we can take back and teach [others]." See photo next page.

## Marty Weissman

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## PETA

(Continued from Page 3)

bedded in the animal it came from, a creature formed by G-d, are released, helping "repair" the world. And in a subtle, sublime way, the animal itself is thereby elevated beyond the parameters of animal existence.

In the end, Timothy McVeigh's final meal consisted of ice cream.

But even he was not a rat or a pig. He was something far higher on the scale of Creation, and thus something with infinitely more potential for good, and for evil. He was a human being who, tragically, chose to destroy other human beings — all of whom had been created, as he had been himself, in the image of God.

Am Echad Resources. Sarah Cohen, part of Am Echad Resources' writing pool, is a teacher and a writer in New York.

# Facepainting is fun at the JCC!



Michael Ross and Alex Knight



Hayley Allard growls as her animal side comes out.

Requests were made for unicorns, dragons, butterflies and tigers, and the counselors at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island were only too happy to oblige.



Sharon Weissburg (top) and Courtney Allard bear thier animal faces.

Herald photos by Jon Rubin

## Striar JCC Courtyard Series July 5

Singer/storyteller David Paskin of Sharon, Mass., headlines the opening performance of Striar Jewish Community Center's 5th Annual Courtyard Series on Thursday, July 5th, at 6:30 p.m.

This popular performing arts series for children and adults will feature Klezmer musicians, large scale puppets and marionettes, and the aptly named Peter Gross and his Amazing Flying Rodents with a remarkable assortment of skunks, raccoons and other furry creatures performing daredevil feats and amazing stunts.

Tickets for the Courtyard Series are just \$10 per family. Call (781) 341-2016, ext. 276 for more information.

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- August 2nd Happy Notes, variety show
- August 9th Aristocats, a classical jazz trio
- August 16th A Dixieland Band with Larry Perlman
- August 23rd Frank Castle
- August 30th To Be Announced
- September 6th A Dixieland Band with Larry Perlman

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### Off we go!

Pictured above are those who left for Israel on the Rhode Island Educators Mission: Back row: Joshua Karlin, Helena Friedmann, Minna Ellison, Penney Stein; Middle: Diane Cerep, Shiela Alexander, Ruth Page, Rich Walter, Risa Kolender; Front: Claire Roche, Sue Suls, Avis Gunther-Rosenberg, Ruth Lincoln, Cantor Rennie Brown. Not pictured: Rabbi Dov Bard.

Photo courtesy of BJE

## Delta To Have Daily Service from N.Y. to Tel Aviv

Delta Airlines hosted some 150 influential New Yorkers at a gala gathering recently at the Jewish Museum to celebrate its introduction of new non-stop service to Israel. Guests of honor at the event were Israel's Consul-General in New York, Ambassador Alon Pinkas, and Ministry of Tourism Director-General Itai Eiges. Entertainment was provided by the Brooklyn Youth Choir, whose young multi-ethnic members sang *Hatikvah* (the Israel national anthem) and *Hava Nagila*. Delta's maiden flight took off for Israel on June 1 and, after a two-day pause, daily service began June 4.

In welcoming remarks, Michelle Burns, Delta's vice president finance and chief financial officer, noted that Delta has "been looking forward to this service for quite some time, and takes pride in connecting our customers with the Jewish homeland..."

In response, Eiges assured the gathering that despite current events in Israel, "thousands of tourists are arriving every day. And, starting this weekend, many of those tourists and business travelers are arriving in Tel Aviv aboard planes proudly flying the Delta logo. As we say in Hebrew, Bruchim HaBa'im — which means "blessed be your arrival," or, more simply, "welcome!"