

Silberfarb picked to lead Federation

Minnesota CRC director to become Exec. V-P

By Jonathan Rubin
jrubin@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — For Rhode Island's Jewish community, the most important reality show outcome wasn't who was going to win "The Apprentice" or "Big Brother 7" but who would win the top slot in the organized Jewish community — the executive vice president of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI).

And the votes are in: Stephen R. Silberfarb, the executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council (CRC) of Minnesota and the Dakotas, has been selected to be JFRI's new executive. He will replace interim executive vice president and former JFRI president, Hershey Rosen, on Oct. 3.

Silberfarb led the 10-person staff at the JCRC office in Minneapolis, where he served the approximately 45,000 Jews living in the Twin Cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, the rest of Minnesota and North and South Dakota. Besides organizing large groups of volunteers and creating collaborative programs among agencies, he also increased its annual campaign from \$50,000 to \$260,000 and raised more than \$1 million from non-Jewish corporations and foundations.

He has forayed into the political and legislative arenas as well. He was the deputy executive director at the National Jewish Democratic Council, has worked in the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, has served as legislative director under two state representatives and ran for the Maryland General Assembly. He also ran his own law practice.

Silberfarb will be moving here with his wife, Laura, and their daughters, Rebecca and Gavriela.

He said, "Our family is
See SILBERFARB, page 3

ISRAEL AT WAR:



AN ESCALATING CRISIS

- History of Lebanese crisis
- Life in a bomb shelter
- American Jews rally
- What it means to the Middle East... and the U.S.

See extended report pages 14-17

Community School gets \$1.2 M Sudden allocation frustrates Hebrew Day

By Jonathan Rubin
jrubin@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — A sometimes contentious board meeting held at the Jewish Federation of R.I. (JFRI) on June 26 resulted in another major victory for the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS), which received approval for \$1.2 million over five years for facility and program upgrades. The funds are not without strings attached, however — the

school must raise \$3.6 million on its own and increase enrollment from 180 to 300 students during the same time period. A review occurring at least once annually was also a condition.

There was a good deal of trepidation before this meeting. On one hand, the motion to grant the school the funds had many supporters, including the Bureau for Jewish Education (BJE) and the Partnership, the Federation's long-range plan-

ning arm.

"We have not given day school education the attention it deserves," said Mirna Ellison, executive director of the BJE. "Today is a day we can change that."

Some favored the idea of the community school model as a way to reverse the slow enrollment decline in Rhode Island Jewish day schools. They also

See JCDS, page 7

Israelis, Rhode Islanders return with heavy hearts

By Mary Korr
mkorr@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — On Monday, parents travel to and from Israel and Rhode Island were being changed at both ends.

Israelis Simcha and Shimon Pe'er, who taught Hebrew at the Bureau of Jewish Education's (BJE) ulpan classes, cut their trip short by three days to return home to the Gilboa region in the north.

The couple have two daughters, ages 18 and 11, and a 21-year-old son, Itai, who is in northern Israel, less than one mile from the border with Lebanon. While in Providence, they spoke to him by cell phone three times a day.

"I need to hear his voice," says Simcha on Monday over lunch at Izzy's Kosher Cafe.

Itai is working in a bomb shelter with Bedouin children, as part of ancillary community service in the Israeli military in what is roughly translated by his mother as the Pioneer Youth Fighters organization.

Last Friday, Itai and other soldiers received a 24-hour leave for Shabbat when they secured a ride home in a cattle truck. One of the parents drove them back after Shabbat.

Home is the Gilboa settlement of Gan Ner, 10 minutes from Afula, the Rhode Island Jewish community's sister region (Afula-Gilboa).

"A bomb landed in a field near Afula on Sunday night," Shimon said.

In Israel

Meanwhile, it is nighttime in Jerusalem. Rhode Islanders Elisa Heath, campaign director at the Jewish Federation of R.I. (JFRI) and Doris Feinberg, incoming campaign chair, are sitting in the King David Hotel, finishing double espressos and discussing the latest events there. It wasn't good news. A suicide bomber was caught at the Gate that afternoon.

The following morning

See ISRAELIS, page 9

Calendar

SUN., JULY 23

Go Fish with Kollé

7:30 a.m. Providence community Kollé 2006 SEED program; four hours of fishing and discussions aboard the Frances Fleet in Galilee. Return at noon. \$65. per person. Reservations required by Fri., July 21. Call 383-2786.

WED., JULY 26

Concert at Tamarisk

6:30 p.m. A classical concert featuring flute and classical guitar in the Tamarisk Gardens (community room in case of rain) with Teresa Gervais and Matthew Kearns for an evening of classical duets. Refreshments will be served.

RSVP to Gina at 732-0037.

THURS., JULY 27

Perspectives at Z Bar

8 p.m. A gathering for the 20s & 30s Jewish singles at Z Bar's back patio on Wickenden St. in Providence. First timers or regulars, no RSVP needed. Ask for Perspectives on entry. For more information contact Tavlin at 861-8800, ext 205 or tavlin@jccri.org.

FRI., AUG. 4

Camp Gan Israel open day

9 a.m. — 3:30 p.m. (3 & 4 year olds, 9 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.) For Jewish children ages 3 to 10 years old. Games, carnival show, pizza lunch, challah baking, arts and crafts. Located at Temple Am David, 40 Gardner St., Warwick. RSVP required call Shoshana Laufer at 884-7888. \$5 per child, free for campers

SAT., AUG. 12

Sinai Havdalah picnic

3 p.m. Temple Sinai will celebrate Havdalah at Woodard Park (sites 40 to 54) with a service. Bring your own picnic dinner, or cook on one of the grills. Watermelon, drinks and dessert will be provided. Fun, games, crafts and kite-flying, with songs, blessings, a braided candle-lighting ceremony, spices and wine. RSVP to Betsy Shimbarg at 398-0098 or rshimbarg@cox.net.

SUN., AUG. 27

Lower East Side festival

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The JCCRI and the Providence Dept. of Art, Culture and Tourism will be holding a Jewish cultural festival with food, Klezmer and fun, based on the Lower East Side of N.Y. more than 100 years ago.

How to 'teach' the Holocaust

PROVIDENCE — How does a teacher find a way to teach a subject as horrifying as the Holocaust? The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum is devoting its annual full-day summer teacher workshop this year to proposing and demonstrating strategies that work well for this unique subject.

One method is using the arts to provide a safe channel through which young people can appreciate the horrors of the Holocaust without being confronted with them directly.

The workshop will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, August 16 at the Providence Hebrew Day School, 450 Elm-grove Ave., in Providence.

The workshop will feature a session by D. Dina Friedman, an author discussing her new novel for children, *Escaping Into*

See WORKSHOP, next page

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Corrections

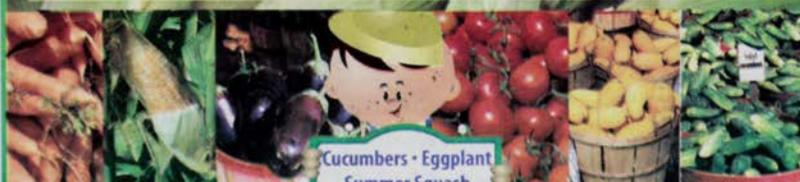
In our June 23 edition, the caption below was accidentally attached to a different picture. It appears correctly below:

Photo by Crossroads

HELPING HANDS—Greg Harlam, Sophie Harlam, Nili Levine and Jeremy Harlam of the Jewish Community Day School drop off sandwiches, snacks and gifts for the homeless clients served by Crossroads Rhode Island. Children at the school collected the items as part of a class project. Crossroads is the state's largest non-profit provider of services to the homeless and disconnected.

In the 2006 Rhode Island Guide to Jewish Living we inadvertently gave the Jewish War Veterans' old address. The correct address is PO Box 100064, Cranston, RI 02910. Sanford H. Gorodetsky, Cmdr.

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CANDLE LIGHTING For greater Rhode Island

July 21 7:55

July 28 7:49

Aug. 4 7:41

Aug 11 7:31



Silberfarb to lead JFRI

From page 1

excited to be joining this community and we can't wait to participate fully in Rhode Island's rich Jewish life. We have been touched by the warm and heimishe welcome we have received already — it's as if we have been hugged by the entire community."

Unanimous

A gregarious and passionate individual, Silberfarb met with more than 100 volunteers as part of the interview process. He was praised for being an "outside-the-box" thinker. Others liked the fact that he was not a "Federation insider" and had experience solving problems among different Jewish communities.

Silberfarb received the unanimous vote of the search committee. After receiving the good news, he personally called the entire staff of the Federation and many community leaders, making over 200 calls.

Education

He received his bachelor's degree in government and politics from the University of Maryland and his law degree from the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University. He earned awards from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits and the Anne Frank Foundation.

After his orientation period is over, Silberfarb will have a full agenda. Many priority projects have been waiting, including the establishment of community priorities to re-examine millions of dollars in annual grants, and the reinvigoration of the community campaign.



Stephen R. Silberfarb, soon to be the new executive director at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, with his wife Laura, and their daughters, Rebecca, 9, and Gavriela, 4.

Workshop

From previous page

the Night, and a staging of the play "No Way Out" The play's author, Susan Shear of Tucson, Arizona, will take questions after the performance and also give a workshop session for teachers about how to use the play in the classroom. It will be performed at the workshop by a cast of professional actors.

The public is invited to the play, which will be performed as a reader's theatre with props and costumes. It will start at 1:30 p.m. There is no cost, but reserved seating will be provided for donors to the Museum.

Teachers are invited for a \$12 fee that includes a light breakfast, snacks, and lunch. Professional development credits from the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will be awarded. The workshop is funded by a grant from the Alan Shawn Feinstein Foundation.

Other sessions include "The Do's and Don'ts When Teaching the Holocaust," which will be offered by Boston Holocaust educator and curriculum consultant Frieda Sobel; "Integrating a Study of the Holocaust into all Subject Areas" by Jacqueline Littlefield, education coordinator of the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine and "Integrating Writing Into Holocaust Studies," by Cranston High East English teacher English Barbara Wahlberg.

For more information, contact the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum at 401-453-7860.

We stand with the people of Israel

The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, together with the North American Jewish community, stands with the people of Israel as they fight terrorism and attacks. We are steadfast in our support of Israel and its obligation to protect our citizens.

Our hearts go out to innocent civilians who have been entangled in this violence.

We pray that peace is still within reach.



Donate now to the Israel Crisis Fund -- make a secure online gift at www.jfri.org

Opinion

A MAJORITY OF ONE

'The blood-dimmed tide is loosed'

Never in our lifetimes have the words of William Butler Yeats applied more to the Middle East.

Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
 Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,
 The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere
 The ceremony of innocence is drowned;
 The best lack all conviction, while the worst
 Are full of passionate intensity.

From Iran in the east along a wide descending arc to Gaza in the south, the Middle East is aflame; the bombings and the slaughter provide the headlines and the photographs but they are almost the least of it. Everywhere, it seems, religious and political extremists are taking power. Hamas and Hezbollah, the mullahs and the ayatollahs, set the agendas for Iran, Lebanon, Syria and the Palestinians. Even in Israel the racist National Union Party and the settler successors to the neo-fascist Meir Kahane, are ecstatic over what they see as vindication of their sectarian, expansionist ideology.



Yehuda Lev

Where among the leaders of the Muslim Middle East is there conviction? Unfortunately, only in Iran. Do the Lebanese politicians, does the Syrian leader Assad, has Fatah in Palestine demonstrated any conviction other than a desire to hold onto power at any cost? Free elections were held in Lebanon, the Palestin-

ian territories and in Iran. Has anyone risked standing up to the religious extremists after they won all three democratic elections?

There are problems in Israel as well. With an accidental prime minister besieged by his own party colleagues, a defense minister whose experience in that field is nil and a shaky government that feels it has to prove its legitimacy by acting tough, Jerusalem has waffled its way into a two-front war that it has little chance of winning outright. If Israel did manage to shake off both Hamas and Hezbollah it would find them replaced by equally implacable enemies operating under different names but with the same intent of ridding the Muslim world of the occupying infidels.

By waging a defensive war not only against an extremist movement backed by some very nasty governments but also, as it turns out, against the people of a country (Lebanon) that is evidently too weak to defend itself or to oust its Hezbollah terrorists, Israel has forfeited what world support it might have mustered.

Those with long memories will note a parallel with Israel's incursion into Lebanon in 1982. Then its soldiers were welcomed by the Shi'a population, thankful to be rid of the heavy hand of the occupying PLO. It didn't take long for the Shi'ites to feel that Israel's occupation was like any other, oppressive to them and lacking in understanding of the people whose territory and homes were being occupied. The Shi'a Hezbollah whom Israel is fighting in Lebanon today are the sons of those who learned the lessons of 24 years ago.

The Israelis had choices in responding to the provocation by Hezbollah. They even had Arab allies; Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt (Sunni Arab states) are also

afraid of the Shi'ite Hezbollah and were encouraging negotiations aimed at returning the two kidnapped Israeli soldiers. The United States and the European Union didn't want a Mideast explosion with its potential effect on the world economy and on a mid-term election coming up in this country.

Who is profiting from this war? The big winners by far are Hamas and Hezbollah, whose leaders must be amazed at how successful they have been at dragging Israel into a dead-end conflict. The biggest loser, besides the hapless people of Lebanon, could be Israel which, of all of the combatants, is the only one facing a potential threat to its very survival.

To have been suckered into a needless war, to have stood on "honor" on the issue of prisoner return, to have refused to encourage Mahmoud Abbas as a negotiating partner and to have chosen a violent response for reasons of domestic political expediency, are the signs of leadership gone badly astray.

Again, W. B. Yeats.

... Somewhere in sands of the desert

A shape with lion body and the head of a man,

A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,

In moving its slow thighs, while all about it

Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds.

The darkness drops again ...

Everywhere in the Middle East, the darkness is dropping again.

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

Alison on Aliyah: Israel's War and the War on Israel

So I was just sitting down to write an article on what was the "current crisis in Gaza," when the terms "current" and "crisis" suddenly took on a whole new meaning. The past five days have seen

a dangerous and terrifying escalation of violence between Israel and Lebanon, with hundreds of strikes having already taken place on both sides.

From my vantage point down here in Be'er Sheva, I can honestly say that I have no vantage point, and I am left nervously watching the news and checking the internet sites along with the rest of you. The only additional information I get comes from the soldiers with whom I am friends here, all of whom are now either amassed along the border with Lebanon or already inside Gaza, and they are fairly tight-lipped. I receive only isolated 2-minute phone calls every so often these days from my boyfriend, Mikhael, assuring me that he is fine, apologizing for not being able to tell me more, and trying to talk over the din of shouting and god-knows-what behind him.

I have received many frantic phone calls from friends and family members in the US, all worried and wondering when (not if) I will come "home." I try to calm them down, reminding them that Israel has been through this type of

The country certainly is in danger, however, and whenever I try to nonchalantly invoke my tried-and-true motto, "It's not as bad as it looks," even I have a hard time finishing the sentence.

thing before, and that, in any case, it is quiet as a tomb down where I am and in Jerusalem, so I personally am not and do not feel like I am in any real danger.

I also make it clear that nothing would make me leave Israel, so that question does not need to come up again. The country certainly is in danger, however, and whenever I try to nonchalantly invoke my tried-and-true motto, "It's not as bad as it looks," even I have a hard time finishing the sentence. It is a terrifying time for all of us, both in Israel and abroad, and it is difficult to envision a conclusion that will either be positive or arrive any time in the near future.

What is continually interesting to me during these phone calls with my American comrades is the fact that each of them makes it a point to mention that they feel the media coverage they are seeing of the events, is fairly balanced and objective. They note that there is reference to the actions of both sides in the conflict, as well as some of Israel's more laudable deeds, such as dropping flyers over certain Lebanese cities to warn the (supposedly innocent) civilians of impending attacks.

A few days ago, however, my mom happened to bring up a statement that was made on some news report, to the effect of, "The price of gas over here is rising even higher because of Israel's war with Lebanon." There are just so many things wrong with this sentence, and hearing it made me start to wonder what is really being said over in America, and what kind of effect this might be having on the international support we are (or aren't) getting over here.

To be fair, I should note that I myself tend to rely mostly on Israeli television news reports in Hebrew, which undoubtedly have their own biases and "spins" on what goes on over here, but I do feel that this source gives me the most complete picture of each day's events. I supplement this with almost hourly checks of Israeli newspapers online in English, most frequently Ha'aretz and The Jerusalem Post.

I am certainly aware that there is no journalism that is truly balanced or even close to objective (if there is such a thing at all), but what I saw on this site achieved new, and frightening, lows in the bias department. It blows my mind

that the current Israeli military retaliation in Lebanon is being viewed as a response only to the kidnapping of our two soldiers up north, and I can't believe what little attention is being paid to the terribly destructive attacks we are sustaining inside of Israel. Everywhere I look, I see the current situation being referred to as our war, or as an offensive attack by Israel with no mention of what we are defending ourselves from.

So, after this lengthy review of the perspectives of other people on the situation, you may be wondering what is mine. I honestly don't know yet what to think, and I suppose I am reserving my full panic for what I believe is the inevitable worsening that is to come.

I have to admit that I am strangely calm about the whole thing, but I suppose it is easy to be calm down here in Be'er Sheva. My sense from those around me is that we have not (yet?) reached a status warranting true alarm, relatively speaking, and I feel an odd sense of normalcy about the situation. Perhaps this is because most of my close friends are Israelis, many of whom have served in wars far worse than this one.

Indeed, the reactions of my friends here have been quite the opposite of those that I receive from America, and they have had a calming effect on me. When the missiles initially began to fall, I thought first of one of my best friends,

THE OLD OLIVETTI Lessons not learned

I write on Friday the 14th of July. Four thousand miles to the east rockets are exploding, bombs are dropping, the emotional reverberations are felt in my home; yours too, I imagine. What the situation will be when the paper arrives at your door, I do not know, but today, it is bad. Worse, Israel has only itself to blame. It did not learn the lessons of history.

On June 25, Hamas gunmen came out of Gaza to kill Israeli soldiers on Israeli soil, and then they kidnapped one of them, a young corporal with dual Israeli-French citizenship. For weeks Jews in southern Israel had been hit with rockets, more annoying than lethal, but always an unprovoked menace.



Josh
Stein

Then, on July 12, Hezbollah forces crossed into northern Israel and killed and kidnapped other soldiers. Israel responded with an incursion into Lebanon, hitting bridges and the airport in an effort to prevent the kidnapers from taking their prey out of Lebanon into Iran. Ahavath Nahariya and Haifa have been hit by Hezbollah rockets. Each side's fury mounts with each rocket landing, each soldier or civilian killed or wounded.

What is to be learned? Nothing is learned. The British and the French gave the Sudentland to Hitler to buy peace, the French then hid behind the Maginot line while the British felt secure on their side of the Channel. None to any avail. That's the lesson that ought to have been learned by Israel, but wasn't. The most fundamental lesson is that Israel must never again unilaterally withdraw from territory. It does not work. Israel pulled out of Sinai when Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin reached agreement on how and when and for what in exchange. In short, the Sinai for peace — real peace, not just the hope of peace. For this the Arab leader won the Nobel Peace Prize and later an Arab bullet. But the peace held. (Israel offered Gaza in the same package, but Sadat was too smart to accept it. Gaza had only been occupied by Egyptian forces, it had never been part of Egypt proper. "No, Menachem, you can keep that snake pit," the Egyptian leader conceded. One can only wonder what Begin's reaction was. Probably not joy.)

But that's it, the one example of negotiated handover of land. Later, in 2000, Israel surprised the world by unilaterally withdrawing, overnight, from southern Lebanon, callously abandoning its Christian allies to their fate. Munich redux. Almost immediately Hezbollah moved in and started attacking northern Israel with rockets and mortars claiming that a small area (Shebua Farms, a 28 sq. km. piece of land) was still occupied territory, despite the usually hostile world siding with Israel, saying "no, it's not." And then last year, after a year's buildup, Israel removed its settlers and soldiers from Gaza. Immediately weapons were smuggled from Egypt into Gaza. The Hamas-led government either turned a blind eye or actively engaged in the process of illegally arming its militants. Either way, the results were inevitable and soldiers and civilians on both sides died.

So the first uncomfortable conclusion is that Israel must not again retreat without ironclad guarantees that it will not be assaulted by the very people to whom they returned land taken in defensive wars. The tail of the tiger is an uncomfortable thing to hold. Letting go is more than uncomfortable, it's disastrous.

And the other choice? Can there ever be peace with the Palestinians? Egypt was one thing; Israel occupied another country's territory and then gave it back following negotiations. But the Palestinian leadership believes that Israel itself is occupied Palestine. So what do you? Expel the Arabs from Gaza and the West Bank? Re-occupy southern Lebanon? One choice is worse than the next. Even if Israel succeeds in its intention of destroying the Hezbollah leadership, the Arabs can wait. If not now, then later their attack will be successful, they think. By this scenario, the only way to avoid the killings is to pull down the flag, blow up the improvements made over the past 60 years and go back to Europe and other places from which the Jews came with their talents. That's not going to happen either. The Jewish people are in this thing for the long term. Withdrawal is not an option.

What the situation will be when the paper arrives at your door, I do not know, but today, it is bad.

Joshua B. Stein, a professor of history at Roger Williams University, writes a regular opinion column for the newspaper. He can be reached at jstein@rwu.edu.

VIEWPOINT First synagogue on East Side lives on... in another form

By Henry Spencer

A little known fact of Providence Jewish history is that Congregation Mishkon Tfiloh is the spiritual heir of Congregation Ahavath Sholom, the Howell Street Synagogue. The connection between the two synagogues is something my family was intimately involved with, ever since my grandfather Philip Abraams helped found Ahavath Sholom, the first synagogue on the East Side, in 1905.

When the dream of a new campus for an orthodox Ahavath Sholom synagogue did not materialize on the corner of Camp and Rochambeau (the partially completed building became the then-Conservative synagogue known as Temple Beth Sholom), my family and many of the founding families returned in 1951 to the original building on Howell Street, renamed Congregation Mishkon Tfiloh. Determined to keep this venerable synagogue alive, the congregants rededicated the building on Dec. 16, 1951.

The first officers of the reconstituted synagogue were my grandfather Philip Abraams (honorary president), Irwin Priest (president), Max Charren (vice president), Abraham Linder (secretary), and Barnett Pickar (treasurer). All these gentlemen had previously served with distinction in Congregation Ahavath Sholom. My grandfather, who died in 1952,

spent the first half of the 20th century in service to Ahavath Sholom, serving as one of its first treasurers, later one of its most beloved presidents, and finally a revered *gabbai*, and board member.

The congregation continued on Howell Street until the building was demolished as part of an East Side urban renewal project in the late 1950s. My father, Edward Spencer, followed in my grandfather's footsteps by assuming the role of president. From the moment my father, a Holocaust survivor, arrived in Providence in 1946 (he married my mother, Ruth Abraams, a Providence native) until the end of his life in 1996, he was totally dedicated to the preservation of the legacy of the original Ahavath Sholom.

According to my father, the survival of the synagogue was truly miraculous. That they were able to maintain a minyan seemed like a miracle. In a speech he delivered at the 25th anniversary celebration of Mishkon Tfiloh in 1987, he remarked: "In the last years of the *shul* on Howell Street in the 1950s, windows were broken every day. So that we could *aven* and be protected from the rain coming inside, I brought blankets from my house to cover the windows."

A very important part of the connection between Ahavath Sholom and Mishkon Tfiloh is the *Aron Kodesh*. A

preservationist at heart, my father convinced the congregation to save the original *Aron Kodesh* of Ahavath Sholom, its most unique architectural treasure. The hand carved wooden masterpiece with its faux marble finish and extensive gold ornamentation had taken months to complete. When the city of Providence bought the synagogue building, it assumed everything attached to it. After several meetings with the mayor, the congregation received a permit to remove it. Engineers helped figure out how to dismantle it, and the *Aron Kodesh* was cut up into four pieces so that it could be reassembled. It still stands today in the sanctuary of Mishkon Tfiloh on Summit Ave.

Recently the Jewish community on the East Side celebrated its centennial, which was marked by the founding of the Ahavath Sholom Synagogue. The remarkable history of Congregation Mishkon Tfiloh is really the story of the courageous and dedicated men and women who have kept the heart and soul of the first Modern Orthodox synagogue on the East Side alive continuously for over a century.

I wish Mishkon Tfiloh a hearty *mazel tov* on reaching this milestone.

Henry J. Spencer is a native Rhode Islander who now lives in Connecticut.

Letters to the Editor

Tema's gambling column a winner

Thank you for Tema Gouse's excellent column in the June 23rd issue of your paper, regarding the ills which legalized gambling inflicts upon society. A copy of this article

should be sent to the governor and to every legislator.

In my view, not only should gambling (not "gaming") not be expanded in Rhode Island; it should be rolled back! It may

well be that the only solution to our collective addiction will be "cold turkey."

Richard Funk
Providence

Baseball as religion: thanks for the memories

Josh Stein's father just shared his recent column with me. (I was the executive director at Temple Sinai from 1994-2000.)

As a Dodger fan (despite the "sell-out" and a committed Conservative Jew, I really

enjoyed his piece. My office is adorned with Brooklyn Dodger memorabilia including a piece of brick from Ebbets Field and autographs of Duke Snyder, Carl Erskine, Gil Hodges, Clem Labine and Cal Abrams.

Last spring, I took my son

to Vero Beach for the Dodger celebration of the 50th anniversary of the '55 World Series win.

Thanks for a wonderful column.

Harry J. Silverman
Boca Raton, Fla.

Submission Guidelines

Submissions must be signed and include city of residence and telephone number. Letters should be limited to 250 words, and Viewpoint pieces to 700 words. Submissions may be edited for length. Send submissions to: Jewish Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906, or E-mail to: voiceherald@jfri.org.

Federation

FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

A chat with the 'new guy'

How many times have people said to me, "What's it like being Interim Exec?"



Harris N. Rosen

"Now that white smoke has come from the 'chimney' at Federation, will you miss it? My answer will be more complete in my final email on September 28th, as Steve Silberfarb starts October 3rd. But now I say that just about everything that happens in the Jewish community passes over my desk, and it's exciting to be in the center of all this activity. That's part of what I'll miss.

Having said that, Steve and I have been emailing each other on many issues. Last Sunday, he

shared with me why he wanted this position:

"I walked home from services Friday night with our rabbi. Our families have become very close. The rabbi wanted to know what compelled me to leave a place where my family was so happy and my work so meaningful.

"It's very simple, I told him. Since it's too late to become a rabbi, federation work is the only other way to broadly connect Jews to the collective. Federation is the communal table, so to speak. ADL, AIPAC etc. are all great groups with important missions, but in the American Jewish community, only rabbis and federations connect people in this way. JCRC, where I have been for the past seven years, has

a leg of this collective table, as do other critical agencies such as day schools, senior and family services, Hillels and JCCs. As a whole, Federation is the table. I knew he'd immediately understand and he did." On another note, there are quite a few important things going on. Here's what's happening: At an Executive Committee meeting some months back, it was suggested that we need to review our definition of what a "core agency" is, how an agency becomes "core" and what is the association of other agencies to Federation. David Cohen will be the chair of this effort and they hope to have a report by Labor Day.

And then there is "the Split" - that is, the division of campaign dollars between overseas and local after expenses. This was last studied in the 1990's, and it was

decided then to split the money 50/50. Is that still valid? Is that what the community wants? (You know that two Jews have three synagogues, four committees and five opinions etc.) So of course, we're going to have a committee - chaired by Past President Ed Feldstein. They should start to meet in August or September, even though we don't allocate until late winter.

We are evaluating the Gift of Israel program, too, which is funded from unrestricted endowment funds and encourages students in the third through 10th grade of religious school to save for a trip to Israel, by contributing \$200 to match the money that they save and that their school contributes. There are additional expenditures from the fund for administrative and enrollment expenses and also for an educational program and for assisting students plan their trip.

Funded for the past 10 years, David Yavner's committee will recommend whether the program should be continued and if so with what changes. This group has met twice and hopes to complete its work by early August.

The president is away on a vacation, some of the staff is either on vacation or about to go on missions and there are no big meetings or events to plan, so it's supposed to be quiet around here. Supposed to be. But you can't make that judgment from where I sit. Maybe it's why I like doing it; and just maybe that's the action that Steve Silberfarb wants enough to be willing to uproot his entire family and move here.

He won't be disappointed. There will be plenty of work to do.

As always, I look forward to your comments - good or bad. Email me at hrosen@jfri.org.

Federation helps agencies with utility bills Funds exist for 'unanticipated emergencies'

By Jonathan Rubin
jrubin@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE—If filling up your car seems to hurt your pocket, imagine what filling up the oil tank for a 51,000 square foot building must cost.

These costs were considered last year as oil prices surged from the high fifties to \$70 a barrel. "We knew this going to be an expensive winter," said Amy Seigle, director of fund distribution at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

Anticipating that the increased cost of oil wasn't planned for in agency budgets, Federation President Herbert Stern and the JFRI board put aside \$80,000 in 2005 to help the "core" agencies with their heating bills. The five organizations that applied each received full reimbursement for their increased costs last winter. They were:

Jewish Community Center — \$58,000
Jewish Community Day School — \$9,848
Brown Hillel — \$5,800
Bureau of Jewish Education — \$2,380

Providence Hebrew Day School — \$2,100

Other emergencies

But what is an emergency, anyway? Is it an emergency if the caterer cancels at the last second and we need to import kosher food from New York? Or if the executive's car is totaled and he can't get to work?

Seigle admits that there is "no official definition of emergency" in the Federation bylaws, only that needs must be unanticipated. Needs are assessed by the Emergency Committee on a case-by-case basis. Federation Interim Director Hershey Rosen says it's "when there are flashing lights outside your doors."

Emergency funding comes from an Emergency Reserve Fund line in the Federation budget; \$175,000 was put aside for emergencies for 2006. Any non-profit organization that currently receives funds from the Federation may ask (and there are more than 31 locally), although primacy for emergency funds is given to the largest schools and social service agencies. A common instance is for 50 per-

cent of requests to be paid for, although occasionally 100 percent is covered.

Other recipients include the Bureau, which had a mold problem from leaky pipes that was causing respiratory problems for its employees. They had to relocate offices and have all the carpeting removed and the air units fixed, for which the Federation gave them \$85,000.

The Jewish Community Center was putting some of the final touches on its new health club when they noticed something was wrong a few floors above; they discovered the whirlpool bath was leaking and that it was weakening the floor. \$50,000 was allocated to give them a "temporary but safe fix" while the larger picture was examined.

Roofing problems at the Providence Hebrew Day School resulted in \$16,900, and new heating units another \$10,000.

Finally, the South County Jewish Collaborative will receive \$5,000 for engineering issues, including an unforeseen environmental survey to determine if their newly purchased land was built on tribal ruins.

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Jewish Federation of RI seeks Women's Alliance Director

JFRI is seeking candidates for an exciting and meaningful opportunity in the Jewish communal field. The full-time position of Women's Alliance (WA) Director has overall responsibility for all sources of women's philanthropy that come into the Federation system.

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- Women's Alliance Programs & Committees

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Contact Elisa Heath, Campaign Director,
at 401.421.4111, ext. 171 or — eheath@jfri.org.

The Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island operates in collaboration with the Jewish women of the organization in advertising and may be subject to review or pre-approval. Please contact your community member within the greater Rhode Island Jewish community.

Community

JCDS gets \$1.2 M for programming, facility needs



An architect's rendering shows the new entrance to the Jewish Community Day School.

From page 1

pointed out the incredible success rates nationwide for the multi-denominational Jewish school movement.

Darrell Ross, a member of the Partnership and the JFRI board, said, "I can think of nothing better than a school of excellence to attract new families."

Others felt that granting JCDS the funds was too generous, or simply unfair. Many with this perspective were from the Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS), an Orthodox Jewish day school a few blocks from JCDS. Hebrew Day postponed their annual meeting so members could attend that night. Most were up in arms.

"I'm not comfortable with the amount of money that's going to one school and not another. It seems like a huge disparity," said Elissa Felder, board member of both the Federation and Hebrew Day.

Hebrew Day case

Many attendees made a case for increasing funding for PHDS, claiming the school has "severe financial problems." Rabbi Peretz Scheinerman, the school's dean, said the school has been forced to make "implausible and impossible cuts."

Hebrew Day has also submitted a five-year budget to the Federation. Another ad hoc committee, led by Mat Shuster, is examining Hebrew Day's finances, and a full presentation is not expected until the Fall. To those who felt PHDS and JCDS should be evaluated in the same meeting, JFRI President Herb Stern said it wasn't fair to hold up one institution while waiting for another.

A few board members attempted to add amendments or additions to the motion on behalf of PHDS, including adding an \$80,000 rider for the school's "immediate needs,"

postponing the JCDS decision until the Hebrew Day data was collected or only giving JCDS enough for one-year's worth of work and reevaluating it later. None succeeded. Conversations between the Federation and a Bureau Day School Liaison committee are continuing, although some members say both the process and the results so far have been "frustrating."

One worthwhile result is that the needs of Hebrew Day have been put into a more visible limelight. "There were people in that room who spoke up in favor of Hebrew Day who maybe were not even aware of those needs before. That's a positive," said Harry Feld, treasurer of the Bureau and a member of the liaison committee.

\$1.2 M package

The package deal for JCDS includes funding for a complete program reassessment and changes and a facility renovation. Work to be done includes a reconstructed school entrance, greener outdoor space, expanded classrooms and other building repairs that "should have happened 15 years ago," said Dani Steiner, the school's new head.

He said the programmatic and structural changes mirror that school's philosophy of inclusiveness and top-notch education, and that they are essential to boosting enrollment.

"We have the passion right now, we have the faculty in place, and now we need the facility," he said.

Besides the high passions riding either for or against the proposal, the meeting was also unusual in that it was "special meeting" called during the normal summer recess. The meeting was called with only two weeks notice, and some board members and attendees claimed that the meeting was "railroaded through."

JFRI President Herbert Stern acknowledged this concern and said that, "in a perfect world," the school would have finished their work three months ago and brought it to the board in April. However, since a Federation ad-hoc committee had signed off on the school's five-year budget only two weeks before, and with the new school year starting three months away, Stern said that postponing a vote would have prolonged the decision for a full year.

One person expressed concern that the \$200,000 a year coming from the Federation's unrestricted endowment would reduce money for other community organizations by roughly 23 percent.

Others at the meeting were concerned that the funds at stake focused too much on the day schools, which have about 310 students combined, and not enough on the two dozen supplementary and synagogue schools, which collectively teach about 1,900 students. Stern said that the Bureau was preparing a "white paper" that would address the statewide education needs, with special focus on the synagogue schools.

Susan Leach DiBlasio, of Providence, said, "It's no secret that we need to have a community of excellence...We just

never get there. If we don't do this tonight in 40 years your children will be in Baltimore or San Diego instead of Rhode Island."

The final vote was 35 for and five against the motion, with eight abstentions.

Construction will begin immediately. The school is confident the classrooms will be finished by August and hope the administrative offices will

be done by September. A grand opening celebration is planned for Sept. 5.

The Federation first supported the idea of creating the school by granting them \$425,000 in start-up costs in February of 2005. Soon after, the Alperin Schechter Day School voted to officially become the JCDS (see an extensive timeline at www.jvhri.org).

The details on the \$1.2 million

The following is a breakdown of the \$1.2 million approved for the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS) at the June 26 Federation board meeting. These funds come out of the Federation's unrestricted endowment:

a. \$1 million for varied programmatic expenses to implement its new vision, \$200,000 per year over five years. School must raise \$1 million in same period.

b. \$225,000 for facility improvements — bigger classrooms, new entrance, improved art space, painting, sprinkler systems, and more. School must raise same amount.

c. Federation will pay interest on a \$400,000 line of credit for the school for short-term cash flow needs for a maximum of six years.

d. Oversight and review by the Bureau of Jewish Education at least once annually.

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Community

At these games, everybody wins

By Frank Belsky

Ilan Kawalsky, 56, Israeli basketball player turned coach, author, lecturer, TV commentator and visionary, revisited the University of Rhode Island's World Scholar-Athlete Games — June 26 through July 2 — to coach an Israeli team for the fourth consecutive time since 1993. This time the world took notice.

Kawalsky, with the support of the American-Israel Friendship League, assembled an atypical team of two Jewish and two Arabic Israelis.

Maayan Naimi, 19, and her Israeli Defense Force companion, Tair Kawalsky, 19, Ilan's daughter, both of Herzliya, accompanied Rawan Qudsi, a 17-year-old Muslim girl and Rawi Awayed, 16, an Arabic Christian boy, both of Nazareth. The four first met at Ben Gurion International Airport, in Tel Aviv the day before the games began. It was the first time that either Naimi or Kawalsky met one of Israel's 1.3 million Arabic citizens.

"At home, I have no contact with Arab Israelis although I've made no effort to keep apart. We don't cross paths," Tair Kawalsky said.

But, she adds, that from now on, some will be close friends.

She laments that, "we're taught that the world is bad or good and that there is no gray. Here [in Kingston] we learn that the world is not all black and white."

Awayed, who has been working with Israelis of all backgrounds, through a computer program sponsored by Cisco, the Internet giant, echoes Kawalsky's sentiments.



PARTICIPATING IN THE RECENT WORLD SCHOLAR ATHLETE GAMES held at the University of R.I. were, from left, Maayan Naimi, Tair Kawalsky, Rawan Qudsi, Ilan Kawalsky, and Rawi Awayed, all from Israel.

"You think that Jews are people who kill Palestinians and Palestinians believe that Israelis are people who kill Palestinians. It's surprising to see that they are all people like me. Not all Jews are bad or good. They are like everybody else I know."

Additionally, adds Ilan Kawalsky, "My experience has taught me that it takes about a day for kids to notice that the other doesn't have horns."

Discarding prejudices was the theme of the Games that began with a keynote address delivered by former President Bill

Clinton.

Clinton told 2,500 representatives of 155 countries that, "You can't get away from each other, but you can hold hands and make sure that your children and their grandchildren will also have the chances to live their dreams."

Awayed appreciated Clinton's perspective. But Rawan Qudsi doesn't trust any world leader. "Their first consideration is their own self-interest."

Kawalsky, buoyed by his belief that familiarity breeds harmony, disagrees with the conventional wisdom, which presumes that technology brings us together. "On television you only see hate. You see war. You don't see oranges growing, charity, hospitality or affection. The reason is that the media wants action and has no patience for peace, no patience for relationships, or these games."

"They want fights. They want bombs. They want ratings, not reality."

"They only show the piece of reality that inflames hatred and distrust."

Kawalsky sees a narrowing perspective as an impediment to harmony. "The point of these games is to show the truth."

Regardless, the 27-year veteran professional coach, was so overwhelmed by the bonding he witnessed at the 1993 World Scholar Athlete Games, that he, along with good friend, Arië Bornemann, established the Middle East Mediterranean Scholar-Athlete Games, held in Tel



From left, Maayan Naimi and Rawi Awayed "force a smile" out of Tair Kawalsky as the three wait for the Games to begin.

Aviv in 2000. They included participants from Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Israel, Cyprus, Greece and Turkey.

But "games" may be a misleading. The athletes and scholars are randomly assigned to sports teams without regard to proficiency. Kawalsky likens the experience to a summer camp with an emphasis on discussion.

William Behrer III, Chief Operating Officer of the American Israeli Friendship League, founded in 1973, has been bringing together students from Russia, Israel and the United States since 1981. He says that competition is de-emphasized.

The objective is unity. "At the World Scholar Athlete Games, we're dealing with young leaders, students who have been chosen because of their ability and willingness to do things that bring about the common good. When you deal with leadership, success in a particular area of expertise is not a requirement."

(Incidentally, there are just two minimum criteria. Scholar-athletes must maintain a grade point average of at least 3.2 and be between 16 to 19 years old.)

"Someone may be a wonderful artist," said Behrer, "but be so locked into their art that they are closed to anything else. In the AIFL and the World Scholar Athlete Games, we select students who exhibit a wide variety of talents and abilities and bring them together."

Behrer looks forward to another beginning. The AIFL is considering creating a State chapter in Rhode Island to complement others in Utah, California and Arizona. He solicits feedback at www.aifl.org.

The AIFL, one of a handful of associations that support Israeli-Arab interaction, maintains a staff of 11 at offices in New York and Tel Aviv.

Meanwhile, Kawalsky remains driven by a dream. He says, "it's my hope that some of the 15,000 kids I've coached will one day lead the world."

Frank Belsky is a freelance journalist who lives in Pawcatuck.

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"PAWSITIVELY GREAT STUFF FOR YOUR PET"

From page 4

Ido, who lives and goes to school in one of the northernmost tips of the country. His only response to the situation was annoyance that his test had been cancelled and school closed indefinitely, and disappointment that he wouldn't

be able to keep his plans with his girlfriend to go hiking in the Galilee. Beyond that, he assured me, he had "no worries."

After hearing about the first Katyusha rocket strike on central Haifa, I immediately called Gideon, my good friend and stand-in father over here, to check on him and hear his assessment. The first call consisted only of, "I'm alive, you alive? OK, I'm in a meeting, I'll call you later."

When he called back, he just sighed and told me that this is simply part of the routine here. When I protested that I had never experienced it and therefore it couldn't be that typical, he reminded me that this routine spans fifty years, not just my time here as an immigrant.

Receiving (and launching) missile attacks every few years and engaging in wars at least once a decade is simply "par for the course" for Israel, and Gideon

Alison on Aliyah

assured me that, regardless of the short-term difficulties involved, the long-term outcome always had been and would always be our prevailing over our enemies.

While Americans point to the new technology and the stronger force being used, and

the people around me. There is a sense of slightly detached interest and sadness, and while everyone wonders when the situation will end, no one seems to express any real belief that a resolution is at all imminent. When I was in the corner store early this morning,

I commented to the shopkeeper that things appeared to have been relatively quiet overnight, but his response was only,

"Ecchh, it's a war zone up there, there's nothing to be done."

I tend to feel strange when people ask how I am doing, and I wonder whether it is OK to say I am fine when the nation is bleeding. There is an unspoken understanding that we have to acknowledge the situation before we can go on talking about ourselves and go about our normal business. Yes, I suppose it is a war zone in Israel, in each and every home, even down here in Be'er Sheva. But I still think we're prevailing.

Alison Stern Galub was born and grew up in Seattle, Washington and is a graduate of Brown University. You can email her at Alison_Galub@hotmail.com, and read more about her adventures on her website at www.alisonstern-galub.com.

It is the periods of quiet that are unusual, not the periods of war,

therefore the more frightening nature of this "new war," Israelis just resignedly remark that this is simply another chapter in the same old war they have been fighting since 1948.

It is the periods of quiet that are unusual, not the periods of war, and the recurring hope that the respite from fighting are true resolutions, is only dashed anew every time Israel realizes that the enemy was only biding its time, stockpiling weaponry and acquiring new ways to attempt our destruction. I suppose Gideon's defeated sigh is only a sign of his acceptance of this painful reality, and I suppose that the Israeli populace's collective lack of panic in these days is only further proof of the fact that each new chapter in this war just beats us down a little bit more.

I can see it in the faces of



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Mikveh gets freshened up

Jewish ritual bath gets much-needed facelift

By Jonathan Rubin

jrubin@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — After years of planning and fundraising, a dedicated group of Providence women have succeeded in making sure that one of Judaism's oldest rituals will be pleasant and meaningful.

At the end of May, the Mikveh Ladies Association of Rhode Island held an open house to showcase the overhaul given to the Rhode Island Community Mikveh, or Jewish ritual bath. Used primarily for important and private moments — monthly immersions for observant Jewish women and for conversions, the mikveh (pronounced mick-vah) is located behind the Jewish Community Center in Providence. Men may use the mikveh before

High Holidays or on other occasions if they wish. A separate compartment of the mikveh is also used to kasher dishes.

Brightening up the whole area are the new tile floors in the waiting room and the refinished pool walls. A new wheelchair-accessible changing room has been added.

"This is like night and days" said Valerie Shore, a renovations co-chair and one of the "pool chemists" who maintains the water's cleanliness.

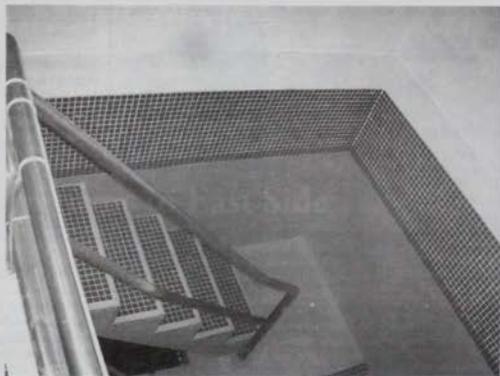
"This work is really just 'phase one' of a number of projects being considered, funds permitting. The mikveh ladies are considering other upgrades, including adding a third bathroom that is wheelchair accessible, and rebuilding some floors.

The project's two main contributors were Dr. Morris Keller, who donated to the mikveh in memory of his wife, Rebecca, an ardent educator on the topic of mikveh, and the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, which funded the new ventilation system and a hot water heater. The upgrade has been topped off with new toiletries and fluffy robes.

Elianna bids farewell

In addition to the mikveh's new look, another major milestone occurred last month; Elianna Bresler, the literal one-woman show who ran and maintained the tangle of cisterns, pipes, ducts, cleansers and fixtures that compose the institution, announced her retirement. For a few years, she worked with Deborah Hirschon, but for the recent past the word "mikveh" has been synonymous with Elianna. However, after the construction was finished, she felt it was time to step down.

"A mikveh is an awesome place where human needs are transformed into sacred



The main pool of the Rhode Island Community Mikveh.

acts," Bresler said in a good-bye letter to the community. "It was an honor to be trusted with its care."

In testimony to her tremendous efforts, she is being replaced not by one person, but a committee of more than 15. The newly formed executive committee is headed by Marcie Ingber and Sigal Moise, and the mikveh is planning educational programs for the greater community.

The JCC mikveh is a community mikveh, and may be used by men and women of any Jewish denomination. Women's appointments are scheduled for evenings only.

Fees vary depending on use from \$5 to

\$120, but every family is asked to contribute at least \$180 annually for maintenance.

To schedule an appointment or to learn more, their new number is 621-9119.

To learn more about kashering (or "toiveling") dishes or to make an appointment, please call Deborah Hirschon at 421-6254.



Photo by Jonathan Rubin

Dr. Morris Keller, one of the key benefactors who helped to make the mikveh renovation possible, stands with his daughters Shira Leeder and Debbie Moscovitz.



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News briefs

HARTFORD, CONN. Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) is facing a tight race for re-election, not only from Republicans but also from his own party. Democrats, angered by his strong support of the war in Iraq, are flocking to support Ned Lamont in the state primary, Aug. 8. Lieberman, the Democratic nominee for vice-president in 2000, may run as an independent if he does not win the nomination, thus raising the possibility of Democrats losing a key seat in the Senate. — *LOS ANGELES JEWISH JOURNAL*

NEW YORK: The Rabbinical Council of America, the nation's largest Orthodox group, has unanimously ruled that Jewish law bans smoking. "We should have done it years ago," said Rabbi Basil Herring, RCA's Executive Vice-President.

"But it is never too late to put an end to certain things that should be formally recognized for the evil that they are." The ban is expected to have the greatest impact on young men and women who develop relationships with their rabbis. — *NEW YORK JEWISH WEEK*

WASHINGTON: National Jewish organizations across the ideological board are urging the

U. S. Senate to pass legislation expanding embryonic stem cell research despite a threat by President Bush to veto such a bill. Hadassah, the Orthodox Union and the Reform Movement are among those who are lobbying for its passage. — *JTA*

LOS ANGELES: Comedian Red Buttons, nee Aaron Chwatt, whose bright red hair and diminutive stature earned him the title "World's only Yiddish leprechaun," has died in Los Angeles at the age of 87. Buttons won an Oscar as best supporting actor in 1957 for his role in "Sayonara" but was best known as a comedian who got his start in the Catskills "borscht belt" and in burlesque. — *JTA*

BUENOS AIRES: Argentina has decreed a national day of mourning for the 85 persons who lost their lives in the terrorist bombing of a Jewish center in Buenos Aires 12 years ago. It is the first time that the tragedy has been marked on a nationwide basis. The crime remains unsolved but the Argentine president, Nestor Kirchner is the first to openly push for an investigation to locate and try the perpetrators of the massacre. — *JTA*

CLEVELAND: Ghazi Fad-

doul, a Lebanese Christian now living in Cleveland, might be the last person you would expect to be running a kosher restaurant, and in a Jewish Community Center of all places, but those who remember when the Cuyahoga River caught fire in Cleveland will not be surprised at anything that happens there. Mr. Faddoul has a friend who is a member of the JCC and knew it was looking to upgrade its eating facilities. Mr. Faddoul is in the food business so presto — The world's first kosher Subway restaurant was born, featuring turkey ham, soy cheese, a mashgaf and all the fixings. — *FORWARD*

LONDON: In case you were wondering about the real identity of Jack the Ripper, London's notorious serial killer in the late 1890s, you may set your mind at rest. Turns out it was Aaron Kosminski, a Polish Jewish barber who had been a suspect at the time. The Chief Inspector who handled the case left some notes which have only now become known in which he names Kosminski as the culprit although it is not clear why he didn't make this known at the time. The suspect died in an insane asylum some years later. — *JTA*

Compiled by Yehuda Lev

Israel, after long fight, gets into Red Cross

NEW YORK, (JTA) - Israel's admission to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement was the result of 58 years of aggressive, sustained lobbying.

But it also was due to some last minute maneuvering at the Red Cross conference in Geneva this week.

The conference, which drew 192 Red Cross states and 183

national emergency relief societies, was convened to determine if Israel's emergency services agency, Magen David Adom, should be allowed to join the international humanitarian organization.

Thursday's final vote was decisive: 237 in favor of Magen David Adom and 54 against, with 44 abstentions.

Previous attempts to gain

entry had been blocked by Arab and Islamic countries, which latched onto the agency's Star of David logo as a pretext to reject the Israeli agency.

But that point of contention was cleared up in December, when a neutral symbol - a red crystal - was allowed. That satisfied the last condition Israel needed to submit its membership application to the Red Cross, though Arab and Islamic countries still tried to block the vote.

The American Red Cross also played a leading role in the campaign. Since 2000, the ARC has withheld \$42 million in dues, 25 percent of the international federation's annual income.

After the ruling, Rabbi Danny Allen, executive vice president of American Friends of Magen David Adom, called it a "vote for humanity over sectarian politics."

The chairwoman of the American Red Cross, Bonnie McElveen-Hunter, agreed, citing it as a "remarkable and long-overdue response to the inclusion of all the principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and their ability to do work."



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National / International

Church reverses course on divestment

By Rachel Pomerance

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., JTA - The movement to divest from Israel is restless, constantly seeking and finding fertile ground - but so far, at least, ultimately losing in every arena.

So it was in academia. In the early years of the Palestinian intifada, when divestment backers circulated petitions for universities to drop their holdings in companies that do business in Israel, counter petitions drew masses of signatures, dwarfing the original effort.

The latest attempt by the Presbyterian Church USA has come to the same end with the passage of a resolution that replaces the 2004 call for divestment with a policy of peaceful investment in Israel, the Gaza Strip and West Bank. The resolution passed the church's General Assembly by a vote of 483-28, with one abstention.

Still, this arguably was American Jewry's most difficult battle yet on the divestment front.

The Jewish community was facing the prestige of an influential American church, whose allegiance to Palestinian Christians stems from 150 years of missionary work in the region. That alliance enabled the Presbyterian Church USA to pass a resolution two summers ago, at its last General Assembly, calling for "phased, selective divestment in multinational corporations operating in Israel."

France marks centennial of Dreyfus affair

By Brett Kline

PARIS - A century after Capt. Alfred Dreyfus succeeded in clearing his name of treason charges that became a national scandal and helped launch the Zionist movement, France is lauding the outcome as a "victory for the republic" - but warning that the scourge of anti-Semitism remains.

President Jacques Chirac led a ceremony Wednesday at the Ecole Militaire, the site where Dreyfus was stripped of his military honors in 1895 after being wrongfully convicted of treason.

"From a Jewish family deeply faithful to the French republic and a graduate of the elite Polytechnic grande école," Chirac said, Dreyfus "had begun an exemplary career. And suddenly, the man was caught in the snowball effect of a judicial error."

"This rehabilitation is a victory for the republic of France," Chirac continued. "But the battle against hatred and anti-Semitism has not been won."

The Dreyfus affair divided

The Presbyterian move inspired several other Protestant churches to examine the divestment option, though none went as far as the Presbyterians.

But just as American Jewish groups rolled out a major offensive to educate Jewish students and advocate for Israel as the campus divestment drive gained steam, they crafted a unified response to church divestment efforts.

It was "an almost unprecedented mobilization," along the lines of the undertaking to free Soviet Jewry decades ago, said Ethan Felson, assistant executive director for the Jewish Council for Public Affairs.

The JCFA joined the major U.S. Jewish defense groups and religious streams to work in a broad coalition. Some five dozen conference calls later, and after focus groups and dialogue between Jews and Presbyterians in synagogues, churches and community centers across the country, the Presbyterians shifted course.

At its General Assembly in Birmingham, the church's peace-making and international issues committee held exhaustive hearings before crafting and passing, with overwhelming support, a resolution in response to the controversial 2004 move.

The new resolution replaces the divestment call with a policy of "corporate engagement" that restricts the church to peaceful investments in the region. It also

backtracks from the previous call to dismantle Israel's West Bank security barrier, saying instead that it should follow the route of Israel's pre-1967 boundary.

Jewish groups rejoiced at the passage of the reformed resolution. Yet shortly after the new resolution passed, national church officials argued that it merely clarified the 2004 motion - which they claimed had been misunderstood - and said that divestment remains an option.

Asked to elaborate on the distinction between the 2004 and the resolution from this year and 2004, the church's chief ecclesiastical officer, Cliff Kirkpatrick, said, "Divestment has never been the end goal," which he said has always been to "invest in peace." The new resolution clarifies the church's longstanding policy to promote reconciliation among all parties, he said.

However, pro-Israel activists say divestment is now beside the point: The new resolution apologizes for the 2004 motion and restores balance to a process that had singled out Israel for rebuke.

Some said it would be wrong to view this week's result solely as a Jewish victory.

Just as much, it restored "the soul of the Presbyterian church," said anti-divestment activist William Harter, a pastor from Pennsylvania who is secretary-treasurer of the National Christian Leadership Conference for Israel.



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**HOGAN
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Blair, Annan want int'l force in Lebanon

Tony Blair and Kofi Annan called for an international force to end the fighting between Israel and Hezbollah. Speaking separately, the British prime minister and the U.N. secretary-general called Monday for a force much larger than the 2,000-member U.N. observer force currently in southern Lebanon.

are returned; cross-border rocket salvos and other attacks cease; and Hezbollah is disbanded in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 1559.

"Enough is enough," Olmert said. Referring to the Lebanese government's unwillingness to confront Hezbollah, he said, "A people that does not defend its liberty does not deserve it." Olmert thanked the Israeli political opposition, led by Benjamin Netanyahu, for its support and said the armed forces were boosted by the knowledge that millions of Jews around the world were praying for them.

grams say they will stay in Israel despite escalating violence.

"At this critical point in time for the State of Israel and the Jewish people, we the Jewish youth movements and Israel Experience providers from all across North America, responsible for more than 5,000 Jewish teenagers who are traveling in Israel this summer, want to let the North American Jewish community know that our participants are in very safe hands and are continuing to have the experience of a lifetime," said the letter from Young Judea, Ramah, BBYO, United Synagogue Youth, Union for Reform Judaism, the Alexander Mess Institute and the Elie and Bessie Cohen Camps.

Israelis back offensive

The vast majority of Israelis back the offensive in Lebanon, a survey found.

According to the Yedioth Achronon poll published Tuesday, 86 percent of Israelis described as justified the shelling of Lebanese infrastructure launched after Hezbollah militiamen killed eight Israeli soldiers and abducted another two in a border raid last week.

More than half of respondents said Israel should press the offensive until Hezbollah chief Sheik Hassan Nasrallah is killed. Asked by Yedioth to rate their performances in the crisis, 78 percent of respondents praised Olmert and 72 percent commended Peretz.

Olmert sets terms for end to violence

Ehud Olmert defended Israel's military offensive in Lebanon. In his first Knesset address since Hezbollah sparked a severe crisis by killing eight Israeli soldiers and abducting two others in a cross-border raid, the Israeli prime minister set three terms for a cessation of violence: That the two hostages

Peres: Iran, Syria not in Israel's sights

Israel won't extend its fight with Hezbollah to Iran and Syria, Shimon Peres said.

Asked about media reports Wednesday that Israel's offensive in Lebanon could soon spill over into attacks on Hezbollah's patrons, Iran and Syria, the vice prime minister told Army Radio, "No, God forbid."

Peres described the eight-day-old campaign of shelling as a targeted response to a Hezbollah border raid last week in which eight Israeli soldiers were killed and two others abducted.

"It is important to stress that this is self-defense. We are not trying to create a new world order," he said.

North American Jews to stay in Israel

North American Jewish youth groups on summer pro-

Israel destroys Iranian-made missile

Israel said it destroyed an Iranian-made, long-range missile in Lebanon. The Zelzal missile that Israel said it destroyed, can reach Tel Aviv.

O.U. calls for prayer

Orthodox groups called for a nationwide night of prayer and study in support of Israel. The Orthodox Union and the Rabbinical Council of America are asking Jews to gather in synagogues across North America on Wednesday night to recite psalms and other designated prayers in support of Israel as its conflict with Hezbollah escalates.

The organizations also are calling for Torah study, which they describe as a key means of spiritual support. The O.U.'s executive vice president, Rabbi Tsvi Hersh Weinreb, will lead a central service and study session at O.U. headquarters in Manhattan. The service may be viewed at www.ou.org.

Pentagon sells fuel to Israel

The U.S. Defense Department is selling Israel jet fuel "to keep peace and security in the region," the Pentagon said. Last Friday's statement announcing the sale did not say when Israel requested the fuel, valued at up to \$210 million. "The proposed sale of the JP-8 aviation fuel will enable Israel to maintain the operational capability of its aircraft inventory," the Pentagon said in the notice of such sales that it's required to give Congress, according to a Reuters report. The fuel will be consumed while Israeli aircraft are "in use to keep peace and security in the region," the notice said.

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ISRAEL AT WAR



Photo: Larry Luxner/JTA

Frightened residents cram into a bomb shelter in the northern Israeli town of Carmiel amid a Katyusha rocket barrage last Saturday.

As Israelis hole up in shelters, they're scared, bored and angry

By Larry Luxner

CARMIEL, Israel, July 16 (JTA) — Colorful rainbows, choo-choo trains and flowers decorate the walls of the neighborhood bomb shelter in Carmiel, but amid the overflowing toilets, foul smells and tension of war this weekend, nobody seemed to notice. On Saturday and then again on Sunday, more than 100 people crammed into the underground shelter as Katyusha rockets launched by Hezbollah terrorists rained down on Carmiel, a picturesque town nestled in the mountains of northern Israel.

Between towns, the highways were virtually deserted as Israelis largely obeyed an order not to go outside unless absolutely necessary.

The shelter, known in Hebrew as a miklat, is a staple of every residential complex in

Israel. And this one was supposed to protect residents of Carmiel's Givat Ram neighborhood in the event of an attack. But neighbors complain that the shelter's water pipes are broken, that the toilets don't work — and that the shelter was locked by municipal authorities at the very moment it was needed the most.

"This is ridiculous. We're paying as much in taxes as anyone else!" Ilana Fleischman screamed, in full view of TV reporters that had come to cover the latest rocket devastation.

But with the distant booming of Katyusha rockets becoming louder and more frequent, only a few brave souls ventured out — and when one boom sounded particularly close, everyone rushed back into the shelter, some in near-hysteria.

Standing nearby was

Aharon Armejanov, who was born in Azerbaijan and moved to Israel in 1974.

"I am definitely not afraid," he said. "At the same time, I'm not looking to be a hero. I have four children. I'm a veteran of the Lebanon War, so it doesn't make any difference anymore," he said, referring to the 1982 conflict.

With boredom creeping in, political debates in the bomb shelters were inevitable.

"We made a big mistake when we withdrew from Lebanon. This gave Hezbollah time to build up their weapons," Armejanov told JTA.

"We need peace, but you must pay for this peace with blood," Levi said.

Not all of Carmiel's victims of Hezbollah's aggression think Israel should launch a full-scale invasion of Lebanon.

"We need our soldiers at home. They are our children," said Ludmila Daich.

Ludmila and her husband, Peter, were sitting in their modest home just across the street from the neighborhood shelter when a Katyusha ripped through the ceiling — leaving shattered glass all over their bed and shards of broken concrete in their front yard.

"I was thinking of going to the shelter, but it was closed, so I came back here," said Peter, a Ukrainian immigrant who settled in Carmiel 10 years ago.

"I was here with my wife and daughter-in-law and her son. They live in Malot, but they came here because she thought it would be safer in Carmiel."

It was much the same story in Tiberias, which was slammed by eight Katyushas over the weekend.

One of those missiles hit

the fourth floor of an apartment building; fortunately, its occupants were vacationing in Tel Aviv.

"I was sitting with my kids on the balcony, looking out at the Kinneret," said Asher Ya'ish, 60. "Half an hour after it happened, my daughter had arrived from Haifa, thinking it would be safer here."

But safety is a relative term, and nobody feels in Tiberias these days.

"I can't believe it. It's like a

nightmare," said Ya'ish. "I never thought this could happen."

After the mid-afternoon attack at the residential complex, a crowd quickly gathered at the site of the destruction, with one middle-aged man screaming "Nasrallah, we're not afraid of you! We will destroy you!" before the TV cameras, referring to Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah.

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ISRAEL AT WAR

Despite Hezbollah's evolution, opposition to Israel remains constant

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Hezbollah's evolution from its creation after Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon to its current role in provoking a major military confrontation underscores how far the group has come and how it continues to be a force with which Israel must contend.

Under the leadership of Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, Hezbollah is one of the strongest bodies in Lebanon. Nasrallah is both a determined religious man and a master of psychological warfare.

With 20,000 troops and at least 10,000 rockets trained on northern Israel, Hezbollah remains a potent force in Lebanon — the only remaining private militia.

Its popular strength also derives from its civilian arm: It runs hospitals, schools, food distribution centers, orphanages and a television station, partly thanks to an estimated \$60 million in annual aid from Iran.

When Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 to rout out the Palestinian terrorist activity across its northern border, relations between Israel and Amal, a Shi'ite political and paramilitary organization, were cordial.

But soon Nasrallah followed his teacher, Abbas Musawi, out of Amal, and formed the radical group Hezbollah — "the party of God."

Iran sent a force of some 1,500 Revolutionary Guards to help the new organization, whose focus was to expel Israeli and Western forces from Lebanon.

As anti-Israeli operations in

Lebanon intensified, an Israeli missile struck Musawi's motorcade in 1992 and killed him. Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, asked Nasrallah to replace Musawi. Today, Iran and Syria are Hezbollah's main patrons, supplying the organization with arms and funds.

Hezbollah views the Iranian model of an Islamic state as the most desirable form of government. Given Lebanon's religious diversity, however, Hezbollah does not consider an Islamic state there a viable political option.

In the June 2005 elections, Hezbollah won 23 seats in Lebanon's 128-member Parliament, and holds the Energy Ministry. Some hoped that political power would moderate the group and compel it to act more responsibly, but there has been little indication of a change in Hezbollah's outlook or behavior.

Hezbollah supports the destruction of Israel and cooperates with other militant Islamic organizations, such as Hamas, to promote this goal.

Hezbollah attacks on the Israel Defense Force were an important factor in Israel's decision to evacuate its southern Lebanon security zone in May 2000.

In September 1984, seven months after U.S. forces withdrew from Lebanon, Hezbollah supporters staged a second attack on the U.S. Embassy annex in Beirut. Twenty more people were killed.

Elements of Hezbollah have been linked to involvement in the kidnapping, detention and torture of some 30 American and other

Western hostages between 1982 and 1992. Among the hostages were U.S. Army Col. William Higgins and William Buckley, the CIA's Beirut station chief.

During the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, Hezbollah fought the IDF and the Israeli-backed South Lebanese Army. It refused to disarm itself, in violation of the 1990 accords that ended Lebanon's civil war.

Hezbollah also ignored U.N. Security Council resolutions ordering that it disarm, feeling it has political backing from Iran and Syria and popular support because of its successful guerrilla warfare against Israel.

"For us Lebanese, Hezbollah is a national resistance movement," Lebanon President Emile Lahoud once said. "If it wasn't for them, we couldn't have liberated our land."

Hezbollah has continued fighting Israel even after the Israeli withdrawal, inventing a claim to the Sheba Farms area of the Golan Heights and demanding that Israel evacuate that area. Israel has refused, claiming that the farms were territory captured from Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War, not Lebanese territory.

Shortly after the withdrawal, Hezbollah killed three Israeli soldiers in a cross-border attack and brought their bodies back to Lebanon. The group later kidnapped Israeli businessman Elhanan Tannenbaum, a colonel in the Israeli army reserves, which led to an exchange of prisoners on Jan. 29, 2004.

Israel exchanged some 30 Lebanese and Arab prisoners, the remains of 60 Lebanese militants and civilians, 420 Palestinian prisoners and maps showing Israeli mines in southern Lebanon for Tannenbaum and the remains of the three IDF soldiers.

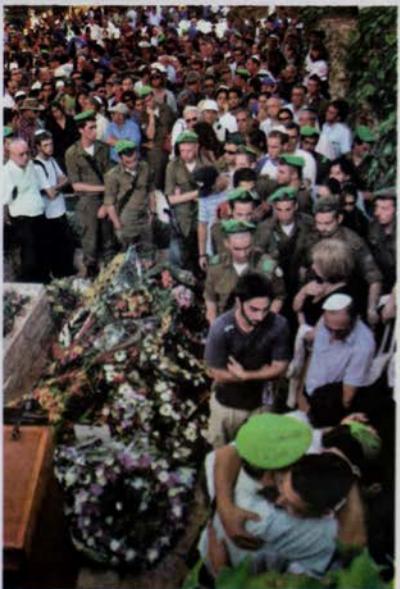
Among the released Lebanese prisoners were Shi'ite activist Mustafa Dirani and Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, one of the leaders of Hezbollah.

Palestinian terrorist groups draw inspiration from Hezbollah's success fighting Israel, and Israel says Hezbollah is involved in training and arming Hamas. Israel also has blamed Hezbollah for attempts to draw Israeli Arabs into terrorist activities.

When Jordan arrested Hezbollah members trying to smuggle Katyusha rockets into the West Bank, Nasrallah said, "It is a duty to send arms to Palestinians from any possible place."



Locations of rocket attacks in Northern Israel in the past two weeks. Graphic by JTA.



Friends of Nimrod Cohen, 19, grieve during his funeral in Jerusalem, Thursday, July 13. Nimrod was one of eight Israeli soldiers killed during cross border attacks and the kidnapping of two by Hezbollah.



Photo by JTA

WAITING IT OUT — Saani Schwarz, 7 months, lies between her mother Yifat Schwarz, right, and a friend, Daniel Hazan, in a bomb shelter in the Bat Galim neighborhood of Haifa, Tuesday, July 18, 2006. Hezbollah continued to fire rockets at northern Israel resulting in one death and many injuries.

ISRAEL AT WAR

Jewish groups launch 'full-court press' to support Israel

By Chanan Tigay

PHILADELPHIA (JTA) — The American Jewish community is mobilizing on several fronts to assert Israel's right to defend itself in the face of increasingly bold Arab attacks.

As Hezbollah rockets rained down on northern Israel and the Israel Defense Forces launched fresh attacks in Lebanon, American Jewish organizations were stressing the complicity of both Iran and Syria in the escalation.

They were also urging world leaders to condemn the offensives, praising President Bush for his quick statement of support for Israeli actions and pointing out that the attacks — both from the Gaza Strip in the South and Lebanon in the North — were emanating from areas Israel has already evacuated.

Several thousand protesters descended upon the United Nations this week in a show of support for the Jewish state. Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.), Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel and Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Dan Gilerman, were among those speaking out of Israel's defense at the July 17 rally.

The rally, sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, was the second one in New York within a week. Similar rallies took place around the country, including Rhode Island July 20 (see photos next issue).

Participants at Monday's rally, who came out in droves despite the blazing hot New York sun, carried Israeli flags, placards

reading "Israel Must Defend Itself" and "Stop the Terror" — and water bottles. From time to time, they erupted in well-known Hebrew ballads and chanted "America stands with Israel."

Clinton condemned the "unwarranted, unprovoked attacks from Hamas, Hezbollah and their state sponsors," and called these groups "the new totalitarians of the 21st century."

Wiesel described the threat more poetically.

"Violence is their objective, murder their obsession and hatred their language," he said.

"They and only they are responsible for the lives lost in Gaza — not Israel."

Within hours of news July 12 that the Lebanese militia Hezbollah had killed eight Israeli soldiers along the northern border and kidnapped two more, a flurry of news releases from American Jewish organizations went out almost simultaneously in support of Israel.

The Conference of Presidents, in partnership with the Rabbinical Council of America, has set up a system to forward American messages of support for Israel to the White House, the Israeli Prime Minister's Office, the Israel Defense Forces and the U.N. secretary-general. E-mails can be sent to WeStandWithIsrael@rabbis.org.

UJC has established the Israel Crisis Fund to aid vulnerable Israelis including the young, the elderly, immigrants, the disabled and victims of terror. Some \$1 million has already been committed to the fund. Donations can be made through www.jfri.org.



Several thousand protesters demonstrate at the United Nations in New York on Monday, July 17 to show their support for Israel.



ANALYSIS

Results of slugfest will be felt for years

By Leslie Susser

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Fighting in the ongoing Israeli-Hezbollah standoff has been confined to two of the Middle East's smallest countries, but the outcome could have major strategic implications for the region as a whole.

The dismantling or severe weakening of the Shi'ite militia would be a major blow against global terrorism, rogue states Syria and Iran and possibly even Iran's nuclear plans, Israeli analysts maintain. But, they warn, if Hezbollah emerges intact as a fighting force, Israeli prestige and the global war on terrorism could suffer significant setbacks.

In the Israeli view, time is of the essence: If the international community does not allow Israel the time it needs to finish the job, the result could be a strategic defeat, analysts say, adding that Washington's position on the timeframe will be crucial.

The intensive Israeli bombing of Lebanese infrastructure and Hezbollah targets was triggered by Hezbollah's capture of two Israeli soldiers July 12 in an ambush in which eight other soldiers were killed.

The aim of Israel's tough military response was to change the rules of the game, Defense Minister Amir Peretz declared last week, adding that Israel would not allow Hezbollah militants to return to their border positions or continue to use rockets to threaten Israel.

But there is much more at stake. One of the unstated goals of the operation is to restore Israel's deterrent capacity: When the dust settles, will Israel be perceived as

the fragile spider's web Hezbollah chief Sheik Hassan Nasrallah likens it to, or as a regional superpower, capable of setting the Middle Eastern agenda? The strong air force response was intended to send the second message.

Some analysts put the stakes even higher, and see in Israel's fight against Hezbollah the front line in the West's battle against global terrorism. Maj.-Gen. (res.) Ya'acov Amidror, a former head of research in military intelligence, identifies three strategic gains that would ensue from Hezbollah's military demise: The capacity of Israel's enemies to produce terrorism would be significantly reduced, Lebanon would become a truly democratic country, a cornerstone in American efforts to democratize the Middle East, and, most important, the West's campaign to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear power would receive a major boost.

Hezbollah's decisive defeat would reverberate in Gaza and Tehran. Analysts say that images of destruction in Lebanon could dampen Palestinian terrorist morale and signal to Iran the kind of fate that might be in store for it if it continues to defy the West on the nuclear issue.

International conditions for Israeli action have never been more favorable. In the post-Sept. 11 world, Hezbollah is isolated in the international community. Even Arab countries like Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan blamed the militant group's "irresponsibility," rather than Israel, for the current crisis.

The endgame will depend on

the military results on the ground and just how much of Hezbollah's Katyusha rocket capability Israel is able to destroy. It also will depend on whether Israel feels compelled to send in ground forces to nullify Hezbollah's remaining rocket power. For now, Iran and Syria are sending Hezbollah messages encouraging it to stand firm.

In a Knesset address Monday, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert outlined Israel's public conditions for ending the crisis: return of the kidnapped soldiers, an end to Hezbollah's rocket fire and the deployment of Lebanese army forces along the border with Israel.

These three conditions are likely to morph into a demand for the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1559 of September 2004, which calls for the dismantling of all Lebanese militias, including Hezbollah.

Will Hezbollah militiamen agree to be incorporated into the Lebanese army? And will Israel agree to the dispatch of a multinational force to patrol the border and help impose a cease-fire?

For Israel, the optimal solution would be Hezbollah transformed into a solely political organization, the central Lebanese government in control of all armed forces and a positive *modus vivendi* between Jerusalem and Beirut.

But, even if the IDF achieves a decisive military victory, it may have to make do with less. Hezbollah and its Iranian and Syrian patrons will do all they can to prevent the group from being stripped of its military power, no matter how the fighting ends.

Food/Dining

Fruit fills scrumptious summer desserts

By Marylyn Graff

I love summer desserts made with fresh fruit. My mother had a standard kuchen, baked in a shallow oblong pan, using a cookie dough on which she placed rows of peaches or apples. My husband always thought this was too dry, so I make my version with a cake batter thick enough to prevent the fruit from sinking, and I usually alternate the sliced fruits with berries in "stripes."

Fruit kuchen

This is my slightly altered, version of "Aunt Maggie's German Kuchen" in the New England Inns Cookbook.

Grease and flour a 9-by-13 or 10-by-14 inch or similar size pan. Heat oven to 350.

Peel and slice 3 or 4 apples, 4 or 5 medium peaches, other fruit, or about 2 pts. berries

1 stick (1/2 cup) butter or parve margarine
1 cup sugar
1 large egg, lightly beaten
3 cups flour
3 tsps. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla
1 cup milk or orange juice.
Cream butter or marg. with sugar, beat in egg and vanilla.

Sift flour, baking powder and salt and add alternately with milk or orange juice.

Beat until smooth and well-blended.

Spread batter evenly in pan and arrange fruit on top.

Cover fruit with streusel made by combining until crumbly, 1 cup flour, 1 cup brown sugar, 1/2 cup softened butter or parve margarine and 1 tsp. cin-



Plum Torte

namon, allspice or nutmeg. Bake for about 45 min. to an hour until light brown and cake begins to pull away from pan.

Or: mix 1 & 1/2 cups sour cream with 1/2 cup brown sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon, allspice or nutmeg. Spread carefully over fruit and bake as above.

Or (my mother's version) just sprinkle liberally with sugar mixed with a little cinnamon or other spice. Bake as above.

Plum Torte

I printed this last summer and got so much favorable response that I thought it was worth doing again for anyone who missed it. This is really pretty as well as delicious.

Grease and flour a 10- to 11-inch tart pan with removable

bottom.

Slice about three or four large plums into wedges 1/3 to 1/2 inch thick. (Do not peel).

Heat oven to 375.

1/2 cup butter or parve margarine, room temperature
1/2 cup plus two tbsps. sugar

1 tsp. grated orange zest

1/2 tsp. almond extract

1/4 tsp. salt

3 large eggs

1 cup flour

About 4 large firm-ripe red or purple plums

1 to 2 tbsps. powdered sugar

Cut butter or marg. into small pieces and put into the bowl of a mixer. Cream with 1/2 cup of the sugar. Beat until well blended, about 2 minutes. Add orange zest and almond extract, and salt. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Stir in flour and beat until well blended and smooth.

Scrape batter into pan and level. Arrange fruit on top, overlapping. Sprinkle with remaining 2 tbsps. sugar. Bake for 25 to 35 minutes until batter that puffs up around fruit is lightly browned and begins to pull away from sides of pan.

Cool on a rack and dust with powdered sugar. Remove pan rim. If tart sticks, release carefully around edges with the tip of a small knife.

MORE FOOD, see page 19

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Food/Dining

Summer desserts

Challah fruit kugel

A great dessert for a summer fish or dairy meal made from leftover challah. It can be adjusted for how much challah you have. This recipe is for an 8- or 9-inch square pan.

Leftover challah, at least six large slices 1/2 to 3/4 inch thick. Cut the challah into one or 18 1/2 inch pieces. (Leave the crusts on.)

3 cups fruit, peeled and thinly sliced or diced. Berries, peaches, plums, apples, cook's choice, one kind or a mixture. Cherries are great, if you feel like pitting and halving them. (Sweet cherries will need very little sugar. If using sour cherries, add more sugar.)

Place fruit in a bowl and sprinkle with sugar to taste and a little cinnamon, nutmeg and/or allspice, cook's choice.

Arrange half of challah pieces in the pan and spread fruit on top. Arrange rest of challah over fruit in a nice pattern.

Beat 3 large eggs and stir in 2 cups milk until well-mixed. Pour over evenly and press challah down into milk mixture. Refrigerate for at least a couple of hours or overnight.

Sprinkle top with sugar mixed with a little spice. Bake at 350 for about 45 minutes or until nicely browned and puffy.

Garnish with some of same fruit as inside.



Tips for Outdoor Entertaining

There's nothing quite like the outdoors for entertaining guests. Here are some handy tips to make your party a winner.

• **Weather watch:** No matter how many times you tune into your local weather forecast, remember that the weather could change in an instant. Be prepared with an alternate plan, such as a rain date, moving the party indoors, or renting a tent or awning that is large enough to cover your guests.

• **Serving solutions:** If you're short on serving bowls, space, or you want to cut down on the amount of post-party clean up, consider using hollowed out round loaves of bread for salads and dips, and hollowed melons for fruit salads and desserts.

• **Think finger foods:** Finger foods are easy to carry around and won't require guests to log plates and forks. Purchase inexpensive wood skewers, and thread with cheese cubes, fruit or slices of meat.

• **Label libations:** Help guests keep track of their beverages by supplying wine charms and/or personalized beverage holders. You can also just write guests' names on self-sticking labels or tags and have them attach to a disposable cup.

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Food

Sephardic summer salads

The Sephardic Jews, both north and south of the Mediterranean, developed a healthy (and tasty) cuisine based on grains, fruits and vegetables. Bulgur, barley, rice in its many varieties, chickpeas, lentils, pasta all make wonderful salad dishes because of their ability to absorb flavors and seasonings. Extra-virgin olive oil and various vinegars or lemon

juice are the basic additions, vegetables giving color and texture, with garlic, the onion family, herbs and spices adding the high notes. Don't take any of these recipes too seriously, because they are mostly interchangeable as to ingredients — use your own taste buds and imagination. These recipes are vegetarian, but you can always add some cut-up

cooked chicken, fish, cold cuts or what-have-you. All these recipes are side dishes for four people. Double or triple as needed.

(I'm not putting in a pasta salad because you can't open a magazine or paper without falling into one.)

Rice Salad

There are many interesting varieties of rice in the markets lately, including dark reds and browns, so try some new ones, not forgetting to read the directions as they may have different cooking times.

1 cup raw rice of your choice

1 cup of tiny tomatoes or diced tomato

1/2 cup red onion, diced fine, or cut up scallions

1 medium green pepper, diced

1 medium red pepper, diced

1 cup celery, sliced

1 cup green peas, raw or barely cooked

1/4 cup fresh basil leaves, shredded, or 2 tsp. dried basil.

Dressing:
6 Tblsps. extra-virgin olive oil

2 Tblsps lemon juice or Chinese white vinegar (This is pre-

pared with white rice, but you can use balsamic if you prefer.

1 or more tsp. dried mixed Italian or fines herbes

2-3 cloves garlic, crushed and chopped

Put all into a jar and shake well

Cook rice until barely tender, preferably in vegetable (or chicken, if you are using it) broth, according to package directions.

Put into a bowl and add all the vegetables. Stir in dressing. Salt and pepper to taste. Chill for a couple of hours to let flavors blend. Let come to room temperature for about 30 minutes before serving.

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Meical Arts

Hidden perils in the preparation of gefilte fish

No food is without some measure of hazard for its consumer. A risk arises, perhaps because of a pre-existing food allergy, or perhaps because of the manner in which the dish is being prepared, or perhaps merely by the act of over-eating. Foods considered by tradition to be Jewish are certainly no exception.

Many an overly zealous eater of matzah ball soup has regretted the magnitude of his appetite when he then endured a night of relentless indigestion. Then there are the perennial aficionados of blintzes with blueberries, who, confusing them with aphrodisiacs, have consumed more blintzes than prudent nutrition would dictate.

But are there no ethnically defined dishes, which rise above mortal indigestion, and which, by their venerated origins, remain exempt from the risks fostered by conventional foods? Probably not, since there is no escape from the classic Jewish proverb: "If it tastes good, you will probably pay for it with heartburn."

Consider, for example, that most revered of ethnic dishes, gefilte fish (purists will spell it gefeltle, meaning stuffed.) Readers who think that all Jewish dishes materialize by magic on the shelves of East Side Marketplace must be reminded that gefilte fish used to be contrived patiently

and lovingly in the home kitchen. Many years ago, gefilte fish was prepared by stuffing chopped fish back into the skin of the fish and then submitting it to customary cooking. Currently, however, the stuffing process is no longer carried out.

The magical process by which

The world is a complex place and there are still other parasitic forms of tapeworm, which may burden humans.

common fish (carp, yellow pike or whitefish) are transformed into gefilte fish in the Ashkenazic style commences when the marinated fillets are thoroughly minced and then blended with egg, water, matzah meal, some sugar and further seasonings.

This holy mixture is then chilled and thoroughly mixed until uniform in texture. The aggregate mass is then divided into small portions; each molded by hand into medium-sized balls. The fish balls are introduced into simmering fish stock to which are added some sliced carrots, shredded onions and further spices. The final dish is served, generally cold, on a bed of lettuce with a mixture of ground horseradish and beetroot.

So where in this benevolent culinary sequence is the medical hazard? It arises for the preparer of gefilte fish but not for the consumer. Remember, there was a stage in its preparation when the marinated but minced fish,

still uncooked, awaited its various seasonings. This is the stage in preparation when the cook becomes vulnerable; for at this stage no reputable cook would merely dump in the sundry seasonings without serially tasting the as yet uncooked fish to determine the precise amount of sugar,

those living in northern Poland and Lithuania, (sometimes called Litvaks) were often afflicted with a chronic disease characterized by such ill-defined symptoms as mild fatigue, periodic dizziness and episodes of diarrhea. In time, the ill person, almost always an older woman, exhibited a visible pallor, (reflecting a progressive anemia), burning sensation of the tongue and rapid heartbeat. The diagnosis of tapeworm disease is confirmed by laboratory testing.

Tapeworm disease is, of course, anathema to observant Jews and Moslems, since the usual tapeworm infestations are derived from eating undercooked pork. By inference, therefore, a victim of tapeworm disease, (the parasite is called *Taenia solium*) is one who, knowingly or otherwise, has eaten raw or undercooked pork.

But the world is a complex place and there are still other parasitic forms of tapeworm, which

may burden humans. There is a tapeworm called *Taenia saginata*, which makes its home in cattle. Finally there is the fish tapeworm with the intimidating name of *Diphyllobothrium latum*. This primitive creature infests fresh water fish, particularly in the inner lakes and streams of nations surrounding the Baltic Sea, explaining the spread of the disease in the Jewish housewives of the region. The life cycle of the fish tapeworm begins as a parasitic infection of fish muscle. If the uncooked or undercooked fish is eaten or merely tasted, as the cook mixes her gefilte fish and checks her seasoning, she may very likely become a victim of the disease.

Fish tapeworm disease is now rarely encountered in the Jewish communities of the 21st century, and if it should arise, there are prompt and effective remedies.

Stanley Aronson, M.D., is dean emeritus of Brown Medical School.

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Community



ONE HUMP OR TWO? — Michael Perlman and Adam Goldstein head via camel to lunch at a Bedouin tent in southern Israel on a Temple Am David trip to Israel.



Cantor Richard Perlman and Barbara Dwares present former Rhode Islander Alison Golub with a check for the Tziki Fund. The fund, which Golub created, helps soldiers who are alone in Israel.

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Am David takes tzedakah trip to Israel

WARWICK — Members of Temple Am David thought a good way to give tzedakah to Israel was to go there and present it themselves. So they raised \$6,500 for various organizations through a spaghetti dinner, and

in their Hebrew School through the efforts of teacher Barbara Dwares. Led by Cantor Richard Perlman, and with a supporting grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, the group visited with families in Afula, Rhode

Island's sister city in northern Israel, and handed out toys to children in Hadassah Hospital and Ha'Emek Medical Center.

Another family mission is planned for June 2008. (Photo at left.)

'Lower East Side' returns to East Side

JCC event Aug. 27
 PROVIDENCE — The Lower East Side of New York City is coming to the East Side of Providence on August 27th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a Jewish Cultural Festival.

For the second year in a row, Lippitt Park, on the north end

of Blackstone Boulevard, will be transformed to reflect a festive day around the turn of the last century on New York's Lower East Side.

Co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center and the Providence Department of Art, Culture and Tourism, Jewish cul-

ture will be showcased through food including pickles, knishes and brisket sandwiches, and free Klezmer music performances. There will also be lots of kids' activities including the nationally known SteeSongs, rock wall climbing, moon bounce, and free arts and crafts.

Call the JCC at 861-8800 for more information.



Peter Robin takes a break during swim lessons at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island Early Childhood Summer Camp program.

JCC keeps events hot during summer

PROVIDENCE — The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island is offering a selection of artistic, athletic and social programs throughout the summer.

"Summertime is beach and pool club time, but the skills the children gain at the JCC indoor pool will make all that outdoor time safer and a whole lot more fun for everyone." Says Patti Gold, JCC pool director. "And for adults we are offering aquatics and water jogging, both low impact, highly effective exercise classes that take place in the pool." J-fitness is also starting a volleyball league and a brand new J-fit running club planned to train people for the September 10th Miriam Hospital/JCC 5K Road Race. J-fitness has also partnered with USA Karate to offer a woman's self-defense program as well as the regular karate program that takes place in the mind/body studio.

For those with a creative flair, or a desire to discover one, there will be guided open studio time in pottery, painting and jewelry making. Charges are per-class so anyone can join. For the creative younger set the 'Art Start for Toddlers' program will continue throughout the summer.

JCC Summer Camp will also be going on all summer. Some programs are still enrolling for ages two through 13.

Call the JCC at 861-8800 for the full summer class guide, listing all the classes available including the times and costs.

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Community

Soble retires from Holocaust museum

By Cary Eichenbaum

PROVIDENCE — Frieda Soble, the former executive director of the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum (RIHMM), retired June 30. At a farewell gathering of friends, colleagues and family on June 28, Soble thanked the Jewish community for their support, stated that her proudest accomplishment was that, "I was able to bring so many volunteers into our program, and said that she "felt really blessed that I am able to retire and spend more time with my family at this point in my life."

Carol Sugarman, RIHMM president and chairperson of volunteers, said, "In the two years

she was with us, Frieda spearheaded many programs. She is a very gifted educator. She instilled the lessons of the Holocaust, both in adults and children, especially the children. Also, Frieda did good work teaching the Holocaust to non-Jewish children — because it's not just the Jewish children who need to know about the Holocaust, it's everybody."

May-Ronny Zeidman has been appointed administrator of the museum, which became effective July 1. Zeidman is president of the Eunice and Rabin Zeidman Charitable Trust, an educational charity, as well as a vice-president of Temple Am David in Warwick. She served



Frieda Soble

as Women's Division director of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island from 1987 to 1994 and was a divisions director of the United Way of Southeastern New England from 1981 to 1987.

According to its mission statement, the RIHMM teaches the painful lessons learned from racism, bigotry and genocide to the next generation in order to promote tolerance, mutual understanding and respect. "As president of the RIHMM, I am confident that May-Ronny will uphold this mission statement and expand the visibility of the museum during her tenure as administrator," said Sugarman.

Summer events at Ahavath Achim

NEW BEDFORD — The following activities will be taking place at Ahavath Achim Synagogue, 385 County St. in New Bedford this summer:

- "Lunch & Learn" study group meets on Tuesdays, from noon to 1 p.m. The program is under the auspices of the Jewish Federation and is chaired by Ken Lipman, Esq. and taught by Rabbi Barry Hartman. Next meetings are July 25th and Aug. 11.

- K kosher nutrition program serves lunches five days a week. Suggested donation is \$2. For more information or reservations call Faina Levitin at (508) 979-1724.

- The weekly Talmud class meets Monday evenings at 7:30. For more information, call the synagogue at (508) 994-1760.

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THE SHMOOZERS — Front row from left: Mildred Handel, Ben Nulman, and Herb Leshinsky. Back row from left: Libby Silberman, Nancy Plungyan, Sonya Feldman, Harriet Priest, Miriam Snell and Selma Hanna.

Yiddish Shmooz group to celebrate fifth anniversary

PROVIDENCE — September 8th will mark the opening session of the fifth anniversary of the founding of the Yiddish Shmooz Group, a group celebrating the heritage of the Yiddish language. The group meets twice a month at the Jewish Community Center in Providence.

The membership now totals 40 people, with an expected further growth in the coming year. Members establish strong friendships, the sharing of their heritage and the reminiscences of Yiddish experiences and Yiddishkeit, or "Jewishness."

All are invited to the fifth-year opening session and to remain as members. For further information, call Sue Robbio at the JCC 861-8800, ext.107.



Seven women celebrate B'nei Mitzvah

NARRAGANSETT — Congregation Beth David, in Narragansett, served as the setting for a group of women who celebrated their B'nei Mitzvah during services on both Friday evening, July 7, and Shabbat morning, July 8. The women led many of the prayers, chanted sections of the Haftarah, read their own Torah portions and shared their thoughts on reaching this special day. This event culminated an in-depth study of Judaism and Hebrew reading.

Ethan Adler, Spiritual Leader of Beth David, facilitated the courses and coordinated their training. Each of the participants received a gift and a certificate to mark the occasion of having accomplished their goals. In appreciation, the class established the Ethan Adler B'not Mitzvah Endowment, to provide future Bar/Bat Mitzvah families with financial aid.

Pictured, left to right, are Ethan Adler, Nancy Stein, Susan Woodford, Beth Dworetzky, Lorrie Adler, Hinda Kreiger, Denise Rubin and Karen Markin.

\$100,000 prize seeks young humanitarians from all fields

NEW YORK —The Charles Bronfman Prize has announced the launch of its international quest for nominations of visionary young humanitarians for the 2007 award. Nominations for the 2007 Prize will be accepted between August 1 and October 31, 2006.

Those who wish to nominate qualified candidates are encouraged to complete the forms found at www.TheCharlesBronfmanPrize.com

The Charles Bronfman Prize celebrates the vision and talent of an individual or team - under 50 years of age - whose humanitarian work has contributed significantly to the betterment of the world. The achievements of prize recipients exemplify the Jewish values and regard for humanity that provide inspiration to the next generations.

The prize awards the recipient \$100,000 and will next be announced in the spring of 2007.

In 2004, the inaugural prize was awarded to Jay Feinberg (now 38), a Leukemia survivor who founded and is the executive director of Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation. Through Feinberg's work, over 90,000 donors have been registered with Gift of Life, and with the National Marrow Donor Program in the United States, as well as other national registries in Canada, Israel and around the world. Nearly 1,000 donor-recipient matches have been made through this vibrant and dynamic organization, facilitating transplants for patients on a global scale.

For further information, please contact Jill Collier Indyk, Executive Director, by email at jinfo@TheCharlesBronfmanPrize.com or by calling 212-931-0127.

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D'var Torah

MAS'EI, NUMBERS 33:1-36:13

Sightseeing and Insight

By Rabbi Judith R. Beiner

In Parashat Mas'ei, we read a review of the Israelite journeys through their forty years in the desert. The names of the forty-two locations where the Israelites sojourned are enumerated. B'nei Yisrael's journey was designed by God. The point of the journey was to find the way home. Israelite sojourns in the desert were meant to lead the way to redemption.

In enumerating the forty-two encampments of the Israelite wanderings, Moses exclusively uses the same expression: vayisu, "and they set out," which can also be read as "and they journeyed." This refrain, heard again and again, emphasizes their moving toward their goal. The forty years in the desert were by no means purposeless meanderings. They were years of fear and uncertainty, but also of struggling to find faith, as evidenced by God's presence throughout. The time spent en route to the Promised Land was filled with experiences of learning and growth, enabling the people to become a community. As memories of Egypt faded, the people continually moved forward, both physically and spiritually, to reach their objective.

In our lifetime, most of us have embarked on a road trip with our families, youth groups, or friends. While our destination may have been the

beach, the mountains, or a big city, often the time spent getting there is when the memories were made and when the greatest transformations occurred. Spending hours on a bus with thirty-five other people — sharing sights, new experiences, meals, and even getting stuck in traffic — can often turn assorted individuals into a community. Or a spontaneous stop can give rise to a story that becomes part of family lore. Given the gifts of time and shared transportation, individuals have the opportunity to learn from one another, find mutual interests, and grow from communal experiences.

Journeys are not limited to physical movements and sightseeing. Countless individuals have been transformed by spiritual travel as well. Some are motivated by the loss of a loved one, a change in family situation, or a deep-seated soul searching. Journeys like these can be fraught with challenges, such as living alone for the first time, missing the warm presence and reassuring voice of a deceased relative or friend. During a personal journey, most people have moments when failure seems imminent and desperation sets in. Yet, like muscles that get stronger the more they are worked, so it is with the human spirit in confronting trials. The more we allow ourselves to live fully and embrace the full range of human

emotion, the greater will be our ability to find happiness. Adversity gives rise to strength, and pain and loss can be replaced by passion and purpose. Our souls can be transformed.

The forty-two stops recounted by Moses in Mas'ei represent forty years of wandering. Yet Rashi calculates that "if we omit the first and last years, when the Israelites were constantly on the move, there were only 20 stations visited during 38 years" (Etz Hayim: Torah and Commentary, ed. David L. Lieber [New York: Rabbinical Assembly, 2001], p. 954). Thus, it is incorrect to think of Israel as constantly on the march. Rather during most of the forty years in the desert, the Israelites were living normally at one oasis or another for years at a time. It took forty years of living, learning, and growing for B'nei Yisrael to be transformed by their desert wanderings—dwelling longer in some places than in others. Each stop along the way had a purpose and ultimately equipped them for the next stage of their sojourn.

Our life's journey is challenging and unpredictable. May we always be able to see ourselves en route, wherever our final destination may be.

Judith R. Beiner is associate rabbi at The Temple in Atlanta, Georgia.

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Edward Aron, 71

WARWICK — Edward Aron, 71, formerly of Cranston, died July 5. He was the husband of the late Francine (Glaser) Aron. Born in Providence, a son of the late William and Blanche (Abraham) Aron, he had lived in Cranston for more than 40 years before moving to Warwick last year.

He was the owner of Ardon printing and Techniprint, both in Providence, for over 40 years.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving stateside.

Mr. Aron was a member of Temple Torat Yisrael, a past master of Redwood Lodge #35 AF & AM, and a past president of the Lions Club in East Providence.

He leaves a son, Scott Aron and his wife Mariana of Charleston, S.C.; a daughter, Cheryl Zegans and her husband Scott of Dix Hills, N.Y.; two brothers, Samuel Aron of Cranston and Donald Aron of Delray Beach, Fla.; and five grandchildren: Jason, Brittany, Louis, Joshua and Andrew. He was the brother of the late Gerald and Sylvia Aron and Beatrice Mossberg.

Contributions may be made to Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, RI 02905.

Rosalie Bomba, 77

ESCONDIDO, Cal. — Rosalie Bomba, 77, died June 24 in Escondido. She was born in Providence.

Mrs. Bomba was a homemaker. She leaves three sons: Kenneth, Steven and Irwin Bomba; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Burial was in El Camino Memorial Park in San Diego, Cal.

Thelma DeLeon, 93
CRANSTON — Thelma

(Tommy) DeLeon, 93, died June 21. She was the wife of the late Ben Sinel and the late Benjamin DeLeon. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Abraham and Ida (Taber) Abrich, she had lived in Cranston for 25 years, previously residing in Providence.

She was a graduate of the University of Rhode Island.

Mrs. DeLeon served as a treasurer of the Miriam Hospital Women's Association and the former Women's Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged. She was also a volunteer and officer of many civic and religious organizations.

She leaves a son, Alec Sinel and his wife Donna of North Kingstown; two daughters, Sharon Sinel of Newton, Mass., and Ina Katzman and her husband Norman of Marblehead, Mass.; five grandchildren; Daniel, Stacy, Sarah, Ariana, and Sophie and one great-grandchild, Alexa. She was the grandmother of the late Benjamin Feldman and sister of the late Morris, Israel, George, Jacob, Arthur, and Rose Abrich and Sadie DeLeon.

Contributions may be made to Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island, 169 George St., Pawtucket, RI 02860.

Jeanne W. Fellman, 79

CRANSTON — Jeanne W. Fellman, 79, died June 25. She was the wife of the late Arnold S. Fellman. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Abraham and Anna (Dubinsky) Wesler, she had lived in Cranston since 1957.

She was a display designer for Sears in Midland Mall for 20 years.

Mrs. Fellman was a founding member of Temple Sinai and a member of its Sisterhood.

She leaves five sons, Bruce Fellman and his wife Pamela Shaw of North Stonington, Conn.;

Peter Fellman and his wife Cynthia Greene of Medfield, Mass.; Andrew Fellman of Ridgeway Park, N.J.; and Robert Fellman of Peace Dale; a daughter, Susan Fellman of New York City; six grandchildren: Nigel, Hunter, Noah, Jacqueline, Caleb and Kirsten; and three great-grandchildren: Lucas, Ezra and Cameron. She was the sister of the late Stephen Wesler.

Contributions may be made to Home & Hospice Care of Rhode Island or Miriam Hospital.

Ruth Fishman, 88

WARWICK — Ruth Fishman, 88, died June 29. She was the wife of the late Harry Fishman. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Max and Annie (Stein) Shechter, she had lived in Warwick over two years, previously residing in East Providence.

Mrs. Fishman, a graduate of Central High School, was a member of the National Honor Society.

She worked as a bookkeeper for various jewelry and furniture manufacturing companies. She was a former member of Ohave Shalom Synagogue. She enjoyed playing cards and mah-jongg.

She leaves two daughters, Donna Fishman of Jamestown and Arlene Fishman of East Greenwich. She was the sister of the late Belle Weiner and Eleanor Israel.

Contributions may be made to Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center, 20 Maude St., Providence, RI 02908 or a favorite charity.

Rosalind Freedman, 89

WARWICK — Rosalind (Greenfield) Freedman, 89, died June 25. She was the wife of the late Alfred Lewinstein and the late Eugene Freedman. Born in North Providence, she was a daughter of the late Nathan and Lillian Gordon.

Mrs. Freedman was a former member of Temple Am David

and a volunteer at the Torat Yisrael meal site for many years. She enjoyed arts and crafts at Shalom Apartments.

She leaves two sons, Barry Lewinstein of Willimantic, Conn., and Allan Lewinstein of Columbus, Ohio; a daughter, Sandra Kettle of East Greenwich; a sister, Sylvia Law of Melbourne, Fla.; and four grandchildren; Andrew, Laurel, Katie and Kimberly, and a great-grandchild, Lindsey.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island.

Bernard Gergel, 78

CRANSTON — Bernard Gergel, 78, died June 21. He was the husband of Rose (Rubin) Gergel. Born in Providence, a son of the late Morris and Lena (Weisman) Gergel, he had lived in Cranston for 51 years.

He was the owner of Kessler's Sheet Metal, Inc. since 1947.

Mr. Gergel was a member of Temple Sinai, the YMCA, Redwood Lodge #35, AF & AM and a former member of Ledgemont Country Club.

He leaves three sons, Marc Gergel and his wife Sarah of Jerusalem, Israel; Steven Gergel and his wife Melissa of Warwick; and Michael Gergel and his wife Elise of Sunrise, Fla.; two sisters, Selma Aison of Delray Beach, Fla., and Eunice Misbin of Cranston; 25 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to Jewish Seniors Agency, 229 Waterman Ave., Providence, RI 02906 or to a favorite charity.

Harold L. Gerstein, 86

EAST PROVIDENCE — Harold L. Gerstein, 86, died June 30. He was the husband of Marcia (Mutchnick) Gerstein. Born in Providence, a son of the late Isaac and Anna (Kadisewitz) Gerstein, he was the president of the former Red Fox Ginger Ale Co.

He was a veteran of World War II.

Mr. Gerstein was a long time volunteer at Meeting Street School and the recipient of the Volunteer of the Year award, which is now named in his honor. He also delivered for Meals On Wheels.

Active in local politics, he was on the planning and economic development boards of East Providence.

He was a long time member of Temple Emanu-El, Touro Fraternal Organization and the Masons.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Arthur and his wife Ellen Gerstein of Norwalk, Conn.; two daughters, Ann Taubman of Sharon, Mass., and Nicie and her husband, Richard Weiner of Pawtucket; six grandchildren: Andy, Jenny, Lisa, Paul Ezra, and

Robbie; and two great-grandchildren, Ethan and Zachary. He was the brother of the late Sam Gerstein, Tillie Goldberg Rose Berman.

Contributions may be made to the Meeting Street School.

Jay Marvin Kaplan, 78

EAST PROVIDENCE — Jay Marvin Kaplan, 78, died suddenly on July 1. Born in Worcester he was the son of the late A. Mill and Rosalyn Davis Kaplan.

He graduated Worcester Academy with honors in 1945, entered Amherst College at 16. Following his junior year, joined the U. S. Army and served for 18 months in South Korea. Graduated magna cum laude from Amherst College in 1950 and elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

In 1955 he attended Harvard University, earning his master's degree in clinical psychology and met all course and residence requirements for a Ph.D.

Mr. Kaplan worked for the State of Rhode Island for 25 years as a clinical psychologist in mental health services for children.

He later worked for the Rhode Island Department for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) retiring in 1985 as supervisor and chief of Psychological Services, Mental Health Services for Children and Youth.

He also maintained an independent practice for psychotherapy and counseling for over 35 years.

He was an advocate for protection of civil liberties as well as on the executive board, Executive Chapter American Civil Liberties Union, and chairman of Rhode Island Juvenile Justice project, ACLU from 1972 to 1973. He was known for his sense of humor and loved dogs.

He leaves a son, Sam Kaplan of Riverside; a daughter, Suzana Kaplan of Pasadena, Cal.; former wife, Norma Goldberg Providence; a brother and his in-law, Richard and Sue Kay of Exeter, N.H.; his cousin of many years, Carol Whittins and a niece, Angelica Morrisso Greenville, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Contributions may be made to the American Civil Liberties Union, (ACLU), 125 Bl. St., 18th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10004-2400.

Harriet K. Klar, 79

EAST PROVIDENCE — Harriet K. Klar, 79, died June 28. She was the wife of Arde Klar. They were married 50 years. Born in Fall River, Mass. a daughter of the late Charles Rose (Zelnick) Kosofsky, had lived in East Providence 50 years. Mrs. Klar was a mem-

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Continued on next

Continued from previous page

of Temple Emanu-El, National Council of Jewish Women, Miriam Hospital Women's Association and a life member of Hadassah.

She leaves two sons, Jeffrey and Brian Klar, both of St. Louis, Mo.; two daughters, Lynn Klar of East Providence, and Joyce Klar of Natick, Mass.; a sister, Gloria Kolodoff of Warwick, and three grandchildren: Coby, Brandon and Aaron. She was the mother of the late Michael Jay Klar.

Howard R. Lewis, 83

PROVIDENCE — Howard R. Lewis, 83, a retired rector, died July 10. He was the husband of Eleanor (Soble) Lewis and the late Shirley (Brier) Lewis.

Born in Lewiston, Maine, a son of the late Nathan and Dora (Finkelstein) Lewis, he was a resident of Providence for 65 years and a resident of Palm Beach, Fla., since 1992.

He attended the Rhode Island School of Design and was a graduate of Bryant College. He was a rector in Providence for many years before retiring in 1992.

During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps, stationed in India.

Mr. Lewis served on the board of trustees of RISD for 40 years. He was a member of Temple Beth-El.

Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, Peter and his wife, Anne Sundheimer, of Avon, Conn., and David and his wife, Mary Kenney-

Lewis, of Scituate, Mass.; two daughters, Nancy, of Cambridge, Mass.; and Deborah of

New York City; a stepson, David and his wife, Lee Ann Soble of Chicago; a stepdaughter, Carol and her husband, Charles Siegmund of Chicago; a sister, Ruth Abrams of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; three grandchildren: Rachael, Tyler and Emily; five step-grandchildren and seven step-great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Jason Lewis.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Shirley (Greenberg) Lincoln, 83

PAWTUCKET — Shirley (Greenberg) Lincoln, 83, died June 20. She was the wife of the late Paul Lincoln. Born in Boston, she was a daughter of the late Nathan and Celia (Appelbaum) Greenberg.

She enjoyed her family, bingo, and playing cards with her friends.

She leaves two daughters, Roberts Levin of North Providence and Delbie Fitzpatrick of Connecticut; a brother, Marvin Greenberg of Warwick; a sister, Rita Levin of Pawtucket; and four grandchildren: Jonathan, Michael, Taylor and Kevin.

Burial was in Hebrew Cemetery, Fall River.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Lilyan Terry Lisker, 92

PROVIDENCE — Lilyan Terry Lisker, 92, died June 19 in Belmont, Mass. She was the wife of the late Hyman Lisker, and the daughter of the late Barney and Minnie (Davis) Toretzky of West Hartford, Conn. She lived in Providence for more than 60 years before moving to the Boston area in 2002.

A graduate of Colby Junior College in New London, N.H., and the Tobie Coburn School of Fashion Design in New York City, she was a sportswear buyer at Saks Fifth Avenue in New York and Miami prior to her marriage.

Mrs. Lisker chaired the marketing committee at Laurelmead, as well as serving on other resident committees. She played a leadership role in the early years of the Temple Beth-El artist series and was exceptionally devoted to family and friends.

She leaves a son, John Lisker of Newton, Mass.; two daughters, Elizabeth Hoffman of Cambridge, Mass.; and Deborah Lisker and her husband, Edward Chernoff of Cherry Hill, N.J.; a brother, Dr. Robert Terry of Poway, Calif.; and six grandchildren: David Hoffman, Jenna Terry, Rachel and Joanna Lisker, and Hilary and Benjamin Chernoff. She was the sister of the late Albert Terry of Providence.

Burial was in the Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Cranston. Contributions may be made to Rhode Island Talking Books Plus.

Regina (Levy) Menasha, 82

SUMMIT, N.J. — Regina (Levy) Menasha, 82, formerly of Providence, died July 14. She was the wife of the late Dr. Joseph Menasha. Born in Egypt, she was a daughter of the late Rachamim and Bella (Sahmimas) Levy.

Mrs. Menasha was a former member of Congregation Mishkon Tithah.

She leaves two sons, Dr. Moussa Menasha of Suffolk, Va., and Samuel Menasha of Foxborough, Mass.; three daughters, Marie Steinberg of Harrington Park, N.J., Louise Lichas of West Simsbury, Conn., and Nevine Noss of Springfield, N.J.; 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She had five sisters and one brother.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Eva Sacarovitz, 97

WARWICK — Eva Sacarovitz, 97, died July 7. She was the wife of the late Louis Sacarovitz. Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Max and Bessie Boxer, she had lived in Cranston and Providence before moving to Warwick 10 years ago.

She was a member of Hadassah and the former Congregation Shaare Zedek. Mrs. Sacarovitz was an avid knitter and bowler.

She was the sister of the late Benjamin and Mina "Minnie" Boxer and Sophie Wallick.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Contributions may be made to Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Wilma I. Safire

WARWICK — Wilma I. Safire died June 20. She was the wife of Edward Safire. Born in Scranton, Pa., a daughter of the late Emanuel and Beatrice (Aug) Holland, she had lived in Warwick for 27 years.

Mrs. Safire was a member of Temple Torat Yisrael and its Sisterhood, the Leisure Club, Cranston Senior Guild and Hadassah.

She leaves a son, Eric Safire of San Francisco, Cal.; two daughters, Roberta Safire of Mamaroneck, N.Y., and Susan Ricciardi of Smithville, N.J.; a brother, Harold Holland of East Greenwich and Palm Springs, Cal.; and five grandchildren: Micah, Alison, Jacob, Reuben and Sophie.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to Hadassah, 1150 New London Ave., Cranston, RI 02920 or the MICU unit c/o Rhode Island Hospital, 593 Eddy St., Providence, RI 02903.

Dr. Raquel Shapiro

PROVIDENCE — Dr. Raquel Shapiro, a professor at Rhode Island College until her retirement, died June 19. She was the wife of the late Nathan Shapiro.

Dr. Shapiro was born in Cuba, the daughter of the late Morris and Ida (Antovskiy) Rebe.

She leaves a son, Ronald G. Shapiro, and a brother, Sal Rebe of El Paso, Tex.

Contributions may be made to the Dr. Raquel Shapiro Scholarship Fund at either Temple Beth-El or Rhode Island College.

Merwin Sibulkin, 79

PROVIDENCE — Merwin Sibulkin, 79, a retired Brown University professor, died July 14. He was the husband of Lucille (Weiss) Sibulkin. Born in New York City, a son of the late Samuel and Augusta (Glickenstein) Sibulkin, he had lived in Providence since 1963.

Professor Sibulkin was a graduate of New York University and the California Institute of Technology. He was a professor of engineering at Brown from 1963 to 1997, and was a member of Sigma Xi and Tau Beta Pi honor societies. He authored over 70 journal articles in his field of engineering.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Ira Sibulkin of Brooklyn,

N.Y.; a daughter, Amy Sibulkin of Nashville, Tenn., and a brother, David Sibulkin of New York City.

Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery in Providence.

Contributions may be made to Hadassah of R.I., 1150 New London Ave., Cranston, RI 02920; or Doctors Without Borders USA, PO Box 5030, Hagerstown, Md. 21741-5030.

Helen (Priest) Weintraub, 90

CRANSTON — Helen (Priest) Weintraub, 90, died July 9.

She was the wife of the late Louis Weintraub. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Benjamin and Eva (Schendel) Priest, she was a life-long resident of Rhode Island, moving to Cranston in 1953.

Mrs. Weintraub was the sister of the late Edward Priest, Marion Sugarman and Sidney Priest.

She was a second mother to Harold, Paula, Rayna and Carl and a beloved aunt to many other nieces and nephews.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Contributions may be made to Philip Hulitar Hospice Center, 50 Maude St., Providence, RI 02908.

Ethel Zitserman, 95

SCARSDALE, N.Y. — Ethel Zitserman, 95, formerly of Providence and Delray Beach, Fla., died July 2. She was the wife of the late Harry I. Zitserman. Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Samuel and Rebecca Funkelestein.

Along with her husband, she was the owner of Harmin's Youth Centre Stores and the Broadway Mill Outlet, until their retirement.

She was a former member of

Temple Beth-El where she was president of the Eden Garden Club and sang in the women's choir.

She leaves a daughter, Abby Bosses and her husband Stevan of Scarsdale; three grandchildren: Donna, David and his wife, Lori; and Gary and his wife, Jill; and five great-grandchildren: William, Lucy, Amanda, Katie and Brian.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Edith Zwetckhenbaum, 85

COCONUT CREEK, FLA. — Edith Zwetckhenbaum, 85, formerly of Providence, died July 13 in Newark, N.J. She was the wife of the late Joseph H. Zwetckhenbaum. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Samuel and Gertrude (Matusow) Chaiken, she had lived in Coconut Creek for the past 20 years.

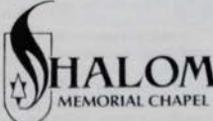
She was a graduate of Hope High School, class of 1937. She worked as executive secretary for The New York Lace Store, where she met her future husband.

Mrs. Zwetckhenbaum was a member of Temple Emanu-El in Providence. She served several terms as president of the Fallon-Memorial PTA. She was a life member and past officer of Hadassah in Rhode Island and Florida and an officer of her local Pap Corps Chapter.

She leaves three sons, Jeffrey and his wife Meryl of South Orange, N.J.; Peter of Pompano Beach, Fla.; and Steven and his wife Grace of Edgemont, N.Y.; three grandchildren: Jordan, Joey and Jill. She was the sister of the late Jacob, Nathan and Ann Chaiken and Esther Miller.

Contributions may be made to Pap Corps, U.M. / Sylvester, P.O. Box 016960, Miami, FL 33101.

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My Voice

Rethinking the road to excellence

By Michael Balaban

Today we face perhaps our greatest challenge ever – defining who we are, not in the face of tragedy and crisis, but in the light of a new Jewish world. A world in which the Holocaust, anti-Semitism, and Israel no longer inspire today's generation of givers as they once did.

For several years, the Rhode Island community has been discussing our response to these changing circumstances. We have tried on numerous occasions to articulate the vision of a Jewish Community of Excellence.

To be fair, however, we have not done a very good job of painting a precise picture of what that means. We believe the time has come to clarify that vision, not by resorting to clever catch phrases and generalized sound bites, but by providing a substantive understanding of what a Jewish Community of Excellence looks like, and what it takes to get there.

A Jewish Community of Excellence is built upon four core beliefs:

1. A Jewish Community of Excellence helps Jews make Jewish choices.

For most contemporary Jews, Judaism is a leisure time activity. It competes for our attention and our resources in the open market along with everything else from soccer to the symphony, the office to the golf course. Contemporary Jews, trained to demand excellence in all of their endeavors, make choices...and more often than not, they are not choosing Jewish life. That's not their fault - it's ours.

Those who do choose to participate Jewishly, do so differently today than they did 20 years ago. The world of technology and access has opened up opportunities that challenge organizational participation and membership. We have created a system of square boxes in a world of varied shapes. Often the services we provide are not competitive in both cost and quality to what is available on the open market. We must also recognize today that one's Jewishness does not necessitate organizational affiliation.

In our Jewish Community of Excellence, we have a responsibility to help Jews make Jewish choices. In many cases, we'll need to incentivize those choices because the unpleasant reality is that Jews are not always buying what Jewish organizations are selling. In a Jewish Community of Excellence we must bridge that gap and motivate Jewish choices.

Imagine what our community would look like if, for example, we provided every young Jew and every new arrival in the state with a membership to the JCC and the congregation of his or her choice, as an incentive to connect with Jewish communal life. Research has confirmed that when JCC membership is combined with congregational affiliation, indicators of Jewish identity go way up.

2. A Jewish Community of Excellence entices and embraces.

For most Jews, the joys of Judaism and



Jewish community remain a closed, inaccessible mystery. Whether for reasons of finances or literacy, distance or disenfranchisement, many Jews feel estranged from what insiders call the organized Jewish community. If and when they are inclined to connect Jewishly, they often encounter a Jewish community that is far from welcoming.

We must come to understand that Jews and Judaism are not a monolith; that one size simply does not fit all. The stereotypical Jewish family with a husband and wife and a couple of adorable kids is a myth in many cases. Single parent families face unique challenges in accessing the Jewish experience only some of which are financial. Similarly, gay and lesbian Jews, interfaith families, the frail elderly and others who may feel unwelcome need to be reached out to and encouraged.

Jews seek entry into the Jewish community for a multiplicity of reasons, at various times in their lives. Our job is to guarantee that when a person wishes to access the richness and diversity of the Jewish experience, the mechanisms and responses are in a place to both enchant and captivate.

Some will enter the circle of Jewish life through their children; others will seek to connect with the Jewish community in college or as young adults, some as young marrieds wanting to find a spiritual home, and others as part of their quest for Jewish knowledge on an adult level. For many, Jewish interest will take the form of social justice and political activism, while for others it may be an interest in Israel and overseas Jewry. In every case, our job is to make sure that Rhode Island has the finest institutions, programs and professionals capable of inspiring those who seek contact with Judaism.

3. A Jewish Community of Excellence rejects mediocrity at all costs

Simply put, good enough is never good enough. The stakes are too high for any of us to settle for second best. Unless and until we demand a consistently high level

from our Jewish institutions and their leaders (both lay and professionals), many Jews will continue to seek fulfillment outside the Jewish community. We are in the business of building a Jewish community not only for others, but for ourselves as well.

Our work is not only for those less fortunate than we, but for our kids, and our grandparents, for our families and our friends. Building a Jewish community is not charity. We must consistently motivate excellence and eradicate mediocrity in our institutions and in our leaders. We must constantly be raising the bar of excellence across the breadth and depth of our community.

4. A Jewish Community of Excellence is a living organism pulsating with activity.

As a community we must position ourselves to respond rapidly to the ever-changing realities in Jewish life. Today's unfunded needs must become tomorrow's core campaign. Similarly, as new needs replace old ones, we must exhibit the flexibility to change and to grow. Excellence must be assessed by specific measurable outcomes.

Entrepreneurship must become the touchstone of our Jewish Community of Excellence, not entitlements or pie-in-the-sky vagaries. Imagine what our community would look like, for example, if the annual campaign funded innovation rather than same old, Rhode Island has an unrestricted endowment fund of \$18 million dollars and a larger restricted endowment fund that if both were pushed could grow substantially to fund a core set of static needs, while new initiatives could be used to motivate participation and excite involvement to grow charitable support.

We have quite a way to go in our quest to become a Jewish Community of Excellence. At present there are a number of critical initiatives that remain unfunded and unrealized in our community. I mention a few, just to give you an idea of the enormity of the task that lies ahead.

First, we need a comprehensive edu-

cation plan for the formal and informal education of both our children and adults. A Jewish summer camp's tuition can run as high as \$5,000, but the impact on our children and their families is nothing short of life transforming.

For our day schools we must enable them to focus on becoming first class schools of educational excellence and not lower cost alternatives. It is the community's responsibility to provide a scholarship fund and make it affordable. Similarly, congregational schools should be aided with curriculum support that motivates family participation and grows a sense of community – think youth movement models rather than simply Hebrew class.

Second, comprehensive planning for the future of our communal development in the West Bay, East Bay, South County and the North must be approached aggressively. While 1/3rd of the population lives in Providence/Pawtucket, 2/3rds do not. We will never be a Jewish Community of Excellence if we continue to ignore the needs of the largest number of Jews in our area.

Third, our community must embrace the initiatives already underway to implement a comprehensive continuum of care for the elderly in Rhode Island. The alphabet soup of separate agencies charged with providing service to this growing population must become seamless in providing access and services.

Fourth, we must utilize our influence to improve the overall state of affairs for the whole of Rhode Island. The Jewish Community is gifted with some of the most influential leaders of the Rhode Island business world, yet we do not call on their powerful voice to effect State House change that could influence policy, motive, incentives and grow Rhode Island into a more competitive place to live.

Fifth, we must develop an infrastructure for service delivery that is seamless to those wanting access. The majority of our Jewish institutions were created fifty years ago at a time when organizational affiliation was a driving force for participation and philanthropy. Our drive should be to direct resources as one statewide community and not compete for resources as separate institutions.

Lastly we must initiate a program to address the human resource crisis facing every one of our schools, agencies and congregations. Excellence will remain elusive if we cannot recruit, hire and retain superior professionals and lay leaders throughout our community.

This is our vision of a Jewish Community of Excellence and we will never get there alone. As multiple synagogues and agencies we can either protect our own self-interests and focus only on our narrow piece of community, or we can come together as one community whose faith and fate are bound together in the joint pursuit of excellence. We hope you will join us in this quest.

Michael Balaban is the Chief Executive Officer of the Touro Synagogue Foundation and Co-Chair of the Community Priority Committee along with Susan Lauch Doherty.

Simchas

BIRTH



Maia Rose Wellington
 MANHATTAN, N.Y.—
 Brad and Shayna Wellington
 announce the birth of their
 daughter, **Maia Rose Well-**
ington. Maia Rose was born on June
 23 weighing 5 lbs. 15 ozs.

Her maternal grandparents
 are Roslyn and Ronald Guarnieri
 of Warwick. Her paternal grand-
 parents are Rabbi Jon and Jean
 Haddon of Danbury, Conn., and
 Cary and Imelda Wellington of
 Florida. Maternal great-grand-
 parents are Shirley and Elmer
 Lappin of Pawtucket.

WEDDING



Emily Marion King — Joshua Michael Cohen

TARRYTOWN, N.Y. — **Emily Marion King**, daughter of
 Graham and Jean King of New York City, and **Joshua Michael**
Cohen, son of Patricia and Howard Cohen of North King-
 stown, were married at Tappan Hill, Tarrytown, N.Y., on June 17.
 The bride's maternal grandparent is Helen Vallindras of
 San Francisco and her paternal grandparents are the late
 Eileen and Douglas King of Tunbridge Wells, England. The
 bridegroom's paternal grandparents are Frances and Maurice
 Cohen of Cranston, and his maternal grandparents are the
 late Martha and Richard Callard of North Kingstown. The
 bride is an elementary school teacher in Carlisle, Mass., and
 the bridegroom is employed by Sprint of Boston.

The couple honeymooned at Grand Cayman and are residing in
 Acton, Mass.

Schiff awarded school honor

CRANSTON — **Bennett Schiff**, 10, son of Pamela and Barry
 Schiff, received the Presidential Award for outstanding academic
 excellence. He is one of two recipients among almost 300 students
 in the Wm. R. DuTemple school in Cranston, to be presented with
 this honor.

Beverly (Hendel) and Morris Teath of Hamden, Conn., are Ben-
 nett's maternal grandparents and the late Dr. Bencel L. and Edith
 (Jagoliner) Schiff of Pawtucket are paternal grandparents.

GRADUATIONS



NEAT GRADUATES 7

PROVIDENCE — The New England Academy of Torah
 (NEAT), the girls' high school of the Providence Hebrew Day
 School, held their graduation ceremonies June 21. Pictured above,
 left to right, are: Danielle Lisa Greengart, Kayla Ruth Cusner, Leah
 Perlmuter, Shoshana Chaya Herskowitz, Miriam Chaya Raskin,
 Shoshana M. Scharf and Mindy Lipson. Miriam Raskin gave the
 senior address, and Leah Perlmuter gave the NEAT Student Council
 Address.

Master's degree awarded

CRANSTON — **Tara Nicole Berger**,
 daughter of Cheryl and Donald Berger of
 Cranston, received her master of science
 degree in school psychology from the Uni-
 versity of Rhode Island on May 20. She
 earned her bachelor of arts degree in psychol-
 ogy from American University, Washington,
 D.C. in 2002.

She has accepted a position as a school
 psychologist with the Pinellas County, Fla.,
 school district.

She is the granddaughter of Estelle (Rubin)
 Churnick of Warwick and the late George (Yuss) Churnick, and the
 late Cele and David Berger.



Tara Nicole Berger

Honors graduate

CRANSTON — **Stacy Berman** graduated cum laude from
 Endicott College in Beverly, Mass., May 20,
 with a bachelor's degree in business admin-
 istration with a concentration in finance and a
 minor in computer science.

She was on the dance team in her first
 year. She served as treasurer of the Mortar
 Board Society, and a member of the Business
 Honor Society, Sigma Beta Delta.

She received several scholarships as well
 as high honors all four years, and completed
 three internships.

She is the daughter of the (late) Carol
 Sarenon Berman, and the granddaughter of Florence Sarenon and
 the (late) Bernard Sarenon of Cranston.

She resides with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Paige
 of Cranston, and is employed in Boston. She also works as a sales rep-
 resentative for J & L Marketing, traveling nationwide. In addition,
 she creates her own jewelry line called "Bead of my Heart."



Stacy Berman

BAT MITZVAH

Kaley May Siegel
 FARMINGTON HILLS,
 Mich. — **Kaley May Siegel**,
 daughter of Harlan and Rise
 Siegel of Farmington Hills,
 celebrated her Bat Mitzvah on
 March 11 at Temple Shir Shalom
 in West Bloomfield, Mich.

Kaley, an honor student, is
 active in theater and plays the
 piano and violin.

She is the granddaughter of
 Dr. and Mrs. Maurice Siegel, and
 Mrs. Evelyn Glatt and the late
 Irving Glatt, all of Cranston.

People

Baker appointed at Fatima Hospital

SMITHFIELD — **Ruth S. Baker** RN, MS, was recently
 appointed program director of
 hyperbaric medicine at Our Lady
 of Fatima Hospital, North Provi-
 dence.

Her nursing career spans 34
 years, she has an associate degree
 in nursing, bachelor of arts in
 psychology, and a master of sci-
 ence in health services adminis-
 tration.

Baker is also a veteran of
 Operations Desert Shield and
 Desert Storm. She served in the
 Army Reserve Nurse Corps with
 the 455th General Hospital in
 Providence and attained the rank
 of captain.

Her most recent position was
 with John Hancock Financial
 Network as a marketing repre-

sentative at the Beaulieu Finan-
 cial Group in Warwick.

She is the daughter of the
 late Benjamin Baker of Providence
 and the late Sadie Horowitz
 Baker of East Providence.

Stein receives business award

PROVIDENCE — **Ted Stein**,
 proprietor of Allegra Print

and Imaging, a member of the
 Allegra Network franchising
 system, received an international
 business award from the com-
 pany's world

headquarters in Northville,
 Mich. He was recognized with
 the International Sales Growth
 Award for being among the top
 10 businesses in increased sales
 volume for North America.

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 02906, or email to voiceherald@jfri.org. Include
 a SASE if you'd like your picture returned.

COLLEGE BOUND

WEST WARWICK — Pola Greenstein announces that her
 grandson, **Kyle Greenstein Biondi**, has been accepted to attend
 Boston University beginning in the fall of 2006, making him the
 third generation of Greensteins to matriculate at B.U. He was pre-
 ceded by his grandfather, the late Norman Greenstein, and his
 mother, Sheila Greenstein.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Our paper is the result of two pieces of Rhode Island Jewish history — the Jewish Voice and the Rhode Island Jewish Herald — becoming one. See the evolution of one of our two halves below. And a big thank you to everyone below for help us to grow from generation to generation.

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This list reflects contributions from May 12 to July 10, 2006.