

# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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

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## East Side Redistricting and The Jewish Community

by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

The thorny political issue of redistricting appeared recently in a Nov. 17 editorial in the *Providence Journal*. Entitled "Gerrymandering the R.I. Legislature: Going Swimming in Sakonnet" and authored by Philip West, the article discussed the negative effects resizing county districts can have on unsuspecting citizens.

West was asked to be guest speaker for the Temple Emanuel Leisure club on Nov. 18, and the issue began to reveal its relevancy to the Jewish community. West is executive director of Common Cause of Rhode Island ([www.CommonCauseRI.org](http://www.CommonCauseRI.org)), a non-profit organization which scrutinizes government activity. "Redistricting is

the hot topic," West said, especially because districts are currently being considered for the elections of 2002.

Districts are carved out of cities like puzzle pieces, and state representatives run for office in each district, of which Rhode Island has 100. Redistricting occurs every 10 years after each census, but currently the redistricting process will be occurring earlier because the number of state representatives is being reduced, as proposed in a 1994 referendum. Rhode Island currently has 100 representatives in the state General Assembly, and in 2002 this number will be reduced to 75. Providence, which has 17 representatives, will soon have just 12.

West said that proposed district maps are drafted by a 16

member reapportionment commission — comprised of five Senate members, five House members and six public members — which are then submitted to the Senate for approval. Normally, districts are chosen based upon population, while considering geographical boundaries like lakes and rivers and artificial boundaries like main streets.

Although districts are often commonly (and legally) chosen in ways to protect incumbents, sometimes they are gerrymandered (divided into districts in order to give one group an advantage) with less noble intentions. For example, West said that if a state representative is to square off against an opponent who has a large minority

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PHILIP WEST, executive director of Common Cause, points out district changes at a Temple Emanuel Leisure Club Meeting.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

## Rick Nelson Chosen as JCCRI Executive Director

by Jon Rubin  
Herald Editor

This past spring, Vivian Weissman, longtime executive director of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, stepped down from her office. It was a momentous event; she had become synonymous with the JCC. Jerry Melman from Yardley, Penn., was chosen as interim director, and a coast-to-coast search began for a new director.

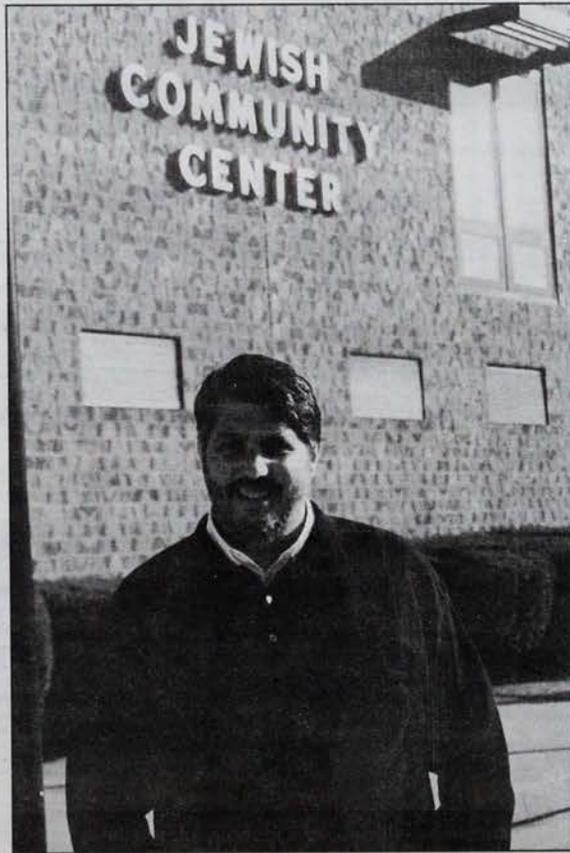
Rick Nelson got a call about four months ago from the search committee asking him to come in for an interview. He remembered that phone call very clearly, because it was just a few hours before that he discovered that his wife Diane had pancreatic cancer. Despite his insistence to stay by her side, his wife told him that "You need to go to Rhode Island" for the interview. So he did.

Her health declined "rather quickly" after her diagnosis, he said, and even after he was offered the position he didn't feel that he was in the best frame of mind to make such a decision. He and his wife spoke about it, and he agreed to take the job. The JCC kept the position open for him for months while he cared for his wife. "That was a pretty compassionate move," he said. She died in late September. In the wake of this tragedy, Nelson determinedly packed up and moved from Seattle, Wash to Barrington, R.I.

Nelson grew up in Long Is-  
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land, New York, attended a Reform synagogue, and ended up sending his son to an Orthodox

day school; not surprisingly, he describes his religious background as "Reconservadox."



RICK NELSON, the new executive director of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

## Scholar Speaks on End of Life Issues at Beth-El

by Seth Bromley  
Editorial Assistant

A recent scholar-in-residence program at Temple Beth-El in Providence brought Rabbi Peter Knobel to the synagogue for an educational program about Jewish medical ethics. On the morning of Nov. 18, Rabbi Knobel led an interactive discussion on "end of life" issues and their relationship to Jewish ethical tradition.

A liturgical scholar and the spiritual leader of Beth Emet the Free Synagogue in Evanston, Ill., Knobel is chairman of the committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis responsible for producing a Reform prayer book to replace *Gates of Prayer*. He was joined by several dozen temple members, many of whom participated in a debate about the Jewish view on doctor-assisted suicide and the idea of "the right to die."

Knobel began by acknowledging two separate ways of examining any controversial issue: it can be debated on a large scale as a matter of public policy, or it can be looked at it on a case-by-case basis, or what is "right" or "wrong" for each individual situation. Both ways of looking at a problem can be helpful to resolving it, but Knobel said that by examining individual situations, the issue takes on more nuances and complexities.

The traditional Jewish way of thinking, said Knobel, states that "we are not the owners

of our own bodies, G-d is. We are only stewards. We are responsible to G-d." However, Knobel continued, "Within the context of Reform Judaism and within the context of modern (American) society... the belief is that people should have control of their own bodies. In our relationship to G-d we are not silent partners." Therein lies the conflict with regard to end-of-life issues.

Knobel gave the audience a test case to begin the discussion. A 37-year-old man, married and successful, is diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease), a terminal illness that gradually destroys a person's ability to control his or her body. The man signs a living will that dictates he is not to be put on a respirator, or any kind of artificial life support, and that gives his wife

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Rabbi Peter Knobel  
Herald photo by Seth Bromley

# HAPPENINGS

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Alperin Schechter Day School .....	751-2470
Brown / RISD Hillel .....	863-2805
Bureau of Jewish Education .....	331-0956
Hadassah (RI Chapter) .....	463-3636
Hebrew Free Loan Association .....	331-3081
Jewish Community Center of RI .....	861-8800
Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island .....	621-5374
Jewish Family Services .....	331-1244
JFS Kosher Mealsite .....	781-1771
Jewish Federation of Rhode Island .....	421-4111
Jewish Seniors Agency .....	351-4750
Jewish War Veterans of RI .....	941-6032
Lincoln Park Cemetery .....	737-5333
Perspectives .....	863-9357
Providence Hebrew Day School .....	331-5327
RI Holocaust Memorial Museum .....	453-7860
RI Jewish Historical Association .....	331-1360
South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association .....	781-1949
Touro Fraternal Association .....	785-0066
URI Hillel .....	874-2740

## Calendar: November 30 through December 6

- 30 Cantor Bruce Benson will be bringing his exciting "rock service" to Temple Beth El, 70 Orchard Avenue in Providence. Benson has been entertaining audiences for more than 30 years, and he regularly plays in synagogues across the United States. The event begins at 7:45 p.m., call 331-6070 for more information.
- The Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island will be bringing its Mitzvah Heroes: Conference Without Walls to Providence and other cities throughout Rhode Island. Mitzvah heroes, ordinary people who have done extraordinary things, will be teaching people about life-changing mitzvot that we can do in our hometowns. Events run Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 2 and 3. Call Ruth Page or Miriam Abrams-Stark at the BJE/RI at 331-0956 for more information.
- 1 URI Big Band and Jazz Combos at the URI Recital Hall, 105 Upper College Road, Kingston. URI jazz groups will be performing at 8 p.m. this night and on Dec. 2. Call 874-2431. 'Self Defense or Death of Some Salesmen' by Carson Kreitzer will be showing at Perishable Theatre, 95 Empire Street in Providence. Call 331-2695.
  - 2 The Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association will present Melvin Zurier, who will be speaking about "Supreme Court Trials of Jewish Rhode Islanders." The lecture will take place at the Aldrich House, 110 Benevolent Street, Providence at 2 p.m. Free. The JCCRI Book Fair begins and runs until Dec. 17. For sale will be books, Hanukkah candles, toys, games, gift wrap and much more. The JCCRI is located at 401 Elmgrove Avenue in Providence. Call 861-8800. "Side Man" Dec. 2 through 8, 8 p.m.; Dec. 9, 3 p.m. only. Original student written musical. Brown University-Stuart theatre, 77 Waterman St., Providence, 863-2838. <www.brown.edu/departments/theatre\_speech\_dance> Bonnie Friedman leads a writers workshop for experienced and beginning writers at 2 p.m. at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahantton St., Newton, Mass. \$5 fee. For more information, call the Boston Jewish Book Fair at (617) 558-6448.
  - 4 Storyteller Mark Binder will be telling Chanukah stories at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$3 per family to benefit the JCC preschool. Call 861-8800. Lora Brody will discuss the importance of food in family holiday rituals. Cooking with Memories at 7:30 p.m. at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish community Center, 333 Nahantton St., Newton, Mass. \$5 admission. For more information, call the Boston Jewish Book Fair at (617) 558-6448.
  - 5 Cranston Senior Guild will be holding its Chanukah party at the West Valley Inn with dinner and live entertainment. Call Sam at 943-3427 for reservations and more information.
  - 6 Perspectives is taking to the ice! Show up at the Fleet Skating Center, 2 Kennedy Plaza in Providence at 7 p.m. For more information, call Sam at 480-0852. The Cranston Public Library, 140 Sackanosset Cross Road in Cranston will be featuring Kenneth Glass, who will be speaking about "Treasures in your Attic: Old and Rare Books." Glass is the proprietor of the nationally known Brattle Book Shop in Boston. The talk begins at 7 p.m. Call (800) 447-9595 for more information.

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If you have an event you would like featured on our Happenings Page, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 0294, fax to 726-5820 or e-mail rijewishherald@hotmail.com

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## AIDS Service of Hope And Healing Dec. 3

"World AIDS Week — A Service of Hope and Healing" will be held for people of all faiths touched by AIDS. The service will be held Dec. 3 from 7 to 8 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence.

Please join Rabbi Jonathon Blake and Cantor Judith Seplowin of Temple Beth El, along with Debbie Waldman and the AIDS Task Force to commemorate world AIDS week. This service is sponsored by the AIDS Task Force, a program of the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. For more information, please contact Aimee at the JFRI at 421-4111.

## Center for Jewish Culture Presents Talk by Marjorie Agosin

Chilean Jewish poet and human rights activist, Marjorie Agosin, will present a program entitled "Memory & Imagination: Jewish Writers in Latin America," on Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. in the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Library Browsing Area, Park in Lot 13.

The event is co-sponsored by the Center for Jewish Culture and Council on Cultural Diversity & Pluralism. Janet Freedman, co-chairperson of the education department and director of women's studies, will introduce the speaker.

For more information, call Kim Sylvia at (508) 910-4584 or the Center for Jewish Culture at (508) 999-8269.

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

### Providence and Vicinity

- Barney's, East Avenue, Pawtucket
- Coffee Exchange, Wickenden St.
- College Hill Book Store, Thayer St.
- Eastside Marketplace, Pitman St.
- East Side Prescription Center
- Rhoda's Judaica, Hope St.

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What's Brewing at ASOS? Book Page

**R.I. Jewish Community Reacts to Heinous Terrorist Attack**

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# OPINION

## Birthday for the Bereaved

by Sherri Lederman Mandell

You may have heard of my son Koby. In May, he and a friend were brutally murdered a half-mile from our home in Tekoa, Israel. He was bludgeoned to death in a cave. He was killed with utter cruelty. He was killed because of hate.

He was an innocent eighth grader. He and his friend had cut school to go hiking in the wadi, the dry riverbed. They wanted to know the wadi like the back of their hands, his friends told us during the shiva.

June 14 would have been Koby's 14th birthday. On that day, I was in terrible pain. How do you celebrate the birthday of your oldest child, who is no longer with you? How do you mark the day that would have brought him closer to high school and to college, to manhood and marriage, to children?

How do you mark the day that reminds you that your son is no longer alive? My kids and I did errands in Jerusalem in the morning, and then we decided to go to Burger King to mark Koby's birthday, because one thing Koby loved about Israel was being able to eat kosher hamburgers. My son loved to eat — especially hamburgers. On the screensaver on our computer, he wrote: "I'm hungry, give me something to eat now!!!" His hunger was a force to be reckoned with.

I and my three kids — Daniel (12), Eliana (10), and Gavi (6) — needed to walk about five blocks to get to Burger King. We were hungry and tired and cranky, so when we passed a vegetarian restaurant, we decided to stop there to eat. I think we were all relieved not to have to feel the sadness of eating hamburgers without Koby.

As we ate, I cried and cried. I miss him so much — the way he hugged me at night, the way he dropped his backpack on the living room floor when he walked in, even the way he kept his room a total disaster zone. I miss the way he read each article I wrote and commented on it. I miss the jokes he was sure to tell me every day. I miss him and I miss my previous life, one where pain wasn't my constant companion, one where horror wasn't the undertone of my dreams.

I closed my eyes and held a napkin against my eyes as I cried and I thought: How am I going to go on? How am I going to get the strength to leave this restaurant and get through the day?

And suddenly, I realized something. On my birthday I like to swim a mile. What was I going to do on Koby's birthday? Swim 14 laps? We were in downtown Jerusalem; Koby would have been 14. I said to my kids: "Let's go give charity to 14 beggars in Koby's name."

At that instant, a gentleman with a clean-shaven face and puffy white hair put a card down on our table. With a glance, I knew that the card said that the man was deaf and was looking for a contribution.

In the past cards like that had annoyed me — I was trying to eat a meal in peace, and suddenly some beggar had interrupted me.

Now my kids and I were thrilled to see him. "Here," we said, "here's money." He looked at us with a grin on his face.

We got change and exited the restaurant, energized by our mission. The only problem was it was so hot and there were so few people in downtown Jerusalem because of the fear of

terrorism. We saw a man giving charity to an old stooped man. The old man walked away and we ran after him to give him money.

We actually went up to two people who had broken legs and were resting on a bench because we thought they were beggars. We strode purposefully up to them but didn't see a cup or change basket.

Up in heaven, I thought, Koby was laughing at our escapades. There was nothing he loved more than irony and this was supreme irony: We needed beggars because we were desperate for someone to give to. We were begging for beggars. (Shlomo Carlebach calls a "holy beggar" one who is desperate to give.) But just when we needed them, there weren't any. Perhaps this was Koby's message to us, his birthday adventure: his spirit was alive and connected to us.

It was too hot to stay out much longer. We thought about visiting the Western Wall, where there is usually a good group of beggars, but it was the middle of the afternoon and it was just too hot to be out more. So we decided that next year on Koby's birthday, we would get up early, go downtown, and to the Wall, and make sure to give away money in Koby's name.

When I later told my husband about the 14 beggars, he said, "Next year, we'll gather the beggars and take them out to a restaurant for a meal."

What do you do with tragedy and pain? Either you become bitter, hardened and despondent, or you go forward and try to make beauty and joy in the world. Koby would have wanted us to create joy in his name. Koby would have rejoiced to sit with the beggars at a table.

*Sherri Lederman Mandell is the author of Writers of the Holocaust. She made aliyah five years ago and lives in Tekoa. This article first appeared in Hadassah Magazine.*

## Good Try, Mr. Powell, But the Mitchell Report is Fundamentally Flawed

by Yossi Klein Halevi

Conventional wisdom on the Middle East insists that two obstacles are delaying resumption of peace talks: Palestinian violence and Israeli settlement-building. The Mitchell Report, endorsed by Secretary of State Collin Powell, demands that the Palestinians stop shooting and bombing and the Israelis stop building. To many observers, that formulation seems both practical and fair. The only drawback is that it is based on a lie.

Former Israeli prime minister Ehud Barak proved that the settlements are among the least intractable of the bitter issues dividing Israelis and Palestinians. At Camp David in July 2000, Barak offered to withdraw from about 90 percent of the territories, dismantle a majority of settlements and concentrate those remaining into three blocs — whose existence, in principle, the Palestinians accepted. Six months later, during negotiations at Taba, Barak offered to withdraw from 95 percent of the territories and compensate the Palestinians for at least part of the remaining five percent with Israeli territory. If settlements were the problem, why did the Palestinians reject the solution?

Astonishingly, the actual built areas of the settlements — as opposed to imaginary development lines on the map — occupy no more than 1.5 percent of the territories. Barak's former chief negotiator, Gilad Sher, notes that settlements weren't even among the five main issues preventing a deal. Instead, the real obstacles were the Temple Mount and Palestinian insistence on return of Arab refugees not only to Palestine but to Israel — threatening the Jewish state's continued viability.

Critics of settlement-building, including the Israeli left-

wing movement, Peace Now, note that some 6,000 West Bank housing units, whose construction was begun under previous Israeli governments, are now at various stages of completion. Yet according to Peace Now's own "Settlement Watch," about 80 percent of those units are being built within the three settlement blocs that the Palestinians accepted at Camp David and Taba.

In a recent interview I conducted with Dennis Ross, the former Middle East negotiator acknowledged that construction within areas slated as future settlement blocs should now be considered legitimate — provided that building doesn't expand the borders of those blocs. So far, the Sharon government is adhering to that principle.

The final absurdity of exaggerating the centrality of settlements in the Mid-East impasse is that those communities have never been less attractive destinations for Israelis, who are hardly rushing to move their families into territories that have become a war zone. Many of the 6,000 units under construction are unlikely to be completed in the foreseeable future, and of those that will be finished, many will almost certainly remain empty.

If the Palestinians rejected the peace agreement that would have solved the settlement problem, and if settlement-building is now concentrated in areas which the Palestinians themselves acknowledge will remain part of Israel in any future agreement, why the obsessive focus on settlements as an "obstacle to peace"?

Because, quite simply, the Palestinians need an excuse for having spurned the most realistic Middle East compromise

(Continued on Page 15)

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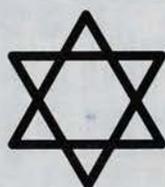
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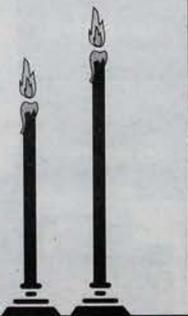
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### Candlelighting

November 30, 2001

3:58 p.m.



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## What a Deal

What can we bargain about? Goods. A man walks into a clothier's store and says "I came here because I heard you are a one-price store. I don't like to haggle. I want to find a suit, hear the price, pay the price, and go on my way."

"Wonderful!" says the clothier. They look around and find a suit that is the perfect color and fit. "How much?" asks the customer. "I don't like to ask dear and sell cheap," comes the answer. "I'm not going to ask you \$200 for the suit, nor am I going to ask you \$150, nor am I going to ask you \$120.49. All I'm going to ask you is a \$120 — not a cent more or less!"

"Good," says the customer. "I like the way you operate. So I'm not going to offer you \$120, I'm not going to offer you a \$110, or even a \$100. I'm going to offer you \$99."

"Sold!"  
We even have a tradition of bargaining for relationships

Last week we read of Jacob journeying to his uncle Laban's, in Vayetze. Jacob wants to marry Laban's daughter, Rachel, and agrees to work seven years for the privilege. At the end of his labors, he finds that there is small print in the contract: the customs of Laban's culture demand that the older daughter,

Leah, must be married before the younger daughter, Rachel.

It is commonly assumed that Jacob must then work another seven years to marry Rachel. Not exactly so. Jacob, after all, is not the dimmest candle in the menorah. He marries Rachel after a week with Leah, although he agrees to work the additional seven years. All in all, not a bad arrangement, especially consid-

ering the 13 children who ultimately come along with the bargain. Can we bargain for lives? All the time. From the modern establishment of Israel we have found ourselves in the position of bargaining to staunch the waste of lives... in those times when we aren't fighting for the same end. Yes, you can bargain for lives.

So what can't we dicker about? The immutable: Torah and mitzvot. What G-d wants of us. These are constant: no discussion. And the rewards for following the mitzvot — those are a bargain beyond measure.

### Torah Today

Submitted by Rabbi Yossi Laufer at the Chabad of West Bay, an affiliate of Chabad of Rhode Island. For more information about our programs and classes, call Rabbi Yossi Laufer, at 732-6559, 15 Centerville Road, Warwick, R.I. 02886 or visit <www.ChabadOnLine.org/Warwick>.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Who Are "We?"

by Elana Kieffer

One month ago, I participated in a three day conference called Leadership in a New Century (LINC) which was run by the National Conference for Community and Justice (formerly the National Conference of Christians and Jews). The conference invited 70 high school students and faculty to Camp Canonicus in Exeter, where we would partake in activities, exercises and social interaction. The purpose of the conference was to promote diversity awareness among future potential leaders.

Out of 70 participants, there were three Jews, including myself. One belonged to my synagogue, and the other was raised by a culturally Jewish mother and an Episcopalian minister father. In one activity, we had to tell the whole group what our names meant, and why we were named that. I had to tell everyone that my name, if switched around, meant "Happy Tree Buyer."

In another activity, the facilitator read statements, and we had to stand up if they applied to us, and stay standing if that statement was really important to our identity. When he said "I am Jewish," the three of us stood up. When he told us to stay standing if it was important, I was the only person left standing. It was amazing; it felt like I was holding the weight of all of Judaism on my shoulders. In fact, I reminded people of my religion frequently throughout the conference. I felt that Judaism was me and I was Judaism. If the conference had been on "The Study of Tanach" or even a gathering of Catskills frequenters, I would have never announced so many times that I was Jewish, or anything related to Judaism. Even though I am always proud of being Jewish and love so many aspects of it, it is not exactly a day-to-day thing that I think about.

We also had "Culture Night" where everyone brought in something from their heritage or background that told a little about who they were. Our teacher from Classical High School brought Wandies and other delicious Italian cookies. One girl brought artwork from Liberia, and one person even brought a piece of rock from the Dominican Republic! When it was my turn to go up, I was a little nervous. Would the audience know what a tzedakah box was? Would they know what a bat mitzvah was?

I didn't want to insult their intelligence, but I also didn't know how much people really knew about Judaism. I certainly didn't know a lot about Christianity, or even many of the different ethnicities, and I am around them everyday at school. So, when I went up to the center of the room, I began with a strong, resonant, "Well, I'm Jewish." Duh! Hadn't I made that clear about 50 times already? I guess I just wanted to make sure.

I showed the group a tzedakah box that had been given to me as a bat mitzvah present three years ago. I also showed them a necklace that my Bubbe (how many people in the audience knew what that was?!) had bought me in Israel. I explained to them a little about the importance of tzedakah, and passed it around the room so everyone could see. It was nice to see people of all different heights, colors, religions, and personalities each examine this box that meant so much to the core of what I believe. When was an opportunity like this going to pop up again?

The conference was actually very timely, considering the recent events. We see now more than ever

that racism and prejudice has to be erased. Although we didn't have any Muslim speakers or discuss what Sept. 11 meant to us, we looked at things on a grander scale. By learning about different people and different backgrounds, we learned that we all are different, and that's its Ok to be different. I am different from my next-door neighbor, even though we live on the same street. I am different from everyone in my USY group, even though we are all teenagers and we are all Jewish.

The LINC conference was about celebrating our differences and embracing our similarities. By training us to be leaders, our job once we left the confines of Camp Canonicus was to train our peers in celebrating diversity and encouraging inclusion among all races, ethnicities, backgrounds, and religions. There is one activity that you can try with your family, friends, or col-

leagues — have your own "Culture Night." Pick a day where everyone brings in something that identifies them. It may take 10 minutes or it may take two hours. Even with your own family, you might discover something you didn't know before, and I guarantee you will learn something new.

For the talent show, my friend Vicki and I performed a

poem about our different ethnic backgrounds. The theme for the talent show was "United We Stand — Who Are We?" In keeping with the current events and the theme of the conference, we thought it was important to show our cultural differences, as well as our national similarities. Here is the poem that we performed, with Vicki and I alternating lines:

Vicki	Elana
I am Cambodian	I am Jewish
I have dark skin	I have light skin
I have chinky eyes	I have round eyes
I am the youngest child	I am the oldest child
I pray in a temple	I pray in a synagogue
I speak Cambodian	I speak Hebrew
I eat rice	I eat challah
I say ooy	I say oy vey
I am an American	I am an American
United we stand	Who are we?
We are women	We are students
We are leaders	And we are friends

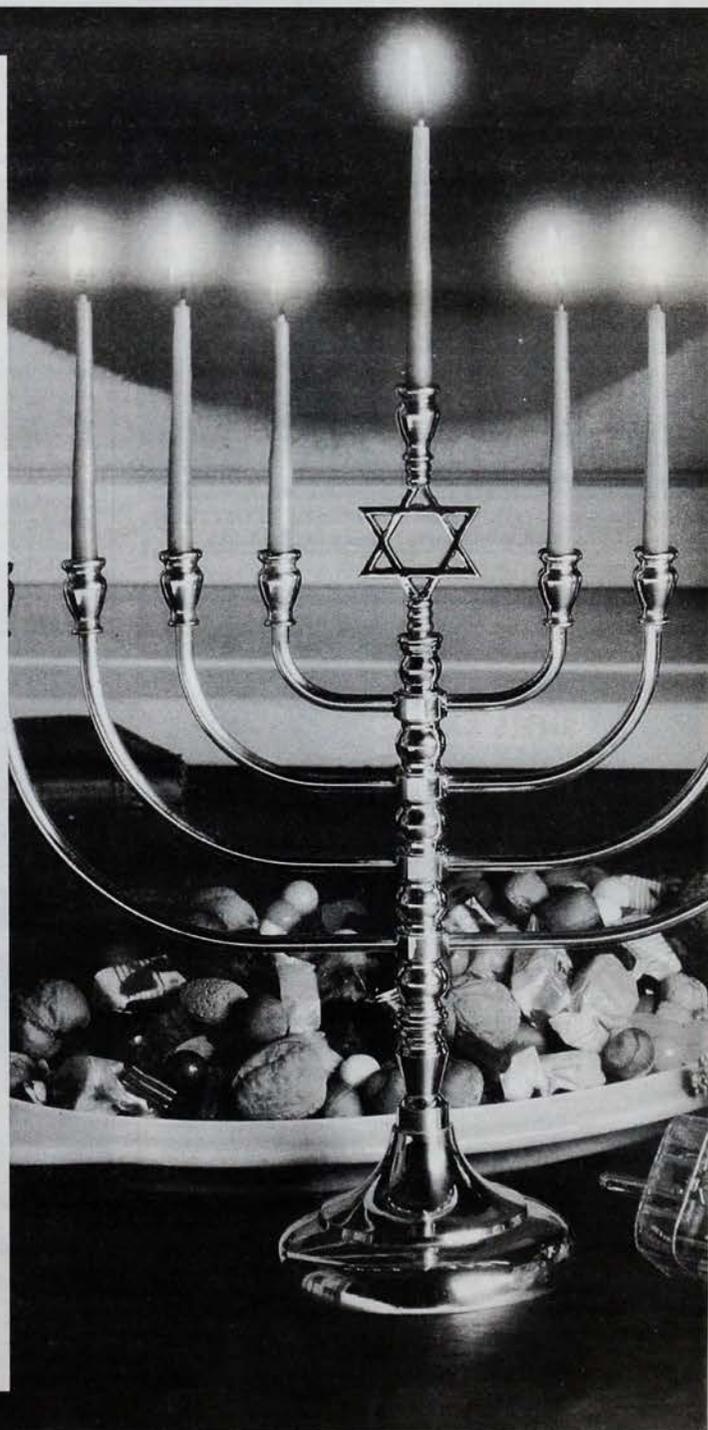
Elana Kieffer, 16, lives in Providence.

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### Perspectives Events For December 2001

**December 2 — Mitzvah Heroes.** What are mitzvah heroes? Ordinary people doing amazing things to repair the world. The Bureau of Jewish Education is hosting the "Mitzvah Heroes Conference Without Walls." At the conference, we will learn from actual mitzvah heroes and plan ways to repair the world ourselves. You may have received or will be receiving a brochure concerning the event with a full schedule. Perspectives is planning to attend the Sunday night event from 7 to 9 p.m., but you are welcome to attend any of the events. To R.S.V.P. (which is necessary) or for more information, call Ruth Page at the BJE at 31-0956.

**December 6 — Ice Skating.** Perspectives is taking to the ice! Get ready to be elegantly whisked away on skates of metal. We'll be meeting at the Fleet Center, 2 Kennedy Plaza, at 7 p.m. and slip sliding to our heart's content. But watch out for that toe pick! For more info call Sam at 480-0852.

**December 7 — Medical School Shabbat.** This month's Young Adult Shabbat is featuring the Brown Medical School students. Everyone is welcome to attend the dinner. We'll be eating at 7:30 p.m. at 106 Angell St., Providence. Dinner is potluck style, so call Tara at 276-0507, or Jamie at 863-9357 to tell us what you're bringing. We'll see ya then!

**December 12 — Book Club.** This month the Book Club is reading *The Avengers* by Rich Cohen. This piece is a Jewish war story about a band of Jewish guerrillas who escaped from the Nazis and fought back. We'll be meeting at Nora's apartment, 24 Methyl St., Providence, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Nora at 331-4732.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Hillel Rubber Ducky Tzedakah Race: An Overwhelming Success

On Oct. 17, University of Rhode Island Hillel (Foundation for Jewish Campus Life) held its annual Rubber Ducky Tzedakah Race. The purpose of the race was to raise money for tzedakah (charity). Students were asked to sponsor a duck for \$5. The end result — the winner of the final race chose a tzedakah organization to receive the entire race proceeds.

URI's entire student population was invited to participate, and many did. "This is a great way to raise money and [this] helps let the students know who your organization is and what [Hillel] is all about," said Billy Montanero, a junior. During the afternoon, in the Student Union, a booth was set up with paper ducks. Students were able to write their names on the ducks and have them posted on the booth bulletin board. An overwhelming 65 ducks were named and posted. Fifteen ducks were sponsored.



Rubber Ducky Racers at URI Hillel's Tzedakah Race  
Photos courtesy of URI Hillel

The race itself took place at Hillel later in the afternoon. "This is one for the books, I can't believe how close this was!" quotes Jeff Wilhelm, a sophomore. The three finalist ducks were: Lou "Quack-Quack" Kirschenbaum, Joanne "Give Me My Ducky" Reed, and the

legendary Josh "Fink-O" Fink. The winner of the race was Lou "Quack-Quack" Kirschenbaum, a chemistry professor at URI. He chose Mazon: The Jewish Response to Hunger as the recipient of the ducky money. Professor Kirschenbaum was unable to attend the actual race (due to a prior teaching engagement, of course), but when learning the news that "Quack-Quack" had indeed won, he was very pleased to have been part of such a great event. URI Hillel plans to continue the Rubber Ducky Race tradition again next year!



MANY OF THE SPONSORED rubber ducks at URI Hillel's Rubber Ducky Race, which raised money for Tzedakah.

## JFS Uses Best Practice Model With Consulting Psychologist

The Jewish Family Service staff has regular, ongoing consultations with a psychologist to discuss cases and procedures. Twice a month clinical social workers and the adoption staff meet with Robert I. Cohen, Ph.D., MSW. "This is a best practice model for social service agencies," says director of professional services Erin Gisherman Minor. "Bob ties in practice advice with theoretical information — he has a wealth of knowledge and experience."

Cohen helps the Jewish Family Services clinical staff resolve clinical, ethical and boundary issues. During group consultation meetings, each staff member presents a case (maintaining confidentiality of the client's identity), questions are raised and ideas are discussed.

Presenting helps the staffer clarify the case in his or her own mind, while eliciting suggestions from others. Each staff member has a different background or specialty, making this a good opportunity to share expertise and perspectives. The group discusses whether the presenter is heading in the right direction, and how to tie the cli-

ent in with other services that might be needed. Cohen works with the staff on a plan to proceed, with options for the client and the agency.

In addition to leading the consultation group meetings, Cohen also conducts half-day or full-day training sessions for the staff, generally in response to a trend that has been identified. For example, if there is an influx of couples seeking therapy, he will conduct training on that topic.

Members of the staff have expressed appreciation that the agency provides these opportunities for professional growth and insight. Minor says, "While the consultation and training sessions directly improve the quality of services the agency can provide, they have the added benefit of making it easier for Jewish Family Service to recruit and retain the best people."

Jewish Family Service also co-sponsors training for groups of agencies with Cohen leading. Topics have included bereavement, narrative therapy and couples therapy.

For more information on counseling services at Jewish Family Service, call 331-1244.

## JCCRI to Hold Open House, Kosher Chinese Dinner

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island will open its doors from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. for use of the fitness area (4:30 p.m. for the pool) to the community on Dec. 25. Meet friends and take advantage of our fitness facilities — work out using our state-of-the-art fitness equipment, play pick-up basketball in the gym, or swim in the pool. Join us for special children's activities, including crafts, movies and games. Call the center at 861-8800 for a schedule of Dec. 25 activities.

### Kosher Chinese Comes to Providence

Join the center family and bring your friends Dec. 25 for a delicious Chinese kosher dinner catered by Prima Kosher. The dinner begins at 5 p.m. and will include a number of Chinese specialties such as egg rolls, beef chow mein, and vegetable delight. Reservations are required due to limited seating. The charge for the dinner is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under the age of 11. Reservations are required by Dec. 11. Call Linda Singer-Berk, assistant executive director at 861-8800, ext. 110 for further information or to make a reservation.

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## Building A Bridge Isn't Rocket Science...

(Left to right) Brennan Johnson, Samantha Pilavin, and Gabi Labrecque learned a valuable scientific principle at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island when they found out for themselves the strength of the triangle as a structural foundation. The girls appreciated the assistance of Nick Mitchell who is one of three student members on the Brown University's Providence Science Outreach team that is completing a six-week program with the Pre-Teen Connection at Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island. Another series of science adventures will be scheduled for the spring.

Photo courtesy of JCCRI

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Hebrew College Hosts Discussion of Spirituality and Psychotherapy

Addressing the topic of "Jewish Spirituality and Psychotherapy: Prayer as a Resource," Rabbi Samuel Chiel will appear as the keynote speaker with distinguished panelists on Dec. 4. Author of *For Thou Art with Me: The Healing Power of Psalms*, Rabbi Chiel, along with Bennett Simon, M.D., Janet Yassen, LICSW and Joel Ziff, Ed.D., will focus on the use of prayer in the healing process.

Aimed at mental health professionals and open to the general public, the evening event, co-sponsored by the Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Hebrew College and The Social Work Council of the Boston chapter of Hadassah, will explore such questions as "How do we incorporate spirituality into the therapeutic process?" and "How do religious practice, ritual and prayer become transformational resources — helping us to cope with life's traumas?" and examine practical therapeutic applications.

Rabbi Chiel is rabbi emeritus of Temple Emanuel in Newton, director of the Rabbinic Institute of Hebrew College and scholar-in-residence of the

Combined Jewish Philanthropies. Simon is a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst affiliated with Harvard Medical School, Cambridge Hospital and the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute. Yassen, a psychotherapist and co-founder of the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, is crisis services coordinator at the Victims of Violence Program at the Cambridge Health Alliance. Ziff, author of *Mirrors in Time: A Psycho-Spiritual Journey through the Jewish Year*, is a psychologist and consultant in Newton. He will teach a four-week follow-up class called Jewish Spirituality as a Therapeutic Resource, beginning in January. The course fee is \$95.

The event will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at Noyes Hall at Andover Newton Theological School on Herrick Road in Newton Centre. Admission is \$15 for the December 4 event; \$95 for Ziff's follow-up course. Early registration is encouraged. For a detailed brochure, to find out about continuing education credits, or to register, contact Lina Reznikov at (617) 278-4939.

## A Trillion Computers in a Drop of Water

Israeli Scientists Build Nanoscale Computing Machine

A group of scientists headed by Professor Ehud Shapiro at the Weizmann Institute of Science has used biological molecules to create a tiny computer — a programmable two-state, two-symbol finite automaton — in a test tube. Reported recently in *Nature*, this biological nanocomputer is so small that a trillion (1,000,000,000,000) such computers co-exist and compute in parallel, in a drop the size of 1/10 of a milliliter of watery solution held at room temperature. Collectively, the computers perform a billion operations per second with greater than 99.8 percent accuracy per operation while requiring less than a billionth of a Watt of power. This study may lead to future computers that can operate within the human body, interacting with its biochemical environment to yield far-reaching biological and pharmaceutical applications.

The computer's input, output, and "software" are made up of DNA molecules. For "hardware," the computer uses two naturally occurring enzymes that manipulate DNA. When mixed together in solution, the software and hardware molecules operate in harmony on the input molecule to create the output molecule, forming a simple mathematical computing machine, known as finite automaton. This nanocomputer can be programmed to perform simple tasks by choosing different software molecules to be mixed in solution. For instance, it can detect whether, in an input molecule encoding a list made of 0's and 1's, all the 0's precede all the 1's.

"The living cell contains incredible molecular machines that manipulate information-encoding molecules such as DNA and RNA in ways that are fundamentally very similar to computation," says Professor Shapiro of the Institute's Computer Science and Applied Mathematics Department and the biological chemistry department. "Since we don't know how to effectively modify these machines or create new ones just yet, the trick is to find naturally existing machines that, when combined, can be steered to actually compute."

The nanocomputer created is too simple to have immediate applications; however it may pave the way to future computers that can operate within the human body with unique biological and pharmaceutical applications. "For instance, such a future computer could sense an abnormal biochemical change in the body and decide how to correct it by synthesizing and releasing the necessary drug," said Professor Zvi Livneh, a DNA expert from the institute's department of biological chemistry who collaborated on this project.

Other contributors to this research include Dr. Tamar Paz-Elizur and Dr. Rivka Adar from the Weizmann Institute's department of biological chemistry, and Professor Ehud Keinan from the department of chemistry at the Technion Israel Institute of Technology and the department of molecular biology of The Scripps Research Institute.



## 'Hands-on' Art at ASDS

Preschoolers make their mark in school by adding their handprints to their classroom windows. Teacher Risa Kolendar commented on how fun it is to see "our own handprints in the window waving Shalom to us each morning."

Photo courtesy of ASDS

## Foundation Seeks to Expand Faith-Based Program Serving Elderly

Caregiving to be Discussed at UJC Conference

As the nation recovers from the recent tragedy, it is important that citizens pull together and keep the spirit of volunteerism alive. The Robert Wood Johnson foundation is committing \$100 million to expand its successful national volunteer caregiving program, Faith In Action, by providing grants to 2,000 new programs across the nation. In an effort to encourage Jewish organizations to apply for grants, the Faith in Action program will be participating in the United Jewish Communities General Assembly 2001.

Larry Weisberg, director of communications at The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Faith In Action program, will discuss faith-based volunteer caregiving opportunities during the Building Relationships with Foundations workshop at the United Jewish Communities General Assembly 2001, Nov. 11 at 1:45 p.m. at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel.

Faith in Action makes grants to local groups of volunteers

representing many faiths, who work together to care for their neighbors who are frail, elderly, chronically ill, or disabled. Faith in Action volunteers come from churches, synagogues, mosques and other houses of worship, as well as the community at large. They help those in need with many everyday activities, such as picking up a few groceries or providing a ride to the doctor. With this volunteer assistance, aging and chronically ill members of the community can maintain their independence for as long as possible.

Nearly 10 million Americans currently suffer from serious chronic conditions that prevent them from carrying out many daily activities for themselves. As the nation's population ages, the number of people who will develop these conditions will increase.

"Faith in Action has successfully mobilized tens of thousands of volunteers for almost 20 years. These volunteers help their chronically ill, frail and disabled neighbors with simple everyday activities or by simply being a friend," said Steven A. Schroeder, M.D. president and CEO of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. "This new \$100 million investment is the largest ever by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. It represents our deep belief that faith-based volunteer efforts are an effective way to address the growing needs of people with serious chronic conditions."

Organizations interested in applying for a Faith in Action grant should contact the National Program Office toll free at (877) 324-8411, or visit <www.FIAVolunteers.org>.

## Jewish Seniors Agency Meeting to be Held December 12

The Women's Association of Jewish Seniors Agency invites you to a meeting on Dec. 12 at 1 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El (Bohnen Vestry), 99 Taft Ave., Providence.

Susette Rabinowitz, executive director, at Jewish Seniors Agency will give an update on all JSA programs, plus our plans for a new assisted living residence.

There will be a raffle drawing and refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, call Marsha Gerstein at 437-0985 or Sylvia Brown at 438-8399.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## East Side Redistricting

(Continued from Page 1)

vote behind him or her, the official can influence the drawing of districts so the minority population, instead of finding itself solidly inside one district, is split between three or more. This dilution of a population to numerous districts is calling "cracking" a district.

Using an overhead projector and a plethora of district maps, West illustrated how populations have been cracked in the past. He showed a map of Alabama during the civil rights movement; a colored area on the map represented an area where a majority of blacks lived. The two proposed district maps for that area before an election split the black population into thirds, or even fifths. The black candidate suddenly found his main constituents swept into other regions, and he suddenly had new and unfamiliar territory to campaign in.

"They take someone they want to get rid of, and they put them on new turf... or they put them in competition with someone they will [hopefully] lose to," West said. Similarly, West said, shoddy redistricting sometimes creates "voting pockets," tiny micro-regions cut into other regions to cause confusion and aggravation. Maps like these are designed so candidates will "run themselves ragged" between districts, West said, reducing their overall effectiveness in campaigning.

The main problem with redistricting is that it is not adequately explained to the public, West said. West's article in the *Providence Journal* said that numerous proposed maps or the data supporting them are omitted from the Rhode Island redistricting web site, [www.riredistricting.org](http://www.riredistricting.org). "No one understands... [so] no one objects," West remarked at the Leisure Club event. "Too often, people don't see the consequences."

One member of the audience credited this lack of knowledge to the decrease in political education in school. West agreed wholeheartedly, and said that redistricting is a topic rarely touched by print or television media. "Ignorance is becoming a dangerous threat to democracy," he said.

Redistricting certainly affects the Rhode Island Jewish community, West said, most specifically in the East Side of Providence, which West commented is "the only predominantly Jewish population in the state."

State Rep. David Cicilline is representative of District 4, popularly known as the East Side of Providence. "Redistricting is a big concern of the city of Providence," Cicilline said. "We're the host to all the hospi-

tals, the non-profit activity... [we're] the cultural center, the educational center," and an area which absorbs large numbers of immigrants. Impartial redistricting "affects Providence's ability to be governed," he said.

Concerning the East Side of Providence, Cicilline said that District 4 is set to be combined with Districts 3 and 5 and then separated again into two larger districts. Cicilline said that all measures must be taken to ensure fair and just redistricting of the East Side because doing otherwise would "imperil our ability to accurately represent" the Jewish community.

When meeting with members of the redistricting committee, Cicilline remarked that he "made it very clear that District 4 traditionally represents... the Jewish voice of the community, ... and produces elected officials who are Jews." Said Cicilline, "I thought it was important that this district remains intact."

Many politicians, Cicilline said, recognize the cultural and religious make-up of the East Side, including the Jewish population. Cicilline said that it looks likely that the bulk of the East Side will combine with District 3, which is the Mount Hope, College Hill area, to no great effect. He said the these maps "leave the East Side remain[ing] intact... it's just divided differently."

Despite this largely positive outlook, Cicilline said that these plans are not final, and that there is "still enormous pressure on all quarters" to further tinker with East Side boundaries. District maps can change suddenly and without notice, he said. "It's a very political process," Cicilline said, and he encouraged members of the Jewish community to get involved politically.

"It's very important that residents of the East Side appear at public hearings [and] write letters... so that the committee can recognize the [makeup] of this district." Both he and West recommended the Web site <[www.riredistricting.org](http://www.riredistricting.org)> for further information about redistricting and to view certain district maps.

## East Side Chanukah Party Dec. 9

Congregations Beth Shalom, Mishkan Tefilah, and Ohawe Sholam, along with Chabad of Providence, the Providence Hebrew Day School and the New England Rabbinic College, cordially invite the Providence/Pawtucket community to attend our Chanukah celebration on the first night of Chanukah, Dec. 9.

Starting at 6:30 pm at Congregation Ohawe Sholam (located on East Avenue in Pawtucket between Glenwood and Lowell) the celebration will include musical performances provided by our own local talented musicians, Divrei Torah by the community Rabbanim, and lots of dancing, latkes, drinks and fun for everyone!

Cover charge is just \$2 per person. Call Ohawe Sholam at 722-3146 for more information.

## Teenage Webland — JVibe

by Seth Bromley  
Editorial Assistant

For teenagers and young adults looking for a Jewish connection to the online world, there is no better place to start than at JVibe.com. JVibe is a webzine aimed at and produced by Jewish teens, and it's a wonderful example of the Web's potential for education, entertainment and interaction.

Gabi Soble, editor of the site, says that JVibe was created "to reach teens where they're at — which is online." Affiliated with the publishing consortium Jewish Family and Life, JVibe has been in operation since February, 1998. Soble hopes the site will be especially valuable to kids who do not already have a strong Jewish influence in their lives. "We can help the unaffiliated find a Jewish connection." "It's written for teens, by teens, to try to reflect issues that interest teens," says Soble. She also edits a companion site, called MzVibe.com, which focuses on the Jewish teen feminist perspective, and is supported by Hadassah.

The site is brimming with articles, interviews and opinions from teen writers. Subjects are often serious and weighty, sometimes controversial. JVibe is by no means sterilized or "dumbed-down;" teenagers who are aware of and care about the world around them will find plenty to interest them. There is a heart-wrenching article by 12-year-old Israeli Daniel Mandell, whose brother Toby was beaten to death last summer. Another

excellent article, "Helpful, Friendly, Courteous and Kind?" is by Josh Israel, an Eagle Scout who returned his merit badges in protest of the Boy Scouts of America policy banning gays from participation. "Social justice is a strong focus," said Soble.

When finished reading about the problems of the world, readers can move on to the everyday tragedies and comedies that



define the life of an adolescent. JVibe offers teens an opportunity to see how their Jewishness can relate to their lives as young adults. A story by 18-year-old Harris Cohen, "Shabbat: It's Worth Another Look," examines where Shabbat observance fits into the life of a Jewish teen. A section on Israel features stories from kids who have lived or traveled there and what it means to them. A portion of the site is devoted to pop culture, which puts a Jewish twist on music, films and books. An article entitled "Jewish Parents and Jewish Stars" debates the phenomenon of mothers pointing out Jewish celebrities at every opportunity.

JVibe maintains a strong fo-

cus on quality content throughout, and doesn't distract the reader with too many fancy graphics or effects. Nevertheless, the site is bright and aesthetically pleasing, with a user-friendly interface and simple navigation options.

MzVibe.com has a similar style and appearance to JVibe, the difference being that MzVibe is targeted entirely at adolescent girls, a population whose online representation is growing rapidly. Soble says MzVibe features book reviews, music reviews, poetry, fiction and art by young women. Frequent topics are ageism and sexism, health and body image, and inspirational Jewish women. Dreams, goals and thoughts about the future are also featured.

Soble says that both JVibe and MzVibe are enjoying significant success, with JVibe averaging 15,000 to 20,000 hits per month. "The message boards are hopping," she says, with all kinds of discussion, much of it on politics and Israel. She says JVibe "tries to be pluralistic and non-denominational," and is open to all viewpoints. "We publish anything that's not blatantly offensive, and cover as broad topics as possible," she said.

Soble said that she is always looking for more writers and welcomes suggestions, questions and ideas — feedback from readers is her best source for new material. "We heed the kids," she says.

## Scholar Speaks on End of Life Issues

(Continued from Page 1)

power of attorney. A few months later, he contracts pneumonia and is hospitalized. His doctor says that it is necessary to put the man on a respirator in order to keep him alive, and that there is a chance, although slight, that he will recover from the pneumonia and be able to resume his normal life for a time. The man is unable to communicate his wishes and thus his wife and his doctor are left in a quandary.

According to classic Jewish ethics, said Knobel, the response would be to do everything possible to extend the man's life. "Every moment of life is precious — we should do everything possible to preserve life, regardless of quality."

Knobel said that in the classical Jewish tradition, there is a black and white view of the concept of assisted suicide — "You're not supposed to commit suicide... you're not supposed to do anything to hasten death." This is an example of an abstract, generalized view of the issue. Knobel is critical of this viewpoint, however, since it does not take into account individual circumstances. He also believes that within the classical literature, there is evidence that may undermine that viewpoint, if one looks closely at individual cases.

Knobel also criticized the role of "suicide doctors" such as Dr. Jack Kevorkian, who have no connection to a patient prior to

their decision to die. "Dr. Kevorkian has become a hired killer," he said. "He's hired for the specific purpose of terminating a person's life." Without a strong pre-existing relationship between patient and physician, Knobel said "there's no ability to make that kind of decision." Such an important decision can only be made when taking into context an individual's entire personal story.

Knobel's next step was to examine four passages, one from the Torah and three from the Talmud, that he believed shed a different light on the issue of a "right to die."

First was a passage from the book of Prophets, RSV 1Sa 31:1, which tells the story of King Saul's defeat on Mount Gilboa. Surrounded by the Philistines and mortally wounded, Saul begs his armor-bearer to finish him off: "Draw your sword and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and make sport of me." The armor-bearer refuses, however, and Saul ends up falling on his own sword. Knobel suggested this act of desperation was appropriate in the context of the life that Saul had led. "He was the King of Israel, he had dignity, a position in the community. He wanted to avoid abuse and desecration." Rather than face humiliation and torture, he decided to take his own life.

An example taken from the Talmud, annotated by Knobel as

Gitin 57b, tells the story of 400 martyred boys and girls. The children had been kidnapped and were to have been sold as slaves and prostitutes, and to escape this they jumped from the ship that carried them to their deaths in the sea. Knobel said that "they didn't want to live in a way that was inconsistent with their idea of being human," and therefore had no other choice.

Using two additional passages (Avodah Zarah 18a and Ketubot 104a) Knobel detailed the experiences of respected and admired rabbis facing inhumane abuse, whose deaths were assisted in some way out of respect and humanity.

Knobel said that what all these cases have in common is that each particular victim, when faced with a fate worse than death, willingly waived his or her "right to not be killed." Knobel said that such cases may in fact be comparable to the distress of a terminal patient suffering from a disease, when "that which normally is treatment can move to the category of abuse. When that happens it must be stopped." He stressed the importance of making such a choice in a way that is in keeping with an individual's personal story. "We need to take into account who that individual was and how they lived their life, and what we can do to make the end of their life consistent with that."



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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## What is the United States Terrorist List?

The Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 authorizes the Secretary of State to produce a list of organizations every two years designated as terrorist organization. Following a judicial review, and in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of State may add or remove organizations to this list. Designations must be renewed every two years and can be revoked if the Secretary determines that there are grounds for doing so and notifies Congress. Congress can also pass legislation to revoke designations. The most recent report was produced in October 1999.

### What Does it Mean to be on the U.S. Terrorist List?

The designation criminalizes terrorist activity. Once on the list, terrorist organizations and their sponsors are isolated from the international community and subject to public scrutiny. Providing funds or other material support to terrorists becomes unlawful. Members of designated groups are denied visas or excluded from the U.S., keeping them out of U.S. airports, off airplanes and limiting their ability to maneuver.

### What is the U.S. Patterns of Global Terrorism Report?

The Department of State is

required by U.S. code to provide Congress with a full and complete annual report on terrorism for those countries and groups falling within the criteria. The report includes detailed assessments of foreign countries where significant terrorist acts occurred. Further, it reports on the extent to which other countries cooperate with the United States in apprehending, convicting and punishing terrorists responsible for attacking U.S. citizens or interests.

### Who is on the U.S. Terrorist List?

There are 28 organizations on the U.S. Terrorist List. The following 10 are opposed to peace in the Middle East. Israel has made it illegal for these organizations, including one Jewish group, to operate; the Palestinian Authority has not. All of the information on this document is from the U.S. Department of State Web site. For additional facts please visit: [www.state.gov/s/ct](http://www.state.gov/s/ct).

• **Abu Nidal Organization (ANO)** — Carried out terrorist attacks in 20 countries, killing or injuring almost 900 persons. Targets include the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Israel, moderate Palestinians, the PLO, and various Arab countries.

• **HAMAS (Islamic Resistance Movement)** — Conducted many attacks, including

large-scale suicide bombings against Israeli civilian and military targets. In the early 1990s, they also targeted suspected Palestinian collaborators and Fatah rivals. Claimed several attacks during the unrest in late 2000.

• **Hizballah (Party of God) / Islamic Jihad** — Known or suspected to have been involved in numerous anti-U.S. terrorist attacks, including the suicide truck bombing of the U.S. Embassy and U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut in October 1983 and the U.S. Embassy annex in Beirut in September 1984. Elements of the group were responsible for the kidnapping and detention of U.S. and other Western hostages in Lebanon. The group also attacked the Israeli Embassy in Argentina in 1992 and is a suspect in the 1994 bombing of the Israeli cultural center in Buenos Aires. In fall 2000, it captured three Israeli soldiers in the Shabaa Farms and kidnapped an Israeli noncombatant whom it may have lured to Lebanon under false pretenses.

• **Al-Jihad / Egyptian Islamic Jihad / Jihad Group / Islamic Jihad** — Close partner of al-Qaida organization. Specializes in armed attacks against high-level Egyptian Government personnel, including cabinet ministers, and car-bombings against official U.S. and Egyptian facilities. The original Jihad was responsible for the assassination in 1981 of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. Claimed responsibility for the attempted assassinations of Interior Minister Hassan al-Alfi in August 1993 and Prime Minister Atef Sedky in November 1993. Has not conducted an attack inside Egypt since 1993 and has never targeted foreign tourists there. Responsible for Egypt

tian Embassy bombing in Islamabad in 1995; in 1998, planned attack against U.S. Embassy in Albania was thwarted.

• **Kach and Kahane Chai** — Organize protests against the Israeli Government. Harass and threaten Palestinians in Hebron and the West Bank. Have threatened to attack Arabs, Palestinians, and Israeli Government officials. Have vowed revenge for the death of Binyamin Kahane and his wife.



• **The Palestine Islamic Jihad (PIJ)** — Conducted at least three attacks against Israeli interests in late 2000, including one to commemorate the anniversary of former PIJ leader Fathi Shaqaqi's murder in Malta on October 26, 1995. Conducted suicide bombings against Israeli targets in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Israel.

• **Palestine Liberation Front (PLF)** — The Abu Abbas-led faction is known for aerial attacks against Israel. Abbas's group also was responsible for the attack in 1985 on the cruise ship Achille Lauro and the murder of U.S. citizen Leon Klinghoffer. A warrant for Abu Abbas's arrest is outstanding in Italy.

• **Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)** — Committed numerous international terrorist attacks during the 1970s. Since 1978 has conducted attacks against Israeli or moderate Arab targets, includ-

ing killing a settler and her son in December 1996.

• **Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command (PFLP—GC)** — Carried out dozens of attacks in Europe and the Middle East during 1970s-80s. Known for cross-border terrorist attacks into Israel using unusual means, such as hot-air balloons and motorized hang gliders. Primary focus now on guerrilla operations in southern Lebanon, small-scale attacks in Israel, West Bank, and Gaza Strip.

• **al-Qaida (Usama Bin Ladin)** — Plotted to carry out terrorist operations against U.S. and Israeli tourists visiting Jordan for millennial celebrations. Jordanian authorities thwarted the planned attacks and put 28 suspects on trial. Conducted the bombings in August 1998 of the U.S. Embassies in Nairobi,

Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, that killed at least 301 persons and injured more than 5,000 others. Claims to have shot down U.S. helicopters and killed U.S. servicemen in Somalia in 1993 and to have conducted three bombings that targeted U.S. troops in Aden, Yemen, in December 1992. Linked to the following plans that were not carried out: to assassinate Pope John Paul II during his visit to Manila in late 1994, simultaneous bombings of the U.S. and Israeli Embassies in Manila and other Asian capitals in late 1994, the mid-air bombing of a dozen U.S. trans-Pacific flights in 1995, and to kill President Clinton during a visit to the Philippines in early 1995. Continues to train, finance, and provide logistic support to terrorist groups in support of these goals (Currently the target of a broad-based military campaign by the U.S. and other supporting nations).

## Last Issue in The Israel Biblical Wildlife Coin Series is Available

For the ninth and final time, the Bank of Israel has issued coins commemorating the fauna and flora of the Bible. The "wild goat" mentioned in the Book of Samuel has Israel's rocky mountainous areas as its habitat, and it is very much a characteristic part of the landscape. Long an endangered species, it today enjoys protected

additional wooden instruments used in the Tabernacle were all built from acacia wood (Exodus 36:20).

Now, millennia after these words were first inscribed on parchment, they have been interpreted on two gold and two silver legal tender Israel coins. The 5 and 1 sheqel .900 fine (21.6 kt) gold coins and 2 and 1 sheqel

## Mazal Tov!

Janet Lynn Roseman, daughter of Sidney and Toby Roseman of Narragansett, has recently been awarded her Ph.D. in dance theory and criticism from the Union Institute.

She specializes in lecturing and teaching about the links between dance and spirituality.

Routledge Press has just published her fourth book, *Dance Masters: Interviews With Legends of Dance*, which explores the creative, spiritual and psychological processes of seven world-renowned dancers and choreographers.



Janet Lynn Roseman



status, and it is often seen roaming freely in the high rocks of southern Israel's Negev Desert. On the new coin, it is seen standing on such a rock under the phrase from Samuel 24:2, "the rocks of the wild goats."

The coin's reverse is graced by an acacia tree ("shittah" in Hebrew). These are typically found in oases in the Negev. Many varieties of it grow wild in Israel and with its fragrant flowers, it is also popular in ornamental landscaping. The Tabernacle, the ark, the altar, and

sterling silver coins were created by Yigal Gabai.

To order, for more information on these and all the coins and medals of Israel, or to receive the latest Israel Gift Catalog, contact The Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, P.O. Box 7900, Jerusalem 91078, Israel (fax orders: 011-972-2-561-2298, Internet address <[www.coins.co.il](http://www.coins.co.il)) or call its North American Sales representative, toll-free, 24 hours a day at (888) 421-1866. Major credit cards are accepted.



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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Top U.S. Officials Press Arafat to End Palestinian Violence

As the United States pursues its ongoing campaign against terrorism, the Bush administration is stepping up its pressure on Yasir Arafat to force him to put an end to more than 13 months of violence against Israel.

In a series of legal moves and official statements by the administration, as well as President Bush's refusal to meet with Arafat at the U.N., the United States has warned the Palestinian leader that the time has come to terminate the violence and join the international community against terrorism.

The State Department announced on Nov. 2 that it has added Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and Lebanese Hezbollah to the list of groups associated with Osama bin Laden targeted by Bush's Sept. 23 executive order. The order directs the U.S. Treasury to sanction foreign banks that fail to freeze the assets groups on the list.

The State Department's move followed by a day the recommendations by Attorney General John Ashcroft that four Palestinian groups be added to the U.S. list of designated foreign terrorist organizations. Three of these groups, including the al-Aqsa Martyr Brigades, are linked directly to Arafat.

As the United States has taken steps to further cut off the funding of Palestinian terrorist

groups, U.S. officials, including the president, have made clear that Arafat has failed to take the necessary actions against terrorism.

"Peace will only come when all have sworn off, forever, incitement, violence and terror," Bush said in his Nov. 10 speech to the U.N. General Assembly. "There is no such thing as a good terrorist. No national aspiration, no remembered wrong can ever justify the deliberate murder of the innocent. Any government that rejects this principle, trying to pick and choose its terrorist friends, will know the consequences."

In an even more direct message to Arafat, National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice said that he was not meeting the "responsibilities that come with being the representative of the Palestinian people," including lowering the level of violence and arresting terrorists.

"We still don't think that there has been enough in this regard," Rice said during a Nov. 8 news conference. "You cannot help us with al Qaeda and hug Hezbollah, that's not acceptable, or Hamas."

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State David Satterfield, in a recent speech to the Center for Policy Analysis on Palestine, also was blunt in his criticism of Arafat when he suggested that the Palestinian violence has "become an ongoing process of calculated terror and escalation."

## Cantor Seplogin to Sing for NCJW

Paid up members of the National Council of Jewish Women, R.I. Section, will be entertained by Cantor Judith Seplogin on Dec. 12 in the social hall of Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence at 12:30 p.m.

NCJW's paid-up members for 2001-2002, new members, and life members are urged to hear Cantor Seplogin sing her program "Encore Encore Encore."

Desserts, coffee, and tea will be served. There will be a brief business meeting before the program. Susan Resnik is membership chairwoman. Nan Levine and Judith Litchman are program co-chairwomen. We welcome new members.



## Future Scientists at PHDS

Eighth grade at the Providence Hebrew Day School is an exciting and challenging time for students. One of the more interesting classes is the chemistry science lab where students have a chance to use new types of instruments and perform experiments using all types of items. The eighth-grade students pictured are using, for the first time Bunsen burners to heat different liquid solutions and record their findings. Pictured is Avraham Bigger under the watchful eye of Sarah Uytterbroek, science teacher.

*Photo courtesy of PHDS*



## Rep. David Cicilline Talks Turkey

State Rep. David Cicilline (Providence) held a Thanksgiving party at his home on the East Side of Providence on Nov. 20 to raise food for local food pantries. Guests were asked to bring frozen turkeys, cranberry sauce, potatoes, pies and canned vegetables, and in total 160 family baskets were made for needy Rhode Islanders. Way to go, David!

## The J Connection Throws a Chanukah Party

The J Connection will throw a wine and jazz party to launch the 35+ Group (TJC35+). For the past three years, The J Connection has provided programming for the 20s and 30s group. "We are constantly asked when our programs will be offered for the 35+ crowd," says Jeff Popkin, the founder. "The wait is now over, and we are extremely excited to offer the same upscale high-energy events and trips for this group."

On Dec. 9 from 2 to 5 p.m. (TJC35+) will sponsor a wine and live jazz event at the Veronique Restaurant and Ballroom in Brookline, located at 20 Chapel St. in Brookline (across from the Longwood MBTA Station). Admission is \$20 and includes a social wine sampling, light hors d'oeuvres, and live jazz music from Paulo Danay quartet. For more information, call (617) 312-5410 or visit <thejconnection.com>. For directions to the Veronique visit <www.veronique.com>.

All guests will get a free 35+ membership for the upcoming year (\$59 value)!

TJC35+ offers high-energy activities, trips and large interactive social events.

For more information go to <www.tjcboston.com> or call (617) 312-5410.

## N.Y. Congressmen Tell Ashcroft 'Don't Let Money For Charity go to Terrorists'

Stressing that charitable organizations that knowingly give money to foreign terrorist organizations need to be held civilly liable in court by victims of terrorism, U.S. Reps. Benjamin A. Gilman (20th District — NY) and Jerrold Nadler (8th District — NY) and led a congressional sign-on letter to Atty. Gen. Ashcroft urging that the Justice Department fill an amicus brief to a court now considering that question.

In the letter, the congressmen urge the Attorney General to fill an amicus brief with the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of Boim v. Quranic Literary Institute et. al. The case involves the murder of David Boim, a 17-year-old native-born American who was killed by Hamas terrorists while waiting at a bus stop in Beit Al, Israel on May 13, 1996. The defendants in the case not only include his acknowledged murderers, but also several American-based charities that have supplied substantial material and financial support to Hamas.

The congressmen, in their letter advise that 18 U.S. Code, Section 2333(A), passed by Congress in 1990, that allows for civil suits against terrorists, should be interpreted to allow

lawsuit not only against terrorists, but also those individuals and organizations that aid terrorists.

"When people open their hearts and wallets to charitable organizations, they should know their funds are being used to help the needy, not support the barbaric acts of terrorists," stated Gilman. "Terrorist networks use whatever means available to acquire funds, including exploiting the generosity of millions of Americans. Those charitable organizations which misrepresent their cause and act as fund-raisers for terrorists, such as al Qaeda, must be held responsible for the heinous acts these terrorist networks perpetrate."

"Material and financial aid to terrorist organizations is their very lifeblood — it is what allows them to carry out their murderous acts," said Nadler. "U.S. law should be absolutely clear on this — if a charitable organization knowingly steers funds to terrorist organizations, they will have to pay for that terrorist group's actions. Not only will this help to achieve justice, but will serve as a deterrent to any American-based group that aids terrorists, while we, as a nation, wage a war against terrorism."

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Bronfman Fellows Now Accepting Applications

Applications are now being accepted for the 16th annual Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel. The fully-endowed fellowship program will take place from July 8 through Aug. 14, 2002. During these five weeks, fellows meet with a wide range of Israeli thinkers, public personalities and religious and communal leaders, experience a weeklong *Mifgash* with Israeli teenagers, and study Jewish texts.

The program continues after the summer in Israel with a three-day fall seminar in New York City, and alumni activities are scheduled throughout the year. The fellowships are awarded competitively to 26 individuals who will be entering the 12th grade of school in the fall of 2002. Fellowship awards are based on merit and not on need.

The Bronfman Fellows comprise a religiously diverse community. It presents an enormous challenge for young people of widely varying Jewish backgrounds and beliefs to live together for more than a month. Yet the Bronfman Fellows have proven that such an experience does not have to be threatening.

Our intention is to teach talented youth of today who may be the leaders of tomorrow how to understand the whole spectrum of the Jewish people through study, interaction and spiritual exploration. The Bronfman Fellows are typically young people who are thinking seriously about issues of Jewish identity, are open to hearing many voices and are not shy about having their voice be heard.

It is our experience that Bronfman Fellows emerge from this unique program with a heightened sensitivity to and concern for the issues and challenges facing the Jewish people. A hallmark of the fellowship is the close relationship fellows enjoy with each other, with the counselors and the diverse rabbinic faculty. Long after the program has ended, the faculty remains in contact with most of the fellowship alumni, and fellows continue to be involved in BYFI programs and projects.

Interested students may call (518) 475-7212 for a brochure and application. The due date for applications is Jan. 31, 2002. Fellow recipients will be notified April 1, 2002.

## Agudath Achim Holds Introduction to Judaism Classes

Congregation Agudath Achim's Rabbi Richard A. Flom announced that he will begin an Introduction to Judaism class on Dec. 2 at 10:15 a.m. The class will meet Sundays, 10:15 a.m. to noon, for 18 to 20 sessions, concluding in late May. Classes will be held at the Jewish Community house, 133 High St., Taunton.

The class is open to anyone age 18 and up who is interested in learning more about Judaism. This included non-Jews, whether interested in conversion to Judaism or not, and Jews who wish to learn more about their heritage. No Hebrew language knowledge is required.

The class is free to members of Congregation Agudath Achim and their spouses, and their children under 21 living at home. The registration fee for non-members is \$225. This does not include mikvah fees for those who are converting. Partial scholarships are available.



Registration is not required until after the introductory first session.

The following books are required: *Jewish Literacy*, by Joseph Telushkin; a complete Tanakh (Jewish Bible — your choice of *Tanakh — Jewish Publication Society*; *Jerusalem Bible — Koren Publishing*; or, *The Stone Edition Tanach — Mesorah Publications*, aka Artscroll); *It's A Mitzvah!*, by Bradley Shavit Artson; and *The Shabbat Seder*, book and tape, by Ron Wolfson. Prospective converts will also need *Embracing Judaism*, by Simcha Kling, revised edition by Carl Perkins. Additional materials will be provided free of charge.

General areas of study will include the life cycle, history, ritual, law, scripture and liturgy of Judaism, as well as Zionism and Israel.

Contact Rabbi Flom via e-mail at <rflom@uj.edu> or by phone with any questions.

## Alexander Michael Cohen

Ronald and Laura Cohen announce the birth of their second son, Alexander Michael Cohen, on Nov. 8, weighing 8 lbs. 15 oz.

Paternal grandparents are Lenore and Richard Cohen of Cranston. Maternal grandparents are Cindy and Gene Kushner of Newton, Mass.

Alex is the great-grandson of Bella Dubinsky. He is named for his paternal great-grandfather, Milton Dubinsky, and his maternal great-grandfather, Hyman Kushner.



Happy  
60th  
Anniversary



Hyman and Beverly Jacobson of Warwick recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary (left). They were married on October 19, 1941, at the Narragansett Hotel in Providence (above).

Celebrating with them were their two daughters, Judy Fogel and Bobbie Wallick, both of Warwick; and their seven grandchildren, Jenny and Eric Miller, Jared Fogel, Molly Fogel, Leah Wallick, Adam Wallick and Julie Wallick.

## Lawmakers Press for Red Cross Acceptance of Magen David Adom

House and Senate negotiators included a provision in the 2002 foreign aid bill withholding \$8 million in U.S. assistance for the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross unless the president determines that "the Magen David Society of Israel is not being denied participation in the activities of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement."

## Emanu-El to Hold Hanukkah Celebration December 9

It's almost Hanukkah! Temple Emanu-El's 12th annual Hanukkah celebration will be held on Dec. 9 — the first night of Hanukkah. The celebration will have three parts — something for everyone! You and your family are welcome to attend one, two, or all three events.

- **Family Program** — (4:30-5:30 p.m.) (New this year): Young families are invited to a Family Program for older pre-school and elementary age children and their parents. Come as a family to enjoy Hanukkah activities, including menorah making, in the Goldberg Center. (Pre-registration necessary)

- **Dinner** (5:45-6:45 p.m.) Our volunteer gourmet chefs will once again be preparing a delicious Hanukkah dinner. Pick your venue this year. The Meeting House, Sisterhood Lounge, or Vestry. We'll have a community menorah lighting, using the menorah made by the young families. After the children are done eating, they will be treated to a preview of songs from the temple's youth production of "Fiddler on the Roof," and adults can continue smoozing or participate in Israeli dancing. (Pre-registration necessary)

- **Hanukkah Concert** (7 p.m.) We will be treated to our famous Hanukkah concert in the Main Sanctuary, which features the Temple Emanu-El Choir, the Kol Kesem Youth Choir, and the Choral Club, all under the leadership of Cantor Brian Mayer. This year the cantor is planning some surprises to get us all participating! The lively Kol Klezmer, led by Shelley Katsh, will add to the fun. Free and open to the community.

This is always a sellout event, and seating is limited at dinner. Bring non-perishable food items for distribution to community organizations. Call the temple office at 331-1616 for more information.



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## ACT Present 'Oliver'

Pictured clockwise from top left are Zara Serabian-Arthur of North Providence, Jessica Keough and Tristan Viner-Brown of Cumberland, and Tiffany Lewis of Harrisville, who will be appearing in an All Children's Theatre Ensemble production of "Oliver!" Performances are held at the Vartan Gregorian school on Dec. 7 and 8, 14 and 15 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 9 and 16 at 2 p.m. Call 435-5300 for reservations. Photo by Wrenn Goodrum

## Athenaeum Hosts Annual Booksale

The Providence Athenaeum, 251 Benefit St. (corner of College and Benefit streets) continues its tradition of holding a well-stocked book sale at the beginning of December — just in time for holiday shopping. The sale takes place on Dec. 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Dec. 9 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

This year the shelves are filled with an outstanding variety of books, almost all donated by patrons in excellent condition. Reasonably priced, easily affordable, these books not only make excellent gifts but the sale also helps to support the historic/contemporary library — about to celebrate its 250th anniversary. Titles include both new and older titles in wide-ranging fields, including cookbooks, many children's books, books on gardening, travel, art, a good collection of first editions, novels, and Rhode Island imprints.

Come stock up either your own shelves, or your favorite bibliophile's shelves — most people leave with cartons of books, and nobody leaves empty handed — and support one of Providence's hidden treasures — The Providence Athenaeum.

The Providence Athenaeum is a membership library and cultural institution, established in 1753, a century before the public library movement. The Athenaeum offers rare book collections and current titles, special adult and children's programs and a friendly welcome to members and visitors alike. Six-month introductory memberships to the library are available for \$25 for those interested in supporting and experiencing this historic institution.

## Brooklyn Coffee & Tea House

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## Join WGBH for 'The Golden Dreydl: A Family Chanukah Celebration'

"Think Tchaikovsky and Harry Potter meet Peter and the Wolf and go to shull!"

So comments WGBH 89.7's Ellen Kushner, host of the cultural documentary *Sound & Spirit*, in referring to "The Golden Dreydl," a unique event in which Kushner joins the Shirim Klezmer Orchestra in a live performance combining music and spoken-word pieces, perfect for the whole family. There will be performances on Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, Newton Centre, Mass.

With roots in Yiddish folklore, Biblical narrative and the Jewish experience in America, this fun and innovative performance gives a unique twist to the Tchaikovsky classic, "The Nutcracker." Little Sara goes to a Chanukah party, where she is given a mysterious dreidl. That



Shirim Klezmer Orchestra with Ellen Kushner

night, the toy top comes alive and takes her into a world where The Tree of Life is dying. If Sara can get the dreidl to the tree in time, all will be well. But the Demon King is leading his

forces against them. Sara's search is full of dangers and illusions until she finally prevails.

For more information, call (617) 558-6486; for tickets, call the box office at (617) 965-5226.

## To Boldly Go Where No Jewish Literature Has Gone Before... to Outer Space

"I own and cherish a copy of *Wandering Stars*... and expect that it will bring great pleasure to new readers." — Leonard Nimoy

Stories of aliens from distant galaxies, the exploration of uncharted space, and interstellar travel at the speed of light have been with us for quite some time. These stories are all part of the weird and wonderful — sometimes dark and sinister — world of science fiction and fantasy.

Science fiction and fantasy have long been considered avenues not only for great entertaining literature, but methods by which its authors can provide insightful commentary on society. Stories of political struggle, civil war, and identity conflicts fill the pages of classic science fiction and fantasy collections.

Now for the first time in 25 years, this classic genre re-emerges to tackle the trials and tribulations of the

uniquely Jewish experience, as seen through the eyes of the greatest voices in the Jewish literary and science fiction communities.

*Wandering Stars: An Anthology of Jewish Fantasy & Science Fiction* (Jewish Lights/ May 1998/ \$16.95/ Quality Paperback), edited by Jack Dann, was

originally published in 1974. It was — and remains to this day — the premier collection of Jewish science fiction and fantasy available anywhere.

The issues raised in the context of *Wandering Stars* are as relevant today as they were in 1974 — and are as timely and as important in the futuristic settings portrayed in the book. Issues such as the question of "who is a Jew?" assimilation, Jewish continuity, and the future of the Jewish people provide the backdrop for the stories in *Wandering Stars*.

Boasting a distinguished list of contributors from both the Jewish literary and science fiction communities, *Wandering Stars* is a thought-provoking commentary on the current state of Judaism in the world as well as an extraordinary collection of writings.

William Tenn's "On Venus Have We Got a Rabbi" — written especially for this volume — tackles the volatile issue of Jewish identity in the 26th century.

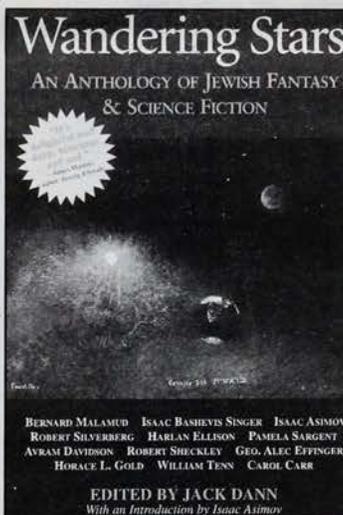
(Continued on Page 15)

## 'Profiles and Shadows' at R&R

Rites & Reason Theatre, 155 Angell St., Churchill House, Providence, presents "Profiles and Shadows," the play that goes beyond issues of racial profiling.

The research for this next production is conducted in a Research-to-Performance class, Fall 2001 with professor Shanga Parker. Don't miss this!

Show times are Dec. 6 to 9, Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 7 p.m.; and Sunday at 3 p.m., with thought-provoking discussion. Call for reservations at 863-3558.



## Lloyd Kaplan to Appear on 'Senior Journal'

The "Senior Journal" cable television program is devoted to exploring the issues of growing older in Rhode Island through the personal perspectives of seniors. Programs are produced by senior volunteers and are sponsored by the R.I. Department of Elderly Affairs, in cooperation with COX Communications. Programs are aired on Sundays at 5 p.m., Mondays at 7 p.m., and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. over statewide interconnect Channel "A."

The next "Senior Journal" broadcasts include "Lloyd Kaplan — Celebrity Senior," hosted by Lee Chalek of Warwick and featuring Lloyd Kaplan, professor emeritus, Community College of Rhode Island (Dec. 2 to 13); and "Lit-

eracy Volunteers of America-Kent County," also hosted by Chalek and featuring Sandra Farnum, vice-president of Literacy Volunteers of America — Kent County, and Harry Rose, student (Dec. 16 to 27).

Viewers' written comments, suggestions, or opinions on the "Senior Journal" are always welcome and should be addressed to Larry Grimaldi, R.I. Department of Elderly Affairs, 160 Pine St., Providence, R.I. 02903.

Also, the "Senior Journal" is looking for new volunteers to join the production crew. Volunteers will be trained to operate cameras, or to produce and edit programs.

For more information on becoming a "Senior Journal" volunteer, call Larry Grimaldi at 222-2858, ext. 222.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## Brownbrokers Presents 'Straight Man'

"Straight Man," an original student-written musical, will be presented by the Brownbrokers of Brown University Theatre, Thursday through Sunday for two weeks, Nov. 29 through Dec. 2, Dec. 6 through 9 in Stuart Theatre. All performances are at 8 p.m., with the exception of Dec. 9, which is a 3 p.m. matinee only.

"Straight Man" is the story of young and sexy Hollywood types searching for meaning in a complex post-modern world; one in which the place of the musical is not always certain. Mickey writes the music for "Alive For Some Time Now," a daytime soap opera. Trevor is a career auditioner by day and the manager of LA's hippest bar by night. The living room of their West Hollywood apartment conjures images of a sitcom; emotional honesty is replaced by self-conscious humor. The two met in New York, and since then Mickey has had deep romantic feelings for Trevor, who is straight. Mickey longs for a time and a place where, in his mind, he and Trevor "had" each other. His confusion and frustration have culminated in a creative pursuit — he is writing a musical about Trevor.

Life becomes complicated when Katherine, an up and coming "indie" actress, moves in next door. Her success forces Trevor to confront his own failure. Their romance forces Mickey to address in his show what he won't in his life. Trevor and Katherine must evaluate

where they are in relation to each other and to the world around them; they struggle to reinvest the "types" they seem destined to inherit. "Straight Man: A Musical" follows these characters to where they are instead of where they think they should be, and challenges the audience to ask the question: how to we want our stories told?

Under the direction of Rebecca Melsky, the cast includes Jeb Havens, Lance Rubin, Rebecca Miller, Jessie Austrian, Carmen Gill, Adam Green, Andrew McClain, Bryant Romo, Todd Goldstein, Sonia Aneja, Emma Boroson, Spencer Collins, Carin Cymanski, Naomi Gingold, Jennifer Johnson, Julie Ostrov, Lealah Pollock, Jason Siegel. The stage manager is James Egelhofer with set design by Laura Jellinek, costume design by Jillian Waid, lighting design by Joseph Blodgett, sound design by Sam Kusnetz and technical direction is by Dov Lebowitz-Nowak.

Tickets are available at the Leeds Theatre box office, 77 Waterman St., Providence. Ticket prices are \$14 general admission, \$10 for senior citizens (65 and over), and Brown faculty/staff, and \$5 for students. Phone reservations are accepted with Visa/Mastercard. Box office hours are Tuesday through Friday noon to 5 p.m. and one hour before curtain on the evenings of performance. For more information or to make reservations, call 863-2838.

## Native American Theatre Events Form Dramatic Partnership

Free play readings, symposium Dec. 2 to 9

Trinity Repertory Company and the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center have announced the details of their upcoming collaboration, a series of staged play readings by Native American playwrights and a symposium on Native American theater. Theater from the Four Directions: New Plays from First Nations Playwrights will take place at the Museum in Mashantucket, Connecticut on Dec. 2 and at Trinity Rep in Providence, R.I., on Dec. 6 through 9. All programs are free and open to the public through the generous support of the New England Foundation for the Arts, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the six state arts agencies of New England. The symposium is made possible by a grant from the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities, an independent state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Seating is limited, and reservations are suggested. Call 521-1100.

Three major Native playwrights from the United States and Canada are participating in the series. Drew Hayden Taylor (Ojibway), William S. Yellow Robe, Jr. (Assiniboine), and Ian Ross (Ojibway) will read from their work at the museum, and will work with directors, members of Trinity's resident acting company and Native American actors in preparation for the staged readings at Trinity Rep. The playwrights, actors and directors will join scholars in the closing symposium to discuss the status of Native theater.

## Kate Simon's Bestselling Memoir Now on Audio

Stirring Recollection of Young Jewish Girl's Immigrant Experience

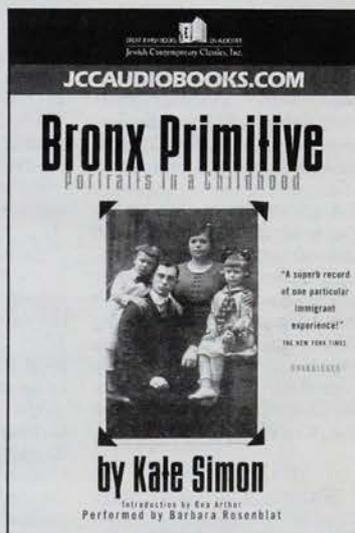
<JCCaudiobooks.com>, the audio imprint of Jewish Contemporary Classics, recently announced the release of the classic memoir: Kate Simon's *Bronx Primitive: Portraits in a Childhood*, on audiotape — the unforgettable tale of one Jewish immigrant girl's coming-of-age experiences in New York in the early 20th century.

*Bronx Primitive: Portraits in a Childhood*, published in 1982, was named "one of the 12 best books of the year" by *The New York Times Book Review* and was a finalist for the National Books Critics Circle Award. With her unerring eye for detail and her remarkable prose, Simon (whose original name was Kaila Grobsmith) made a unique contribution chronicling the Jewish woman's immigrant experience in America. In elegant, evocative language, she captured both the harsh realities a young girl faced in New York City in 1916 as well as the hops, dreams and incredible possibilities.

In its review of *Bronx Primitive*, *The New York Times* wrote that Simon's personal story was one with which so many could identify: "One Bronx kid, a girl named Kaila, walking down a street rendered with precise and rich detail, shall yield the truth of a particular immigrant experience. She does — and superbly."

Kate Simon was born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1912. She immigrated to New York with her family in 1917 and grew up in the Tremont Avenue section of the Bronx. Although *Bronx Primitive* was a best seller, Simon was most widely known for her guidebooks to great cities — New York, London, Paris, Rome, Mexico City — including

the best selling *New York Places and Pleasures: An Uncommon Guidebook*. She also wrote frequently for *Vogue*, *Harpers*, *National Geographic* and *Travel & Leisure* as well as *The New York*



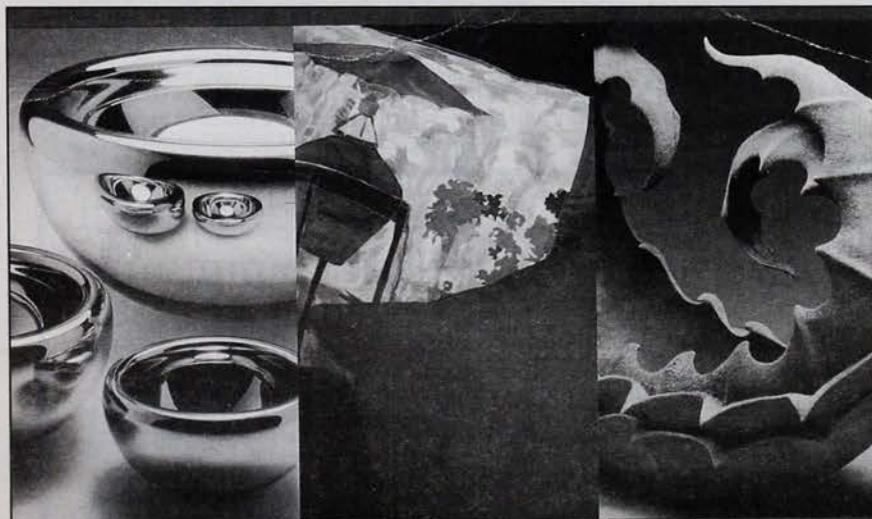
*Times*, *The New Republic* and *The Nation*. She passed away in 1990.

Available for the first time on audio, *Bronx Primitive: Portraits in a Childhood* is narrated by one of the most beloved audiobook narrators in the country, Barbara Rosenblat. Rosenblat won the coveted AUDIE Award in 2000 for Best Female Solo Narration. She was named one of the Voices of the Century and a Golden Voice by *Audiophile Magazine*. She has appeared on Broadway and London's West End and created the role of Mrs. Medlock in the Tony Award-winning musical, "The Secret Garden."

To receive a free catalog, call toll-free (877) JCC-TAPE, (877) 522-8273 or sign up at <[www.jccaudiobooks.com](http://www.jccaudiobooks.com)>.

## December Events at Bert Gallery

For the holiday season, Bert Gallery has assembled a wonderful selection of original paintings, photographs and jewelry by local artists. The show, Holiday 2001: A Selection for Gift Giving, will include works by Priscilla Cane, Regina Partridge, Brian Goblik, Eric Gould, Bonnie Buck and several historical artists. The exhibit runs Dec. 4 through 22. The gallery is located on 540 South Water St. in Providence, R.I. and is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Closed Mondays.



## RISD to Hold Alumni Holiday Art Sale

The public is invited to the RISD alumni holiday art sale at the Rhode Island Convention Center, One Sabin St., Providence, on Dec. 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5. Current RISD students and children under 14 are admitted free. The sale will feature jewelry, glass, ceramics, rugs, clothing, fine arts, gifts... everything created by Rhode Island School of Design Alumni. Above: Glass by Laura Kramer '94, Pillows by Mari Gyorgy '86, Ceramics by Rain Harris '97.

Photo courtesy of RISD

## Quiet Child Author at Cranston Library

John McKenna, author of *The Quiet Child*, will read from his work at the Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, on Dec. 8 at 1 p.m.

Copies of the supernatural suspense novel just published by The Writers Club Press will be available for purchase and autographing after the reading.

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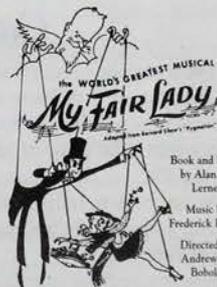
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# OBITUARIES

## IDA APPEL

FALL RIVER — Ida Appel, 92, of 9 Courtney St., died Nov. 22 at the Fall River Jewish Home for the Aged.

She was the wife of the late David Appel. Born in Newark, N.J., a daughter of the late Morris and Lily (Zablatsky) Grozen, she had lived in Fall River most of her life.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood, Adas Israeli Synagogue and its Sisterhood, and Hadassah.

She leaves a daughter, Gloria Baskin of Somerset, and three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Julius Grozen, Lenore Goltz and Florence Ucran.

A graveside funeral service was held Nov. 23 in Beth-El Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to the Fall River Jewish Home, 538 Robeson St., Fall River, Mass. 02720 or your favorite charity. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02920.

## HELEN GOLDIS

WARWICK — Helen Goldis, 92, of 965 Post Road, a retired seamstress, died Nov. 22 in Rhode Island Hospital.

Born in Haverhill, Mass., a daughter of the late Harry and Ida (Shapiro) Goldis, she had lived in Warwick for 20 years, previously living in Pawtucket. She was a seamstress and a dressmaker and had also worked for various interior decorators.

She leaves a daughter, Joan P. Feldman of Cranston; a brother, Robert Goldis of Glendale, Calif.; a sister, Edna Schwartz of Syracuse, N.Y.; and two granddaughters and a great-granddaughter. She was the sister of the late Mark, Herbert, Irving and Melvin Goldis, Eva Loguidice and Ruth Rupp.

A graveside service was held Nov. 25 in Lincoln Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions to her memory may be made to the American Heart

Association. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02920.



## LEWIS MEYER GOLDSTEIN

EAST PROVIDENCE — Lewis Meyer Goldstein, 74, of Bullocks Point Avenue, chairman of the Board of Tastex Corp., Central Falls, died Nov. 20 while on vacation in Las Vegas, Nev.

He was the husband of the late Doris (Cohen) Goldstein. Born in Woonsocket, the son of the late Abraham and Lillian (Dickens) Goldstein, he had lived in Pawtucket before moving to East Providence in 1994.

He attended George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II, serving as an assistant chaplain. He was a member of Temple Emanu-El, the Touro Fraternal Association, B'nai B'rith, and the Redwood Lodge of Masons.

He leaves a son, David Goldstein of East Greenwich; a daughter, Marsha Rubin of Oreland, Pa.; three grandchildren; and his companion, Claire Pietryski. He was the brother of the late Nathaniel Goldstein and Sarah Nasberg.

A funeral service was held Nov. 25 in Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to American Heart Association, 275 Westminster St., Providence, R.I. 02903. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## KITTY SMITH

WARWICK — Kitty Smith, 96, of West Shore Road, a saleslady at the former Steiger's Clothing Store in Fall River for more than 20 years before retiring died Nov. 20 at West Shore Health Center in Warwick.

Born in Fall River, Mass., a daughter of the late Louis and Rose (Katz) Smith, she had been a resident of Fall River for many

years before living in Providence for 20 years and moving to Warwick more recently.

She was a life member of Hadassah and a member of Temple Beth-El in Fall River, Mass.

She leaves two brothers, Irving Smith and Lawrence Smith, both of Fall River, Mass. She was the sister of the late Ann Greenfield, Esther Endell, Betty Brockman, Edward and Pauline Smith.

A graveside service was held on Nov. 21 in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Fall River, Mass. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory can be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## SIDNEY TRAGAR

WARWICK — Sidney Tragar, 72, of 12 Edgeknoll Ave., a retired shipper, died Nov. 25 at Kent County Memorial Hospital.

He was the husband of Sophie (Pokross) Tragar. Born in Providence, a son of the late Max and Etta (Nachbar) Tragar,

he had lived in Warwick for 32 years, previously living in Cranston.

He was a shipper at the Davol Co. for 29 years, retiring in 1989.

He was a member of the South Providence and Providence Hebrew Free Loan Associations, the Warwick Social Seniors, the Chai Center, and the 911 Retiree Club.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Steven L. Tragar of Kokomo, Ind.; two daughters, Elaine Rogers of Providence and Brenda Weseluk of Cumberland; a brother, Morris Tragar of Sarasota, Fla.; a sister, Mildred Zatlhoff of Delray Beach Fla.; and four grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Irving, Gerald, Benjamin and Harold Tragar.

The funeral service was held Nov. 26 in Priest Chapel, Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the American Heart Fund or the Chai Center of Warwick. Arrangements were made by the Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I.



## WILLIAM J. WOLFE

WEST WARWICK

— William J. Wolfe, 65, of Kristee Circle, a former drug-store manager, died Nov. 18 at his home. He was the former husband of Stacia H. (Pohorecka) Wolfe.

Born in Boston, the son of the late Sidney and Ida (Braveman) Wolfe, he had lived in Roxbury, Mass., and Attleboro before moving to West Warwick 10 years ago.

He was the night manager at the Brook's Pharmacy in Providence before his retirement three years ago. He was an Army Air Forces veteran of the Korean War and a retired member of the National Guard.

Besides his former wife, he leaves a son, Stephan Wolfe of Framingham, Mass.; a daughter, Michelle Booth of Pembroke, Mass.; a sister, Karen Gerstein of Warwick and four grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Nov. 23 at the Rhode Island Veteran's Cemetery, Exeter, R.I. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## The Shulchan Aruch, the code of Jewish law, teaches:

If one feels death approaching, he should recite the *vidui*. And he should be reassured by those around him: "Many have said the *vidui* and not died, and many have not said the *vidui* and have died." And if he is unable to recite it aloud, he should confess it in his heart. And if he is unable to recite it by himself, others may recite it with him or for him. — Yoreh Deah 338:1

What follows is the traditional text of the *vidui*:

O my G-d, the G-d of my ancestors, accept my prayer and do not reject my supplication. Forgive me all the sins that I have committed in my lifetime. I am ashamed and abashed for all the wrong things that I have

done. Please accept my pain and suffering as an atonement and forgive my sins, for against You alone have I sinned.

May it be Your will, Adonai my G-d and G-d of my ancestors, that I sin no more. With Your great mercy, cleanse me of my sins, but not through suffering and pain. Send a complete healing to me and to all those who are stricken.

I acknowledge to You, Adonai, my G-d and the G-d of my ancestors, that my life is in Your hands. May it be Your will to heal me. But if You have decreed that I shall not recover from this illness, I accept the decree from Your hand. May my death atone completely for all the sins and all the transgres-

sions that I have committed before You. Shelter me in the shadow of Your wings and grant me a portion in the World-to-Come.

Father of all orphans and guardian of widows, be with and protect my dear family, for my soul is bound up with theirs.

Into your hands do I commit my soul. You have redeemed me, Adonai, O G-d of truth.

Sh'ma Yisra'el, Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai Echad (Hear, O Israel, the L-rd is our G-d, the L-rd is One).

From the Book of Jewish Values, A Day-By-Day Guide to Ethical Living, by Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, Bell Tower, New York, 2000.

## Compassionate Friends to Hold Candlelight Pot Luck Dinner

The meeting of The Compassionate Friends, a self-help support group for parents who have suffered the death of a child, will be holding a Candlelight Pot Luck Dinner at 6:30 p.m. (sharp) on Dec. 10 at the Gerry House, 593 Eddy St., Providence.

Please bring a dish or dessert that was one of your child's favorite, along with a candle and a candleholder. You may bring a picture for our picture table if you would like.

This is a general sharing meeting that will be open to the public, and members are encouraged to bring a friend or relative. For further information or directions, call Carol O'Neil at 723-3321.

## When You Have Questions, Call Us.

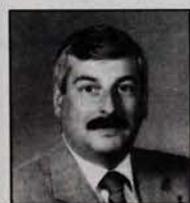
If you are one of many people who have never arranged a funeral, you may have a lot of questions on your mind.

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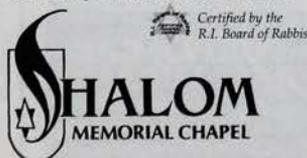
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# FEATURE

## To Boldly Go

(Continued from Page 11)

Judaism, in this futuristic story, is faced with a Diaspora that has spread throughout the known galaxy and rabbis who expound on the laws of the *Proceedings of the Rabbinical Council on Space Travel*.

The Jewish people as an "endangered species" are the subject of Isaac Asimov's *Unto the Fourth Generation*, while Avram Davidson places the mystical Golem — savior of the Jews of Prague in Jewish folklore — in the middle-class bungalow culture of contemporary Hollywood.

Other distinguished contributors to *Wandering Stars* include Bernard Malamud, Isaac Bashevis Singer, and science fiction authors Harlan Ellison, George Alec Effinger, Robert Silverberg, and Pamela Sargent.

A showpiece of Jewish wit, culture, and lore; a blend of humor, sadness, cynicism, and faith, *Hadassah Magazine* called *Wandering Stars*, "A stellar achievement... a volume aglow with love, laughter, pathos."

An established classic, *Wandering Stars* is edited by multiple award-winning author Jack Dann. Dann, who dedicates the book's re-release to his mother "Edith N. Dann, who still makes the best chicken soup" and is the author or editor of more than 40 books. Dann is also the editor of a number of acclaimed science fiction anthologies, including *The newly released More Wandering Stars*. He lives in New York City and Melbourne, Australia.

*Wandering Stars: An Anthology of Jewish Fantasy & Science Fiction* is available from bookstores or directly from Jewish Lights Publishing, Sunset Farm Offices, Route 4, P.O. Box 237, Woodstock, VT 05091. For credit card orders, call (800) 962-4544.

## Providence Public Library Continues Lecture Series

*The Nature and Ethics of War*

The events of Sept. 11 have changed our world. In an effort to help individuals and the community understand and respond to repercussions of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Providence Public Library is providing series of free educational forums through Dec. 9. Open to the public, all programs will be held from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the auditorium (third floor), at the Central Library, 225 Washington St., Providence.

The "In The Wake of Tragedy" lecture series will begin on Dec. 2 with *The Nature and Ethics of War*, presented by Porter Halyburton, Professor of War Strategy and Policy, U.S. Naval War College, Newport. He teaches Strategy and Policy, International Relations, and the Military Code of Conduct.

A former prisoner of war, Halyburton will present the third forum, addressing a range of questions dealing with "The Nature and Ethics of War." He will draw on years of professional experience as a naval flight officer in the U.S. Navy

He attended Jacksonville University in Florida and coached high school football in Jacksonville, the "capital of high school football," he added. He enjoyed the Jewish community in Jacksonville, which was large and cohesive. It was in Jacksonville where he first became acquainted with Jewish community centers, and he decided that this was the career for him. "It was a conscious move to try JCC work," he said. "It was just something I wanted to do."

Nelson seems like he was made for JCC life; he is warm, personable, a good talker and listener has a good head for business and this plenty of JCC experience behind him. He worked in a JCC in Houston, Texas and became director of the health and physical education department, became branch director and then assistant executive director. He then moved to Seattle where he worked again as a JCC executive.

The Jewish communities in both Houston and Seattle are immense by Rhode Island standards, with about 40,000 Jews in each city, and their JCCs were between two and four times as large. But despite their size, these communities were almost completely assimilated. "No one supported Jewish institutions... There wasn't a sense of community or belonging." He called this problem the "west coast Jewish demographic phenomenon."

"Coming back to the East coast is almost like being home," he said. After Seattle Nelson was ready to be the director of a "large-intermediate" sized center, and the JCCRI is just such a center. "I'm exactly where I want to be," he said. "I'm very happy to be here."

Because he has only been in Rhode Island for less than two weeks, Nelson is still feeling out the community. He has already

during the Vietnam War. He has been a faculty member at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport since 1984. He served as a naval flight officer in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War and was a Prisoner of War for seven and half years.

On Dec. 9, the final lecture, "G-d, Politics and the Community of Believers: The Taliban of Afghanistan, the Wahhabis of Arabia who are their Mentors, and Women" will be presented by Eleanor Abdella Doumato, Ph.D., Visiting Scholar, Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University.

In further efforts to provide members of the community with information on these and additional relevant subjects, the library has enhanced its collection of books and videos. These materials can be found on display at the Central Library. Items are also available through all PPL branches. The library will be organizing on-going programs and activities around these current events and issues.

## Rick Nelson

(Continued from Page 1)

met with members of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, Temple Emanu-El and Temple Beth El. He is working with past JCCRI presidents and other agencies to get himself up to speed. "My goal is to meet as many people as I can," he said.

Nelson said that the "core JCC programs" are the same here as anywhere else — early childhood education, camp and health and physical education. Certain programs, such as book fairs and performing arts programs, often have the capability to expand by leaps and bounds, he said. For Jewish theater to expand, however, "corporate support," whether from a bank, financial institution or some other business, is usually required.

The most successful JCCs, Nelson said, "are always collaboratively oriented" with other agencies and organizations. They share in responsibilities, and work in tandem with day schools, synagogues, and other agencies, creating something akin to a "Jewish mall." Said Nelson, "The more closely defined roles are, the less friction... For a community to be successful, everybody has to work together."

## Powell

(Continued from Page 4)

since they rejected the UN partition plan in 1947. The nine-month Palestinian terror tantrum was initially blamed on Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's visit to the Temple Mount, which Palestinian militia leader Marwan Barguthi recently acknowledged was merely a pretext for pre-planned violence. Now the Palestinians want the world to believe that the violence is a result of their frustration over settlements.

In fact, Palestinian leaders initiated the current violence to divert world attention from their own rejectionism. And as the Mitchell Report proves, the tactic has been stunningly successful. Once again, the international community has signaled to Yasser Arafat that he won't be held accountable for aggression and that terrorism pays.

The argument that Arafat needs an Israeli concession to reign in the gunmen only encourages Palestinian rejectionism and insures further Palestinian violence whenever disagreements arise during negotiations. Until the Palestinians understand that there is no reward for terrorism, they won't become responsible peace partners. And that is the ultimate tragedy of accepting the Palestinian lie that equates building apartments with blowing up teenagers in a discotheque.

*This article originally appeared on www.jewishworldreview.com. JWR contributor Yossi Klein Halevi is the Israel correspondent for the New Republic and a senior writer for the Jerusalem Report. His latest book is At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden: A Jew's Search for G-d with Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land.*

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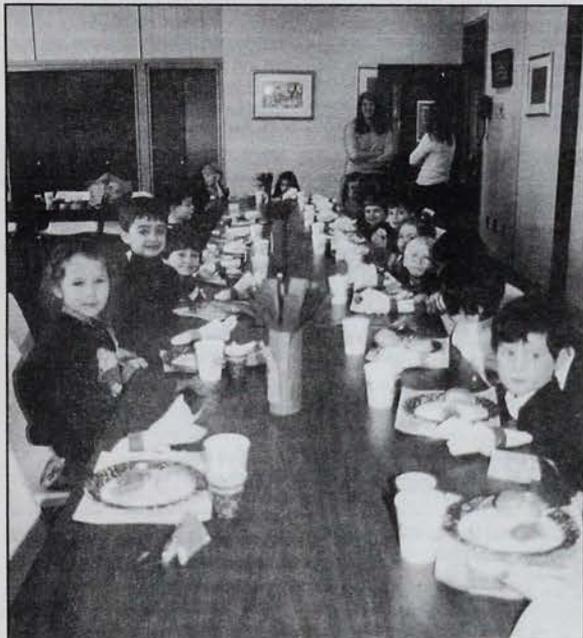
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**To include a box number, send an additional \$5.00. All responses will be mailed to the Herald via box number, and forwarded to classified advertiser.** Payment MUST be received by Monday afternoon, PRIOR to the Thursday on which the ad is to appear.

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

## JCCRI Throws 'Thanksgiving Feast'

Just before Thanksgiving, 3, 4 and 5-year-old boys and girls from the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island's early childhood program gathered around a table filled with apple sauce, rolls, corn bread, popcorn and juice. The children created the centerpieces, the name tags, the placemats and even paper turkeys. Before eating, the children sang some Thanksgiving songs, then said "hamotzi" before chowing down.



CHILDREN AGES 3, 4 and 5 gathered in the senior adult lounge for some Thanksgiving goodies.



DANIEL SMITH gives his fingers a lick between courses.



MATTHEW WARSHAY and Sarah Ori wait patiently for the prayer for bread before eating.

Herald photos by Jon Rubin

### 'Bosch's Harp' Will Play at Carriage House

An evening of original music and dance entitled "Bosch's Harp" will be performed at the Carriage House Theatre, at 7 Duncan Ave. in Providence, on Dec. 6 to 9. Music is by Steven L. Jobe with choreography by Heather Ahern (Groundwerx Dance Theatre), Brinsley Davis, Jamey Garner and Suzanne Wiltgen (Three Dances from Minneapolis). The performances on Dec. 6 to 8 are at 8 p.m. and the performance on Dec. 9 is at 7 p.m.

The first three pieces of the program are from Three Dances repertoire. The second half of the program, entitled "Bosch's Harp" is inspired by the work of painter Hieronymus Bosch and will feature a 12' tall laser harp. The harp was based on an idea by Steven L. Jobe and created by designer Jeremy Woodward. Nine musicians, playing an assortment of string and reed instruments, will accompany the dancers. Tickets are pay-what-you-can Thursday evening (open dress rehearsal), all other nights \$15, general admission, \$10 for students and seniors. For more information, call 454-4564.

If you have an event you would like featured on our Jewish Community pages, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 0294, fax to 726-5820 or e-mail rijewishherald@hotmail.com

### The RISD Museum Hosts Holiday Party

Begin the holiday season at The RISD Museum by attending its Holiday Party on Dec. 9, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. The Holiday Party will be held at The RISD Museum, 224 Benefit St., Providence.

This annual event, sponsored by the Museum Associates, will feature storytelling by Sparky's Puppets, storyteller Clare Vadeboncoeur presenting "The Snow Queen," and art activities. Refreshments will also be provided. Entrance to The RISD Museum and to the Holiday Party are free on this day. For more information on the Holiday Party, call 454-6500.

After The RISD Museum Holiday Party, round out the day by joining in the Providence Preservation Society's Benefit Street Stroll at the museum's doorstep (for information on the stroll, call 831-8587).

### The Misadventures of Rabbi Kibbitz and Mrs. Chaipul Has Been Released

Light Publications announces the release of *The Misadventures of Rabbi Kibbitz and Mrs. Chaipul* — a collection of 11 short stories by author and storyteller Mark Binder.

Mrs. Chaipul owns the only restaurant in Chelm. Rabbi Kibbitz is the oldest and wisest man in the village of fools. What happens when these two seniors begin to fall in love?

*The Misadventures of Rabbi Kibbitz and Mrs. Chaipul* includes:

- Two wedding stories
- Two Chanukah tales
- A parable for Rosh Hashanah
- And six other stories of love, foolishness and food.

Binder is a well-known writer and a storyteller who

lives in Rhode Island. He is a former editor of the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald*. His audio book, "The Brothers Schlemiel: From Birth to Bar Mitzvah" was recently released by Light Publications. In addition to "The Brothers Schlemiel," he has published hundreds of short stories throughout the United States and Canada, and is author of *The Everything Bedtime Story Book*.

*The Misadventures of Rabbi Kibbitz and Mrs. Chaipul* is currently available online and via mail order only. It costs \$9.95 plus \$1.50 postage from Light Publications, P.O. Box 2462, Providence, R.I. 02906. It can be ordered online at <http://www.lightpublications.com>.



Author Mark Binder, right, recently signed copies of his new book *The Misadventures of Rabbi Kibbitz and Mrs. Chaipul* at Rhoda's Judaica on Hope Street. Standing with him is store owner Rhoda Fischman.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

The author will also be signing copies at the following Chanukah storytelling events:

Dec. 2 — Temple Habonim Religious School, Barrington, R.I., at 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 4 — Chanukah Tales & Book Signing, Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, at 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 9 — "Chanukah Tales" Congregation Beth Israel, Worcester, Mass., at 7 p.m.

Dec. 11 — Rochambeau Public Library, Providence, R.I. at 3:30 p.m.

Dec. 12 — Sharon Public Library, Sharon, Mass., at 7 p.m.

Dec. 14 — "Foolish Tales," CoffeeTalk.Com, Wyoming, R.I. at 7 p.m.