

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

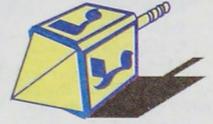
17 Kislev 5764

Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

December 12, 2003



Happy Hanukkah



Inside...



HAPPY HANUKKAH! See photos from our annual Hanukkah art contest on pages 19 and 22 and recipes and book reviews on 15, 16, 17 and 18.



COLORFUL CONNECTION — Learn all about Rhode Island's sister city in Israel on page 3

Controversial human rights group makes case in RI

By Jonathan Rubin

Although the mission of the group Rabbis for Human Rights (RHR) is to advance economic justice for all Israelis, it is their work aiding Palestinians that earns them headlines and controversy. The group of more than 100 rabbis focuses solely on events in Israel; most of its funding is from its North American affiliates.

Rabbi Arik Ascherman, former executive director of RHR, spoke Monday at Brown University on a national fundraising tour. He said he's been called "a voice of conscience" of Israelis; he's also been called "traitor," and has had his share of death threats.

The visit by the Reform rabbi, which was supported by six rabbis from Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts, including Temple Beth El and Temple Emanu-El, both in Providence; Temple Habonim



Rabbi Arik Ascherman, from Rabbis for Human Rights

in Barrington and Congregation Agudas Achim in Attleboro, seemed ripe for controversy.

One rabbi, who asked not to be named, said that a member of his community stopped by unannounced last week and loudly berated him for inviting the organization. However, the gathering of more than 100 at

Brown occurred largely without incident.

While the event was sponsored by Brown Hillel and Tikkun (a student Jewish-Muslim dialogue organization), most of those who attended were not students, but members of the community.

The RHR group started when the second intifada broke

out in 2001 when a plethora of "peace-related" groups emerged. "A rabbinic response was needed," he said, to what was happening to the Palestinians. He said rabbis were "only speaking about Shabbat and kasruth" and were silent on "burning moral issues."

Ascherman spoke for

See RABBI, page 26

'Geneva accord' sets off flurry of new peace efforts

By Leslie Susser

(JTA) — After its gala launch in Switzerland this week, the unofficial Israeli-Palestinian peace proposal known as the "Geneva accord" is rapidly picking up international support.

Indeed, last week's festive launch was designed to generate international and grassroots pressure on leaders on both sides to take bold peace steps.

But can the Geneva

See GENEVA, page 7



PULTIZER PRIZE-WINNING PLAYWRIGHT Alfred Uhry visited with students in grades 5-8 at the Alperin Schechter Day School in Providence on Nov. 20. The Brown University alumnus was in town to speak at a panel discussion after a production of his play, *Driving Miss Daisy*, at the JCC.

Photo by Mary Korr

Interfaith families wrestle with role of Christmas

By Joe Berkofsky

JTA — Like every year, the Keen family of Ann Arbor, Mich., will soon festoon their home with Chanukah symbols, light the menorah, exchange gifts and host a family party with latkes and jelly doughnuts.

And then, in the middle of all of this, the family will go

into a separate room and help Jim, the family father and husband, decorate his Christmas tree and give him gifts on Christmas day.

For Jim, 36, who grew up a churchgoing Methodist, and Bonnie, 36, who grew up a Conservative Jew, the arrangement is part of an ongoing

See INTERFAITH, page 23



RHODE ISLANDERS gather on an Israeli Mercava IV Tank for a photo shoot during their recent Jewish Federation of Rhode Island trip to Israel for the 2004 General Assembly of the United Jewish Communities. More on pages 3, 11, 20 and 21 and on www.jfri.org. Pictured on top (left to right): Dr. Howard Mintz, Dr. David Kerzer, Dr. Mansoor Radparvar, Mathew Shuster, Dianne Newman, Stanley Grossman, Carolyne Kellner, Janet Engelhart, Judith Ann Tenenbaum, Patricia Blake, Joshua Karlin (seated), Sharon Groh-Mintz, David Yavner. On ground: Richard Neslon, Justin "Jay" Strauss, Ina Schlessinger, Samuel Yavner, Anne Yavner, Doris Feinberg, Alan Feinberg, Helen Abrams, Holly Silverman, Meyer Goldstein, Roohi Radparvar, Selma Stanzler, Milton Stanzler, Harold Abrams, Adelina Azevedo Axelrod, David Leach, Melvin Blake, Peter Berman, Jeanette Kellner, Ruth Kerzer, Esta Yavner, Grace Bieser, Dr. Gustav Schlessinger and Gilad, the group's security guard.

Photo by Jonathan Rubin

The Jewish Voice & Herald

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CANDLE LIGHTING

For greater Rhode Island

Dec. 12 3:54
 Dec. 19 5:56
 Dec. 26 4:00
 Jan. 2 4:05



Community Calendar

Saturday Dec. 13

Evening of Jewish music

7:30 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Rob Zelonsky will perform Jewish comedy, song, dance, in Yiddish and other languages. 785-1800. See Community.

Sat. & Sun. Dec. 13-14

Temple Habonim arts festival

4 to 8 p.m. Sat.; 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sun. Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington. Art show and sale, silent auction, wine and cheese on Saturday; coffee, pastries, bake sale on Sunday. For information or directions, call 245-6536.

Sunday Dec. 14

"Robbo" at Torat Yisrael

Noon. Temple Torat Yisrael's social hall, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Robbo, a professional children's entertainer, will perform with songs, games, dances. \$7. See Community.

Hanukkah fest at Lincoln Mall

2:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Klezmer music, Hanukkah foods, cooking demonstration by kosher chef Dani Alon. Hanukkah shopping, Judaica. Crafts for kids, prize drawing. For more information, call 762-3651. Event of the Jewish Outreach Initiative of Northern R.I. & Attleboro.

South County Hebrew School fair

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at URI's White Hall, 9 Butterfield Rd., South Kingstown. Craft fare, artisans and gift sellers, Judaica and non-Judaic items, raffle to benefit the South County Hebrew School. For more information, visit <http://schebrewschool.org>.

Monday Dec. 15

JCC Maccabi meeting

7:30 p.m. JCC, 401 Elm-grove Ave., Providence. Meeting for anyone interested in coaching or participating on JCC teams for Boston summer games. See Community.

Schechter West Bay open house

7:30 to 9 p.m. Schechter West Bay, a Jewish preschool, informational session. Staff, families available to speak to parents. The meeting will take place in Cranston. For information, call Ruth Berenson at 751-2470 or ruthberenson_asds@yahoo.com.

Wednesday Dec. 17

Touro Fraternal event

6:30 p.m. Cranston. Initiation of candidates; Bob Miller's meat loaf and mashed potato

dinner; entertainment by comedian Frank O'Donnell. Refundable \$5 or 5 bagel bucks deposit. Touro members only. Hosted by Friendship Lodge; Harmony Lodge welcome. For information, contact Touro Fraternal Association; P.O. Box 3562; Cranston RI 02910 or Tourofraternal.org.

Thursday Dec. 18

'Roe v. Wade' program

7 p.m. Providence Marriott. The National Council of Jewish Women of R.I. symposium on Roe v. Wade with a panel of experts: Attorney Lynette Labinger, Dr. Benjamin Vogel, and activist Anne London. For more information, call Renee Vogel at 331-5087 or e-mail Rvogelri@yahoo.com.

Friday Dec. 19

Temple Sinai Seniors

11:30 a.m. Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. Hanukkah lunch. Entertainment with Cantor Rennie Brown. RSVP by Dec. 15. For reservations, call Balla at 461-6124 or Fran at 942-7796.

Am David Hanukkah dinner

6:15 p.m. Temple Am David, 40 Gardner St., Warwick. Traditional Hanukkah feast with latkes, jelly donuts, dreidels, and more. Adults, \$12.50; children 12 and under, \$7. Reserve by Dec. 15. For information, call 463-7944.

Saturday Dec. 20

Chabad Hanukkah Cafe

7:30 p.m. Chabad House, 360 Hope St., Providence. Guest speaker, Rabbi Yosef Laufer, "Bringing Light into Your Life." Entertainment by the Maccabean Hot Shot. Refreshments. For information, call 273-7238

Sunday Dec. 21

Chabad Hanukkah party

1 p.m. Chabad House, 360 Hope St., Providence. Children's Hanukkah party with Smilee the clown, door prizes, dreidel tournament, balloonery, refreshments. For information, call 273-7238.

Historical Hanukkah at Touro

2 to 4 p.m. 85 Touro St., Newport. 240th anniversary of original dedication of synagogue.

Readings from historical documents, holiday refreshments. For more information and reservations, call 847-4794, ext. 10, or visit www.tourosynagogue.org.

Huge Hanukkah festival at Warwick Mall

3:30 p.m. Chabad CHAI Center giant Hanukkah celebration at the Warwick Mall. Meno-

rah lighting, crafts, gift shop, refreshments. Free. Open to all. See Community.

Tuesday Dec. 23

JCC winter camps

Jewish Community Center, 401 Elm-grove Ave., Providence. Winter vacation camps for ages K-7. To Jan. 2. For information and registration, call 861-8800, ext. 147. See Community.

Mother's Chabad party

7 to 8:45 p.m. 3871 Post Road, Warwick Make latkes, spin dreidels, discussion on miracles. Refreshments. Bring wrapped gift under \$5 (no food). To RSVP, call Shoshanah at 884-7888.

Wednesday Dec. 24

Klezmer performance

7:30 p.m. Klezmer Hasidic music at Congregation Ohave Sholam, featuring Fishel Bresler and Shelley Katsh. East Avenue, Pawtucket. \$5 adults, \$3 children. Call Eliana 273-9814.

Thursday Dec. 25

Chabad party

2 to 3:30 p.m. 3871 Post Road, Warwick. Bake cookies, hunt for oil, make a menorah, dreidel games, latkes & refreshments. Ages 2 to 5, older children welcome. Pre-registration required, donation: \$3. To RSVP, call Shoshanah at 884-7888.

JCC open

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (2:30 p.m. pool closes). Jewish Community Center, 401 Elm-grove Ave., Providence. Fitness and athletic facilities open to the community. Call 861-8800 for information.

Kosher Chinese dinner at JCC

5 p.m. Jewish Community Center, 401 Elm-grove Ave., Providence. 273-2220.

idence. Kosher Chinese dinner. Reservations required. Adults: \$15; children 6 to 10: \$10; 3 to 5: \$6; under 2: free. Reserve by Dec. 20 at 861-8800, ext. 110.

Touro movie, Chinese buffet

4:30 and 6:30 p.m. Movie at the Showcase Cinema in Warwick. Seatings at the China Buffet, \$10 per person. Touro members and immediate families only. Cut-off for reservations, Dec. 17. For more information, contact Touro Fraternal Association, P.O. Box 3562, Cranston, RI 02910 or www.Tourofraternal.org.

Wednesday Jan. 7

Cranston Senior Guild

1 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Guest speaker: Philip Marlowe, radio marketing consultant for WCTK/WLKW radio. Raffle and refreshments.

Ongoing

JCC Book Fair

Annual book fair continues through Dec. 19 at Jewish Community Center, 401 Elm-grove Ave., Providence. Open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

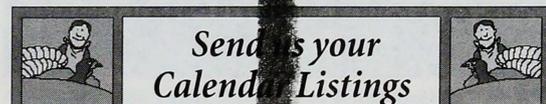
Jan. 5 to 31

Rosenstock exhibit, reception

Mon. to Thurs., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jewish Community Center, 401 Elm-grove Ave., Providence. See Community.

Photography of Arvid J. Bloom

Sun., 4 to 6 p.m.; Mon through Sat., noon to 2 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. Windsor Gallery at Highland Court, 101 Highland Ave., Providence. Through Dec. 31. For more information, call 273-2220.



Send us your calendar listings, along with time, date & telephone number. Notices must be received 2 weeks prior to publication date.

E-mail to: voiceherald@jfri.org; Fax to: 401-331-7961, or mail to: Jewish Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906 — Attn: Calendar

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Bridge over troubled land

R.I. lends a helping hand to sister regions in northern Israel

By Jonathan Rubin

You wouldn't expect to find a picture of the "Rhode Island Red" rooster or Kennedy Plaza hanging in an Israeli school, but that's what greets visitors to the Ramot elementary school in the northern city of Afula.

Members of the Rhode Island delegation to the General Assembly (GA), held in Jerusalem in November, traveled two hours by bus to meet the students and the staff of the school linked to Rhode Island through Partnership 2000 (P2K), a program founded by southern New England federations to invigorate Israel-Diaspora relations.

The students tested their English out on the group and showed them e-mails sent by their Rhode Island "e-pals." The exchanges are a thrilling part of the Afula student's week; many of them are from poor homes, and the idea of contacting children thousands of miles away is

nothing less than exotic.

"I like how they celebrate the same holidays we do," said one 7-year-old.

Another, when asked if he had any message to give the children in Rhode Island, said, "I want them to come here."

Naturally, the students were curious about life in the USA.

"Are there McDonalds in America?" one child asked.

"Do you play hockey in the winter?" asked another.

"I like Rhode Island, but I don't want a test on it," says a third, and the class explodes into laughter.

The partnership program is just beginning to bear fruit. The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island now allocates nearly \$50,000 for economic, professional and educational partnerships in Afula and essentially makes the giving a two-way street — building bridges between North

America and Israel.

Nationwide, partner communities are matched by population: New York with Jerusalem, Chicago with Tel Aviv and Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts with two adjacent areas — Afula, a city of 40,000 located just miles from Jenin and the West Bank, and the Gilboa region, a grouping of *kibbutzim* and *moshavim* (agricultural areas) of 23,000.

Dust-bowl, or is it?

The lands make up two-thirds of Israel's acreage, but contain only 17 percent of the population. The demographics can be daunting, with terrorism casting a dark shadow over the region. Afula has a large immigrant population of Russians and Ethiopians and high unemployment.

The Gilboa region has a large Israeli-Arab population — 50 percent of the children are Arabs — and the region has been home to terror attacks in the last year. Several weeks ago, it was put on high alert as rumors of a suicide bomber traveling through the region closed streets and shops.

It is in the unlikely spot of Afula that some of Israel's most interesting programs are being established, and Rhode Island is slowly creeping into the greater scheme of things.

And groups of Rhode Island-



SHALOM! Students in English class at the Ramon school in Afula.

Photo by Jonathan Rubin

Afula / Gilboa at a glance

Location:	Northern Israel, East of fertile Jezreel valley, just minutes from Jenin
Population:	Afula – 40,000 Gilboa region – 23,000
Immigrants:	33% of population originally from Ethiopia or Former Soviet Union
Industry: exportation)	Manufacturing, agriculture (crops, flower
U.S. Partners:	Southern New England Consortium (R.I. Conn. and parts of Mass.T)
Arab pop.	Gilboa region – 40% Israeli Arabs (no Arab pop. in Afula)
Joint programs	Jewish / Arab coexistence, teacher exchange / educational collaborations, Israel emissaries

At 98, Jewish women's group continues to fight for social justice

by Mary Korr

Jewish women in Rhode Island have come together for 98 years to fight for social justice under the banner of the National Council for Jewish Women (NCJW). At its core are women committed to the Jewish principle of *tikkun olam*: repairing the world.

On Thursday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m., the R.I. section of the NCJW will present a panel discussion at the Marriott Providence on reproductive choice, titled "Women at Risk, Roe vs. Wade, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow."

On the panel are Rep. Edith Ajiello, attorney Lynette Labinger, Anne London from the national organization, and Dr. Benjamin Vogel. Sen. Rhoda Perry will moderate the session.

The talk is part of a national campaign www.benchmarkcampaign.org, launched this year on the 30th anniversary of Roe v Wade. The group will discuss the medical and legal ramifications for the future as the law comes under attack.

On the local, state and federal levels, NCJW works to help shape public policy in support of women, children and families, and to ensure individual rights and freedoms for all.

One of the national group's concerns is the nominees for federal appeals courts, whose record casts doubt on their commitment to upholding fundamental rights, including reproductive choice.

See NCJW, pg. 8

See AFULA, pg. 27



ELIOT-ROSE

ASSET MANAGEMENT

"Risk comes from not knowing what you are doing."
—Warren Buffet

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Chabad CHAI Center of West Bay
Brings you the Largest Family & Friends

Chanukah Celebration

in Rhode Island

Sunday, Dec. 21

3:30pm

at the center of

Warwick Mall

3:30 pm 4:00 pm

Decorate your own Dreidel Words of greeting by local dignitaries

Jewish music by Stan Freedman & Sounds of Simcha Lighting of giant Menorah

Chanukah gift shop sale up to 50% off **The Spectacular Mad Science Show** for the entire family

* Hot Latkes * Free Dreidels * Chanukah Gelt *

Women's Chanukah party

Tues. Dec. 23, 7:00-8:45pm
3871 Post Rd, Warwick
Make Latkes and take some home
♦ Play Dreidel & Discussion on miracles ♦ Donuts & Refreshments
Please bring a wrapped gift worth less than \$5 (no gift's of food)
To RSVP 884-7888

Mommy, Daddy & Me

Thursday, Dec. 25th
2:00pm-3:30pm
3871 Post Rd, Warwick
* Bake Chanukah Cookies * Hunt for the Jar of Oil * Create your own Menorah * Learn how to play Dreidel * Latkes & Refreshments *
Ages 2-5, older children welcome
To RSVP, call 884-7888 Donation: \$3

A MAJORITY OF ONE The December Dilemma

Ab, the December Dilemma. Beloved by Jewish editorial writers, the *Elite Chocolate Company* (remember the Hanukah gelt), and pulpit rabbis.



**Yehuda
Lev**

*Fear*ed by Jewish parents who struggle every year against the effects of the majority culture upon their innocent Jewish children and worry that they will be seduced by Rudolph and Bing Crosby.

Welcomed by those same Jewish children who know an attractive tree when they see one and who are rarely fooled by the "eight presents are better than one" line their parents hand out.

I have good news for you worried parents. Based solely on personal experience, I can assure you that this too shall pass, that some day your children, resistant to reason as they must seem now, will grow up and make their own lives, preferably well outside the nest but within the faith. Then you will look

back at these parlous times and see the December Dilemma for what it really is, a litmus test gauging your Jewish condition. So evident is this to me that I wonder why Jewish demographers and social scientists ask about synagogue attendance, lighting of Shabbat candles, Seders and other means of measuring Jewish behavior. All they really need to ask is "How do you deal with the Hanukah-Christmas contretemps?"

When I grew to manhood in New York, in the '20s, '30s and '40s, no such problem existed in our home. My parents absorbed the egalitarian and assimilationist values of many East European Jews and their three sons each hung a stocking over the mantelpiece on Christmas Eve, close to the tree which we had decorated the previous week.

I do know when all of this began to change. Two things happened in 1933. First Franklin Roosevelt was elected president. Second, and purely coincidentally, Hitler came to power in Germany and was beginning to gobble up small neighboring countries. This country was divided on whether or not we should take an active role in opposing him. For my parents there was no question about which course to pursue especially after

my father returned from a visit to the Polish *shtetl* where he was born.

From that time on our Jewish future was sealed. Out went the tree, the stockings, the pile of gifts, the songs and even my boyish soprano contributions to a local Episcopal church choir. In came Judaism, not of the Orthodox variety but closely enough related to Conservative Jewry for my father to eventually become president of our local Conservative temple (and Zionist enough for him also to preside over the local ZOA chapter).

For me the lesson was driven home in 1940 when I attended a Rapid Advance class (three years work in two) at a public junior high school in an Italian neighborhood in New York. In the summer of 1940 Benito Mussolini led Italy into World War II as Hitler's ally and joined, like a jackal (Roosevelt's term) in the defeat of France. Day after day the news got worse and among the RA students, most of whom were Jewish, depression prevailed. In the rest of the school there was rejoicing as the mighty Italian army swept to its ignoble triumph.

All three of us attended Sunday school and were Bar Mitzvah at our

father's temple. By the end of the war I was in uniform and training for the invasion of Japan. The atomic bombs intervened (praise be) and I was sent instead to Germany which led to involvement with the illegal immigration to Palestine followed by years of living in Israel.

My two brothers fared differently. One never married, had little interest in Judaism, and became a Republican. The other married the niece of an SS field marshal. She converted to Conservative Judaism and remains a pillar of her synagogue to this day.

And the message to worried parents? Despite our parent's lack of Jewish consciousness in our early years, none of us has ever had a Christmas tree in our own homes and no stockings hang from the mantelpiece. There is however one remaining question to be dealt with. Can a Christmas tree, even at such remove, cause a child to develop into a Republican? It is a question fraught with political significance but fortunately we are out of space so the discussion will have to wait. Enjoy the holiday.

Yehuda Lev, of Providence, is a regular columnist and a retired journalist who has worked in Europe, Israel and the United States.

Letters to the editor

Aaron Lansky, preserver of Yiddish culture

Your Nov. 21 issue had a story about the National Yiddish Book Center (NYBC) and its founder, Aaron Lansky. Hidden away in the story was the very brief statement, "He has been awarded a MacArthur genius award." These prestigious awards are reserved for only the most spectacular and exceptional achievements.

Here are just a few of his achievements:

While still a college student, to implement his plan of rescuing Jewish books, he built a worldwide network of zamlers (book collectors), who have salvaged and sent him more than a million Yiddish books, which might well have been lost or destroyed.

At great personal risk, he took a trailer loaded with contraband books into Soviet Russia at a time when it was a risky thing to do; and somehow he managed to distribute them throughout Russia so that Jewish schools could function again.

He convinced major American universities, many for the first time, to establish programs in Yiddish studies, and he stocked their libraries with thousands of Yiddish books that he had collected.

He personally solicited major Jewish philanthropists and he ran a very successful fund-raising campaign to pay for an \$8 million facility on the Hampshire College campus in Amherst. The Center he built is a magnificent monument to a re-born Yiddish language.

And these are just a very few of his remarkable achievements.

I first heard of the NYBC and what Aaron Lansky was doing in the '80s. It sounded great to me and worth supporting, so I became a member. Today, there are thousands of members all over the world. For years, the center has run seminars on subjects of Jewish interest. The first one, in 1990, was called 'A Winter Program in Yiddish Culture,' at the Brandeis Bardin Institute in California. It was something that sounded interesting, a series of seminars on Jewish culture, literature, theater, movies, music and art. N.Y.B.C. members were invited.

One of the classes being offered was studying the work of Sholom Aleichem, entirely in Yiddish! Since I considered myself fluent in Yiddish, I enrolled in this class, and did I get a lesson. My colloquial household Yiddish was no match for those kids in the class, who were studying Yiddish in college. They carried on an in-depth discussion of Sholom Aleichem in fluent, classic Yiddish. It was way over my head. I hadn't even realized that Yiddish was being taught at universities.

The MacArthur Foundation knew what they were doing when they selected Lansky for their coveted 'Genius Award'. And he is still only in his 40s.

**Harold Tregar
Providence**

Shalom from Providence, Alison!

I've read two of Alison Golub's articles (before & after aliyah) and can't tell you enough how much I enjoy reading them. I'm a parent of an Israeli daughter and grandparent to her children, Uri and Shira Mandelkorn.

Her articles are so very uplifting during these most difficult times.

Her unique manner of expression projects hope, perseverance and determination.

Today, I enjoyed reading the article entitled "Sukkot in Jerusalem." The photo of the international visitors celebrating Sukkot and supporting Israel brought tears to my eyes. May God bless and protect Alison; she is truly doing Ha-Shem's work!

Take good care. How happy I am that she brought her great gifts to Israel!

**Anne Schwartz
Providence**

Palestinian aid falls through the sieve

David Frankfurter

As yuletide approaches, the average Palestinian must be wondering what present he can expect from the wintry North. But Bethlehem's man in the street might be surprised to hear that the EU has already filled his Christmas stocking with around \$4 billion over the past decade.

As he struggles to survive on a princely \$1.70 a day, our Palestinian's heart will no doubt be warmed to hear of the European investment that has rolled in since the Oslo Accords were signed. Following the EU's example, the United States has added some \$110 million to the last two years' UNRWA budget.

On it goes. Belgium and Italy contributed significantly to the new and "improved" Palestinian schoolbooks - despite their inflammatory content. Canada has promised \$37 million in humanitarian contributions between 2000 and 2006. Ironically, the EU even funded an \$19 million counter-terrorism program in the West Bank and Gaza.

Does all this largesse mean a turkey in every Palestinian pot this holiday season? Not likely. Current politically-

See PALESTINIAN AID, page 5

Submission guidelines

The *Jewish Voice & Herald* welcomes letters to the editor and other opinion pieces on topics of interest to the Jewish community. All submissions must be signed and include city of residence and telephone number. Letters to the editor should be limited to 250 words, and viewpoint pieces to 700 words. Submissions may be edited for length or content. Send submissions to: *Jewish Voice & Herald*, 130 Sessions St., Providence, 02906, or e-mail to: voiceherald@jfri.org

ALISON ON ALIYAH

Reflections in a friend's eyes

They say change happens so slowly and constantly that you rarely see it happening until it's already complete. I've begun to notice a few little things about myself that are significantly different from who I was six weeks ago.



Alison Golub

Well, to be honest, I didn't notice them by myself. The General Assembly was here in November, and all the United Jewish Communities Solidarity Missions were here in Jerusalem, among them many of my good friends from Rhode Island. I spent the weekend with one of my best friends, and I saw, mirrored in his eyes, how much I've changed already.

On the way home from meeting the group at the airport, I was in a taxi with about six other people, none of whom spoke Hebrew. When the driver asked each person which neighborhood and which street he or she lived on, they didn't understand and weren't able to answer. All of a sudden, I became the translator for the group! Me — the same person who, six weeks before, was in a taxi going from the airport to my new home, and was barely able to muster up the words to ask the driver to close the window.

Today, my bathroom is littered with conditioner bottles of all kinds and sizes, most of them nearly full. I've been having difficulty finding a way to make my often-frizzy hair adjust to the climate here, and all my new immigrant friends have all recommended different brands.

While in a taxi the next night with my friend, I was bantering back and forth with the driver, talking about the political situation in Israel and also trying to barter him down on the price — all while my friend tried to catch a word or two.

I also noticed the difference in mentality between someone who is visiting here and someone who is living here. He was willing to take cabs anywhere, especially if it got us to our destination faster. I, on the other hand, have already worn a path with my sneakers through the length and width of the city center and many of its surrounding neighborhoods. A half-hour walk is nothing, I kept thinking, but I remembered how much simpler a cab seemed to me when I first arrived here. I also remembered how, in Providence, just two months ago, tucked safely behind the steering wheel of my beloved Honda Accord, even a walk down the street to the convenience store seemed terribly inconvenient.

I have already begun to read and be able to decipher the Hebrew subtitles when I watch television, especially when it is a familiar American show. Although I cannot always catch everything, I enjoy comparing what I hear to what I read, and trying to figure out the words I don't know. I can have rather lengthy conversations in Hebrew with most people I meet now, and when

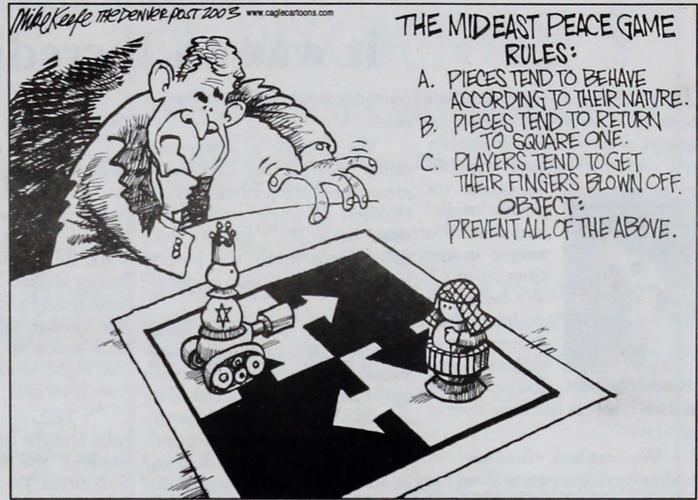
I walk through Machane Yehuda, the open-air market near my house, many of the shopkeepers smile and wave to me. They ask me how my absorption is going, and whether my dog has fully adjusted yet. They know I am trying desperately to become fluent in Hebrew, so they never speak English with me, even though they are able to and want to practice their own skills.

Three months ago, I was working for \$10 an hour and still having difficulty making ends meet. Today, I was offered a baby-sitting job for 25 shekels (approximately \$5.50) an hour, and I was overjoyed — it was a little over a dollar more than most of the jobs I've had already. I have used the same hair care products for the past 10 years, and have always been deathly afraid of altering my hair procedure even slightly, for fear of causing my curly hair to lose its hold and shine. Today, my bathroom is littered with conditioner bottles of all kinds and sizes, most of them nearly full. I've been having difficulty finding a way to make my often-frizzy hair adjust to the climate here, and all my new immigrant friends have all recommended different brands.

In the states, my refrigerator and cupboards were overflowing with pre-packaged meals and junk foods loaded with preservatives. I always found American produce so mournfully inadequate compared to the quality in Israel, that I simply stopped eating healthy. Here in my refrigerator in Jerusalem, one can only see fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, avocados, and peppers, along with a mango or kiwi thrown in for color.

I've become used to having to pay a significant amount for every outgoing call I make, whether it be on my home or cell phone, but enjoying totally free, unlimited incoming calls. I sigh in resignation every time I see the endless fees I have been charged for nearly every transaction at my bank — talking to a teller, taking out money, putting in money, changing dollars to shekels, changing shekels to dollars; believe me, the list goes on and on. I am learning how to use my kerosene heater, even while some part of me fears I will asphyxiate from the fumes while I sleep. Most of all, I am learning how to be Israeli. Slowly, slowly, but more and more every day. I like the person I am becoming, even though I can't always see the process until it has already occurred.

Alison Stern Golub was born and grew up in Seattle, Washington. She is a graduate of Brown University, and taught for two years at the Harry Elkin Midrasba Community High School. She welcomes correspondence (and advice!) in response to her articles and can be emailed at Alison_Golub@hotmail.com.



Palestinian aid falls through the sieve

From page 4

correct orthodoxy says blame Israel and the occupation. That makes for a nice slogan, but it doesn't add much clarity to the analysis.

The 33 years from 1967, which followed the end of Jordan's illegal occupation of the West Bank, saw the rate of Palestinian ownership of domestic appliances soar from 5 percent to around 90 percent of the population; gross domestic product zoomed skywards during those same years.

Does all this largesse mean a turkey in every Palestinian pot this holiday season? Not likely. Current politically-correct orthodoxy says blame Israel and the occupation. That makes for a nice slogan, but it doesn't add much clarity to the analysis. The 33 years from 1967, which followed the end of Jordan's illegal occupation of the West Bank; gross domestic product zoomed skywards during those same years. The Palestinian Authority's launch of the Intifada in September 2000 reversed the trend and brought the pain of deep economic recession to both Israel and the Palestinians.

The problem, it appears, lies elsewhere. The stupendous personal economic gains of the Palestinian elite and their largesse provide a good place to start looking. Yasser Arafat's personal wealth was assessed by Forbes magazine in March 2003 as marginally trailing the Queen of England's. His wife and daughter "make do" in their luxurious Paris quarters on a monthly allowance of \$85,000 of Palestinian public funds, according to a CBS News analysis.

Sadly, it would seem that Arafat has no copyright on such liberties.

The PA's former Deputy Minister of Health, Munzar Al-Sharif, appropriated a complete medical laboratory - donated to his people by the German government - to a privately owned hospital. Palestinian Finance Ministry funds paid for the installation of an expensive air conditioning system in the Foreign Minister's Ramallah home.

European loan financing intended to fund a Palestinian power plant was instead applied to the purchase of valu-

able real estate for the chairman of the PA's Energy Authority: there goes \$1.7 million. Documented stories of UNRWA aid - food and medicines - finding their way to the black-market are legion.

In his little-reported resignation speech, Abu Mazen, former Palestinian Prime Minister, complained bitterly of tens of millions "stolen annually" and the rejection of his repeated attempts to implement controls over cash payments, which were met with "a silly excuse and a cover for theft" by Palestinian bureaucrats.

Why does this keep happening?

Amazingly, the European Commission consistently tells us that there is little cause for concern. In November 2001, President Prodi assured that "The use of our funds is closely monitored by the IMF." The Rt. Hon. Christopher Patten assures his Parliamentary masters "We have found no evidence of EU funds being used for purposes other than those agreed between the EU and the PA."

Patten's office again stressed the IMF role in monitoring international aid, when quizzed on funding controls by a recent UK Parliamentary inquiry: "...We implement this [aid] under the control of the International Monetary Fund, so that the IMF controls the broad aggregates of expenditure by the Palestinian Authority."

Sounds good, but the IMF sees it differently. Their report of September 2003 reveals \$900m in assets 'diverted' from the Palestinian system into private accounts. They then point to other wide ongoing control gaps in EU-funded PA budgets, presided over by the same circle of thieves.

The Palestinians are simply not seeing the benefits of these monumental transfers of aid. It is time to rethink this sad strategy, which is harming the Palestinian, the European taxpayer, and the Middle East peace process.

David Frankfurter is an Australian business consultant and writer, currently resident in Israel, who frequently comments on the Middle East conflict.

JFRI-CRC happenings

FROM THE JFRI EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

It was an incredible trip to Israel!

Forty-nine of us crowded onto a bus, as one of the largest groups at the General Assembly, per capita. We came from all



Janet Engelhart

had never been to Israel; others had been dozens of times.

We walked through an underground excavation along the length of the Western Wall, and even stepped on a newly excavated shopping street from the Roman era.

We walked through Jerusalem on a solidarity march with most of the other 6,000 participants at the General Assembly. Israelis in apartments were waving and shouting their support.

We dined with new olim from Ethiopia who were learning Hebrew. Speaking through an interpreter, they told us that they had no idea what their job

prospects would be, post Absorption.

We visited a community center in Afula that serves as an after-school drop-in facility for children of single parents and those below the poverty level. (80 percent under the poverty level in this particular neighborhood!!!)

We saw the "seam line," guarded 24/7, and the controversial fence or wall that Israelis swear has severely reduced terror attacks. We visited Arab settlements and Jewish settlements. We watched a troupe of deaf and blind actors perform with heart and soul. We saw how developmentally disabled youngsters are supported through a unique school.

Through the course of the ten days, we even escorted mission members to the emergency room of Hadassah Hospital on two occasions. They received expert and compassionate medical care and I was offered a piece of strudel by a volunteer. Where but in Israel?

And we prayed together in airports and absorption centers, and at the Western Wall.

For me, though, it is the faces that remain.

The 15-year-old who was with his family, speaking with us in Afula. He had been shot in a terror attack two years before. He looked like any of our kids, with dark, shiny, spiked hair and long, baggy khakis. The family is still undergoing counseling, and Iris, the mother, told us that her son still wakes up in the middle of the night, screaming, more than two years later.

Yael, our Young Emissary who brought Israel to RI last year through the Bureau of Jewish Education. We met Yael in Afula, with her mother, at a communal dinner. Yael was thrilled to see us. Her smile was as bright as ever, but the sobering reality for me, though, was that Yael is now wearing a soldier's uniform and carrying a rifle.

The young girl, about seven years old, with long brown hair, in dance class at the community center in Afula. As the group perked up, she reached out her hand for me to join her. We twirled and danced together, and it reminded me of days when I danced around the house with my own daugh-

ter. We were never frightened, although security was ever-present and we realized that anything can happen anywhere at anytime. But we were drinking in the country and interacting with all kinds of people, and I felt so proud to witness the life-saving and life-affirming work we are doing through our Annual Community Campaign funds. Helping with counseling for terror victims. Funding dance classes and dance groups. And special schools and Hebrew lessons for

new olim.

Thanks to our mission chairs, Selma Stanzler and David Yavner, for countless hours of work and good cheer. And thanks to my colleagues, Joshua Karlin, Meyer Goldstein and Jonathan Rubin, for sleepless nights, hours in the emergency room, wise decisions, and their support.

It was a trip we hope you will join us on in the future! It's a trip you will never forget.

Please visit our website, www.jfri.org, for many more details.

What's happening in Rhode Island

A service of the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of RI

JFRI Opens Turkey Assistance Mailbox:

In the wake of the tragedy that has befallen the Turkish Jewish community, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island asks you to extend your support in this time of great need and devastation. In response to the twin terrorist bombings at the Neve Shalom and Beth Israel synagogues in Istanbul on the Shabbat of November 15, the JFRI has opened the "Turkey Assistance" Mailbox to assist victims of the attack. Both blasts killed at least 24 people and wounded more than 300. Through this special emergency mailbox, with your help, the JFRI and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) will care for all of the Jewish victims, aid in the rebuilding of the synagogues, and extend assistance to other innocent victims of the attack. You can send your donations to "Turkey Assistance," Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906

The money will go to services that will:

1. Help children injured in the blasts with physical rehabilitation
2. Offer trauma therapy for the victims of the bombings
3. Provide the community with emergency medical equipment kits for ambulances and local institutions
4. Provide financial assistance to the victims, replace basic household goods and restore basic inventories for small businesses devastated by the attacks
5. Arrange the support of professionals from Israel's Association for Children At-Risk in concert with Turkish childcare

professionals

Members of CRC met with Lt. Governor Fogarty:

A small committee of people met on Monday, November 24 with Lt. Governor Fogarty and his communications officer Sue Pegden, to introduce them to the work of the Jewish Federation and the Community Relations Council. Among the topics discussed were healthcare and the elderly, threats of terrorism, and Israel.

Black-Jewish Alliance sponsored 'Driving Miss Daisy' program:

On November 20, the Black-Jewish Alliance of the Community Relations Council sponsored a discussion by Alfred Uhry, the award-winning author of "Driving Miss Daisy" following the performance of the play. Alfred Uhry shared his insights about growing up with a grandmother like Daisy, and the relationship between blacks and Jews in the age before and during the civil rights movement.

AIDS Service of Hope and Healing:

The AIDS Task Force of the Community Relations Council held their annual AIDS Service of Hope and Healing on Monday, December 1st at Temple Emanu-El. The service was led by Rabbi Wayne Franklin and Debbie Waldman, and was open to all people of all faiths who have been touched by AIDS.

If you have any suggestions or would like to learn more about becoming active in the Community Relations Council, contact Rebekah Raz at rroz@jfri.org, and include your name, phone number, and e-mail address.

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The Endowment Fund of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

'Geneva accord' sets off flurry of new peace efforts

From page 1

accord, reached by people who hold no office, become the basis for a real peace deal and break the Israeli-Palestinian deadlock? Or, alternatively, will leaders not ready to go the Geneva route, but unwilling to be seen as obstructionist, be pressured into making different peace moves of their own?

Popular support for the Geneva proposal seems to be growing in Israel, but the government remains adamantly opposed. On the Palestinian side, the agreement's main advocates have run into strong and sometimes violent opposition.

And while major peace brokers like the United States and European countries are showing growing interest, none has yet adopted the Geneva draft as an official program or as a basis for negotiation.

The long, detailed document, which can be found at www.heskem.org.il/heskem_en.asp, deals with such controversial issues as borders, Jerusalem and refugees. It has sparked fiery debates in Israel and among the Palestinians on the nature of a final peace deal.

It also has led to a flurry of parallel diplomatic action. Last Thursday, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon dispatched his son Omri, along with other Knesset members and government officials, for talks with Palestinians near London.

Other Likud Party legislators took part in a weekend seminar with Palestinians in Madrid, and U.S. Middle East envoy William Burns returned to the

region in an effort to restart the official peace process based on the "road map" peace plan.

Most significantly, Sharon himself made new overtures to the Palestinians.

In Israel, sentiments on the Geneva proposal are mixed. A poll published Monday in Ha'aretz showed 31 percent of Israelis support it and 37 percent oppose it. Despite the opposition of the Likud-led government, 13 percent of Likud voters surveyed supported the agreement.

The Israeli sponsors of the plan acknowledge that it is not a done deal, and they say their main purpose in making it public is to create a mind-set for peace.

They maintain that the Palestinians are using the Israeli left to lay down new starting points for future negotiations and to embarrass Sharon.

So far, none of the parallel initiatives has borne fruit, at least in public. No agreement was reached in the London and Madrid exchanges even on basic issues like ending terrorism, and both forums degenerated into arguments.

The key to immediate progress lies now with Burns, the U.S. envoy, who is trying to set up a first meeting between Sharon and the new Palestinian Authority prime minister, Ahmed Qurei.

On the Palestinian side, neither Qurei nor P.A. President Yasser Arafat has fully endorsed the Geneva deal, although Arafat did send a letter of qualified support to the Geneva ceremony.

The Geneva ceremony high-

lighted growing international support for the accord. Nobel Peace Prize-winners and Arab dignitaries attended, while former U.S. President Bill Clinton and British Prime Minister Tony Blair sent greetings.

Already, the launch in Geneva is having reverberations in Washington.

Rep. Lois Capps (D-Calif.) flew to Geneva for the signing and is expected to introduce legislation next week supporting the plan. A similar resolution will be introduced in the Senate by Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.).

The Bush administration said Monday that it "welcomed" the Geneva plan, but officials expressed continued support for the road map. Official American policy is not to allow other plans to deflect attention from the road map.

The road map "is the only plan on the table," U.S. Ambassador to Israel Daniel Kurtzer said.

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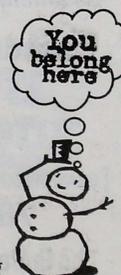
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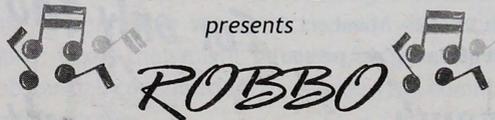
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NCJW
From page 3

"We are fighting for our granddaughter's rights," said Nan Levine, local program chair.

The R.I. section has 400 members. "We fill a need in the community," said Ellie Elbaum, who heads the group. "We advocate for women, children and families from Providence to Wash. D.C. to Jerusalem."

In fact, Elbaum recently attended the General Assembly (GA) in Israel with the R.I. delegation, organized by the Jewish Federation. While there, she visited several sites where programs started by the group are in place. For example, there is a scholarship and women's gender program at the University of Tel Aviv, the first of its kind in the Middle East.

Also sponsoring the Dec. 18th symposium are the Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of R.I.; the American Civil Liberties Union, R.I.; the Women's Health and Education Fund and Planned Parenthood of R.I.

In April, NCJW will co-sponsor the march for choice in Wash. D.C. Another national initiative this year is a petition drive in support of Israel's Women of the Wall and their fight for the right to pray at the Western Wall aloud with tallit and Torah.

For more information on the Thursday night event, call 331-5087.

R.I. section of the NCJW
founded in 1905

The following information offers an early glimpse of the local section of the National Council for Jewish Women's activities. The history of the group was compiled 10 years ago to celebrate the centennial of the national group founded by Hannah Solomon in Chicago. Here are some excerpts:

1905: Founded by **Marion Misch**, who would become the 3rd national president. Initial projects: Sewing classes for girls, a Sabbath school for 100 pupils: "Since many come from recent immigrant families, we teach all the children to respect any differences in ritual or habits. Many of the boys do not remove their hats."

1914: World War I: "We've made substantial contributions to the Red Cross, the War Savings Stamp drive, Food Conservation and to the Liberty Loan campaign. We're especially proud of our work at the North End Dispensary on Orms Street, where we maintain 9 clinics, all non-sectarian...with volunteer doctors and nurses, with Council women in daily attendance."

1925: Greeting Immigrants: "We take charge of women and children arriving, mostly from Eastern Europe. As they arrive, Council women hand out cards to girls and women which say: "Warning: Beware of those who give you addresses, offer you easy, well-paid work, or even MARRIAGE. There are many evil men and women who have, in this way, led girls to destruction. Always inquire if an NCJW volunteer in regard to these persons. They will find out the truth for you and will advise you." The group followed for three years arriving immigrants who stayed in Providence and offered classes for English and other skills of Americanization."

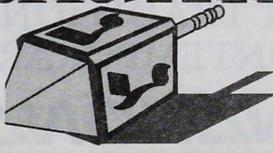
1939: Still recovering from the **Great Depression**. Started a milk and crackers clinic in South Providence for children to go to after school. "We're also involved with the rescue and resettlement of German-Jewish children- orphans mostly. We have just learned that our port and dock work has grown from serving 2,000 refugees a year to over 16,000."

1945: Thrift shop formed. "It will actually be a double *mitzvah*: providing useful clothing to those of low income for a very nominal fee...and with the money enabling us to grow in new directions."

1948: Founding of the state of Israel. "We are now ready to lend support and encouragement to Israel, especially to the education of its precious children."

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Settlements in Sharon's sights

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Ariel Sharon hinted that some Jewish settlements could be evacuated regardless of peacemaking progress with the Palestinians. "Israel may move settlements that are across the Green Line for security without any connection to negotiations," Israel Radio quoted Sharon as telling the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, without providing details. Government officials did not comment on the report.

Fence goes to court

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The U.N. General Assembly voted to send the issue of Israel's security barrier to the International Court of Justice.

The General Assembly voted 90-8 on Monday to have the court, based in The Hague, address whether international law requires Israel to continue construction of its West Bank fence. The United States opposed the measure, and most European countries abstained from the vote.

Israel has said it is prepared to present its case before the court, arguing that the fence is justified on grounds of self-defense. U.S. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said that the resolution would not enhance Israeli-Palestinian peace.

Hamis: Jews, go to Europe

NEW YORK (JTA) — The spiritual leader of Hamas said

that if there must be a Jewish state, it should be in Europe.

Speaking to the German news magazine Der Spiegel, Sheik Ahmed Yassin said he opposes a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as well as the recent "Geneva accord" peace proposal.

"The plan is worse than the Oslo one, because it abandons the right of return for the refugees," he said.

In fact, the Oslo accords, signed in 1993, did not deal specifically with the refugee issue, and the Geneva proposal leaves the issue ambiguous.

Less time for Israeli reserves?

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israeli men 40 and older could be exempt from military reserve duty as of January.

The decision by a special Knesset committee this week drew a mixed response from reserve soldiers, many of whom have borne a heavy burden of service during the Palestinian uprising.

The proposal still must be written as legislation and approved by the Knesset.

Currently, most Israeli reserves are demobilized by age 44.

Oh dreidel, dreidel

NEW YORK (JTA) — Students at Indiana University set an unofficial record for dreidel spinning. As the school's fight song played over loudspeakers in the background, 713 dreidels were spun for 10 seconds at Indiana on Sunday, a record pending confirmation by the Guinness Book of World Records.

The previous record was set at the University of Maryland.

On Iraq, U.S. learns from Israel

NEW YORK (JTA) — U.S. forces in Iraq are following Isra-

el's lead when it comes to dealing with a hostile Arab population, The New York Times said.

U.S. troops occupying Iraq are erecting barriers, demolishing houses and arresting Iraqis suspected of attacks, much as Israel does with the Palestinians, the paper reported Sunday.

"You have to understand the Arab mind," Capt. Todd Brown told the Times. "The only thing they understand is force — force, pride and saving face."

Peres award protested

NEW YORK (JTA) — Arab Americans protested a peace award to Shimon Peres. Demonstrators outside Monday's Seeds of Peace function in Michigan where Peres was being honored along with Palestinian intellectual Sari Nusseibeh held signs accusing Peres of being a killer for retaliatory strikes Israel launched into Lebanon when Peres was prime minister in 1996.

Touchdowns for Allah

NEW YORK (JTA) — The names of some teams in a Muslim football tournament in California are causing controversy. Jewish leaders are protesting after some of the teams in the Jan. 4 tournament chose names such as Intifada, Soldiers of Allah and Mujahadeen, or Holy Warrior. "A lot of the kids on our team are from Palestinian origin," the Associated Press quoted Tarek Shawky, the captain of the Intifada team, as saying. "We are in solidarity with people in the uprising. It's about human rights and basic freedoms."

Status quo in overseas allocation

NEW YORK (JTA) — The North American Jewish federation system decided to maintain its current distribution of overseas allocations. It will continue to use a "75/25 split" between the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee.

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Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Time: 12:00 - 1:30 pm

Location: Temple Habonim
165 New Meadow Road, Barrington, RI

Cost: \$12, lunch included

Presenter: Judith Romney Wegner, Ph.D.

Topic: "Deborah the Prophetess: Jewish Mother or Warrior Queen?"

Description of this topic will follow at a later date.

MARCH *Adar*

Date: Monday, March 22, 2004

Time: 12:00 - 1:30 pm

Location: Temple Sinai,
30 Hagan Avenue, Cranston, RI

Cost: \$12, lunch included

Presenter: Carol K. Ingall, Ed. D.

Dr. Bernard Heller Professor of Jewish Education
Jewish Theology Seminary of America

Topic: "Dona Gracia Nasi: A Woman For All Seasons"

We all need role models, Jewish women who make things happen in the political, economic, intellectual, and religious realms, domains usually considered male preserves. Meet a mover and shaker in all those arenas, and more. By the way, she lived in the sixteenth century.

APRIL *Iyar*

Date: Thursday, April 22, 2004

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: Congregation Beth Shalom
275 Camp Street, Providence, RI

Cost: \$5, dessert included

Presenter: Alison Rose, Ph.D.

University of Rhode Island

Topic: "Golda Meir: Mother of a Nation"

Golda Meir, Israel's fourth Prime Minister, was often asked if she felt limited because she was a woman. She would respond, "I don't know, I've never tried to be a man." While reflecting her direct approach and her sense of humor, these words also hold an element of truth. This presentation will examine the life of this exceptional woman, focusing on her unique approach to politics and how being a woman influenced her image in the eyes of Israelis and the world.

For more information contact
Robin Kauffman, 331-0956,
E-mail rkauffman@bjeri.org

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What the GA accomplished

By Jonathan Rubin

More than 5,000 North American Jews convened in Israel for the General Assembly of the United Jewish Communities, the largest showing ever. Stemming from 156 Jewish Federations and 400 independent communities, the Jewish masses swarmed into Israeli hotels, museums, restaurants and Judaica shops, met with members of Knesset and, for the leadership, convened and voted on the upcoming issues for the \$300 million dollar organization that is UJC.

But when the dust settles, what was accomplished? Here's a short list:

- Imagine this: Free Jewish education for every child from day school to camping up to and including college. Philanthropist Michael Steinhardt offered \$10 million of his own towards a \$100 million education fund that would do just that. The former Wall Street tycoon challenged the Jewish communities in the Diaspora to raise at least \$90 million for Jewish education to make this dream a reality.

- More than \$15 million injected into the Israeli economy, including \$3 million on El Al tickets and more than \$1.25 million on food.

- UJC launched Blue Knot Israel (www.blueknot.org), a program designed to link the North American and Israeli technology communities, and connect Israeli techies to the global network of Jewish technology professionals.

"Through it we are providing a critical link for technology professionals in Israel to connect to North American Jewish tech

professionals and to each other -- offering the great potential of business opportunities, venture capital, incubators, research, and more," said Wendy Berger Shapiro, national chair of Blue Knot.

- UJC also launched Net@ ("Neta"), a project promoting the educational development of disadvantaged Israeli youth, new immigrants and minorities in grades 9-11 by providing them with technological instruction. The Net@ program is a joint effort of Cisco Systems, Inc., Keren Hayesod -- United Israel

Appeal, The Jewish Agency (JAFI), and Tapuah -- The Israeli Society for the Advancement of the Information Age.

The following are summaries of seven major resolutions passed by the UJC:

Resolution #1: Anti-Semitism in the Former Soviet Union — Advocate legal measures to ensure Jewish safety, increase public education efforts, encourage greater investment of American resources in promoting pluralism and democracy, and

See ASSEMBLY, pg. 25

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Hanukkah happenings

Chabad plans Hanukkah festival at Warwick mall

The Chabad CHAI Center, an affiliate of Chabad of R.I., will be holding a Hanukkah celebration at the Warwick Mall, on Sunday, Dec. 21, at 3:30 p.m.

There will be a children's craft project, dreidel decoration, and lively Jewish music. At 4 p.m., the giant menorah will be lit. Following the lighting, participants will see the "Mad Science Show."

Refreshments will include

fresh hot potato latkes and chocolate Hanukkah coins.

The event is free, all are welcome.

Chabad will also be visiting hospitals, nursing homes, prisons and shut-ins, to bring the Hanukkah spirit. For more information, to receive a free holiday guide, or to request that someone in a hospital, nursing home or a shut-in be visited, call the center at 884-7888.

Kosher Chinese dinner at JCC

The JCC is planning a Chinese kosher dinner at 5 p.m. on Dec. 25. Reservations are required due to limited seating. The charge is \$15 for adults, \$10 for children ages 6 to 11, \$6 for children 3 to 5, and free for children 2 and under. Reservations are required by Monday, Dec. 20. Call Linda Singer-Berk at

861-8800, ext. 110, for further information or to make a reservation.

Also, on Thursday, Dec. 25, the fitness center at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; the pool will close at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call 861-8800 for information.

Touro celebrates a historical Hanukkah

A Hanukkah celebration will take place at Touro Synagogue on Sunday, Dec. 21, from 2 to 4 p.m. The synagogue will be commemorating the 240th anniversary of the original dedication of the building, which took place during Hanukkah in 1763.

There will be a reading describing the opening ceremony

written by Ezra Stiles, a former president of Yale University, dated Dec. 2, 1763. In addition, an excerpt from Rabbi Carigal's sermon from May, 1773 will be read.

Holiday refreshments will be served. For more information and reservations, call 847-4794, ext. 10.

Helping homeless as tradition

By Zack Lichaa

For the past four years 40 Jewish teens from all across Southern New England have traveled to Philadelphia to help those in need on the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island's Philadelphia Trip.

On a blistering cold December morning we arrive in Providence and stuff the bottom of the bus with as much clothing and food as we can fit. We have been very fortunate in our past 4 years in that we have received many donations of food and clothes both from people coming on the trip and from businesses around the community.

"The Philadelphia Trip" as it is known, is not an ordinary community service trip. Our goal is not to go to soup kitchens and drop off what we have brought, but rather to get out of the bus if we see someone on the street, and hand them a sandwich and a toothbrush. But that does not have to be the end of the encounter. One thing that every homeless person has always told me is that they value a conversation

more than anything. Thinking about this for a while, I realized that if I were put in the same position I would need someone to talk to just as much as some water to drink. I remember the first "Philadelphia Trip" when I walked into a shelter to find a man named Mark playing pool by himself. I decided to join him by picking up a pool stick and asking him if we wanted to start a game. The look on his face was something that made me smile just as much as him. Just as soon as we started talking five kids started to join in on the conversation and we all ended up on the front page of the "Jewish Herald" about four years ago.

"The Philadelphia Trip" has also consisted of many different amusement experiences. Whether it is ice-skating, a professional ice hockey game, or a Dave and Buster's type of restaurant we're always doing something together and always having fun.

I have been on many trips both Jewish related and non-Jewish related and I can tell you

See PHILADELPHIA TRIP, page 13

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Friday, April 16, 2004

Sunday, May 23, 2004

Time: 10:30 a.m. — Noon

Where: Jewish Federation of RI (unless noted otherwise)
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For information contact Lisa Burtan 421-4111, ext. 163

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Siperstein family continues record giving

The Wheeler School in Providence has announced the establishment of the Jason and Carly Siperstein Master Teaching Chair. The Chair, which will be endowed through a multi-year, \$500,000 pledge by Gary and Mynde Siperstein, of Warwick, is designed to "give back" to the faculty at Wheeler and to recognize the people who were instrumental in the growth and evolution of the Siperstein children, Jason ('03) and Carly ('06).

Interest from the chair's fund will offer a stipend to Wheeler faculty member for a three-year term beginning next fall and will also support faculty salaries as a whole. Gary Siperstein explains that "the faculty have been phenomenal at Wheeler, and we wanted to honor the people that have made such a wonderful difference for our kids." The Siperstein Chair is part of a larger, multi-year commitment that will reach \$1,000,000 - the largest pledge since the school's founding. The pledge stipulates that the \$500,000 beyond the endowment of the Master Teaching



HEAD OF SCHOOL Dan Miller (left) and Mynde and Gary Siperstein

Chair will go towards the school's unrestricted endowment and towards future building projects. According to Head of School, Dan Miller, "the teaching chair represents a remarkable gesture of appreciation for the school's most valuable resource - its faculty. Gary and Mynde's extraordinary generosity is an

unprecedented investment in the future of this school. We couldn't be more thrilled."

The Siperstein gift is their-second \$1 million donation made in the past few months - the first gift was made to Tamarisk Assisted Living in Warwick, the new facility of the Jewish Seniors Agency.

I Marvel

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Philadelphia trip

From page 12

that this one trip is different, and has left me with many memories. This is a wonderful and unique three-day experience and teaches you many lessons in the process.

The Philadelphia Trip is for any Jewish teen in grades 8 through 12 and will take place from December 21st to 23rd. For more information or to sign up please contact Rich Walter, Director of Teen Education at the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island at 401-331-0956 or rwalter@bjeri.org.

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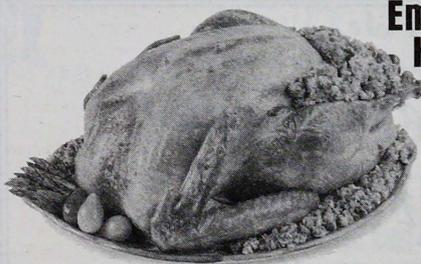
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USE YOUR CARD AND SAVE ON ITEMS ON THIS PAGE!

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Food for Hanukkah

Y'all can try Southern Sephardic hospitality, by making burekas this Hanukkah

By Linda Morel

JTA — "During our Hanukkah bazaar, we open our doors to the whole city," says Emily Amato, a member of Congregation Or VeShalom, an Atlanta synagogue with Sephardic roots.

She gushes as she describes its silent auction, the game-room arcade and the irresistible aroma of Sephardic cuisine, such as home-made Greek salads, marzipan and baklava.

"We cook for months ahead of time," says Amato, 82, who has worked on the bazaar since the fifties. The event is so large that starting before Rosh Hashanah, almost two dozen women meet every Tuesday in the synagogue's kitchen to prepare burekas, turnovers stuffed with cheese, potatoes, rice, eggplants, spinach and other vegetables.

Burekas are the signature dish of Jews from many Sephardic countries. Sinfully delicious, they are a bit labor-intensive to make, which is why people don't mind paying between \$15 and \$18 a dozen for this delicate pastry that the sisterhood women stockpile in the freezer during the months before Hanukkah.

Although the bazaar is a fund-raiser, the volunteer cooks do not charge the public for their labor, only the cost of ingredients.

"I buy my burekas at the bazaar," Amato says, laughing. "I don't have time to make them at home because I'm so busy preparing them every Tuesday."

Paying homage to a 24-hour supply of oil that stretched for eight days after the Maccabees miraculously defeated the Assyrians, the foods associated with Hanukkah are fried in oil.

Brown and crunchy potato latkes are at the heart of the Ashkenazi tradition. By contrast, many Sephardic Jews cherish burmuelos.

"Burmuelos are fritters, sort of like doughnuts — but not really," Amato says, describing the round ball of dough that has inspired a wide range of recipes, including some especially for Hanukkah.

Because Amato's family has lived in Atlanta for a century, Amato speaks with a lilting accent, as sweet as the syrup drizzled on Hanukkah burmuelos when they're pulled crisp from a pot of sizzling oil.

Seeking an education, Amato's father left the Greek Island of Rhodes shortly after the turn of the last century. At age 16, he went to Atlanta to join a brother who had moved there and set down roots.

When it came time to find a wife, Amato's father turned to the Jewish community of Rhodes. After exchanging letters and photographs with a young woman, he began a long-distance romance through the mail. Five years later, he married the lovely woman, who became Amato's mother.

Raised on olives and feta cheese, Amato's mother came to Georgia steeped in a cooking style considered exotic.

When Amato grew up and married, she missed foods from her mother's kitchen. Whenever she attempted to prepare a dish, she had to call home for the recipe. "I told myself — you can't keep doing this," she says. At some point, she began appreciating the value of the cuisine stored in her mother's head. She started jotting down her recipes.

Burekas (Turnovers)

- 2-1/2 cups water
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1 tsp. salt
- 8 cups self-rising flour (more if needed)
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 cup grated cheese
- No-stick vegetable spray

1. Bring water, oil, and salt to a boil. Remove from heat and quickly stir in flour, until consistency is that of soft pie dough. Knead until smooth, adding more flour, if needed.
2. Shape into walnut-sized balls. Place in bowl, covering with waxed paper.
3. Roll balls into flat ovals (3x4 inches). Fill each oval with 1 rounded tsp. of potato filling (recipe below).
4. Fold ovals into turnover shape and cut outer edges

- with rim of a glass. Brush tops lightly with egg and sprinkle with cheese.
 - 5. Coat baking pan with no-stick spray. Place Burekas on top and bake at 400 degrees for 30 minutes, or until brown.
- Yield: 60—70

Potato Filling:

- 3 lbs. potatoes, cooked and mashed
- 1/2 lb. cottage cheese, mashed
- 2—4 eggs
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tsp. salt

Mix ingredients together well, until fluffy.

Hanukkah Quick Burmuelos (fritters)

- 1 egg
- 1 cup milk
- 1-1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- Cooking oil for frying

1. Beat egg. Add milk and beat again. Mix together flour and baking powder and gradually add.

2. Fill a 2—quart pot with 3 inches of cooking oil. Heat until very hot. Careful to avoid spattering, drop batter by tablespoons into oil. When golden brown, remove with a slotted spoon. Pour syrup (recipe below) over Burmuelos.

Syrup:

- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup water
- Ground cinnamon, optional

1. Mix ingredients together. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until sticky. Pour over Burmuelos while hot. Sprinkle with cinnamon.

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How to Celebrate Chanukah

Kindle the Menorah on each of the eight nights of Chanukah. See below for the times, number of lights and the order of kindling. The Chanukah lights are kindled in the front window or by a doorway.

You may use olive oil or paraffin candles which are large enough to burn until half an hour after nightfall. Use the *shamash* (service candle) to kindle the lights and place it in its special place on the Menorah.

All members of the family should be present at the kindling of the Chanukah lights. Students and singles who live in a dormitory or in their own apartments, should kindle in their own rooms.

Friday afternoon, the Chanukah lights (which will burn until 1/2 hour after nightfall) are kindled **before** the Shabbat candles. The Menorah should not be relit, moved or prepared, from the time Shabbat candles are lit, until Shabbat ends and the *Havdalah* prayer is recited. After this time the Chanukah lights for Saturday are kindled.

Menorah Kindling Blessings *Before kindling the lights, recite:*

1. **Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hey-nu Me-lech Ha-o-lom A-she-r Ki-di-sha-nu Bi-mitz-vo-sov Vi-tzi-va-nu Li-had-lik Ner Cha-nu-kah.** Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by His commandments, and has commanded us to kindle the lights of Chanukah.
2. **Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hey-nu Me-lech Ha-o-lam She-a-sa Ni-sim La-a-vo-sey-nu Ba-ya-mim Ha-heim Bi-z'man Ha-zeh.** Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who wrought miracles for our fathers in days of old, at this season.

The following blessing is said only on the first evening (or the first time one kindles the lights this Chanukah):

3. **Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ha-o-lom She-he-cha-ya-nu Vi-ki-yi-ma-nu Vi-hi-gi-ya-nu Li-z'man Ha-zeh.** Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who has kept us alive, and has preserved us, and enabled us to reach this season.

2003 Menorah Kindling Calendar for Rhode Island

Nightfall..... 5:03 pm		Monday, Dec. 22
Shabbos Candle Lighting:		After Nightfall
Dec. 19, before 3:57 pm		Blessings No. 1 & 2
Dec. 26, before 4:01 pm		
Shabbos ends Dec. 20..... 5:03 pm		Tuesday, Dec. 23
		After Nightfall
		Blessings No. 1 & 2
		Wednesday, Dec. 24
Friday, Dec. 19		After Nightfall
<i>Before Lighting</i>		Blessings No. 1 & 2
Shabbat Candles,		Thursday, Dec. 25
Blessings No. 1, 2 & 3		After Nightfall
		Blessings No. 1 & 2
Saturday, Dec. 20		Friday, Dec. 26
<i>After Shabbat ends & Havdalah is recited</i>		<i>Before Lighting</i>
Blessings No. 1 & 2		Shabbat Candles,
		Blessings No. 1 & 2
Sunday, Dec. 21		
<i>After Nightfall</i>		
Blessings No. 1 & 2		

Chanukah calendar prepared courtesy of Chabad of Rhode Island

Hanukkah

THE MODERN JEWISH COOK

Helpful hints for latke making

By Zell Schulman

Hanukkah would not be Hanukkah without latkes. Some families like them thin and crispy, others like them thick and soft. There are those who make them with or without eggs, with fruits or other vegetables and those who think latkes can only be made with potatoes.

Today you can just heat and eat latkes. They're available in the freezer section of the supermarket or deli, but believe me, they're not the same. To make your own, these tips will make your pancakes perfect every time.



Latke Making Tips

1. Have all your ingredients ready and measured before starting to make your latkes.

2. If using fruits or vegetables, place them in a bowl, cover them with cold water and put in the refrigerator, for several hours or overnight. It makes them easier to grate.

3. Add a dash of lemon juice or ascorbic acid to the water. This prevents discoloration.

4. Dry the vegetables or fruits thoroughly before grating.

5. A food processor is wonderful for grating your vegetables. Use the medium grater blade. A blender or regular grater may also be used.

6. When preparing your pan, don't heat the oil higher than 375 degrees.

7. Turn the pancakes only once when browning or they may become soggy and greasy. Of

course if you like them that way, forget this tip.

8. For those watching their weight or cholesterol, use a non-stick pan or a non-stick spray. Substitute 2 egg whites for each whole egg called for in the recipe.

9. Don't drain the oil from the latkes if you plan to freeze and re-heat them later.

10. If freezing latkes, place them in a single layer on a lightly greased cookie sheet and place in the freezer for 2 hours. Remove from the freezer, then from the cookie sheets with a slotted pancake turner and place them in Zip-Loc bags. They'll freeze up to one month.

11. When ready to re-heat the latkes, remove the number you need and place in a single layer on a cookie sheet in a pre-heated 400-degree oven for 5 to 10 minutes.

12. If feeding a crowd, serve the latkes on a large platter where they won't need to be piled one on top of the other. They get soft and soggy. Pass the preserves, applesauce, sour cream and caviar. Enjoy!

Party Potato Latkes

Makes approximately 4 to 5 dozen.

These can be prepared ahead of time and frozen. The sage and thyme add great flavor. The trick is to have everything measured and ready to go before grating the potatoes. I grate all the potatoes using the largest grater blade on my food processor. It's important to drain as much excess liquid as you can from the grated potatoes. Place them in a linen towel and twist the towel, allowing all the liquid to drain out.

Ingredients:

- 5 pounds baking potatoes, peeled
- 3 medium onions, peeled
- 3 large eggs, lightly beaten with 2 teaspoons of salt
- 3 tablespoons potato starch or cornstarch
- 2 tablespoons freshly chopped sage or 1 tablespoon dried
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme or 1-1/2 teaspoons dried
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- Vegetable oil for frying

Directions:

1. Place the potatoes in a medium bowl. Cover with cold water. Add the onions and set aside until ready to grate.

2. In a 4-cup measure, add the eggs and salt. In a small bowl, place the potato starch or cornstarch, sage and thyme.

3. Remove the potatoes and onions from the water, dry with paper towels. Cut the onion into quarters. Coarsely shred the pota-

toes and onion, alternately, using the large holes on a hand grater or in your food processor. The onion keeps the potato from turning dark.

4. Place the grated potatoes and onion in a tea towel or colander and squeeze out or press out as much liquid as possible. Set in a large bowl. Fold in the eggs, starch, sage, thyme and pepper. Mix well.

5. Coat two large, non-stick skillets with a thin film of oil. Heat over medium-high heat. For each latke drop about 1/4 cup of batter into the skillet. Flatten a little with the back of a large spoon. Fry until golden brown and crisp on the outside edges, about 3 to 4 minutes each side, turning the latkes only once.

6. Remove and drain on paper towels. While preparing the next batch of latkes, place the fried latkes in a single layer, on a baking sheet and keep warm in a 200-degree oven until all the latkes are finished. Serve with applesauce, sour cream and caviar.

Note: The less liquid in the batter, the crispier the latkes. If your family likes their latkes thick, add an extra egg to the batter. To freeze the latkes, don't drain the oil from them. Place in a single layer on a baking sheet in the freezer for 2 hours. Remove and place in a plastic airtight bag. When ready to serve, preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Place the latkes in a single layer on a baking sheet and bake for 5 to 8 minutes, or until crisp and bubbling. Drain on paper towels and serve with applesauce or sour cream.

Zell Schulman is the author of several cookbooks. Her most recent cookbook, "Passover Seders Made Simple" (John Wiley, 2001), was written as a guide for intermarried families and those who have never made a Passover Seder.

Play a dreidel game that's out of this world

BabagaNewz, the award-winning magazine for 4th through 7th graders published by Jewish Family & Life and the AVI CHAI Foundation, has just announced the release of Dreidel 6000, a free online dreidel game for Hanukkah.

The game can be found at www.babaganewz.com. Just click

on the Dreidel 6000 icon on the home page.

The object of this space-themed game is to collect the most space rocks, and the winner gets a special bonus — a victory space walk.

The dreidel game is played with four players, but Dreidel 6000 will create and spin for "virtual" players if there are fewer people available.



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From

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Bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the RI Food Bank.

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Hanukkah

Bounty of books on the shelves for Hanukkah

By Judith S. Greenblatt

It's almost Hanukkah, a good time to think about choosing books for presents. Popular books for this year include:

The Burning Light by Betsy Ramsay. Pitspopany, 2002.

Books about Hanukkah that will please the nine-to-fourteen-year-old crowd are hard to come by. This one, about two Israeli children, has elements that are sure to please them. It involves a boy and a girl, who are equally heroic. It involves time travel - always popular. And it involves Judah Maccabee, who puts Galit, eleven and a half, and Gidon, nine, in positions of responsibility.

What more could a young teen want? Transported back to Modin just in time for Mattathias to refuse to make a sacrifice, they get to stay and fight with the Maccabees until the Temple is retaken, and the famous jar of oil is found. While some of the action requires suspension of belief, this won't be a problem for the young people at which it is aimed. The fast paced action will keep them reading.

Two new books for younger children this year are:

Lots of Latkes: A Hanukkah Story by Sandy Lanton. Illustrated by Vicki Jo Redenbaugh. Kar-Ben, 2003.

In spite of being sold, the publisher Kar-Ben continues to bring us delightful books.

This one features a Hanukkah dinner, to which each invited guest is supposed to bring something different. Of course, things don't work out that way, but everyone has a good time singing, playing with dreidels, and

eating!

The book has cartoon illustrations, and will be great to read aloud if the kids are at the four-year-old end of the recommended age, rather than the eight-year-old end.

This is the Dreidel by Abby Levine. Illustrated by Paige Billin-Frye. Albert Whitman, 2003.

The story of Hanukkah is told here in rhyme. Each step the children take to prepare for the holiday provides the opportunity to learn more, including the blessings over the candles. The illustrations here are vibrantly colored.

Don't forget about these oldies but goodies for older children:

The Christmas Revolution by Barbara Cohen. Dell, 1987.

When Simeon, the new boy in the fourth grade, decides he's not going to sing Christmas carols, Emily and Sally, twins, have one of their rare fights. Intermediate.

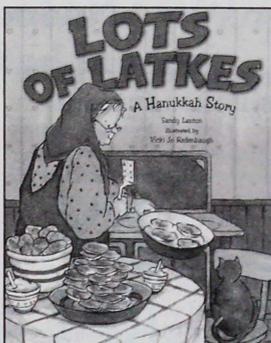
The Christmas Menorahs: How A Town Fought Hate, by Janice Cohn. Albert Whitman, 1995.

The story of the reaction of the town of Billings, Montana, to an anti-Semitic incident. Intermediate.

Jason's Miracle: A Hanukkah Story by Beryl Lieff Benderly. Albert Whitman, 2000.

Jason is frustrated because his father will not let him celebrate Christmas at all. A time-warp trip to Maccabean times changes his perspective. Intermediate.

The Borrowed Hanukkah Latkes by Linda Glaser. Whit-



man, 2001.

Mrs. Greenberg always refuses Rachel's invitation to join her family for Hanukkah dinner, until one year Rachel's mother runs out of potatoes. If she borrows her potatoes, will Mrs. Greenberg come for dinner? Rachel wonders. Pre-primary.

Hanukkah: A Counting Book in English, Hebrew and Yiddish by Emily Sper. Cartwheel Books, 2001.

Symbols of Hanukkah are stunningly presented, along with numbers one through eight in English, Hebrew and Yiddish. Pri/int.

A Hanukkah Treasury by Eric A. Kimmel. Holt, 1998.

Colorful collection of Hanukkah stories, songs, poetry, recipes, and legends. Pre/int.

Sandy Spider's First Hanukkah by Sylvia Ross. Kar-Ben, 1993.

Colors, numbers, Hanukkah and the repetition children love are all part of the story.

Judith S. Greenblatt is the Director of Library Services, at the Bureau of Jewish Education of R.I.

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Nuances of Hanukkah story should be kept alive — and changed

By Rabbi Brad Hirschfield

JTA — The oldest tradition of Hanukkah is that it celebrates many stories: freedom from religious oppression, Jews fighting back against their oppressors and the communal struggle about what it means to be and live as a Jew. It is the story of unexpected fuel found in unexpected places, providing light to an entire nation — and it is the story of miracles and redemption in moments of darkness and despair.

These stories have been told in many languages: Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic, Latin, Yiddish and English. They've been told by every kind of Jew, and even by non-Jews, from almost every nation on the face of the earth.

They are tales of a people on a journey looking for ways to confront the challenges that lay before them, and celebrating the victories they experience along the way.

However, in American Jewish life, Hanukkah is often described as the story of the Jewish fight against assimilation. Judah Maccabee and his forces arose to defeat their Hellenistic persecutors. The underlying premise of this telling is the presumption of a pure Judaism struggling against external influences that would pollute it. Like most stories about the fight against assimilation, there is a false dichotomy in this retelling between Judaism and the larger world. The complexity and nuance that have defined Jewish life in every age are removed from the story.

Ironically, the Hanukkah story, with its many tellings, preserves those nuances better than almost any other holiday in Jewish tradition. It celebrates a variety of ways to be Jewish — ways which have changed

through the generations, the challenges and the times.

Whether in ancient times after the destruction of the Temple, when God felt very far away and the rabbis told the story to help bring God back or in more recent history, when early Zionists told the story in ways that emboldened them to return to the Land of Israel, our tellings of the Hanukkah story have invited new interpretations, questions and meanings, each helping a generation of Jews rise to the challenge of its moment in history. In fact, the richness of Jewish tradition is its remarkable capacity to embody many forms of Jewish expression. Failing to recognize this on Hanukkah would be truly absurd.

On a holiday that reminds us, among many things, of the danger of idolatry, we dare not turn Jewish identity into an idol. Anything can be an idol, including the definition of what it means to be Jewish. Idolatry is what happens whenever we falsely make absolute what is by definition infinite. In telling of the fight against idolatry, we must be careful not to turn our own tradition into an idol — presuming a static definition of what it means to be Jewish and how to contribute to the future of the Jewish people.

While no one can say what Jewish life will look like in the future, we need to continue the oldest tradition of Hanukkah by inviting people to enter the process of creating that future. After 2,000 years of playing dreidel, a game of chance that epitomizes the precariousness of Jewish life, we now have an unprecedented opportunity to play a new kind of game — one that reflects the blessings, challenges, and possibilities of this moment in Ameri-

can Jewish life.

Contrary to much in Jewish life, this is a game that everyone can play and win. Here is how it works:

Answer these questions by telling your own story, based on your own experience. For each question, try to find an answer that describes something you think of as typically Jewish, and a second that describes something you don't think of as typically Jewish. There are no wrong or right answers.

• Which foods or meals evoke Jewish associations for you?

• In what places have you been where you felt particularly Jewish?

• On what occasions did you feel very Jewish?

• Who is a "real Jewish hero" for you? (That person doesn't have to be a Jew.)

• What makes your relationships Jewish?

• Bonus question: Is there something important in your life that you really wish was a part of what you usually think of as being Jewish?

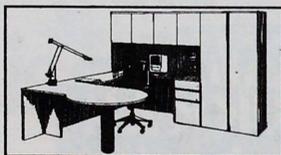
To score, give yourself one point for each question for which you can give at least one answer. Since each question can be answered for both expected and unexpected circumstances, the maximum score for the five questions is 10. Adding the bonus question for three points, the maximum score is 13.

Actually, forget the points. What counts is not numbers, but being in the game. If you play, you win. The only way to lose this game is not to play at all.

Rabbi Brad Hirschfield is the vice president of CLAL-The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership.

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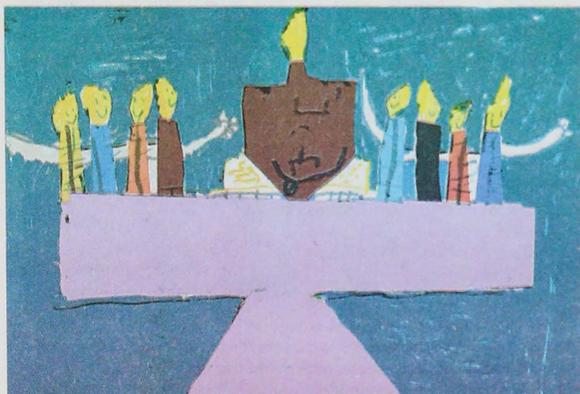


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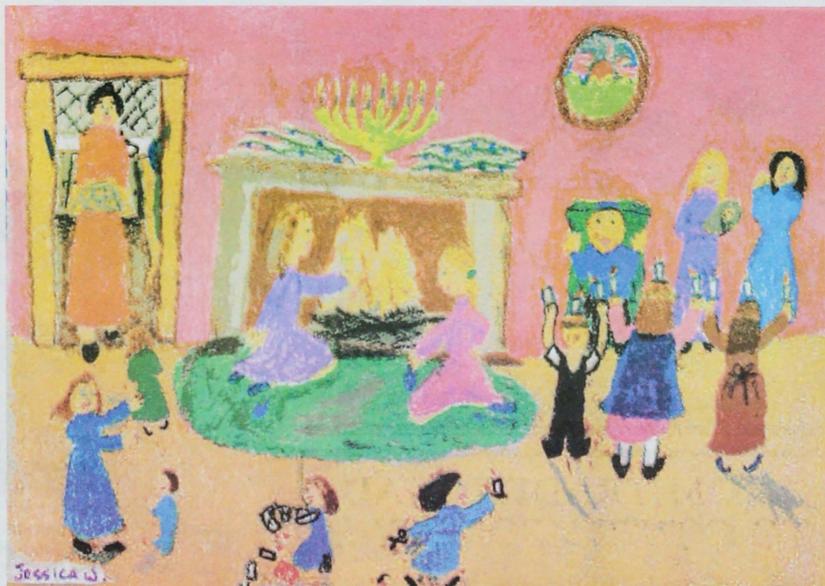
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Hanukkah Art Contest Winners

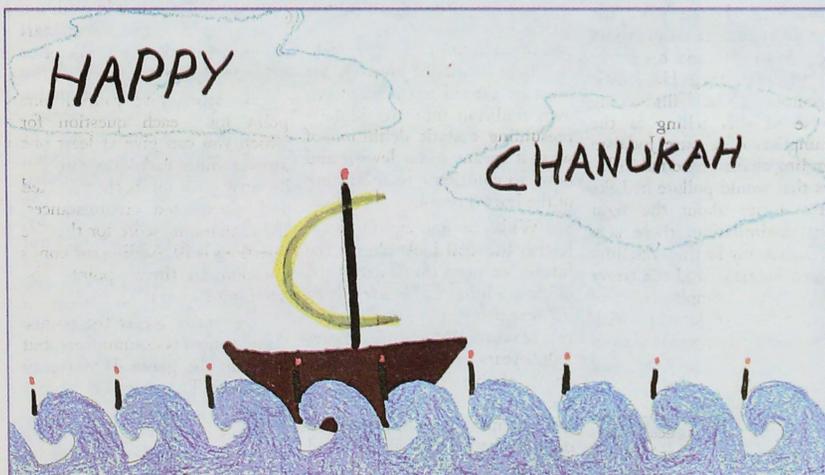
Congratulations to all of our Jewish Voice & Herald Hanukkah contest winners and entrants! This year's contest had 110 entries from all over Rhode Island. Artwork and prizes can be collected on Dec. 18, 5:30 p.m. at a special Hanukkah party at the Jewish Community Center, 401 Elmgrove Avenue, Providence.



THIRD PLACE, 4-6 age group, Emmett Elsas, age 6, Providence



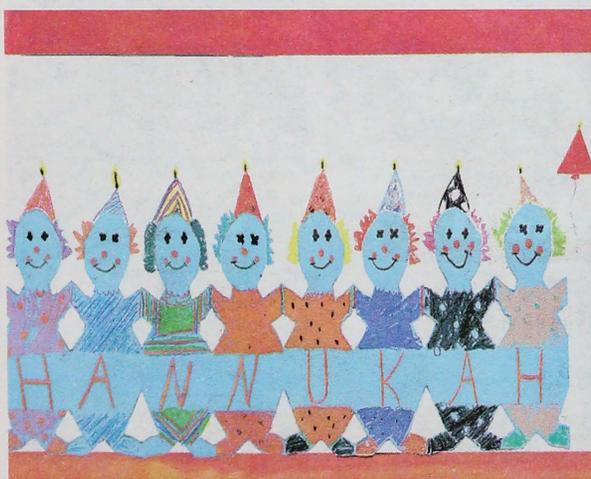
FIRST PLACE, 10-13 AGE GROUP: Jessica Waterman, age 12, Warwick



FIRST PLACE, 7-9 age group: Yair Strachman, age 9, Providence



SECOND PLACE, 7-9 age group: Max Cavas, age 9, Pawtucket



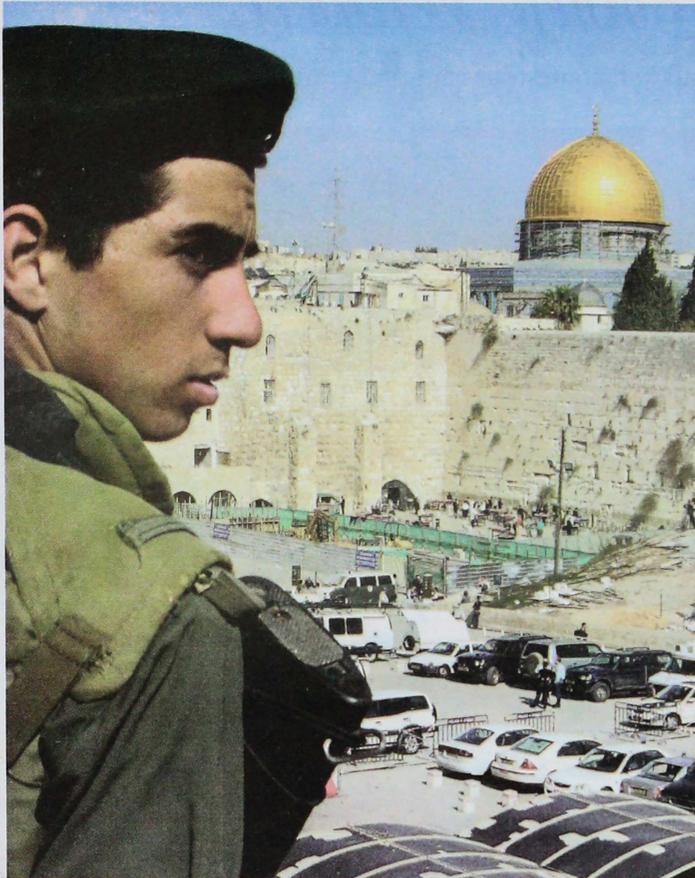
FOURTH PLACE, 7-9 age group: Ezra Felder, age 8, Providence



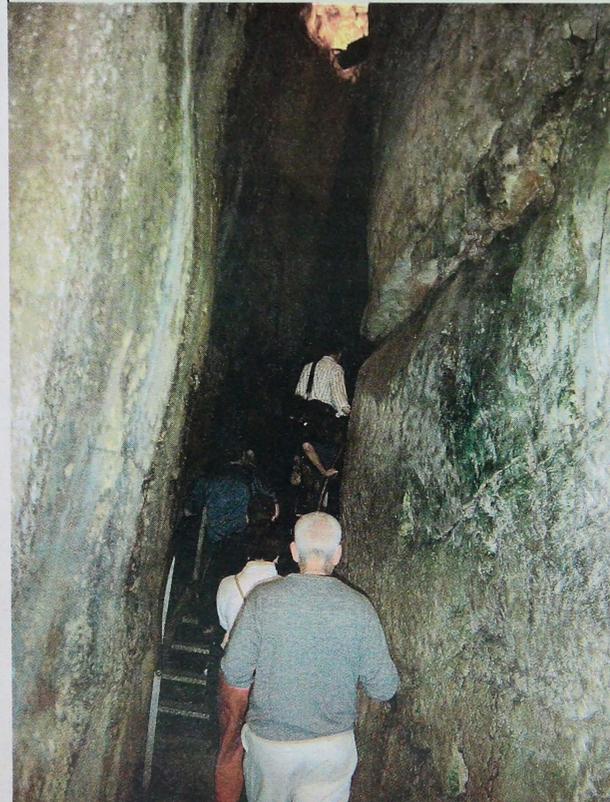
SECOND PLACE, 10-13 age group: Sonia Felder, age 11, Providence

See more HANUKKAH ART, page 22

Israel Scrapbook



HIGH (HOLY) ALERT — An IDF soldier stands guard outside the Western Wall in Jerusalem Nov. 14. The Israeli military brought out 250 paratroopers to stand guard beside the wall for the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. No incidents were reported.



BETWEEN A ROCK... Rhode Island travelers walk inside a tunnel in an excavated portion of the Western Wall in Jerusalem. The excavation goes on for hundreds of yards beneath the Arab Quarter.

It was a brief journey, but a powerful one. Forty-nine Rhode Islanders made a journey to Israel last month, and here are some of the things we saw. Photos by Jonathan Rubin



MEMBERS OF THE RHODE ISLAND group show support during a United Jewish Community's 6,000 person march through the streets. From left are: Judith Ann Tenenbaum, of Pawtucket, Roohi Radparvar, of Providence, Dr. Howard Mintz, of Providence, Stanley Grossman, of Providence, Adelina Azevedo Axelrod, of Warwick, and Ellie Elbaum, of Providence.



ISRAELI WOMEN waiting at a bus stop wave as the parade moves by. Many Jerusalem shopkeepers stopped what they were doing to watch the people go by; some handed out fruits and desserts, and one woman took a shofar from her Judaica shop and gave it a mighty

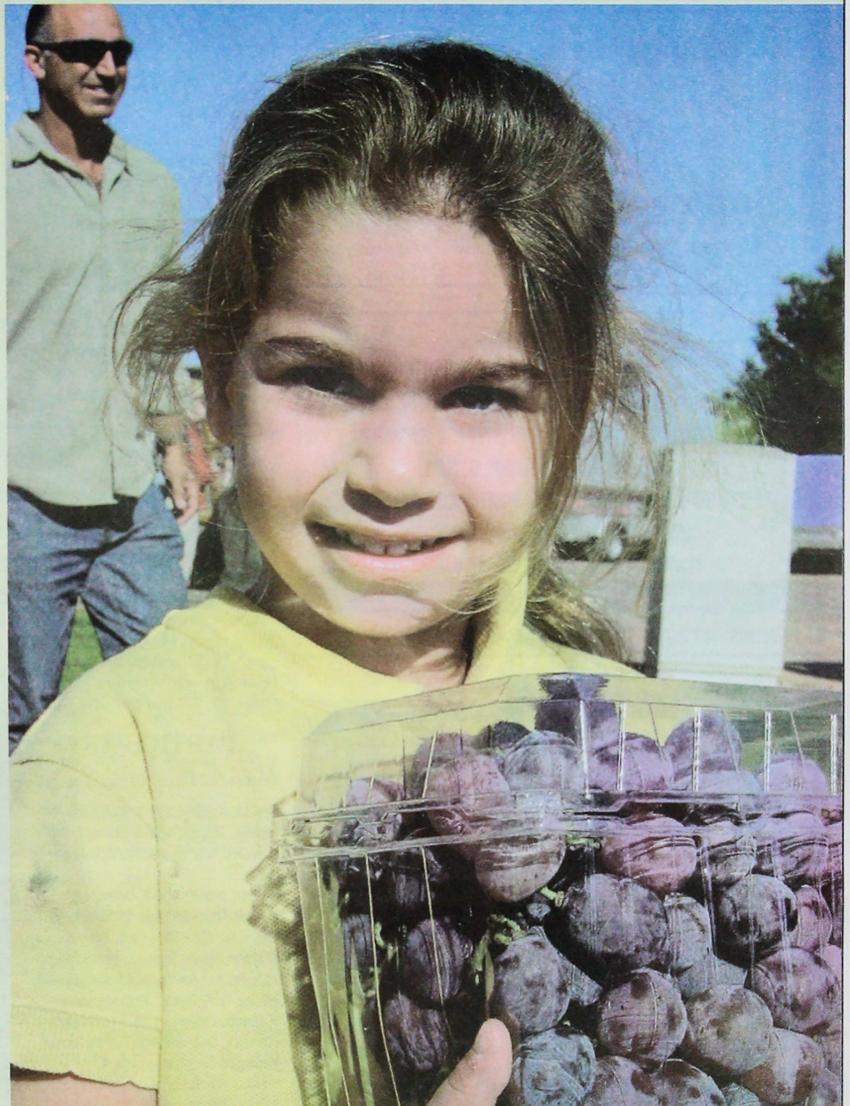


BRING THEM BACK — Ethiopian Jews display photos of loved ones who await transfer to Israel. More than 40,000 Ethiopian Jews have been transferred to Israel to date in order to escape from anti-Semitism, war, famine, or to pursue a better life.

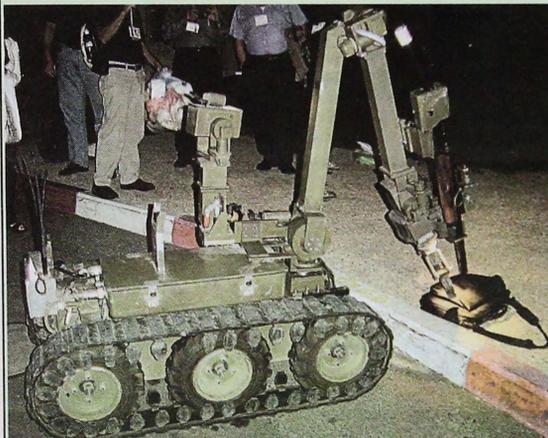
Israel Scrapbook



SHARP DIVISIONS — Members of the Southern New England Consortium look out from the Israeli city of Afula into the West Bank from high atop a plateau. The barbed wire surrounds a guard tower behind them.



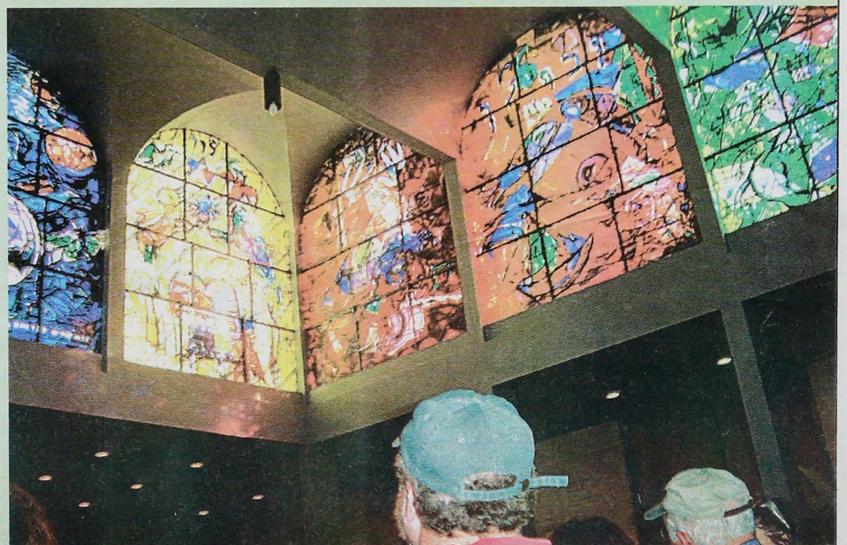
FRUITS OF LABOR — A 6-year-old girl from the Sheqef moshav (agricultural community) in the Negev desert presents freshly picked grapes to American visitors. These farmlands and vineyards were created by the Jewish Agency more than 40 years ago, and Diaspora funds continue to provide \$60,000 loans for new farmers. The loans are interest-free for 10 years.



DISARMING TECHNIQUE — A bomb-disabling robot gives a demonstration on a laptop computer outside Ha'Emek Medical Center in Afula. The \$120,000 robot was designed by an Israeli / American collaboration and is one of 14 in the country. The robot moves on tank treads and has lights and sensors on its extendable arm, in addition to a shotgun used to detonate devices. Editor's note: That's my laptop that the shotgun is pressed against.



MISSION-GOERS were able to take a tour of the Israeli tank museum in Latrun. From left: David and Esta Yavner, Selma Stanzler, Patricia Blake, Milton Stanzler, Grace Beiser, Holly Silverman, Judith Ann Tenenbaum, David Leach and Meyer Goldstein.



WONDROUS WINDOWS — Rhode Islanders glance upward at the Chagall windows which adorn the sanctuary at Hadassah Hospital in Ein Kerem. The twelve windows, which depict the 12 tribes of Israel and facets of Jewish history, were donated by the artist.

Happy Hanukkah

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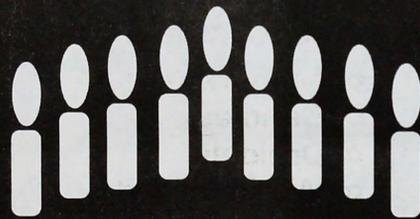


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Hanukkah Art Contest Winners

WINNERS

AGES 4-6

First place: Yitzchok Jacobowitz; age 6, Providence
Second place: Maxwell Blum; age 6, Cranston
Third place: Emmett Elsas; age 6, Providence
Fourth place: Amanda Levinson; age 6, No. Smithfield

AGES 7-9

First place: Yair Strachman; age 9, Providence
Second place: Max Cavas; age 9, Pawtucket
Third place: Shira Kinsky; age 7, Pawtucket
Fourth place: Ezra Felder; age 8, Providence

AGES 10-13

First place: Jessica Waterman; age 12, Warwick
Second Place: Sonia Felder; age 11, Providence
Third place: Max Bessler; age 11, Providence
Fourth place: Arianna Weinschel; age 10, So. Dartmouth, Mass.

PARTICIPANTS

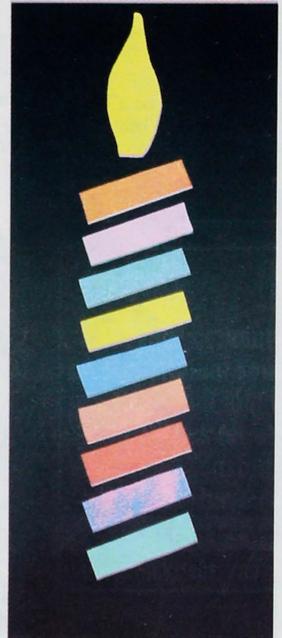
AGES 4-6

Baron, Ashley; age 6, Kingstown
Benun, Emma; age 4, Lincoln
Bessler, Tali; age 6, Providence
Bessler, Talia; age 6, Providence
Cohen, Noah; age 4, Cranston
Felder, Raphael; age 4, Providence
Gavrilov, Gabriel; age 6, Providence
Golden, Rochel; age 5, Providence
Haldorsen; Akiva; age 5, Pawtucket
Hirsh, Tzvi; age 6, Providence
Kapach, Zohar; age 6, Providence
Krinsky, Shalom; age 5, Pawtucket
Krueger, Stephanie; age 4, No. Kingstown
Lapin, Rochel; age 6, Providence
Lapin, Yehuda; age 5, Providence
Martin, Shaina; age 6, Providence
Rosenfield, Chana; age 6, Providence
Saklad, Yanky; age 6, Providence
Shuman, Paltiel; age 5, Pawtucket
Stukalov, Ronit; age 6, Providence
Taitelbaum, Chaya; age 6, Providence
Weiner, Avigdor; age 5, Providence
Weisman, Rivka; age 5, Providence

AGES 7-9

Baver, Eliahu; age 7, Providence

Baver, Nechama; age 8, Providence
Botwick, Zachary; age 9, Greenwich
Carriera, Jeffrey; age 8, Dartmouth, Mass.
Cavas, Sam; age 9, Pawtucket
Diamond, Ruchama; age 8, Providence
Elsas, Robert; age 7, Providence
Firlit, Mayal; age 8, New Bedford, Mass.
Forstadt, Shai; age 8, Providence
Fownes, Thomas; age 9, Providence
Fownes, Tom; age 9, Cumberland
Fradin, Sam; age 9, Greenwich
Gabrilowitz, Rachel; age 8, Cranston
Glazer, Jennifer; age 9, Providence
Glazer, Matthew; age 7, Providence
Greengart, Ariela; age 8, Pawtucket
Haldorsen, Eli; age 7, Pawtucket
Haldorsen, Blima; age 8, Pawtucket
Horstmann, Allegra; age 8, Marion, Mass.
Isaacs, Jeremy; age 8, Dartmouth, Mass.
Jaffe, Molly; age 9, Barrington
Jakubowicz, Yisocho; age 8, Providence
Kapach, Avichai; age 8, Providence
Katz, Benjamin; age 8, Dartmouth, Mass.
Kaufman, Aviva; age 9, Sharon, Mass.
Kessler, Arianna; age 7, No. Attleboro
Kestenbaum, Jamie; age 7, No. Dartmouth, Mass.
Kirsch, Sam; age 9, Providence
Klein, Jacob; age 8, Providence
Krueger, Lauren; age 7, No. Kingstown
Laborio, Fay; age 9, West Warwick
Levinson, Abbie; age 7, Dartmouth, Mass.
Litein, Jessica; age 9, Providence
Maoz, Oz; age 8, No. Smithfield
Merhoff, Rachael; age 7, Providence
Monat, Yoni; age 7, Sharon, Mass.
Novick, Noah; age 8, Wareham, Mass.
Raskin, Eliyahu; age 9, Providence
Raskin, Esther; age 7, Providence
Rechester, Nehama; age 7, Sharon, Mass.
Rich, Samantha; age 9, Providence
Rolston, Charlotte; age 7, Dartmouth, Mass.
Rosenbaum, Joshua; age 8, Providence
Rosenfield, Aryeh; age 8, Providence
Schechter, Avi; age 8, Providence
Elsas, Oren; age 9, Providence
Sherman, Matthew; age 8, Dartmouth, Mass.
Strachman, Benjamin; age 7, Providence
Taitelbaum, Devorah; age 7, Providence
Taitelbaum, Sorah; age 9, Providence
Theis, Connor; age 8, Somerset, Mass.

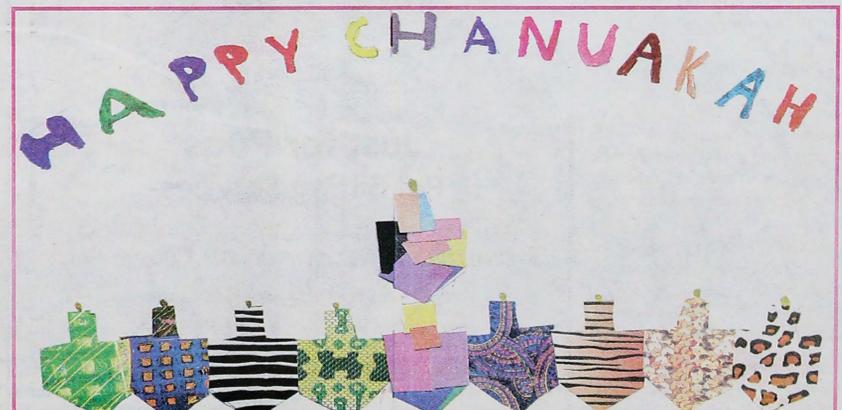


SECOND PLACE, 10-13 age group: Sonia Felder, age 11, Providence

Van Noppen, Charlotte; age 9, Providence
Weiner, Binyomin; age 9, Providence
Weiner, Spencer; age 9, Pawtucket
Weiner, Yisroel; age 7, Providence
Weisman, Dovid; age 9, Providence
Weiss, Naomi; age 9, Providence
Winokor, Simon; age 9, Providence
Yudkowsky, Adena; age 7, Providence

AGE 10-13

Baum, Lyza; age 10, Cranston
Diamond, Chana; age 10, Providence
Dugas, Jesse; age 12, No. Smithfield
Fernald, Abby; age 10, Millville, Mass.
Gossow, Aniko; age 10, Providence
Haldorsen, Yaakov; age 10, Pawtucket
Hirschberg, Max; age 10, Pascoag
Jacobowicz, Azriel; age 11, Providence
Klein, Shoshana; age 10, Providence
Maoz, Tom; age 11, No. Smithfield
Martinez, Eliezer; age 10, Providence
Noorparvar, Ariel; age 10, Pawtucket
Petroni, Caroline; age 11, Glendale
Schechter, Aaron; age 11, Providence
Stark, Jacob; age 10, Providence
Strachman, Joseph; age 10, Providence



Shira Krinsky, age 7, grade 2, Pawtucket

Interfaith families wrestle with role of Christmas

From page 1

commitment Jim says the couple has "tweaked" to raise their two daughters as Jews.

"We have a Jewish home, and I happen to be a Protestant dad," he says. When it comes to Christmas, he says, the girls "realize it's not their religion; it's mine... it's like celebrating someone else's birthday."

While that arrangement may strike some intermarriage critics as convoluted at best and simplistic at worst, it reflects a reality of American Jewish life.

Interfaith families are negotiating paths they believe are creating new types of Jewish households. How, exactly, these families are changing American Jewish life culturally and religiously remains is the subject of intense debate.

"We haven't watered down the Jewish population; I've brought two new Jews into the world," Jim says, reflecting a widespread view among intermarried Jews.

Nearly half of the nation's recently married Jews, or 47 percent, married non-Jews in the past five years, up 4 percent from a decade ago, according to the most recent National Jewish Population Survey. Of all American Jews married today, one-third, or 1.6 million, are wed to non-Jews, according to the study. The National Jewish Outreach Institute, which promotes bringing uninvolved and disaffected Jews into the Jewish community, says if the current intermarriage rate continues, American Jewry soon will be dominated by interfaith couples.

Since demographers discovered in the 1970s that intermarriage was rising, Jews have argued over whether to fight the trend or embrace intermarried couples and encourage conversion or increased Jewish activity.

Intermarriage largely begets assimilation. Only a minority of interfaith couples — 33 percent — are raising their children as Jews, up 2 percent from a decade earlier, according to the NJPS 2000-01.

"Studies show that families in which there is not a competing religion are more likely to have children who identify as Jewish by religion," says Sylvia Barack Fishman, a Brandeis University professor who has studied interfaith families.

Barack Fishman, author of a soon-to-be-published book on how interfaith families negotiate the ethnic and religious character of their homes, says that having a Christmas tree in an otherwise Jewish home qualifies as conflicting religious behavior. Still, she says, the predominance of Jewish activity means

the family is likely "hedging their bets" that their children will identify as Jews. Often, lost in the facts and figures of the debate are the complexities of interfaith life, especially for those committed to raising a Jewish family.

Dozens of interfaith couples recently penned essays for a contest called "We're Interfaith Families... Connecting With Jewish Life," run by Interfaithfamily.com, a support network for intermarried seeking a Jewish life. The essays proved insightful into some

synagogue newsletter, Alexandra goes to religious school on Shabbat, and the family belongs to a chavurah, or informal study group. The family also celebrates Shabbat and the major holidays, and Gary is teaching his daughter Hebrew to help ease her future Bat Mitzvah studies.

When the Goldhammers visit Christine's family for Christmas, Gary says he tells Alexandra, "It's a holiday we celebrate with grandma and grandpa."

"We haven't watered down the Jewish population; I've brought two new Jews into the world," Jim says, reflecting a widespread view among intermarried Jews.

of the challenges faced by interfaith families.

Gary Goldhammer, 37, of Tustin, Calif., won first prize in the "Raising Jewish Children" category of the contest for his piece, "The Letter," a missive to his dead father.

Goldhammer was raised in Conservative and Reform synagogues, and 13 years ago he married a Lutheran woman from St. Louis. Before their wedding, his wife Christine declared without his prodding that they would raise their children as Jews.

Three years later they joined a Reconstructionist congregation, United Synagogue in Irvine, and five years ago they had a daughter, Alexandra.

Now Christine produces the

Christine has not converted, because, she says, she still believes in Jesus. Christine's parents also give their granddaughter an occasional gift with Christian overtones, such as a doll with a portrait to Jesus on it.

In part, Gary says, he is immersing his daughter in Judaism in the hopes "she'll be less inclined to explore" Christianity.

Meanwhile, Gary believes Alexandra is Jewish, not because of her DNA, as he wrote in his essay, but for her "spirit and belief."

When it comes to Alexandra's future, Gary jokes he will tell his daughter to "Do as I say, not as I do" when considering intermarriage.

"The bigger issue is to be a good person — everything else is a detail," Gary says.

It took years for Rosemary DiDio Brehm and her husband Bill to work out the details of their religious lives, including how to celebrate the holidays.

The Brehms and their two daughters, Stephanie, 16, and Danielle, 15, of Tampa, Fla., belong to Congregation Beth Am, a Reform synagogue. The girls go to Hebrew school and participate in the temple youth group. The family celebrates the major Jewish holidays.

But the family also belongs to St. Timothy's Catholic Church, where they attend Easter and Christmas mass.

While Rosemary is active

both in the church and the synagogue, her husband and daughters view the Catholic rites simply "as a respectful neighbor, as opposed to a belief system," Rosemary says.

In one month, they will decorate their house with Christmas lights and a tree with "non-religious" decorations, as well as Chanukah decorations and a menorah.

Yet her daughters do not try to equate Christmas and Chanukah.

"They realize the High Holidays and Passover are more important," says Rosemary. "I'm wondering if we're not an interfaith family, but a multifamily," she says.

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Arts Review

RISD museum showing centennial Siskind exhibit

By Marylyn Graff

The Museum of Art at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) has mounted an exhibit of the photography of Aaron Siskind to commemorate his 100th birthday. The RISD exhibit is in conjunction with shows in Chicago, Tucson, Houston, Los Angeles and New York City, as well as internationally.

Conceived and organized by Jan Howard, Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs at the museum, the black and white photos are strikingly displayed against a muted gray-green background, progressing through his change of vision from realism to

the abstract.

Aaron Siskind was born in 1903 in New York City of Russian-Jewish immigrant parents and educated at the City College of New York, which turned out so many remarkable contributors to the arts, letters and sciences in 20th century America. He was especially drawn to music and poetry, which helped develop his later sense of structure and composition. A schoolteacher, he spent much of his life in New York, with summer forays to Martha's Vineyard, Gloucester, Mass., and later to Arizona.

He taught photography at the Art Institute of Chicago for 20

years before he came to Providence for a five-year period of teaching at RISD, and remained here until his death 15 years later in 1991. He was dedicated to the museum and a strong influence in its development of photography as art, as well as its recognition in Rhode Island.

A chance gift of a camera as a wedding present started Siskind on his lifelong journey as a photographic artist. Associating with the Film and Photo League in the 1930s, a left-wing group advocating social justice, he began by taking pictures of everyday life reflecting the hardships of the great depression.

With the influx of painters escaping from Nazi persecution and the advent of the World War 11, Siskind was exposed to surrealism, in which artists were trying to understand the causes of evil by delving into the human subconscious. Much influenced by the work of the painters Gottleib, Rothko and Newman, he turned to creating surreal images of ordinary objects. The museum has displayed some works of these artists nearby to show their influence on his work.

The social action associates of Siskind's earlier period were seriously displeased with these radical changes. However, his inner drive kept him experiment-



SELF PORTRAIT —Aaron Siskind self portrait, taken in Gloucester, Mass., in 1944. The gelatin silver print belongs to the Princeton University Art Museum

See next page

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Congressman Patrick Kennedy
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RISD Siskind exhibit

From page 24

ing and developing his extraordinary eye, which could put meaning into a decaying architectural detail or a bit of seaweed. In Martha's Vineyard he became fascinated with the Victorian architectural detail of the Methodist camp meeting community. In Gloucester and other places, he makes symbols of empty gloves and pieces of deteriorating fence. He often does not title the work but leaves it to the viewer to decide its meaning.

Groups of rocks become abstractions, always in a careful composition. Sometimes he arranged his compositions and sometimes he happened upon them.

Siskind's work followed a natural progression to abstract expressionism, in which objects lose their immediate identity, as a tangled piece of seaweed. In Arizona, he photographed the native saguaro cacti and the aridity of stones.

The exhibit also includes, down a few steps, a display of the Museum's permanent collection and a VCR of Siskind discussing his work. In the main exhibit, especially at the start and end, are quotes of his, well worth the few moments it takes to read them.

Marylyn Graff is a copy editor at *The Jewish Voice & Herald*.

General Assembly

From page 11

confirms continued support for aliyah from the FSU and revival of Jewish life on the ground."

Resolution #2: Continuing Support of Argentine Jewry — Combat the economic and social upheaval in Argentina, provide material support for emergency needs, assist in aliyah, support job creation programs, provide educational stability, and provide support for leadership and professional training, and community restructuring

Resolution #3: Global Anti-Semitism — "We support the efforts of national agencies, multilateral organizations, the U.S. Government and foreign governments to promote tolerance and public education efforts, coordinate monitoring, and implement police training and hate crimes legislation."

Resolution #4: Solidarity With Israel — Keep Israel a high priority and to keep intensely involved in her aid by offering "material and moral support."

Resolution #5: Keep U.S. Israel programs strong — Programs in Israel have traditionally been strong identity builders in Jewish youth, but have waned due to the intifada. These programs should be reemphasized, and marketing enhancements, subsidies, and local resources must be enhanced.

Resolution #6: Travel To Israel — It was asked that "all GA participants make an individual and collective commitment to resume regular travel to Israel."

Resolution #7: Overseas Needs — The UJC should "increase its efforts in the advocacy for allocations in support of overseas needs... maintain partnerships with overseas providers -- the Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committeee."

What: Interior Drama: Aaron Siskind's Photographs of the 1940s, two other exhibitions celebrating centenary of Siskind's birth.

Where: Museum of Art at RISD, 224 Benefit St., Providence.

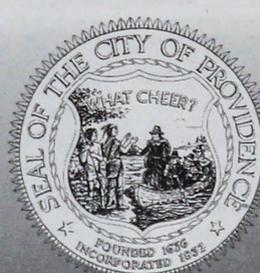
When: Now through Jan. 25.

Hours + Admission: Tues.-Sun., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; third Thursday monthly until 9 p.m.; adults \$6; senior citizens (age 62+) \$5; youths (ages 5-18) \$2; college students with valid ID \$3. Free Sunday, 10 a.m. to 1p.m.; 5 to 9 p.m. on the third Thursday monthly; Friday, 12 to 1:30pm; and for Free-For-All Saturdays (last Saturday of the month)

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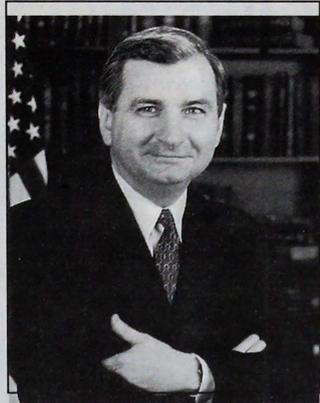


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Rabbis

From page 1

hours, with an intensity that had him sweating and occasionally shouting. He had a laundry list of what he felt were Israeli human rights abuses against the Palestinians, including uprooting olive trees in non-combat areas, water bans, and a "catch 22" Palestinian housing situation, where building permits are not granted even to the most law-abiding Arabs, and any houses that are built are demolished.

Ascherman has stood before bulldozers and has been beaten by both Jews and Arabs during his travels in the territories, and says when it comes to injustices in Israel, "you need to see it to believe it."

As a rabbi, he feels that Judaism has a strong foundation in social action, and quoted from Deuteronomy: "Tzedek, tzedek tirdof" — "justice, justice ye shall pursue," along with the belief in loving thy neighbor and that all human beings are created "bezelem elohim" — in the image of

God. While acknowledging that Judaism is not a pacifistic religion and does believe in self-defense, he said that the Talmud requires Jews to take any other action possible before resorting to force, and that failure to do so is no less than murder.

He asserted that "Palestinian violence is wrong," but also felt that it was his duty to focus on "getting his house in order" first. Israeli transgressions, while terrible and often the results of bad policy, are "not analogous to suicide bombers," as one member of the audience asserted. However, "the occupation as occupation is a human rights issue," he maintained.

He cited a sort of "extreme nationalism" that is being taught in the Jewish religious community, and said this vocal minority makes secular Jews and gentiles think that this is all there is to Judaism.

Ascherman said the group intends to build a case for "progressive Judaism" by "introducing into peoples' intellectual universe an equally authentic, equally Jewish, equally text-based humanistic view of Judaism."

He's sure there's an audience for this type of message — he cited the recent National Jewish Population Survey that declared social justice was the most sought-after Jewish identity-building activity in the American Jewish community.

David Good, a congregational minister in Connecticut, noted the "prophetic role" that

Ascherman played in declaring that Jews need to be a "light among the nations" and mend bridges with the Palestinians. Good has recently returned from Israel on an interfaith mission, and he said that he "absolutely" believes in a lasting peace.

One of the key organizers of the event, Judith Kaye, of Providence, has already created the R.I. Arab-Jewish Dialogue Group, and hoped the discussion would "broaden the picture and discussion in Providence beyond the 'party line.'"

"We're opening up a conversation... and creating an opportunity for more like-minded people to see we're here," she said.

How do Rhode Island rabbis weigh in?

Rabbi Richard Kirschen, executive director at Brown, said "a lot of students were interested," in hearing RHR speak, and he was impressed with the presentation.

"Uncomfortable questions should come from legitimacy," he said.

Rabbi Elyse Wechterman, of Agudas Achim, helped Kaye in setting up the program.

She commented that some people have the viewpoint that the Jewish people are "a half-step away from annihilation... that America is going to withdraw funding and Israel will cease to exist. I don't believe that."

"Israel is not in military danger, but in danger of losing its soul."

December 2003 { January 2004 Winter Vacation

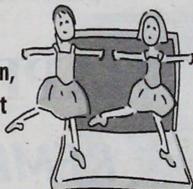
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Afula / Rhode Island connection

From page 3

ers, from educators to doctors to Senators, have been traveling there in recent years. That's the core idea behind the program — build personal relationships, and then move towards professional relationships.

A dream realized

Ellie Elbaum, of Providence, has been waiting eight years for the project to take flight.

"There is a different energy here now than eight years ago. For the first time, there is interest and excitement."

Elbaum is the chair of P2K in Rhode Island. For years, she seemed to be the only Rhode Islander who knew anything about P2K or Afula. "It was a nebulous [assignment]," she admitted.

But now things are different. Rhode Island donations comprise one-sixth of the nearly \$300,000 that Afula / Gilboa receives from the Southern New England Consortium of federations. This money funds Jewish-Arab co-existence programs, and brings students together in math and art classes, as an attempt to bridge social and cultural gaps.

Similarly, there's the Seeds of Peace program, which takes youths from Afula, Qatar, Bahrain, Egypt and Jordan to a camp in Maine for a unique summer experience. There are also language enrichment courses for new immigrants.

Second opinions

During their visit, the delegation toured Afula, to the edge of the "seam line" that separates Israel proper from the West Bank; they also visited an Ethiopian synagogue and one of the jewels of Afula — the Ha'Emek Medical Center.

Three Rhode Island doctors who attended the mission, Dr. David Kerzer, Dr. Mansoor Radparvar, and Dr. Arthur Tenenbaum, all of Providence, were given special tours of the 447 bed hospital and of some of the surrounding *kibbutzim*.

"It's high-tech in old buildings," said Kertzer, remarking that the hospital has paperless charts on a par with cutting-edge U.S. hospitals — but has only room for six beds in the ICU.

Radparvar agreed, adding that the hospital has had to choose between medical upgrades and facility upgrades. People have to choose between emergency rooms and non-emergency rooms even before they enter the hospital. "If they come in with broken legs, they might have to wait," he said.

Bringing it home

There are a lot of things coming from Afula to Rhode Island as well.

For the past three years, teenagers in Afula have come to Rhode Island as youth emissaries, who defer their army service for 10 months and live in their partnering community. Yael Nir, last year's emissary to Providence, said that the trip had actually taught her more about Judaism than she ever knew before. As the child of secular Israeli parents, she had never lit Shabbat candles before she came to America. "People in Israel take Judaism for granted," she said. "In America you have to choose."

Classrooms in tandem

The teacher-exchange program sent more than a dozen R.I. educators to Afula earlier this year, and their Afula counterparts came over here for a short visit last summer.

Together, the groups are creating a curriculum that both schools can engage in at the same time. For example, this year religious schools at Temple Sinai in Cranston, Temple Emanu-El in Providence and the Alperin Schechter Day School compared the harvest holidays of *Sukkot* and Thanksgiving, as well as the different ideas of immigration that each country has experienced.

The Rhode Island contingent brought books and board games for the Afula children, including some that can help them learn English, like "Boggle" and "Scrabble." Ellbaum said both educational and medical supplies are an integral part of the program, and hopes to collect more



RHODE ISLAND pictures and poems hang outside a classroom in Afula's Ramot school. Photos by Jonathan Rubin

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For more information on Partnership 2000, or volunteering, call Elie Elbaum, P2K chair, at 272-3649, or email

For a day-by-day account of the trip to Israel, visit www.jfri.org.



VISITING DOCS — (From left) Dr. David Kerzer, Dr. Arthur Tenenbaum, Dr. Mansoor Radparvar, all of Providence, and Dr. Rob Honig, of Worcester, Mass., tour the Ha'Emek Medical Center in Afula.

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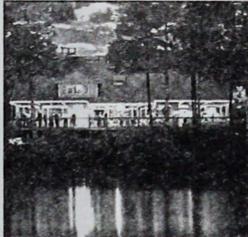
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A craft/gift fair to benefit the South County Hebrew School will be held on Sunday, Dec. 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at URI's White Hall located at 9 Butterfield Rd., South Kingstown.

Artisans and gift sellers will be present as well as representatives from Pampered Chef, Discovery Toys, Wild Tree Herbs, Mary Kay and more. A raffle will be held. For more information, visit <http://schebrewschool.org>.

Rosenstock photo exhibit

Photographer Ron Rosenstock returns to Gallery 401 at the Jewish Community Center from Jan. 5 to 31 for an exhibit of photographs from his new book, *Hymn to the Earth*. This new book of photographs from around the globe is accompanied by the poetry of Gabriel Rosenstock.

A reception with the artist will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. Signed copies of his new book will be available. The gallery is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and by appointment. For further information, call 861-8800.

Alperin Schechter holds first reunion

By Jonathan Rubin

If you feed them, they will come.

As part of its 25th anniversary celebration, the Alperin Schechter Day School mailed out invitations to its 15 graduating classes, and more than 50 alumni showed up for a reunion barbecue at Temple Emanu-El on Nov. 29. The reunion was chaired by Abby Berenson (class of '92) and Hilarie Rubin (class of '88). Yearbooks from the various classes were read vigorously by graduates looking through their awkward years, and video tapes of old musical performances were looping in a VCR.

Howie Bromberg and former ASDS president Joel Roseman did the cooking, and ASDS Head of School Penney Stein remarked, "you are an outstanding group... you will make your mark on the future... if you haven't already."



ASDS GRAD AMY PIESER (class of '95), Sari Pieser ('94), Samantha Braverman ('95) and Lee LeMarche ('95)
Photo by Jonathan Rubin

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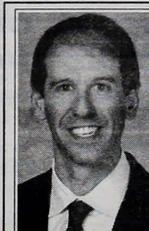
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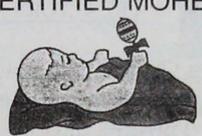
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TOURO SYNAGOGUE IN NEWPORT received a large grant from the federal government's Save America's Treasures program recently.

Touro gets \$375,000 grant

Secretary of the Department of the Interior Gayle Norton came to Newport Nov. 13 to award the Touro Synagogue Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the synagogue, a \$375,000 grant under the Save America's Treasures program.

"The Touro Synagogue is the nation's oldest standing synagogue and continues to be a place

of inspiration, while encouraging people of all backgrounds to learn about the important role Jewish settlers played in our country's history," Norton said.

Located in the Newport National Historic landmark district and designed by noted colonial architect Peter Harrison, Touro is an example of classical Georgian architecture with Sep-

hardic Jewish elements. The grant will be used to preserve the synagogue's exterior architectural features and reinforce overloaded roof trusses.

The name change to the Touro Synagogue Foundation was approved at the organization's annual meeting.

For more information, visit www.tourosynagogue.org.

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Hadassah needs volunteers to sew dolls for kids

Hadassah needs volunteers to sew dolls for sick children at the Hasbro Children's Hospital. "I love my doll" is the phrase we often hear from a sick child with her very own medical doll," said Shirley Schreiber, who runs the community project.

"These dolls that volunteers are making for the patients at Hasbro Children's Hospital are the 'security blanket' for these ill children," she said. If you would like to volunteer, call Schreiber at 738-0934. A sewing machine is necessary.

MAZON gives \$30,000 to R.I.

MAZON, a national non-profit organization that allocates donations from the Jewish community to prevent and alleviate hunger, awarded \$30,000 to two of the state's hunger-relief organizations recently.

Rhode Island ranks 17th in the nation in the percentage of people living in hunger.

'ROBBO' rolls into Torat Yisrael

Temple Torat Yisrael will host a night of Jewish music and comedy with Rob Zelonky, aka "Robbo," at the annual Ira S. and Anna Galkin concert to be held Saturday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.

His show will include a repertoire of songs in English, Hebrew and Yiddish, and skits from his many years on the "Yiddish" comedy circuit. A native Chicagoan, he began performing at JCCs, weddings and bar/bat mitzvahs when he was 6. He was tutored in Yiddish by his grandmother; he dedicates his adult concerts to his bubbe.

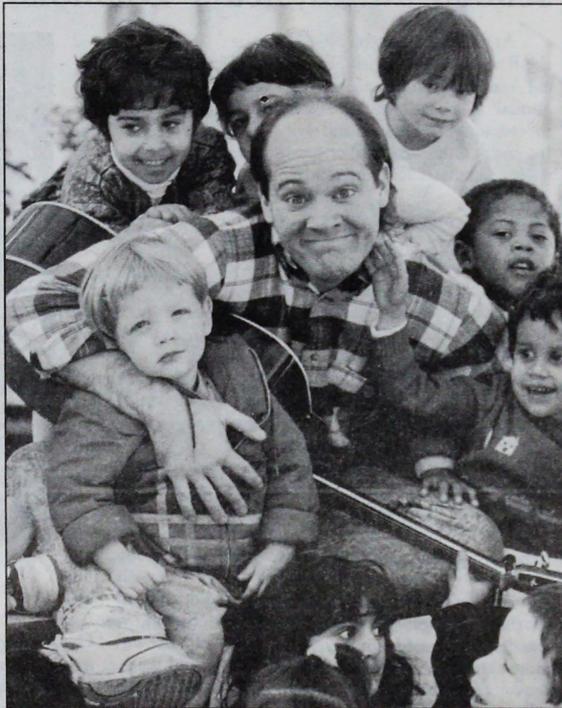
The concert is free and open to the community.

For kids

On Sunday, Dec. 14, at noon, Robbo, also a writer and performer of original songs for children, will give a children's concert.

At the concert, kids can participate with Robbo on some of his standards, which includes silly songs inspired by unlikely circumstances, such as a broken arm in "Owie, Zowie, Kabowie," or in going to the doctor in "The Shot Blues." He tangos to the annoying task of cleaning up a messy bedroom in "Blow Your Nose" and lends an Elvis-style rendition to "Don't Wanna Share My Toys."

The children's show is a part of the children's performing arts series at the temple, and is funded in part by a grant from



ROB "ROBBO" ZELONKY will bring his repertoire of Jewish and Yiddish songs, dances and skits to two concerts, one for adults and the other for children, at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston this weekend. He has performed nationwide, including at the White House.

the R.I. Foundation. The performance will be held in the social hall and is open to the community; tickets are \$7.

For more information, call the temple office at 785-1800 or

Beth Fine-Nelson at 785-1890. Temple Torat Yisrael is located at 330 Park Ave., Cranston (exit 16 from I-95).



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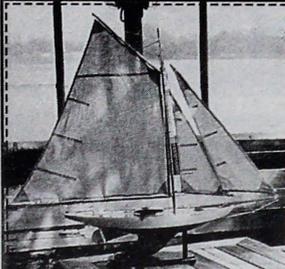
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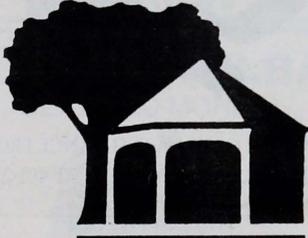
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R.I. Jewish Historical Association presents scholar award, hears 'Diamond' industry author

At its fall meeting on Nov. 16, the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association presented its fifth annual Eleanor Horvitz Award for outstanding research and writing by an undergraduate or graduate student to Kimberly Susan Nusco.

In May, Nusco graduated with a master's degree in history and a master's degree in library science from the University of Rhode Island. Her essay, "The South Providence Kasher Meat Boycott of 1910: A Study of Jewish Women's Consumer Activism," was based on her master's thesis in history. Nusco received a check for \$1,000, and her essay will be published in the forthcoming issue of *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes*.

The Horvitz Award is named in honor of Eleanor Horvitz, who served as the Jewish Historical Association's archivist/ librarian for three decades. She also enjoys the distinction of having written more articles for *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes* than any other author. Three of her articles will be included in the Association's forthcoming anthology, *The Jews of Rhode Island*, which will be published by University Press of New England/ Brandeis University Press in the fall of 2004.

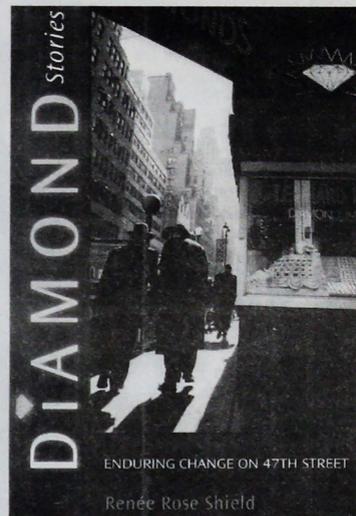
Essays for the 2004 competition, on any aspect of Rhode Island Jewish history, must be submitted by July 1. For additional information, contact the Association's office at 331-1360. Author at meeting

Author at meeting
Professor Renee Shield, a cultural anthropologist at Brown,

was the featured speaker at the Historical Association's meeting, held at Temple Beth-El, recently. She discussed her latest book, *Diamond Stories: Enduring Change on 47th Street*, published by Cornell University Press.

The first anthropological study of New York City's diamond industry, it evolved from the fact that some of Shield's uncles were diamond dealers in Antwerp and Manhattan. While living with her own family in Seekonk, she spent several days each month observing and interacting with Jewish and gentile dealers on 47th Street. Shield, who is

part of Brown's Gerontology Center and teaches medical students, has written about child rearing as well as aging. Her latest



book, co-authored with Dr. Stanley Aronson, is *Aging in Today's World: Conversations between an Anthropologist and a Physician*.

JCC holding meeting to form teams for Boston Maccabi games

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island will be holding tryouts for athletes interested in participating in this year's Maccabi games, which will be held in Boston Aug. 15-20, 2004.

The JCC is seeking athletes between the ages of 13 and 16 as of Aug. 1, 2004 to participate in a variety of sports. There will be two boys' basketball teams, ages 16 and under, and a 13-14 age team. Individual tennis players,

male or female, and individual swimmers, male or female, will also compete.

All athletes need to be Jewish and the appropriate age for their sport. Volunteer coaches are also needed.

Anyone interested should attend the first meeting on Monday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the JCC, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence.

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Temple Habonim holding arts show and sale

Temple Habonim in Barrington is holding a members' arts show and sale on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 4 to 8 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the social hall.

On display will be sculptures by Seymour Glantz and batiks by his wife, Lee; the decorative painted floorcloths and tablemats of Madeline Kanter; fused and etched glass and paintings of Roberta Segal and Penny Faich; the photographs of Leonard Rumpier; the painted furniture of Marcia Zisman; beaded jewelry and pins by mother/daughter team Margie Blowers and Lynda Betencourt; watercolors and acrylics by Debra Perlberg; polymer jewelry by Ken Perlow; copper enamel and paintings by Evi Shreffers; wood abstract sculpture, collages and paintings by Donald Solomon; acrylic originals and prints by Sandy Greenspun; and Judaica, scarves and polymer jewelry by Susan Yardeni. On Sunday, Andrew Newman will draw caricatures.

Admission is free; there will be a silent auction. There will be a bake sale on Sunday. Proceeds will benefit the New Building Fund.

Temple Habonim is at 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington. For information or directions, call 245-6536.

Karlin to bid farewell to Federation

Joshua Karlin, of Providence, will be stepping down as head of development and endowment for the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island on Dec. 31. Karlin, who worked at the JFRI for seven years, helped increase the endowment fund from \$28 million to over \$40 million while overseeing community grants of more than \$20 million.

In 2001 Karlin added professional oversight of the annual campaign to his portfolio and the following spring led the community's Israel Emergency Campaign that raised more than \$1.4 million in just 2 months.



Joshua Karlin

He leaves to take the position of Executive Vice President for North America for Or Torah Stone Institutions of Israel. He will be based in New York City. The JFRI will be conducting a national search for his replacement in the upcoming months.

JCC plans winter camps for ages K-7

The JCC/RI is holding a winter vacation camps from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2.

There will be four different camps given by JCC instructors and counselor:

- Dance camp for K - 3, with story telling, dramatization, ballet, jazz and music.
- Arts camp for 4- 7 with special projects using an assortment of material and techniques.
- Camp JCC I for K - 3 and Camp JCCII for 4 - 7,

with arts and crafts, sports, recreational indoor games, science projects, swimming, cooking and board games. Each camp will have a specific focus and field trips, such as the Boston Museum of Science, the Boston Children's Museum, Disney on Ice, IMAX, ice skating, snow tubing, a DJ's party and more.

For information and registration, call 861- 8800, ext. 147. This session is open to members and non-members.

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VOLUNTEER HONORED — At the recent annual meeting held by The Miriam Hospital, the person-of-the-year award went to longtime volunteer and philanthropist Jane S. Nelson, in center. Congratulating her are Dr. Kathleen C. Hittner, hospital president, and Alan M. Gilstein, chairman of the board.

Miriam honors Nelson, names new trustees, board members

For over half a century, Jane S. Nelson of Providence has given her time, effort and focus to The Miriam Hospital. Officials showed their appreciation recently by naming her the "Miriam Person of the Year" for 2003 at the hospital's annual meeting.

"For more than 50 years, Jane has opened her home and

her heart to support The Miriam Hospital," said Alan M. Gilstein, chairman of the hospital's board of trustees.

A member of The Miriam Hospital Women's Association for 50 years, Nelson was named its president in 1966. In 1971, she was one of the first women appointed to the hospital's board of trustees and in 1988 she became the first woman to be named an honorary trustee for life. Nelson served on the hospital's investment and professional and academic affairs committees and The Miriam Hospital Foundation Development Committee. She became the foundation board's chairperson in 1997.

appointed. Frederick S. Crisafulli, M.D., and Bertram Lederer were appointed to the hospital's board of trustees. Susan Leach DeBlasio, Michael Friedman, Mary Jo Kaplan, Philip Kydd, Sakena Young-Scaggs, Dennis Slutsky and Harold Harris were appointed as new governors.

Fine named head of community medicine for Miriam Hospital

The Miriam Hospital has appointed Dr. Michael Fine, of Scituate, as chairman of its Department of Family and Community Medicine. Fine, the managing partner for strategic planning for Hillside Avenue Family and Community Medicine in Pawtucket, is also physician-in-chief of the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Rhode Island Hospital.

Also at the annual meeting, two new board members and seven new governors were



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AS WE GROW OLDER Next time around

By Tema Gouse

I am making a list and checking it twice. I want to find out what is naughty and what is nice.

And with that list I will have the formula for compiling what I want to do and own when I come back for the "next time around."

Doing this as an older woman rather than as a young

lady will, of course, influence this interesting project. The fact that my age reflects my many years on Social Security will give a very slanted perspective to my wish list. There is no significance to the order in which I itemize, and remember that these are the daydreams of someone who has minimal faith in a second time around. But it has been fun to just speculate on the list.

When I come back (ha!) I want my scale to reflect that same body weight throughout my entire adult life. I hated looking anorexic until my 30th birthday. I hated looking obese after my 30th birthday.

Imagine an existence in which one prefers fruit to chocolate. I can't really imagine it but it is a nice fantasy for next time. It would also be nice to choose cereal instead of cashews as a favorite "nosh." In that next existence I will extol the flavor of chicken and abstain from steak. In the days of my resurrection all knives, forks, spoons, dishes, and cookware will self-destruct and the dishwashing machine will be replaced with a Barcolounger for the cook.

I do not aspire to be truly glamorous but just a touch of feminine pizzazz would be welcome. Like beautiful blue (non-myopic) eyes. Or sexy lips. Or, at least, a human-shaped nose. No belly paunch or flabby thighs would afflict me. And my hair—well, almost anything would be an improvement. (Am I being unreasonable?)

The next time I have children and grandchildren they will be so perfect and so caring that I will never have cause to worry about them. They will never have problems and will remember to phone me at least once a week. I guess that means I will have daughters instead of sons.

And then some mighty power will remove my oversized ability to worry about things that will never happen and endow me with the awareness that—"It rots, but there is nothing I can do about it."

In my luckier new life, all the politicians I vote for will be elected. Because of the wisdom of my choices, there will be universal health care, jobs for everyone, no poverty, permanent peace all over the world. And television that is worth watching.

I also have very high aspirations for the extended world. I will understand what globalization is and that it will mean positive things. The destroyed environment will come back in healthy form. Israel will be loved by its neighbors. Neighbors will not need fences. Cancer will never again threaten people I love. Poverty and starvation will be listed only in my dictionary and not in my daily newspaper.

So far, I sound fair and righteous. Boring, but righteous. But be forewarned—my list will also have items that will not have universal approval.

Ear-splitting music will no longer be allowed at weddings

and Bar/Bas Mitzvahs. Cacophonous music will be banned in the music halls. Confusing books will no longer receive literary awards. Art will be classed as masterpieces only if what is portrayed is identifiable. And some brave soul will write a thesis that avers that modern art is not *art*. (I told you that you might disagree).

Higher education will be available to every qualified kid—even those whose parents cannot afford it. Colleges will finance sports only after allotting funds for the academics and when a surplus exists. Library funding will take precedence over projects that only benefit politicians and businessmen.

Temperatures will vary between 65 and 79 degrees. It will rain four times a year, just to break up the monotony and to appease my gardening friends. And there will be no snow south of New Hampshire or Vermont. Absolutely none.

Teenagers will refuse to emulate their drug-using, drunken, promiscuous elders. Cars will be built so they cannot be driven over 70 mph. Tattoos and exposed navels will go out of style. War and selfishness will become obsolete. A man can hate another man, but groups must negotiate, not battle.

That's my list. I have been blessed the first time around. But aspirations are always normal.

Tema Gouse, a regular columnist, lives in Cranston.



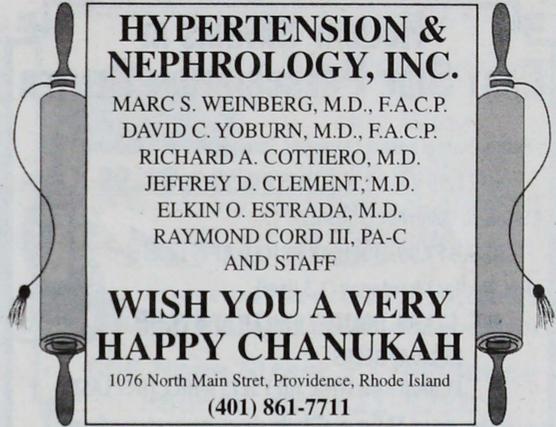
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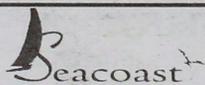
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Mazal Tov!

Simchas

Adoption

Rabbi Elyse Wechterman and David Nerenburg, of North Attleboro, announce the adoption of their daughter, Sharon Anne. She also has an older brother, Avinoam Shalom.

Birth

Neil and Susie Rozbruch of Valencia, Calif., announce the birth of their son, Diego Marty, on Nov. 13. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz, and was 19 1/2 inches long. His Hebrew name is Motel, in memory of his grandfather.

He is the grandson of Sydelle and the late Marty Rozbruch of Cranston, and Anna Diaz and Mario Adame of Valencia.

Engagement

H. Marc Vederman and Carol Mason, both of Bethesda, Md., are engaged to be married.

Mr. Vederman is the son of Irwin and Susan Vederman of West Warwick.

Ms. Mason is the daughter of Alan and Toni Mason of Rockville, Md.

The future bride is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and is employed by the Washington Reform Hebrew Congregation.

The future bridegroom is a graduate of New England College and works for the Republican Jewish Coalition.

A wedding is planned for June 27, 2004 in Washington, D.C.



Schneider and Finstein
Wedding

Charles Earl Schneider and Amy Debra Finstein were married on June 22 at Temple Israel in Natick, Mass. Rabbi Daniel Liben and Cantor Robert Scherr officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Arthur and Lois Saval Finstein of Framingham and the granddaughter of the late Joseph and Selma Finstein of Waltham and the late Meyer and Jeanette Saval of Providence.

The bridegroom is the son of Albert and Edna-Mae Schneider of Boston and the grandson of the late Frank and Mollie Schneider of Boston and the late Harold B.

and Selma Morse of Newton.

The bride is a graduate of Brandeis University. She holds a master's degree and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in architectural history from the University of Virginia School of Architecture.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Framingham State College, where he received his bachelor of science in business management. He is the co-owner of CE Associates, a consulting firm based in Natick.

The couple honeymooned in St. John, British Virgin Islands and is residing in Natick, Mass.

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Obituaries

Melvin R. Beder

PROVIDENCE— Melvin R. Beder, 81, a retired optical salesman, died Dec. 1. He was the husband of the late Gertrude (Kornetsky) Beder.

Born in Chelsea, Mass., a son of the late Alexander and Rose (Levin) Beder, he had lived in Providence since 1964.

An Army veteran of World War II, he served in North Africa and Europe.

He was a 1946 graduate of the former Fenway School of Mechanical Optics.

Mr. Beder was a salesman at McLeod Optical in Warwick and later worked part-time as an optician, holding a license in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. He was a member of the National Academy of Opticianry, and was the recipient of the 15 year membership award.

He was a member of Temple Emanu-El.

He leaves a son, Alan Beder of Westlake, Ohio; a daughter, Sandra Seder-Miller of Kennebec, Wash.; a sister, Ruth Borstel of Foxboro, Mass.; and five grandchildren.

Burial was in Sharon, Mass. Memorial Park.

Howard R. Berger

PROVIDENCE — Howard R. Berger, 81, a retired executive of the Cleveland Jewish Community Federation in Ohio, died Nov. 21. He was the husband of Adele (Lazarus) Berger. They were married for 58 years.

Born in Gloversville, N.Y., a son of the late Morris and Florence (Blue) Berger, he lived in Cleveland for many years before

moving to Providence four years ago.

Mr. Berger was a partner in his family's leather business in Gloversville before pursuing his career in social service. After graduating with a master's degree in social work from the School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, he worked on the staff of the Cleveland Jewish Community Federation for over 35 years. Early in his career, he coordinated anti-poverty programs and was director of community relations and urban affairs. He later was the first director of the federation's endowment fund for over two decades. In 1995, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Social Workers.

After he retired from the Jewish Community Federation, a scholarship was established in his name at the School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve. He was executive director of the Association of Jewish Community Organization Personnel, which also established a scholarship in his name for professionals entering Jewish communal service.

He was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Steven Berger of Littleton, Colo.; a daughter, Barbara Walker of Cranston; a brother, Richard Berger of Westfield, N.J.; and seven grandchildren.

Burial was in Gloversville, N.Y.

Contributions may be made to the Zucker-Berger Professional Development Fund, Jewish Community Federation, 1750 Euclid

Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Sadie Bochner

CRANSTON — Sadie (Gallup) Bochner, 97, died Nov. 7. She was the wife of the late Max Bochner.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Fred and Hattie (Skolnick) Gallup, she lived in Providence and Cranston for 91 years.

Mrs. Bochner was a member of Hadassah.

She leaves a stepdaughter, Lillian Burwasser of New Jersey; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Charlotte Bernstein and Earl and Henry Gallup.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Minnie Friedman

PAWTUCKET — Minnie Friedman, 97, died Nov. 23. She was the wife of the late Philip Friedman.

Born in Lithuania, a daughter of the late Louis and Lena (Einhorn) Kaplan, she came to the United States when she was six months old and grew up in the Philadelphia area. She graduated from high school in Philadelphia and lived in Deal, N.J., until four years ago, when she moved to Providence and then to Pawtucket.

Mrs. Friedman was a homemaker and poet; she was also a member of the Philadelphia Ethical Society.

She is survived by two daughters, Dr. Wilma Rosen of Providence and June Chernetz of Short Hills, N.J.; a sister, Anna Strauss of Levittown, Pa.; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Benjamin and Harry Kaplan and Esther Bradsky.

Maurice Fox

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Maurice Fox, 93, of Fort Lauderdale, formerly of Providence, a retired financial consultant, died Dec. 1. He was the husband of Shirley (Cohen) Fox. They had been married for 57 years.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Joseph and Rachel (Kaufman) Fox, he lived here before moving to Fort Lauderdale in 1972.

Mr. Fox was a member of the board of directors at the former Interstate Home Equipment Co., the Poole Silver Co., in Taunton, Mass., the Colony Motor Hotel and the former Atlantic Bowling Corp.

He was also a board member and past president of the Wayland Manor Hotel.

Mr. Fox had been a board member and chairman of the finance committee at the former Jewish Home for the Aged. He had been a board member at Miriam Hospital and the Ledgemont Country Club, a member of the Rhode Island Jewish Fraternal Association and a former member of Temple Emanu-El, where he had served on the board of directors.

He was a 1932 graduate of Boston University.

Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, David S. Fox of Andover, Mass., and Richard S. Fox of Longmeadow, Mass., two daughters, Patricia E. Fox of New York City, and Debra L. Fox of Waltham, Mass.; and four grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Esther and Harold Fox.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Jonathan D. Lash

BERRYVILLE, Va. — Jonathan D. "JD" Lash, 43, of Berryville, died Oct. 17. He was the son of Melvin and Sheila Lash of Newport.

He earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from California State University and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Redlands.

He played ice hockey in NCAA Division 1 schools, and played professionally. In 1990, he played for the Los Angeles Senior Kings, a first place team in its league, and was voted the most valuable player in the Rose Festival Hockey tournament that year. He also was a hockey coach.

In Virginia, he continued to be active in youth hockey programs, as a certified advanced coach. He was a member of the National Hockey League Players' Agent Association and was associated with Lash, Crane, Padilla and Gagne & Associates of Washington, D.C. He was also a member of the International Professional Skaters Association.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two sisters, Gillian Lash of Alexandria, Va.; Alison Rode of Berryville, and a niece and nephew.

Anne Moshkovitz

EAST PROVIDENCE — Anne Moshkovitz, 92, a retired shoe saleswoman, died Nov. 26. She was the wife of the late Solomon Moshkovitz.

Born in Boston, a daughter of the late Jacob and Ida (Montach) Yablonsky, she lived most of her life in Attleboro before moving to Cumberland and later to East Providence.

Mrs. Moshkovitz worked at the former Sillman Shoe Store in

See next page

The Worst Time To Arrange A Funeral

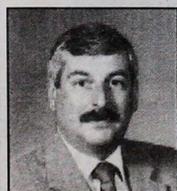
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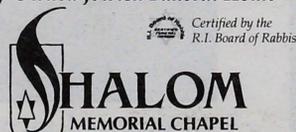
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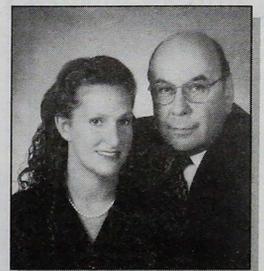
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Obituaries

From page 38

Anne Moshkovitz

Attleboro for 16 years.

She was a former member of Congregation Agudas Achim, Attleboro.

She leaves a son, Herbert Moshkovitz of Needham Heights, Mass.; a daughter, Eleanor Jakeman of Rumford; a sister, Sylvia Smith of Phoenix, Ariz.; and three grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Louis, Isadore and Bill Yablonsky.

Burial was in Dodgeville Cemetery, Attleboro.

Laura Robbins

PROVIDENCE — Laura Robbins, 87, a retired manufacturer's representative, died Nov. 27. She was the wife of the late Harris Robbins.

Born in New York City, the daughter of the late Frederick and Ella Levy, she lived in New York before moving to Providence in 1955.

Mrs. Robbins was a man-

ufacturers' representative in the jewelry business in New York and Rhode Island until her retirement.

She had been a member of the Charlesgate North Residents Association and a volunteer worker for Meals on Wheels.

She leaves a son, David W. Robbins of Burlington, Vt.; a daughter, Francine Robbins of Providence; and two grandsons.

Burial was in Swan Point Cemetery, Providence.

Harriette M. Rosen

LA JOLLA, Calif. — Harriette Mildred Rosen, formerly of Providence, a gifted pianist, died Dec. 1. She was the wife of the late Dr. David Rosen.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Charles and Rose (Berkowitz) Kaplan, she lived in this city for many years before moving to Chicago and then La Jolla 21 years ago.

Mrs. Rosen received her doctoral degree in music from

the University of California San Diego while in her 70s.

She leaves several cousins.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Ethel Troberman

CUMBERLAND — Ethel Troberman, 88, died Nov. 14. She was the wife of the late Eugene L. Troberman.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Samuel and Rose (Rein) Korb, she lived in Warwick for 42 years before moving to Pawtucket, and then to Cumberland in August.

She was a graduate of the former Bryant Stratton College.

Mrs. Troberman had been the co-owner of Home Refrigeration Service for 48 years before retiring.

She was a founding member of Temple Am David, a past president of the Social Seniors of Warwick, past grand chief of the Pythian Sisters of Rhode Island and a past matron of Hope

Link 46, Order of Golden Chain and What Cheer Temple of the Pythian Sisters.

She leaves a son, William Troberman of Cranston; two daughters, Norma Troberman of San Francisco and Eileen Troberman of Encinitas, Calif.; a brother, L. David Korb of Bethesda, Md.; a sister, Helene Yoffe of Worcester, Mass.; and a granddaughter. She was the sister of the late Lillian K. Rosen.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Donations may be made to Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick, RI 02888.

Morris Zuckerberg

ROCKVILLE, Md. — Morris Zuckerberg, 88, of Rockville, formerly of Providence, a retired mechanic and inventor, died Nov. 17. He was the husband of the late Kay (Schwartz) Zuckerberg.

Born in Providence, a son of the late John and Annie (Shim-

merman) Zuckerberg, he was a lifelong resident of the city before moving to Maryland five years ago.

Mr. Zuckerberg was the former owner and operator of MZ Battery.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, and a former member of Congregation Shaare Zedek, Sons of Abraham.

He leaves two daughters, Harriet Yoselle of Potomac, Md., and Marilyn Cohen of Claremont, Calif.; four sisters, Bebe Dixon of Alpharetta, Ga., Celia Johnson of Cranston, Elsie Wolk of New York, and Mollie Gallup of Long Island; and two grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Fritzie Feiner, Lillian Berens and Sally Dwyer.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to All 4 Israel, 98 Cutter Hill Rd., Great Neck, N.Y., for victims of terrorism.



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Apr. 30	Apr. 22	Apr. 19
May 14	May 6	May 3
May 28	May 20	May 17
Jun. 11	Jun. 3	May 31
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July 16	July 8	July 5
Aug. 20	Aug. 12	Aug. 9
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Sept. 24	Sept. 16	Sept. 13
Oct. 8	Sept. 30	Sept. 27
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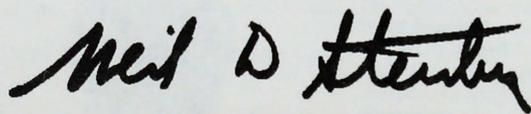
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