

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

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HaZamir choir



JCC execs meet, help repair sites in New Orleans. See page 23.

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Darfur: witnesses to genocide

By Mary Korr
mkorr@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — There was a glimmer of hope in the tragedy that is Darfur on Monday when the 33-member African Union (AU) denied Sudan's president Omar Hassan al-Bashir the chairmanship of the organization.

The snub was a victory for Darfur activists, experts and eyewitnesses to the genocide who spoke at Brown last weekend. Ruth Messenger, president of American Jewish World Service (AJWS), was one of them.

On Tuesday, she said, "It is very important that the AU issued a rebuff to Bashir, and stated that because he is continuing to engage in genocide he cannot lead their organization. At the same time the withdrawal of Medecins du Monde (Doctors of the World) is a reminder that it is dangerous on the ground and that

See DAFUR, page 12

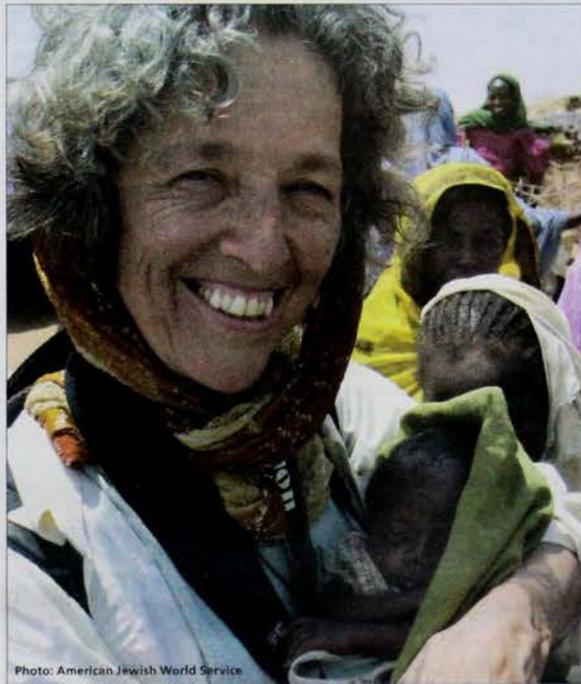


Photo: American Jewish World Service

Ruth Messenger, president of American Jewish World Service, holds a baby at a clinic in Darfur.

Day schools get \$200K from bank

By Jonathan Rubin
jrubin@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — A new tax law designed to raise scholarship money for schools is doing just that; Bank of America recently announced a gift of \$200,000 to Rhode Island's two Jewish day schools — Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS) and the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS). In exchange, the bank receives a 90 percent tax break on the gift from the State.

"It's a win-win," said Ernest Anguilla, spokesperson for the bank.

Rabbi Peretz Scheinerman, dean of PHDS, said the potential for growth in this area is tremendous and that the Jewish community is at the forefront of actively promoting this tax

See DAY SCHOOLS, page 3

Tale of two enemies, now allies

'Combatants for peace' speak at JCC

By Mary Korr
mkorr@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — Palestinian Sulaiman Al Hamri and Israeli Elik Elhanan, former enemies on the field of battle, now march in peace, in an organization they helped

found, Combatants for Peace (CFP). Members take an oath of non-violence to achieve reconciliation and resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The men spoke to 141 people at the JCC on Jan. 21, invited by the Jewish Alli-

ance for Justice and Peace (Brit Tzedek v'Shalom). The two are on a 22-city tour in this country meeting with Jewish groups; their next trip will be with the Muslim American community.

On Elhanan's side, his pursuit for peace is forged from family tragedy. His sister Smadar, 14, was killed by suicide bombers in 1997 as she shopped for school supplies on Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem with a friend.

"They died on the spot. When such a thing happens, you think: How do I go on living? How do I deal with the pain?" he said.

Several days before they arrived in Providence, another child was killed, the daughter of Bassam Aramin, one of the movement's leaders. Ten-year-old Abir was killed next to her school in Anata in northeast Jerusalem. She died from a projectile to the head; the case is

See COMBATANTS, page 13



Elik Elhanan, at left, and Sulaiman Al Hamri, speak to former R.I. Sen. Lincoln Chafee at their talk held at the JCC on Jan. 21. Judy Kaye, a member of the local chapter of the Jewish Alliance for Justice and Peace, was co-chair of the event.

U.N. marks Holocaust day

NEW YORK, Jan. 29 (JTA — Monday was no ordinary business day at U.N. headquarters.

Hundreds of Holocaust survivors and their families gathered at the world body for its second annual day commemorating victims of the Shoah.

"I vow that as long as there is an Israel and I vow that forever there will be an Israel you are not alone," Israeli Ambassador Dan Gillerman told survivors, his voice rising.

"As long as there is a United Nations, Israel is not alone," responded the U.N.'s undersecretary-general for communications and public information, Shashi Tharoor, who presided over Monday's event.

Monday's highly emotional commemoration was filled beyond capacity and featured musical selections by a local yeshiva choir and the recitation of El Moleh Rachamim and the Mourner's Kaddish by a noted

See UN, page 8

Calendar

SAT., FEB. 3

Agudas Achim book group

9 a.m. at the synagogue. "Goodbye Columbus" by Philip Roth. Book group meets first Saturday of month. All welcome. Call for more information (508)222-2243 or email office@agudasma.org.

Beit Nechemiah for Tu Bi-Sh'vat

10 a.m. Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. Special "Birthday of the Trees" celebration for young families with children up to age 7. Songs, games, etc. For more information contact pct1@cox.net or the temple, 331-1616.

SUN., FEB. 4

Torat Yisrael blood drive

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 300 Park Ave., Cranston, will be hosting a blood drive.

Sen. Reed on Darfur

11 a.m. to noon in the Bohnen vestry, Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. Theme is how everyone can help. Letter-writing. See Community.

Environmental fair, seder

1 to 4 p.m. Jewish Community Center (JCC), Elm-grove Ave., Providence. Family fair, fun, seder to celebrate New Year of the Trees. Sponsored by the R.I. Jewish Environmental Alliance. Free. For more information, visit www.rijea.org or call 272-0623 or email Daniel@coejl.org.

WED., FEB. 7

Cranston Senior Guild

1 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Guest speaker, Florence Markoff, entertainer, story-teller. Raffle

& refreshments.

THURS., FEB. 8

Barrington interfaith program

7:30 to 9 p.m. Feb. 8, 15, 22 at various churches. Rabbi James Rosenberg of Temple Habonim is a presenter. Call 245-6536 for more information.

FRI., FEB. 9

Family Shabbat at Torat Yisrael

5:45 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. A program for young families consisting of a kid-friendly Shabbat dinner followed by an interactive service with stories, songs and prayers. \$10 per family. RSVP by Feb. 6, 785-1800.

Emanu-El joyous Shabbat

6 p.m. Freylach Shabbat, Temple Emanu-El's joyous community welcome with a spirit-filled service, catered dinner

Darwish to speak Wed. at Brown

PROVIDENCE — Author and activist Nonie Darwish will deliver a lecture titled "The Road to Peace: Women's Rights" Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. in the Salomon Center for Teaching, Room 001. The lecture is sponsored by the Office of Campus Life and Student Services and is free and open to the public.



Nonie Darwish

Though Darwish grew up in Egypt learning lessons of hatred toward Jews, Israel and America, she now lectures and writes about promoting peace and mutual respect between Israel and Arab countries. She is the founder of "ArabsForIsrael.com," a Web site "for Arabs and Muslims who support the State of Israel and the cause of peace in the Middle East" and the author of "Now They Call Me Infidel: Why I Renounced Jihad for America, Israel and the War on Terror."

Student organizers had proposed inviting Darwish to speak at Brown in fall 2006. The Office of Campus Life and Student Services sponsored the invitation for this semester, emphasizing the University policy to support a wide range of perspectives and ideologies on campus without regard to the content of the message or argument of any particular speaker or program.

The lecture will include a question and answer session with the audience. A dessert reception and a book signing will immediately follow the event.

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and two programs for children (Beit Nechemiah for ages 7 and under, Beit Café for ages 8 and up). All ages, for individuals and families, an opportunity to sing, to celebrate and to shmooze. For information, call the office at 331-1616.

SUN., FEB. 11

Jewish healing program

4 to 7 p.m. The R.I. Center for Jewish healing potluck and learning, Authentic Movement

and its connection to Jewish mysticism, with Joan Webb. RSVP about food to bring. At 130 Jacob St., Seekonk. Contact jganek@cox.net or 401-658-1640.

N.E. Rabbinical College annual dinner

5 p.m. Event to honor Rabbi & Mrs. Avrohom Jacobowicz, Pillars of Torah; Rabbi and Mrs. Ari Neuwirth, Alumni Achievement awardees; and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Weissmann, Par-

See CALENDAR, page 10

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CANDLE LIGHTING
For greater Rhode Island

- Feb. 2 4:43
- Feb. 9 4:52
- Feb. 16 5:00
- Feb. 23 5:09



Day Schools

From page 1

credit option. Best of all, the results are fast - it's already set to have a "major impact" on his school's next fiscal year.

"It's like magic," he said.

Scheinerman came across the Rhode Island Scholarship Tax Credit program last year. The program is designed for corporations that owe taxes to the state, specifically "C" corporations - businesses, often large ones, that are owned by shareholders. The new program, which went into effect Jan. 1, allows corporations to transform their tax liability into a donation to ease tuition burdens for low-income students at private schools. Any family who makes 250 percent or less of the poverty level, or \$50,000 for a family of four, is eligible. An estimated 90,000 families in Rhode Island qualify for tuition assistance.

Scheinerman brought it to the attention of Larry Katz, asst. executive director/educational services, at the Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE). The Foundation for Rhode Island Day Schools and they took their school concept on the road. Hebrew Day was a client of Bank of America, and Katz made a case for the day schools. The bank approved \$100,000 a year for the next two years. Distribution between the two schools depends on the number of eligible students; Katz estimates 75 percent would go to PHDS and 25 percent to Community Day.

"It is so exciting to think about the huge benefits these kids will reap," said Donna M. McGowan, executive director of the Rhode Island Scholarship Alliance.

"It's a great initiative for our state," said Dani Steiner, dean of JCDS. The program allows a maximum of \$100,000 per year per corporation and has a total cap of \$1 million. Smaller business may pool resources and donate as a group. There are more than 60 private schools - religious and secular - that are involved in the pro-

Scouts plan awards day

PROVIDENCE — The Jewish Committee on Scouting, Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America, will hold an awards brunch on April 15.

The awards brunch will be an opportunity to recall "our great days as scouts and scouters at troop events and at Yawgoog," said Jules Cohen of North Kingstown, committee chair. "We especially looking forward to seeing and reconnecting with former scouts, scouters and leaders who are no longer active in scouting," he added.

For more information, contact Cohen at 294-6617 or e-mail julesacohen@cox.net.

gram statewide. The program is first-come, first-serve - when the cap is reached no more tax credits will be granted. Interest so far has been considerable; in just the first four weeks of the program, \$400,000 worth of grants is already being considered. McGowan said they will "absolutely" hit \$1 million this year.

A joint partnership of Hebrew Day, the Federation and Bureau volunteers and staff, including Linn Freedman, president of both the Bureau and the Foundation, are working together in making their case to as many businesses as possible before the credits are used up.

Scheinerman and Katz hope that Rhode Island will soon raise the cap, as other states have done. Pennsylvania's cap is at nearly \$60 million, and is oversubscribed every year.

One challenge, Katz said, is that it has to be a "C" corporation. "We're finding most are 'S' corporations," he said, often smaller, privately-held companies.

For more information, call Meyer Goldstein at the Federation at 421-4111, ext. 174; Larry Katz at 331-0956, or visit www.rischolarshipalliance.org.



Photo by PHDS

SLINKY SCIENCE — Toby Halderson and Shifra Isaacs use slinkies to study longitudinal and transverse waves at the Jewish Community Day School.

JCDS launches online survey

PROVIDENCE — The Jewish Community Day School (JCDS) of Rhode Island has embarked on a multi-faceted research project about future student enrollment potential and attitudes toward day school education throughout the Jewish community to run through February.

JCDS has developed an electronic survey that may be accessed through its website (www.jcdsri.org), and is designed to allow only one response from a household.

Each response will be anonymous. The survey is intended for parents living in Greater Rhode Island who have Jewish children 14 years of age or younger.

The JCDS will also be conducting focus groups to learn more from parents. Anyone who is interested in participating should send an email to info@jcdsri.org.

The Jewish Community Day School is a pre-K to 8th grade multi-denominational Jewish Day School.

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Opinion

A MAJORITY OF ONE

Refresher on Israeli history for President Carter

Owing to a severe cash flow problem, your observer has been reluctant to spend \$30 (\$22 at BJ's) to purchase Jimmy Carter's new best-seller, "Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid," which is keeping the Jewish chattering classes awake day and night.

This department is counted on by its readers to solve all of the problems that beset the Jewish world and one of the rules of the game is that he is expected to read any book that is causing Our Leaders to lose sleep, before commenting sagely on its contents.

What to do? Last Saturday, a partial solution arrived in the form of a commentary by Carter in *The Providence Journal* titled "Israel must return to its recognized borders." The phrase "recognized borders" is diplomacy-speak for those of pre-1967 Israel, which did not include East Jerusalem. Carter also refers to the possibility of exchanging land, the larger Israeli settlements in the West Bank to be traded for regions of pre-1967 Israel that are predominantly Arab in population. This would alter the "recognized" borders more than somewhat.

In Carter's own words: "(Secretary of State) Rice has recommended the 2002 offer of the 23 Arab nations as a foundation for peace: full recognition of Israel based on a return to its internationally recognized borders...The

clear fact is that Israel will never find peace until it is willing to withdraw from its neighboring occupied territories and permit the Palestinians to exercise their basic human and political rights."

Looking at this critically seems unfair to Carter who, in his book, may have dealt with the issue. So I turned for enlightenment to a pile of articles and reviews of the book which have accumulated on my desk over the past few months. The main point of contention is his comparison of Israel with South Africa in the title's reference to apartheid. There his critics have a valid point; Israel has been discriminatory in its treatment of its Arab citizens but their fate has been nothing at all like that of black South Africans in the apartheid era.

There is a major factor that Carter either ignores or downplays in his assessment of the situation. It concerns the run up to and the immediate aftermath of the creation of the state. On Nov. 30, 1947, the day after the U.N. vote partitioning Palestine, scores of Jews were murdered by rioting Arabs in Jerusalem and elsewhere. From then until May 15, 1948, the war was primarily between Israel's Jewish defenders and a number of Palestinian guerrilla forces aided by Jordan's Arab Legion. The Legion cut the road to and besieged Jerusalem, capturing East Jerusalem and a few Jewish settlements in the region. The Jews did better against the Palestinians and captured Jaffa, Haifa and the western Galilee. On May 15 the war broadened in scope

when Israel was invaded by its surrounding Arab states, a war fought almost entirely in Palestine and Israel, not in the invaders' territory. Again Israelis were attacked and defended themselves. Explaining their defeat, the Arabs claimed that an all-powerful Jewish army simply conquered the hapless Arab armies and Palestinians and sent the latter into exile. If the Palestinians and their Arab allies had accepted the partition plan none of this would have happened but once you attack your neighbor, responsibility for what evolves is largely yours.

Israel has committed its share of errors in this conflict and also has much to answer for. But to expect that it will return to the 1967 lines without a solid guarantee backed by troops from the United States and the European Union, that what occurred in Gaza will not happen elsewhere, is more than even a distinguished American statesman can demand.

For those of us who have great respect for the post-presidential career of Jimmy Carter and who honor him for facilitating the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, his insistence that Israel must withdraw first in order to bring about peace, is disappointing. Israelis learned a bitter lesson in Gaza when, after evacuating all Jewish settlements in the Strip, they discovered that it led only to intensified shelling of Jewish communities in Israel proper. Israel has learned the hard way that only a comprehensive peace will end this conflict. All else, however high minded, is merely piffle.

Yehuda Lev can be reached at yehudal@cox.net.



Yehuda Lev

Editorial

Carter, history and the Jew

By Richard Shein

As we know, President Carter has written a book about the historical relationship between the Palestinians and the Jews. The title, "Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid" says much about its content. The equating of Israel with the former racist policy of

outrage engendered by his grotesque twisting of historical events and facts. Accepting the President's explanation as "provocative," its use is tantamount to yelling "fire" in a crowded theatre. According to American law it is an abuse of the use of free speech because its exercise puts others at risk. So too does the gratuitous use of the word "apartheid" give justification to the terrorist for more shedding of Jewish blood (not that he needs encouragement). Words used can have dire consequences.

When challenged as to his assertions of fact, Carter refused to debate as he makes his rounds of speaking engagements around the country.

The Carter Presidential Library has approximately 200 members of the Board of Councilors. In response to Carter's obscenely biased account of the history in his book, 14 members of this board resigned in protest. A careful study of the names of those who quit indicates that they are all Jewish. Was the book written in Hebrew? Was it just coincidence? Of the 186 remaining members, none found it neces-

sary to either resign in protest or to take public exception to the book. Just maybe the prestige that accrues from being a Board member is not so easily relinquished without considerable incentive. Possibly a number of members agree with Carter, maybe even most, but all? Hardly! Perhaps a few, in their heart of hearts thought: "After all, it's the Jews - it's their problem and it doesn't affect me."

Those last, of course, are for us the most dispiriting.

Few in Jewish history have stood with us when we've alone faced a world arrayed against us, lusting for our downfall or even death. Not many Zolas, precious few righteous Gentiles, and so goes history.

Richard Shein is a member of the newspaper's editorial board.

Dry Bones RETURN ON INVESTMENT



DryBonesBlog.com



South Africa was, according to Carter, done "knowing it would be provocative." That quote was used as part of his attempt to rebut a firestorm of Jewish

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@fri.org.

Viewpoint

FROM THE OLD OLIVETTI
By Zeus!

Some don't believe me; others mock me. The one camp thinks that somewhere deep within the bowels of my home or office there's a computer upon which I write. The scoffers say things like: "Josh, [I've



Josh Stein

asked them to call me 'Excellency' but to no avail] I just hit the 'send' button and whoomp, my letter is received." Maybe, I mentally concede, but I'm a Luddite because I know that when the Postal Service mail arrives at my door, there's more than just bills, circulars and occasional invitations. There are letters from friends and relatives, long epistles I can open, and read, and savor. The joy of receiving real mail trumps the speed of truncated missives. Over the years I've collected hundreds of letters from correspondents who took the time and trouble to write to me. I suppose you can save E-mail as well, but it's not the same. You don't get the tactile sensation of holding the paper, the same hint of the sender's fragrance lingering.

One fellow I've known since before high school recently came out of the closet. Not gay, pagan. This surprised me. I didn't think there were pagans in my old neighborhood, but he assures me that there were and are. I tease him about sacrificing goats to mythical beings long since discredited; he denies the goats but insists that paganism is much to be preferred to monotheism. What follows is recently received:

Excellency:
"Do you really think your god is the only one? Pshaw. I don't know if any god exists but to play it safe I'm worshipping Zeus this week. What harm can it do? Look at the universe. It's 14 billion light years from here to wherever. That's roughly 5 trillion miles times 14 billion miles of space. Do you really think there's one god who not only created it all, but governs the life of every creature within it? Double pshaw. OK, maybe there's one god per planet, but even that's a stretch. (Can you imagine the dependency of the poor schlub of a god who created Pluto? Barren, cold, and now not even a planet!)

"And what benefit is there to humanity to impose the one god theory? When we pagans ruled

the roost we had wars, and you have wars. Our wars, however, were never to impose a religion on anyone else; yours are often enough just about that. Muslims conquered the Middle East and North Africa and imposed their religion; Christians launched a series of Crusades to kill infidels (and Jews). And if that's not bad enough, within the monotheistic religions, but never amongst us polys, people kill each other over the proper belief and practice of the one true religion. Christians used to massacre other Christians over such arcane questions as "is god the son equal or inferior to god the father," and "does the bread become the body of Christ, or not?" Barrels of blood flowed over these questions. Have you seen pictures out of Baghdad recently? Sunnis are killing Shiites and Shiites are killing Sunnis and then if they remember, almost as an afterthought, they kill Americans. We pagans never imposed our beliefs. We're immoral, you read? And the proof of that is condoning homosexuality? Pshaw. Just ask your Reform and Conservative rabbis about that one!

"You might point to the bible and say, 'see, here are examples of pagans persecuting Israelites.' Ah, verily, I say unto you, nor so. Pharaoh didn't try to impose his religion on his slaves, he just wanted them to work harder. He didn't deny your god, he just didn't know about him until Moses showed up—and neither did the Hebrews, if I remember correctly. The Amelikes didn't try to impose their religion, they fought to prevent illegal immigrants entering their territory. Canaanites didn't impose Baal, they were interested in reconquering land. The Greeks didn't impose paganism on the Jews. Some Jews thought pagan practices would get them in the good graces of their conquerors, at least until the fanatics stepped in and went to war against both the Hellenists and the Hellenized Jews. Until that nut Nero, the Romans didn't persecute Jews and yes, they did persecute Christians, but Christianity was illegal and subversive—the way Communism was seen to be here in the '50s, and persecuted." I wrote back and asked if I could use his letter in my column. A week later I received his response: "Sure, why not. God willing it will provoke some intelligent discussion."

Josh Stein can be reached at jstein@rwu.edu.

'Hebrew Day challenges with grit, determination ...and success'

By Rabbi Peretz Scheinerman

There are numerous inaccuracies in Jonathan Rubin's "Hebrew Day School hit hard" story which appeared in your Jan. 22 edition. Had the full picture been understood, I am certain that the article's headline would have been "PHDS faces challenges with grit, determination... and success."

The Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS) is gratified that the community's consciousness has been raised regarding full time Jewish education. However, if building and not destruction is the desired goal, it would have been preferable to focus on the many positive developments at PHDS. These include a 17 percent increase in enrollment, many new students from Sharon, Massachusetts, a thriving girls' high school, and a continued commitment to academic excellence. This has allowed us to attract students with diverse religious backgrounds and to continue positive interactions with the Bureau of Jewish Education, the Federation, local synagogues and community agencies.

Hebrew Day is proud of the many academic changes that have been instituted over the past four years. Our staff includes *Loviv* (Hebrew language) teachers who focus on teaching Modern Hebrew and Israeli history to all of our students. We have doubled the time devoted to learning Hebrew language in our middle school and have invited the Bureau's emissaries into our classrooms to give our students a taste of Israel. Our academic calendar includes special programming for *Yom Haatzmaut* and *Yom Yerushalayim*; our students are inculcated with a love of Torah, *mitzvot* and the land of Israel.

Our math and science specialists are experts and renowned for their commitment to excellence. Many of our students have been inducted into the National Honor Society, and last year we placed third in the statewide Mock Trial competition. We will never compromise on these standards of excellence. They prepare many of our students with the academic prowess needed to qualify for advanced placement courses at any school that they may choose. Many of our high school students take advantage of a program offered by Rhode Island College whereby seniors earn college credit for courses they take at our school. Our high standards have enabled our students to be accepted at the finest universities, yeshivas and seminaries in this country and Israel.

The school features two award-winning bands that have been invited to statewide competitions, and to play the national

anthem for Pawtucket Red Sox games. In our art program, students learn to recognize the various masters' styles and explore their own artistic ability in a variety of media. The diversity of these media was evident in the award winning entries in the Voice and Herald's Hanukkah art contest. Other electives, including chess, drama, and web design all join together to enhance a well-rounded and balanced program that caters to the academic and social needs of each child while helping each student reach his/her maximum potential. Our rock-climbing gym helps enhance a physical education curriculum where balance, agility and life fitness take precedence over games and calisthenics.

Statistically, the school does an excellent job fundraising compared to day schools of similar size, and our fundraising has significantly increased over the past four years. The jointly founded

Scholarship Granting Organization with the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS) has already resulted in a major commitment to benefit both schools.

Yet PHDS does face certain challenges which are not at all unique to our school. While the school will not compromise its commitment to academic excellence, it will also not turn away any family seeking a Jewish education based on financial need. The school is not flinching from these budgetary challenges and has a close working relationship with the Bureau and Federation to help address these issues.

I encourage all of your readers to join with me as partners in this important work. Please feel free to call and set up an appointment to come in, observe and see what PHDS is really all about.

Rabbi Peretz Scheinerman is dean of the Providence Hebrew Day School. He lives in Providence.

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Letters to the Editor

Solutions for both day schools

This letter is in response to the article "Hebrew Day School hit hard." Many of the issues spelled out in this article are not unique to Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS). Fluctuating enrollment, parental issues, school philosophy and deficits are topics that every school deals with. In fact, the former Alperin Schechter Day School, now the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS), experienced many of these same problems. As a member of the Jewish Federation and Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE) boards, I know that funding the needs of this community is a process that is not always aboveboard.

I would like to suggest a solution to the funding of both the PHDS and the JCDS that is out-

side the realm of politics. A child who wants to attend either school should be allowed to apply for a need-based scholarship. Families could choose a school based on personal preferences. The BJE could help set up an independent committee that would ensure good governance practices at both schools. So where would the money come from? Currently the Jewish Federation sends approximately \$1.5 million to communities outside Rhode Island and distributes the same amount to communities in Rhode Island. This 50/50 split has been a point of controversy and was recently voted on by the Federation Board. Given the needs right here in this community, perhaps this split needs to be revised. A 60/40 split would free

up \$300,000 that could be used for the scholarship program. In addition, money from the Rhode Island Scholarship Alliance could flow into this program. Another source of funds could be from people who are inspired to give for this specific purpose.

The goal is to have two day schools that are on solid financial footing. For the sake of unity in this community, it is important to take politics out of the allocation process and bring the needs of the children and their families to the forefront.

Harry Feld
Providence

A sad day for newspaper

Being an involved member of the Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS) community and a native of Providence, I am aware of several factual and historical inaccuracies in your article about PHDS. I will allow the school to respond for itself concerning the article but on a personal note, I am truly disappointed that I will never again be able to read anything in your paper without wondering about the accuracy and integrity of what I am reading. It is truly a sad day for journalism in Jewish Rhode Island.

Shammai N. Weiner
Providence

Examination will yield result

I wanted to comment on the "Hebrew Day School hit hard" story that ran in the last issue. As chair of the Bureau / Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS) Financial Advisory Committee, I feel it is important for this community to know that the school has been an excellent partner and shown great willingness to work towards achieving their financial

stability. I would like to thank the school's representatives for their ongoing cooperation. Their openness, timeliness and forthrightness are greatly appreciated.

PHDS is confronting head-on the challenges it faces. This will result in a stronger Jewish community for all of us.

Mat Shuster
Cranston

Emanu-El offers interfaith burial plots

I read with interest Sue Fishkoff's article in the Jan. 5 edition of the Voice & Herald, discussing the difficulty intermarried couples face in finding Jewish places to be buried together. Eleven days before your article appeared, Temple Emanu-El concluded the purchase of a section at Swan Point Cemetery which will welcome the burial of intermarried couples within the congregation, as well as other members.

The Cemetery Committee of Temple Emanu-El has given careful thought to the need which your article discussed and which we have known will be a need for several of our families in the future. In determining policies for burial in this section, we have been guided by a *Teshuva* written by Rabbi Ben Zion Bergman, a member of the Committee of Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly. Rabbi Bergman cites Rabbi Moses Feinstein, a noted Orthodox *posek*, who explained that the reason for not burying Jews and non-Jews together was because at one time, all non-Jews were considered to be *rishatim* (wicked people), whereas all Jews were to be treated as righteous people. Following the rule that one does not bury a righteous

person next to a wicked person, burial of non-Jews in Jewish cemeteries was banned. Says Bergman, "Whatever may have been the justification for such a presumption in times past, I find such a presumption today ethically offensive."

Rabbi Bergman realizes that non-Jews whose spouses are members of synagogues are very likely to have contributed service to the synagogue themselves, and provided their children with a Jewish education. Thus, in no way can such people be considered *rishatim*. He therefore permits non-Jewish spouses of Jewish people to be buried next to their Jewish spouses in a Jewishly consecrated burial ground. That is what we will do in Temple Emanu-El's section at Swan Point. In this way, we intend to express our sensitivity to our intermarried members, who are conscientious in raising their children as Jews, and who themselves have been supportive of the synagogue in many ways. We share Rabbi Bergman's view that our ethical concerns must influence our *halakhic* behavior and our congregation's policies.

Wayne M. Franklin,
Senior Rabbi

Temple Emanu-El, Providence

Think you're funny?

PROVE IT!!!!

The Jewish Voice & Herald will be publishing its **PURIM ISSUE** on March 2. Purim is a holiday of festive fun, and in that spirit we're looking for some fake news stories about *anything* Jewish and funny. The possibilities are endless - everything from Jewish celebrities to holidays to your aunt's chopped liver. Submissions are due Feb. 19 and should be 400 words or less. Email to voiceherald@jfri.org or mail to JVH, 130 Sessions Street, Providence, RI 02906.

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News briefs

Eilat bombing

EILAT: For the first time in its history, Eilat at the southern tip of Israel, fell victim to Palestinian terrorists when a suicide bomber killed three Israelis in a bakery in a residential area of the city. Two Palestinian terrorist groups, Islamic Jihad and a second group linked to Fatah, claimed responsibility for the attack. The bomber was a 21-year-old man from Gaza whose mother said she was proud to have raised a "martyr." Fatah spokesmen were quick to condemn the bombing but Hamas officials welcomed the "natural response" to Israeli policies in Gaza and the West Bank. The United States also condemned the bombing with a statement that called it a "barbaric action." (JTA)

Gaza infighting

GAZA: Meanwhile grim fighting continued in Gaza between Fatah and Hamas gunmen resulting in at least 60 deaths since December, including civilians caught in cross fires. A ceasefire agreement arranged last week broke down quickly and an offer by Saudi Arabia to host peace talks in Mecca has apparently gotten nowhere. The national unity talks ended over Hamas' refusal to recognize Israel or renounce terrorism. In Jerusalem, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's government has been assisting Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas by providing light arms for his police force in Gaza but the continued fighting has brought criticism of the program and it may be suspended. As this issue went to press, there were reports of a new ceasefire agreement but no details as to its effectiveness. (JTA)

Katsav investigation

JERUSALEM: Israeli President Moshe Katsav's attorneys have received 20-30 boxes of files collected by the police during an investigation into allegations

of sexual misconduct and other felonies against Katsav. Once the attorneys have a sense of how long it will take to study the material, they will meet with Attorney-General Menachem Mazuz who will then make his final decision on whether or not to indict Katsav and on what charges. Katsav has strongly denied all of the allegations. (THE JERUSALEM POST)

Cluster violation

WASHINGTON: A report by the Bush Administration says that Israel may have violated the terms of its purchase from the United States of cluster weapons. The munitions scatter small bomblets over a wide area and many remain in place after the fighting ends. United Nations observers say that at least 30 Lebanese have been killed, many of them children who thought the small discs were toys. Israel says it used the bombs only in areas from which civilians had fled either because of advance warnings by its soldiers or because they evacuated the areas to avoid being caught

up in the fighting. The "New York Times" reports that the American government may not press charges since, according to a State Department spokesman, "It was the kind of war Hezbollah waged. They used innocent civilians to shield their fighters." (NEW YORK TIMES/JTA)

All 'ayes' but one

(JERUSALEM) With only one vote against his appointment, Raleb Majadele of the Labor Party was approved by the Israeli cabinet as the first Arab cabinet minister in Israel's history. The lone holdout was Avigdor Lieberman of the Israel Beiteinu Party, who had spoken out against having an Arab member of the cabinet. Majadele was appointed Minister Without Portfolio pending a cabinet reshuffle when he will become either the Minister of Social Welfare or the Minister for Science, Culture and Sports. (THE JERUSALEM POST)

IDF head

JERUSALEM: The Israeli Cabinet is expected to approve

the appointment of Major General Gabi Ashkenazi as chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces, replacing Dan Halutz who resigned two weeks ago as a result of the much criticized role played by the Israeli Army in the recent Lebanon War. (HA'ARETZ)

Globe exits Jerusalem

BOSTON: The Boston Globe is the latest of a number of American newspapers to close its Jerusalem bureau as American print media struggle to survive against increasing problems involving TV, the internet and declining advertising revenue. The Philadelphia Inquirer is closing its Jerusalem office next month and the Baltimore Sun is expected to follow suit. In a few months only six American newspapers will have bureaus in Israel and a couple of those are likely to close. Before the Six-Day War of 1967 only the New York Times

had a full-time correspondent in Jerusalem. (THE JERUSALEM POST)

Stamp of honor

WASHINGTON: The United States Postal Service has just issued a new 39 cent postage stamp bearing the picture of Hiram Bingham. Hiram who? Bingham, it turns out, was a State Department employee sent to Marseilles as American Vice-Consul in 1939 just before World War II. The government, trying to retain its neutrality, ordered that no visas be granted to Jews fleeing Hitler. Bingham ignored the ruling, granting visas to 2,500 Jewish and other refugees. He died, virtually penniless, in 1988 and only when his son recently discovered letters hidden in his belongings, was his story made known. (PRIVATELY COMMUNICATED)

Compiled by Yehuda Lev.



Federation and the BJERI are partners?

Who knew?

Eitan Levine, a student at the Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School of the Bureau of Jewish Education of R.I. and one of 75 participants from the New England Region, at Auschwitz on the 2006 March of the Living.

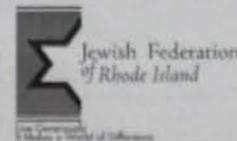
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Be an important partner in the power of community. Give generously to the 2006 JERI campaign and invest in our future. You can give directly and immediately through a gift to the campaign, or you can ensure that you continue to build a strong community after you are gone through an annual campaign endorsement that funds your annual campaign pledge in perpetuity.



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UN

From page 1



A Jewish high school choir sings during the annual United Nations remembrance.

New York cantor.

Survivors sat at the central tables normally reserved for U.N. ambassadors, while the envoys filled seats around the perimeter designated for non-voting observers. A Jewish nongovernmental organization occupied the space reserved for the Palestinian delegation.

"The Holocaust was a unique and undeniable tragedy," said the new U.N. secretary-general, South Korea's Ban Ki-moon, in videotaped remarks.

Ban was en route to Addis Ababa for a summit of the African Union where, he said, ending

the violence in Darfur would be high on the agenda, a comment that drew applause from the survivors.

The International Day of Commemoration of the Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust was established in November 2005 by the U.N. General Assembly.

This year's commemoration comes on the heels of a resolution, introduced by the United States and co-sponsored by 103 nations, calling on countries "unreservedly to reject any denial of the Holocaust as a historical event, either in full or in part, or any activities to this end.

The Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island cordially invites you to a community celebration honoring

Whoever learns from another, one chapter, or one law, or one verse, or one word, or even one letter, is bound to treat them with honor...

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Harold Grinspoon and Diane Troderman are national philanthropic leaders, supporting Jewish communal initiatives locally, nationally, and worldwide. They are trailblazing, innovating philanthropists whose vision has shaped Jewish educational initiatives in teen philanthropy, campership incentives, excellence in day school education, and childhood literacy. Grinspoon is founder and chairman of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in West Springfield, Massachusetts. He also serves on the board of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the Birthright Israel Foundation, and is a founding partner in the Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education (PEJE). Diane serves as chairperson of the Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA) and the Hadassah International Research Institute on Jewish Women at Brandeis University.

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Community

BJE to honor six 'builders of education'

Philanthropist Harold Grinspoon will attend Feb. 28th event



Philanthropists Harold Grinspoon and his wife, Diane Troderman, during a trip to Israel.

hgcf.org) has been involved with the R.I. Jewish community through several of its initiatives, such as through a matching fund program which Camp JORI participates in, the B'nai Tzedek teen philanthropy program at the BJE, and teacher excellence awards.

Grinspoon serves on the board of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the Birthright Israel Foundation, and is a founding member in the Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education (PEJE).

Troderman serves as chairperson of the Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA), the Hadassah International Research Institute on Jewish Women at Brandeis, and is very active in Jewish and other causes worldwide.

For more information on the event, or to contribute to the tribute book being prepared for the honorees, contact Jana Brenman at 331-0956 or jrbrenman@bjeri.org. The price for the reception is \$36 per person. Open to the public, it will be held at 6 p.m. at the Providence Marriott.

PROVIDENCE — The Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE) is honoring six "builders of Jewish education" at an event on Wednesday evening, Feb. 28.

Honorees are Martin and Gloria Feibish of North Providence, Dr. Sidney and Alice Goldstein of Warwick, and

Rabbi Alvan and Marcia Kaunfer of Providence.

In attendance will be national Jewish leaders and philanthropists Harold Grinspoon and his wife, Diane Troderman.

The Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation (www.

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Calendar

From page 2

ents of the Year. At the Providence Hebrew Day School, 450 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. \$50 per person. RSVP Karinne Bleiwas, 453-0805.

MON., FEB. 12

Judaism 2.0

Kollel second semester Judaism 2.0, series of 6-week courses; on Monday evenings at Tamarisk and Wednesday evenings (Feb. 14) at Brown Hillel. Classes will include Jewish living workshop, practices of Judaism, Tools for Life; Jewish

approach to interpersonal relationships, more. For details, visit www.providenceKollel.org, call 383-2786 or email J2.0@providencekollel.org. See Community.

TUES., FEB. 13

Storytime/Purim party

10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood Lounge. Parents and kids up to age 4. All welcome. Come in costume, sing songs, dance, craft, shake our graggers. Questions? Call Lisa Shorr at 521-4540.

E. Greenwich lunch/learn

12 - 1:30 pm. Lunch & Learn at the Grille on Main, 50 Main St., East Greenwich. Each participant orders from the menu; discussion of Jewish sources addressing current issues. Topic: Jews on blindness.

THURS., FEB. 15

JCDS Zimriyah songfest

7 p.m. Annual performance at Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Free and open to the community. Art show. Reception to follow. See Community.

TUES.-THURS., FEB. 20-22

Gan Israel winter camp

Chabad Chai Center, Warwick. Field trips, arts & crafts, challah baking, more activities. For Jewish boys and girls ages 5-10. \$30 per day; \$75 for all three days. To register or for more information call Rabbi Yossi or Shoshannah Laufer at 884.7888.

WED., FEB. 21

Rosh Hodesh series

Noon to 1:30 p.m. Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. Lenore Sones, director of education, Temple Sinai, "Salon Jewesses of the early 1800s." Salon culture in Germany, social and political. \$14 with lunch. Women's Alliance program. Call Shanna Yarmovsky, 421-4111.

Mandelbrot, Purim evening for women

7:30 p.m. Participate in making Mandelbrot (Jewish Biscotti) to take home. Discussion on the insights of the story of Purim. To RSVP call Shoshanna Laufer at Chabad of West Bay 401.884.7888.

SAT., FEB. 24

Klezmer Café

8 to 10 p.m. Fishel Bresler & Shelley Katsh as a duo at the "Brooklyn" Coffee & Tea House, 209 Douglas Ave, Providence. Admission is \$9. For information, www.Brooklyn-CoffeeTeaHouse.com, 575-2284 mornings or 273-9814. Also performing March 24.

SUN., FEB. 25

Camp reps at Habonim

11 a.m. Representatives from Crane Lake and Eisner camps will meet with parents and students from K to 5th grade. Families with older students are welcome. Temple Habonim is at

165 New Meadow Rd. in Barrington.

WED., FEB. 28

BJE to honor six;

Grinspoon to attend

6 p.m. at the Providence Marriott. Three couples to be honored for commitment to Jewish education. Guests philanthropists Harold Grinspoon and Diane Troderman. \$36. For more information contact Jana Brenman at 331-0956 or jbrenman@bjeri.org. See Community.

FRI., MARCH 2

Habonim to honor teachers

6 p.m. 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington. Catered roast chicken dinner, with children's meals. Adults \$10, children, \$7. Family Shabbat service to recognize teachers at 7:15. RSVP by Feb. 15. For more information or reservations, call Ruth Fain at 245-7025 or email fourfains@cox.net.

WED., MARCH 7

Beth-El Passover raffle

Call Rona at Temple Beth-El (401-331-6070) to purchase raffle tickets for a gourmet kosher Passover dinner for 10-12 people. Catered by Accounting For Taste LLC, on the first night of Passover, Monday, April 2. All tickets must be purchased and ticket stub returned no later than March 2 to qualify for a drawing on March 7.

SAT., MARCH 10

Am David spaghetti dinner

6:30 p.m. to raise funds for the Meir Panim soup kitchens in Israel, to feed the needy, especially children. Call for reservations or more information to 474-8276 or email momcall@aol.com.

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Arts & Culture

Choir hits high notes

By Molly Lederer

PROVIDENCE — Over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend, a group of approximately 80 teenagers gathered at Temple Emanu-El. High spirits and good cheer abounded, but the occasion was not a party. Dedication and hard work were required, but it wasn't a job. These teens gathered to sing.



Molly Lederer

HaZamir is the International Jewish High School Choir, made up of hundreds of teens from 17 chapters across the US, England, Canada, and Israel. MLK weekend marked the time for two large regional HaZamir retreats, one of which took place in Providence. Members of HaZamir choirs from Boston, and Fairfield County, Conn., joined the R.I. contingent — Kol Kesem — for two days of intensive rehearsal of Jewish choral music.

Kol Kesem is the local chapter of HaZamir, a joint project of Temple Emanu-El and the Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School of the Bureau

of Jewish Education of RI. The temple's Cantor Brian Mayer is the director of Kol Kesem, as well as a former conducting student of HaZamir founder Matthew Lazar. Accompanied by his wife Vivian, Lazar himself was at the temple all weekend to teach, conduct, and inspire the young singers.

Now in its 14th year, HaZamir welcomes Jewish teens of all stripes for a musical experience more cultural than spiritual. Some members of HaZamir have never spoken Hebrew before learning the choral arrangements, while others are devoutly religious. As Lazar puts it, "Our goal is to strengthen Jewish identity but not to strictly define what that identity is."

Lazar has been working towards that goal for years, as the founder and director of the Zamir Choral Foundation. The Foundation is the umbrella organization which sponsors HaZamir, as well as the North American Jewish Choral Festival and the Zamir Chorale. The local HaZamir choirs meet weekly throughout the year, and join forces every spring for a two-day festival and gala concert in New York.

The canon of choral music



Members of HaZamir, the International Jewish High School Choir.

that the teens learn includes songs from the late 1940s to '50s and new pieces commissioned by the Zamir Choral Foundation. They sing the Aaron Copeland song "Banu" as well as familiar prayers like "Eili Eili." Lazar finds the whole process exciting. "It's thrilling for us all to make music together. As we sing the lyrics, we are also accessing something nonverbal. Both sides of the brain are involved with the

emotional side of the music and with the meaning of the words, the learning of the text."

Joining the regional groups

at the Providence retreat was the HaZamir Chamber Choir. The Chamber Choir is a select group

See CHORUS, page 22

JUDAISM 2.0

Judaism 2.0 is a mini-semester of courses designed to explore, investigate, understand and learn about our Jewish heritage. Sign up for one or two courses beginning February 12th and running for six weeks. The Kollel members will be teaching in two locations for your convenience - Monday evenings at the Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Facility and Wednesday nights at the Brown Hillel in Providence.

To register or for more information, please call the Kollel at 401-383-2786 or email J20@providencerkollel.org.

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Darfur

From page 1

when groups pull out, the people of Darfur are left with no services and no witnesses."

Darfur, said Messinger, "is the most dangerous place in the world today for aid workers, one third of whom have pulled out."

Just last week 22 UN work-

ers were attacked by police and beaten severely at a party in Nyala; one woman was sexually assaulted.

Messinger opened the Darfur conference at Brown with a talk to students at Hillel on Friday. "After the Holocaust in Germany and Eastern Europe, the world gave a legal definition to genocide...We have learned

genocide is not just the work of one evil madman," she said.

Messinger, the former Manhattan borough president, who ran and lost against Mayor Giuliani, was grim and steely in her account of two visits to Darfur, where more than 200,000 have been slaughtered and several million displaced since 2003 when rebel groups began to oppose the government.

"Every story I heard was chilling," she said.

First came the Sudanese planes to drop bombs on villages, then the Janjaweed Arab militia, and then the long march across the scorched earth, "the wandering in the desert."

UNICEF ambassador Mia Farrow said Messinger is "my hero." In an exposition and talk held at the List Center for the

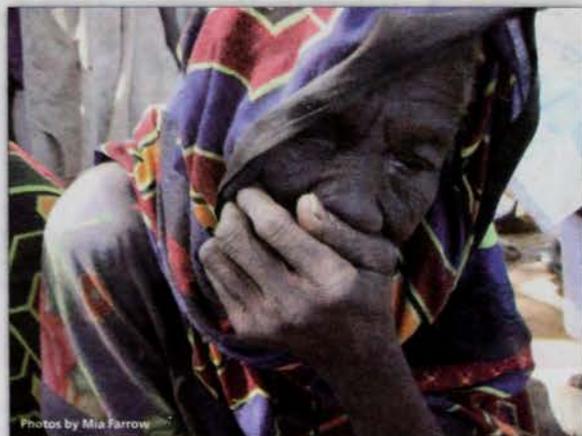
Darfur program Sun. with Sen. Reed

PROVIDENCE — Temple Emanu-El is holding a program this Sunday, Feb. 4, at 11 a.m. featuring Sen. Jack Reed that will address the genocide in Darfur and the Jewish response. The program, Genocide in Darfur: A Jewish Response, is being organized by the Temple Emanu-El Social Action Committee. Sen. Reed will speak to the community and report on what we can do in Rhode Island to stop the genocide in Darfur. Attendees will be asked to write letters to officials of the United States government and of the United Nations.

Making reference to the work Temple Emanu-El has done to address homelessness and other issues in Rhode Island, Rabbi Wayne Franklin states, "The Temple Emanu-El community has demonstrated a great capacity to work on behalf of people in need locally and around the world. Our community is committed to taking action through letter writing and speaking out to stop the genocide in Darfur."

Rabbi Alvin Kaunfer notes the resonance the genocide in Darfur has for the Temple Emanu-El community: "We as the Jewish community are particularly sensitive to genocide because of our experience during the Holocaust in Europe. We feel a particular responsibility to make sure that it doesn't happen again, but it is happening in Darfur, and we need to do everything we can to stop it."

For more information, contact the temple at 331-1616 or Sue-Rita Goldstein at 861-1456 or meyeri@aol.com.



Photos by Mia Farrow

Above, a woman in a refugee camp in Darfur. At right, this woman must travel 20 km. to find firewood, now the currency of the refugee camps.



Arts on Friday, Farrow showed her slides from her most recent trip to Darfur, in 2006.

She looked evil in the eye and snapped photos of the Arab government-supported militia, the Janjaweed, cradling AK 47s with a smirk, on top of SUVs, or camels or horseback.

They have now taken to gouging out eyes with bayonets, Farrow said, as she showed some horrifying slides of victims in a medical clinic. There were times she just could not lift her camera.

Despite a ceasefire and a force of over 7,000 AU soldiers (with no weapons, no uniforms, no training to patrol an area the size of Texas) the situation is desperate.

Susannah Sirkin, deputy director of Physicians for Human Rights (PHR), went to Darfur five months ago. She urged Brown students and those at the Darfur events last weekend to let their local representatives know of their opposition to what is going on in Darfur. "Lives can be saved by your actions," she said.

On Tuesday, she added, "dozens of human rights and humanitarian organizations such as PHR have relayed the awful facts on the ground from Darfur for the past three years. These efforts, now supporting a global advocacy movement, have resulted in the referral of the Darfur atrocities to the International Criminal Court, the deployment of enormous humanitarian assistance programs that save lives, and constant diplomatic pressure on the Khartoum regime."

China is a prominent trading partner of Sudan, importing 64 percent of Sudan's oil exports, along with a brisk arms trade. Prof. Eric Reeves of Smith College, who has just published a

book on Darfur, said since China is hosting the Olympics in 2008, it is more susceptible to pressure. "The motto China has selected for the Olympics is 'One World One Dream.' We must demand that China live up to this motto," he said at the Brown event.

The president of China will visit Sudan Friday and Saturday, Feb. 2-3. But there is no reason to be optimistic. "Using pressure and imposing sanctions is not practical and will not help settle the issue," China's Assistant Foreign Minister Zhai Jun said in a report in The New York Times Jan. 25. "The Sudan issue should be resolved like any other — through peaceful negotiation."

The only hope Messinger sees to stop the genocide is a UN force of 22,000 (UN Sec. Res. 1706) approved by the Security Council. However Sudanese president al-Bashir has categorically rejected this as a Western invasion.

"China alone has the leverage to get Khartoum to accept U.N. forces. It has \$10 billion in investments there," Reeves said.

On Friday night, Frank Caprio, general treasurer of the state of R.I., said he wants the state to divest from companies involved in Sudan, and supports a new bill submitted by Providence Rep. Joseph Almeida to divest from Sudan.

Brown University has already voted to do this, as a result of efforts by the student-run Darfur Action Network, part of a national student anti-genocide coalition which brought 200 students to campus last weekend for the conference on Darfur.

Messinger told students: "Make Never Again mean something."

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Combatants

From page 1

under investigation according to the Israeli press.

"We can no longer say no, we have to say yes to something. We have to co-exist. It is the children, and the civilians, who pay the price," Elhanan said.

Backgrounds

Elhanan, 29, is a former Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) paratrooper (1995-'98) from Jerusalem. His grandfather was in the Haganah. Elik joined the military at 18. "I saw it as my duty and privilege to protect my family and my country. But I came to realize I was a partner in the conflict. For every person we arrested or killed, another came in his place."

After the death of his sister, he began to search for a means to prevent further violence. He and his parents work together in a bereaved parents group comprised of Israelis and Palestinians.

Al Himri, 42, is from Bethlehem and a member of the Fatah movement.

"My story is like that of many Palestinians," he said. "We have lived there for generations. I used to hear from my grandfather about his work in the Resistance movement in the 1920s and '30s, opposing the British Mandate."

He joined the Fatah "resistance" as a teenager. "We did what the leaders told us to do. We demonstrated against Israelis for confiscating our land, for curfews

and for hunger," he said. They gathered the stones and prepared the Molotov cocktails.

During the first Intifada (1987-1993) Al Himri was arrested for organizing stone-throwing demonstrations against Israeli soldiers. He spent over four years in an Israeli "detention center."

When he was released, he returned to school. During that period, he alternated between hope, with the Oslo accords in 1993; shock at the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin ("I was shocked that a great Israeli leader could be killed by another Jew") and ultimately despair when the second Intifada erupted in 2000. Ariel Sharon's unilateral stance worsened conditions for the Palestinian people, he said. "It was a gift to Hamas."

"I saw Palestinians working against peace, and suicide bombers. This pushed me in another direction. Not all Palestinians are Hamas, not all want to send suicide bombers," he said.

He began to search for Israelis and Palestinians who had fought for their countries but who now eschewed violence. This ultimately led him to meet with Elhanan and others like him, in secret. Both men said they were terrified to meet their enemies face to face.

"My friends told me it was an Israeli intelligence set-up," said Al Himri.

"I told myself I am going to get killed by Hamas, this is the



Elik Elhanan spoke with many members of the audience after his talk.

stupidest thing I've ever done," said Elhanan, recounting hiding in an olive grove when he spotted Israeli soldiers on his way to the first meeting.

After a year of sneaking across borders for surreptitious meetings, CFP formed and revealed itself. Now comprised of 150 Israelis and Palestinians, the group calls for the:

- Establishment of an independent Palestinian state based on pre-1968 borders alongside Israel, with its capital in East Jerusalem;

- Withdrawal of the settle-

ments in the West Bank

- A just resolution of the Palestinian refugee problem acceptable to both sides.

CPF goes into schools, participates in peaceful demonstrations, and sends speakers around the world. Al Himri has met with Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas many times; "he supported us and pushed us to continue."

Elhanan said the Israeli government has not agreed to speak with the group.

A woman in the audience asked Al Himri if Palestin-

ian school books teach hatred of Jews and he said all textbooks are sent from the European Union and have to be authorized by the Israeli government. Elhanan concurred.

At the event, a petition to President Bush was signed by 55. It calls for the U.S. to promote talks between Israel and any party, including the Palestinians, Lebanon and Syria, that accepts Israel's right to exist.

The visit was also supported by Congregation Agudas Achim and several congregational rabbis. Co-chairs were Judy Kaye and Phil Rosen.

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**Vegetarian winter soups
(like my *bubbe* used to make)**

By Marylyn Graff
mgraft@jfri.org

Our grandmothers in Eastern Europe were restricted in winter to the vegetables that would ripen in the short growing season and were sturdy enough to be kept in root cellars. This pretty much limited them to potatoes, cabbage, onions, beets, carrots, and turnips. A favorite grain was

See facing page



Make a bread bowl for this potato mushroom soup.

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From previous page

barley, which is a great addition to soups. In the warmer months they would often go out into the woods to hunt mushrooms, and dry them to flavor winter dishes.

Although soups were accompanied by a good rye or pumpernickel bread back then, nowadays, a nice way to serve them is in a hollowed-out crispy bread bowl. A dollop of sour cream is nice and a garnish of chopped chives, parsley or a sprinkle of paprika will add color. A fresh salad should go along — a luxury our grandmothers didn't have in the depths of winter.

Soup recipes are very forgiving — you can change or add to them and season according to your taste. Longer, slow cooking improved the flavor. These recipes will serve at least six.

Potato-Mushroom soup

I prefer to thicken soups with potatoes rather than flour, as flour-thickened soups will often "break" on reheating.

- 2 Tblsps. vegetable oil
- 2-3 lbs Maine or Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and diced.
- 1 lb. fresh mushrooms, chopped or 6-8 oz. dried mushrooms, reconstituted and chopped.
- 2 large or 3 medium onions, peeled and chopped.
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped
- 1 1/2 qts. vegetable broth or 1 1/2 qts. water plus 3 vegetable

bouillon cubes or envelopes
1 bay leaf

If using dried mushrooms, reconstitute in a small bowl of hot water, remove and chop. Filter remaining mushroom water in a strainer through a coffee filter and use as part of liquid.

Heat oil in a soup pot until it shimmers, stir in onion until soft, adding garlic for last minute or so. Do not brown. Add liquid, potatoes, bay leaf and mushrooms. Bring to a simmer and cook for at least 30 minutes, (longer if using dried mushrooms.) Remove bay leaf. Puree soup in a blender or processor. Season with salt and pepper. At this point you can add some milk or half-and-half to desired thickness or creaminess. Reheat to serve in a bread bowl or warmed bowl. You can garnish with sliced mushrooms.

Turnip/rutabaga soup

- 2 Tblsps. vegetable oil
- 2 large onions, peeled and chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped
- About 3 lbs. turnips, rutabagas or a mixture, peeled and diced
- 2 carrots, (not baby) peeled and sliced
- 1/4 cup pearled barley
- 1 1/2 qts. vegetable stock or water plus 3 vegetable bouillon cubes or envelopes
- 2 Tblsps. dried parsley

Heat oil in soup pot until it shimmers. Stir in onions and cook until soft, adding garlic near end. Stir in veggies and barley and add liquid. Simmer on low heat until veggies are soft, and barley is cooked, adding parsley towards the end, about an hour.

Season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve in warmed bowls. You can sprinkle with shredded cheese.

Beet and Apple Soup

- 2 medium onions, peeled and chopped,
- 2 Tblsps. vegetable oil
- 3 lbs. fresh beets
- 3 Granny Smith or other tart apples
- 1 1/2 qts. vegetable stock or water and 3 vegetable bouillon cubes or envelopes
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/8 tsp. cloves
- 1 tsp. curry powder

Trim tops of beets and wash well. Place in a pan and cover tightly with foil. Bake in 300 oven for about 1 to 1 1/2 hours until tender. Cool until soft enough to peel and dice into about 3/4 inch pieces.

Heat oil in soup pot until it shimmers. Add onions and cook over low heat until soft. (Do not

brown.) Peel and cut apples into 3/4 inch dice. Add liquid, apples, beets and seasonings.

Simmer over low heat until tender. Puree in blender or processor. Return to pot and stir in milk or half- and-half to desired

thickness. Season with salt and pepper. Reheat and serve in warmed bowls with a dollop of sour cream if desired.



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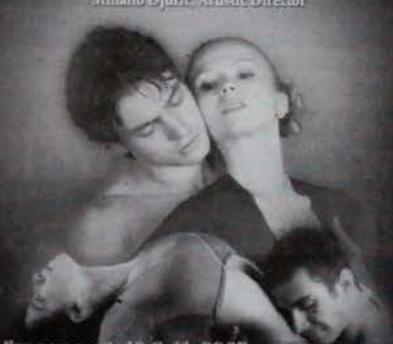
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JCDS to hold annual songfest

PROVIDENCE — Students of the Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island will be performing at their annual "Zimriyah Songfest" on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. The event, to be held at Temple Beth El, 70 Orchard Ave. in Providence, is free and open to the community. A reception will follow.

The school says that the evening is an opportunity for current families, alumni families, grandparents, community members and supporters to gather and experience the creativity and excitement of a live performance. For more information contact Andrea Katzman at 751-2470, Fax (401)351-7674 or www.jcdsri.org

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Community

Volunteers needed to lead services at Tamarisk

WARWICK — Individuals living at the Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Enriched Assisted Living Residence congregate every Friday evening for a traditional Kabbalat Shabbat service, led by a host of talented people, including Lev Poplow, director of programming at Tamarisk, and community volunteers.

The services include a special prayer for those who are sick and a memorial prayer for those who

are no longer with us. Also, in keeping with a commitment to those who years ago have established Yahrzeit memorials at the now closed Home for the Aged, names of those Yahrzeits for the week are included at every service.

At times, the weekly Torah portion of the week is discussed, as well as humorous stories. Shabbat booklets have been prepared by the staff of Jewish Eldercare of

RI, a program of Jewish Seniors Agency.

Following the half-hour service, from 5 to 5:30 p.m., everyone gathers together in the dining room for kiddush and the Hamotzi is recited over fresh, challah. Then, all enjoy a traditional Shabbat dinner.

If you would like to help lead Shabbat services at Tamarisk, call Ethan Adler, assistant director of Jewish Eldercare of RI, at 621-5374.

Slom scholarship deadline in March

NEWPORT — High school seniors who wish to be considered for the 2007 Aaron and Rita Slom Scholarship Fund for Freedom and Diversity should submit their completed applications and interpretive work to the Touro Synagogue Foundation no later than March 30. Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded by May 4.

Students will submit an interpretive work (i.e. written submission, audio-visual or documentary film) focusing on

President George Washington's Letter "to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport," in context with the present time. The presentation for the award will take place at the annual reading of the

Washington Letter on Aug. 19.

For additional information regarding applications and guidelines, contact Robin Kauffman at (401)847-4794 ext 14 or robin@touro-synagogue.org.

NCJE offers scholarships

CRANSTON — The National Council of Jewish Women, R.I., will be awarding scholarships to Rhode Island students attending college in the fall of 2007. Grants will be judged on involvement in community

service, academic worthiness and financial need.

For applications, write to Estelle Fradin, 130 Deerfield Rd., Cranston, RI 02920 or call (401) 942-4486 before the April 1 deadline.

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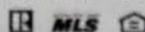
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Celebrating Judaism through a unity reading program

Defense atty. Ben Brafman to speak at March event

PROVIDENCE — The Providence Community Kollel is holding a reading program in which each participant reads a portion of a text from the Torah or a Jewish non-fiction book on a host of topics, to be completed by March 18, when a culminating event will occur at The Crown Plaza in Warwick. Over 100 have signed on to read.

The purpose of the program, called *Siyum* Jewish Unity Live (jewishunitylive.com) is to celebrate Jewish learning and unite through it, said Kollel Rabbi Raphie Schochet.

At the concluding event,

the Jewish Community Center (JCC) will receive the "Builders of Jewish Unity" award for their role in providing a place for all Jews to gather and feel comfortable. The "Am Echad" awards are presented to those who go beyond the call of duty to make a difference for the Jewish people. This year's recipients will be Bea Ross and Dr. and Mrs. Michael and Elissa Felder.

Speaker, entertainment

The guest speaker for the evening will be lawyer Benjamin Brafman, who was selected by New York Magazine as "the best criminal defense lawyer in

New York," and was honored Jan. 25 with the distinguished practitioner award by the N.Y. State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He has worked as a legal analyst for ABC, CNN and as an expert commentator on legal matters for the New York Times.

There will also be a performance by a cross-cultural jam band, Soulfarm with Noah Solomon and "C" Lanzbom, recently reviewed favorably by The New York Times.

For more information on the program or event, call 383-2786 or email siyum@providencekollel.org.

Demons and babka, mini-semester of Jewish learning

By Daveeda Goldberg

A Talmudic parable describes the son of Lilith riding on two mules, hopping between them with a glass of wine in each hand, and not spilling a drop. To which most of us would say: "Huh?"

Butas Alice Goldstein, retired Brown University researcher, observed, Rabbi Raphael Schochet managed to pull remarkable depth and "an enormous amount of content" from such odd little Sinbad stories during a course offered at last fall's Judaism 2.0 semester.

Judaism 2.0 is a mini-semester run by the Providence Community Kollel, which offers a selection of weekly classes at two locations, the Brown Hillel and the Tamarisk Assisted Living Facility. Other courses last semester took participants on jaunts through six thousand years of Jewish history and through the Jewish calendar. Another six-week crash course introduced students to Hebrew reading.

Attendees represented a wide range of Rhode Island Jewry, from students to faculty, young adults to senior citizens. Participants were equally diverse in Jewish observance and affiliation. The courses were "very relaxed and intimate," said Jill Pearlman, a novelist living in Providence who took two courses at the program. At the same time, she said, "It was very high level. They didn't talk down to you."

"What I liked about [the courses] was they were accessible to people with a large amount of backgrounds, and that made it very open and inviting to attend," Goldstein commented.

Plus, between classes, they served babka. All in all, a well-rounded program, it seems.

The second semester of Juda-

ism 2.0 begins on Feb. 11th. More information can be found at www.providencekollel.org, or by calling 401-383-2786.

Stephen F. Schiff, M.D., F.A.C.S.

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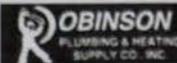
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Obituaries

Albert Alter, 95

WARWICK — Albert Alter, 95, of Tamarisk, died Jan. 22. He was the husband of Esther (Hazen) Alter. They were married for 68 years. Born in Manchester, N.H., he was a son of the late Louis and Ethel (Litvin) Alter and step-son of James G. Norman. He had previously lived in Providence. He and his wife spent the last eight winters in Deerfield Beach, Fla.

Mr. Alter developed and ran Main Distributing Co., a wholesale battery company, for 40 years.

He attended Providence schools, graduating from Technical High School.

He was a member of Temple Emanu-El and its Men's Club and the Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association.

He was an avid boater and fisherman. He was also a talented piano player.

Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, Marcia Rouslin and her husband, Edward, of Barrington and Lee-Ellen Stutman and her husband, Robert, of Boca Raton, Fla.; four grandchildren, Lawrence, Deborah, Brian and Kimberly; and seven great-grandchildren, Jordan, Jillian, Madison, Alexandra, Henry, Sylvie and Joshua. He was the brother of the late Frances Fain.

Contributions may be made

to Temple Emanu-El, Tamarisk or Beacon Hospice.

Elaine (Levine) Cohen

PROVIDENCE — Elaine (Levine) Cohen died Jan. 21. She was the wife of Harold L. Cohen. They were married for 50 years. Born in Boston, she was the daughter of the late Samuel and Marcia (Dexter) Levine.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Hilary C. Zwicker and a son-in-law, Neal R. Zwicker, of Winchester, Mass.

Contributions may be made to The Miriam Hospital, 164 Summit Ave., Providence, RI 02906.

Esther Rose Green, 91

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — Esther Rose Green died Jan. 11. She was the wife of the late Louis Green. Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Abraham and Annie (Cooperberg) Bazar. She was a Cranston resident for many years and vacationed in Florida.

She is survived by her son, Mitchell Green of North Miami Beach and her sister, Mildred Brown of Fort Lauderdale.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Lillian Kessler, 83

WARWICK — Lillian Kessler, 83, died Jan. 16 in Wellington, Fla. She was the wife of the late Lester Kessler. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Barney and Anna (Weiser) Seltzer, she had lived in West Palm Beach for over 22 years, previously residing in Warwick.

She was the co-owner of Les Kessler's Restaurant in Providence for 35 years, retiring in 1981. Mrs. Kessler was a member of Jewish War Veterans Aux. 533 and the New England Club.

She leaves a son, William

Kessler and his wife, Linda, of Pawtucket; three daughters, Marjorie Busby and her husband, William, of Warwick; Debra Holt and her husband, William, of Lake Worth, Fla. and Bonnie Kates of Cranston; two sisters, Claire Winkleman of Fla., Florence Cohen of Warwick; seven grandchildren, Eric, Bruce, Miriam, Beth, Brana, Andrew, and Nicole; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was the sister of the late Ruth Davis and Ben Seltzer and the grandmother of the late Jay Busby. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Contributions may be made to Home and Hospice Care of RI, 169 George St., Pawtucket, RI 02860.

Symon Lun, 97

BLUE BELL, Penn. — Symon Lun, 97, died Jan. 16. He was the husband of the late Olga Badner Lun. He was born in New York City on July 4, 1909. He lived there and drove a taxi for over 35 years before retiring to Providence.

He was a member of Temple Emanu-El and its Leisure Club.

He was a member of Highridge Swim and Tennis Club and an avid tennis player, known in the 1980s as "the mayor of Highridge." Grandpa Sy, as he was affectionately known to all, enjoyed making other people smile with his jokes and optimistic attitude as he walked the streets of the East Side with his pet dog, Jersey.

He moved to Blue Bell in 1998 with his daughter, Jani Lun Rosen and son-in-law, Richard Rosen, MD. In addition, he leaves a son, Jon Reed Lun and his wife, Elena, of Great Neck, N.Y.; six grandchildren, Leslie Rosen Stern, Russell, Leon and Toby Rosen, Eric and Gena Lun and 11 great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late George and Harry Lun.

Contributions may be made to the Providence Hebrew Day School, 450 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906 or Lubavitch of Montgomery County, 1484 Schirra Drive, Ambler, PA 19002.

Beatrice Portno, 93

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Beatrice Portno, 93, of Warwick, formerly of Rochester, died Jan. 18 in Rhode Island. She was the wife of the late Nathan Portno. Born in Budapest, Hungary, a daughter of the late Abraham and Hannah Brodsky, she had lived in Rochester for many years before moving to Warwick six years ago.

Mrs. Portno attended Rochester Business Institute. She was the owner of H & B Antiques in Rochester for 20 years, retiring 40 years ago. She was also a co-owner of Brodsky Textile Corporation.

She was a member of Temple

Sinai and Temple Birith Kod and also a member of Temple Sinai in Cranston.

She belonged to the Genealogy Society of Rhode Island and the Providence County Antique Dealers Association.

She leaves a son, Richard Portno and his wife, Cindi, of Warwick; and two grandchildren, Phil and Evan. She was the mother of the late Phillip Portno and sister of the late Samuel Morris, Morton and Irving Brodsky.

Burial was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Rochester. Contributions may be made to Temple Sinai Endowment Fund, 30 Hagar Ave., Cranston, RI 02920.

Joseph Postar, 84

CRANSTON — Joseph Postar, 84, a broadcast and print news editor, died on Jan. 18 in Sarasota, Fla., where he had lived since 2002. He was the husband of Mildred Postar. They had been married for 55 years.

A reporter on the Providence Journal Bulletin in the late 1940s and early '50s, a news editor with WPJB and WEAN radio in the '50s and in the early '60s he was the first news director of WLKW radio in Providence.

Later he worked in public relations, starting Postar Public Relations in 1985. Previously, he had been senior vice president of Creamer Dickson Basford and vice president and director of public relations at Potter Hazelhurst.

He served in the Navy in World War II, stationed in Washington D.C. where his assignment was in radar design.

He was a member of the Media Roundtable and the Broadcast Pioneers.

Mr. Postar was active in scouting for 45 years, serving in various capacities in Boy Scout troops in Cranston and the Narragansett Council and received the Shofar Award in 1994.

He was a member of the Redwood Lodge of Masons.

He was a former member of Temple Sinai in Cranston and was a member of Temple Emanu-El in Sarasota.

Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, Michael and his wife Adeen of No. Bethesda, Md.; and Robert of Emeryville, Calif., and four grandchildren, Dara, Stephanie, Daniel and Gideon.

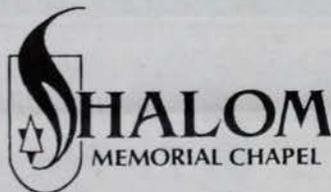
Burial was in Palm Memorial Park, Sarasota.

Contributions may be made to the National Kidney Foundation.

Nathaniel Rodin, 77

SMITHFIELD — Nathaniel Rodin, 77, died Jan. 14. Born

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in Providence, he was a son of the late Jacob and Evelyn Rodin.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to a favorite charity.

Susan E. Rosen, 61

WOODRIDGE, Conn. — Susan E. Rosen died Dec. 31. She was the wife of Frederick Rosen. Born in Providence, she was the daughter of Ethel Golden Cort of Narragansett and the late Leonard Cort. She was a graduate of Classical High School and the University of Rhode Island.

Mrs. Rosen was a special education teacher in Norwalk, Conn. She went on to be a jewelry representative in New England before co-founding and serving as director of Rachel's Table in the New Haven area. Prior to her death, she was executive director of women's health at Griffin Hospital.

Contributions may be made to Camp JORI, PO Box 5299, Wakefield, RI 02879.

Herman Charles Selya, 97

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — Herman Charles Selya, formerly of Providence, a chemical engineer, died Jan. 19. He was the husband of the late Betty (Brier) Selya. They had been married for 74 years. Born in Milford, Mass., a son of the late Abraham and Minnie (Cohen) Selya, he lived in Providence from 1930 until moving to Florida in 1984.

Mr. Selya earned his bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering at Northeastern University, and also attended MIT. He was president of the former Isochem Resins Co. of Lincoln, which was acquired by Rohm and Haas Corp. in 1983. He was a member of the American Textile Chemists Association, the Society of Plastics Engineers, the National Association of Epoxy Resin Formulators, and a long-time member of the Rhode Island Air Quality Standards Board.

He was a life member and former treasurer of Temple Emanu-El, former vice president of the Jewish Federation of R.I. and former area chairman of the B'nai Brith Anti Defamation League.

He leaves a son, Judge Bruce Selya and his wife, Cynthia, of Providence; a daughter, Susan Rosen and her husband, David, of Boston; three grandchildren, Dawn, Lori-Ann and Joel; and four great-grandchildren, Bradford, Samantha, Paige and Daniel. He was the brother of the late David Selya and Zelda Silverman.

Contributions may be made to The Miriam Hospital, 164 Summit Ave., Providence, RI 02906.

Isadore Shapiro, M.D., 86

RENO, Nev. — Isadore Shapiro, 86, a retired physician, died Jan. 12. He was the husband of Sybil (Goldberg) Shapiro. Born in Norfolk, Va., a son of the late Ephraim and Ray (Lichty) Shapiro, he lived in New York before moving to Reno in 1974.

Dr. Shapiro was a graduate of the University of Virginia and of its School of Medicine, class of 1944. He practiced medicine in New York and Nevada, retiring in 2000.

Dr. Shapiro was a diplomate of the Board of Surgery, a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a member of the Pan American Medical Association, and a founding fellow of the Nassau Academy of Medicine. He was an assistant professor at the University of Nevada School of Medicine.

He was a member of Temple Emanu-El of Reno.

Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, Patricia Ann Schatt and her husband, Lawrence, of New York City and Linda S. Bunim and her husband, Mark, of Great Neck, N.Y.; a sister, Ethel Odessky of Norfolk, Va.; three grandchildren, Dara Rogoff and her husband, Jason; Dr. Ari Bunim and his wife, Josefa, and

Douglas Bunim; a great-granddaughter, Eliana Kate and several nieces and nephews.

Burial was in Congregation B'nai Israel Cemetery, Woonsocket.

Contributions may be made to Congregation Temple Emanu-El of Reno, 1031 Manzanita Lane, Reno, NV 89509.

Ernestine Tennenbaum

COLUMBIA, Md. — Ernestine (Chayes) Tennenbaum, died Jan. 19. She was the wife of the late Mark Tennenbaum.

She leaves a son, Robert Tennenbaum of Columbia, Md.; a daughter, Ruth Shein of Baltimore; a daughter-in-law, Marcelle Tennenbaum; a son-in-law, Donald Shein; seven grandchildren, Ann and Rick Levene, Eve and Bill Margol, Naomi Shein, and Joshua and Kiera Shein; and five great-grandchildren, Brandon and Alex Levene, Cole and Sam Margol and Lara Shein. She was the sister of the late Norman and Morris Chayes and grandmother of the late Larry Shein.

Burial was in Cedar Park Cemetery, Emerson, N.J.

Contributions may be made to Hadassah of Greater Balti-

more, 3723 Old Court Rd., #205, Baltimore, Md., 21208.

Florence (Zitserman) Weiner, 92

WARWICK — Florence (Zitserman) Weiner, 92, died Jan. 19. She was the wife of the late Edward W. Weiner for 63 years. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Jacob and Sarah (Weinstein) Zitserman, she was a life long resident of Rhode Island.

She was a graduate of Hope High School, class of 1932, and attended Hunter College.

Mrs. Weiner was associated with her husband in jewelry manufacturing and also worked for American Universal Insurance Co.

She was a life member of the

former Jewish Home for the Aged and a volunteer for its Women's Association.

She leaves three sons, Richard L. Weiner and his wife, Niece, of Pawtucket; David J. Weiner and his wife, Ann, of New Seabury, Mass.; and Michael A. Weiner and his wife, Mary, of Bridgehampton, N.Y. and Naples, Fla.; six grandchildren, Bruce, Susan, Jonathan, Todd, Paul and Robert; and a great-grandson, Zachary. She was the sister of the late Peter Serman and Bertha Goldenberg.

Contributions may be made to Tamarisk, 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick, RI 02886 or Women's Association of the Jewish Seniors' Agency, 229 Waterman St., Providence, RI 02906.

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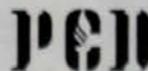
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Chorus

From page 11

chosen through an audition process and directed by Maestro Lazar. The MLK weekend trip helped them to prepare for their performance at the United Nations Day of International Commemoration. On Jan. 29 they sang in remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust.

Maayan Harel of Barrington is enjoying her second year as a member of the elite Chamber Choir. A junior at Barrington High



Matthew Lazar leads a rehearsal at Temple Emanu-El recently.

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Molly Lederer of Providence is a graduate of Columbia University with a major in film.



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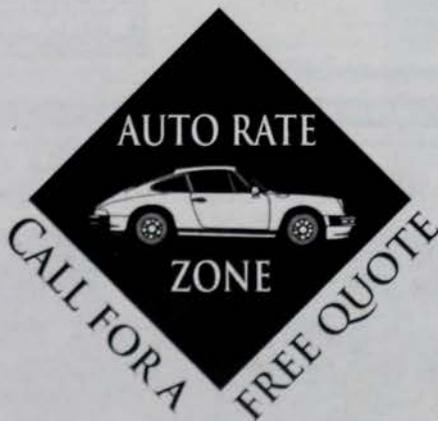
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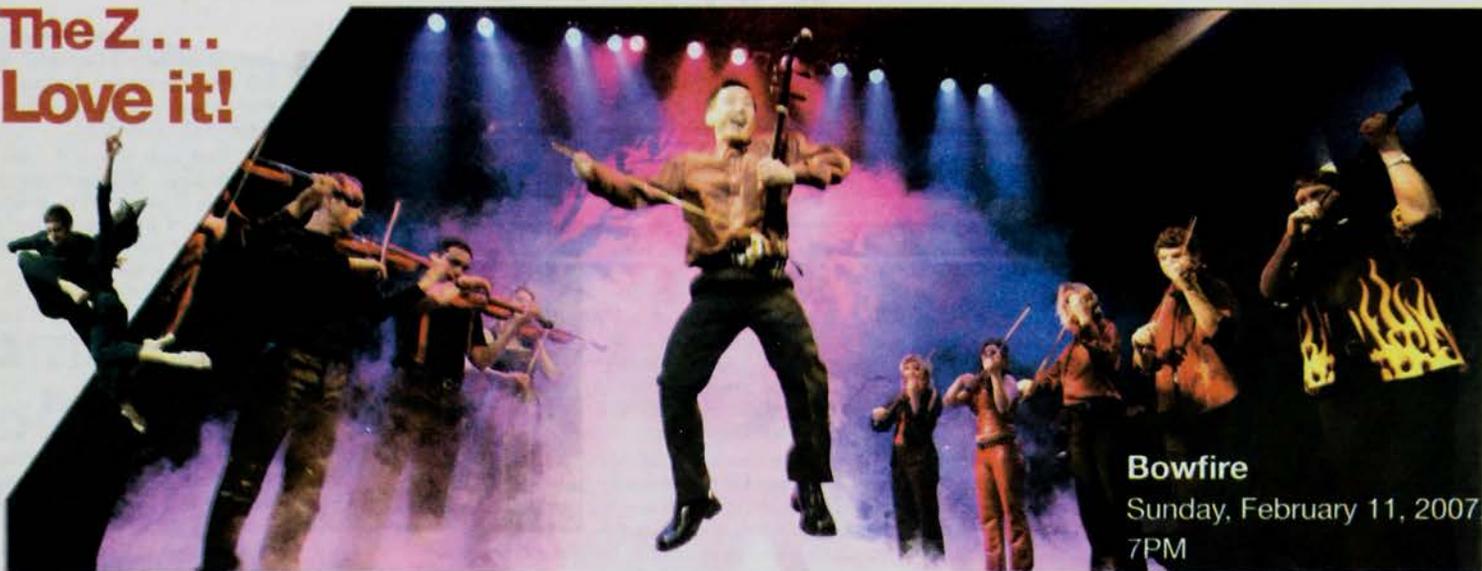
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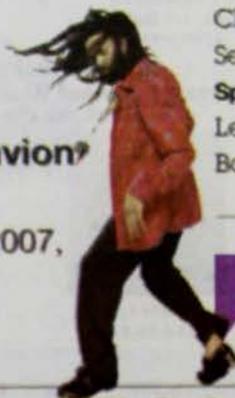
Bowfire
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7PM

2007 Winter and Spring Performances



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Global Beat		
Chava Alberstein		Mar. 4
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Gilberto Gil		Mar. 21
Katia Guerreiro (Fado)		Apr. 21
Dance		
Classical Savion (SAVION GLOVER)		Feb. 15
Doug Varone & Dancers		Mar. 10
Moscow Festival Ballet's Sleeping Beauty		Apr. 7
Great American Music		
Chick Corea & Bela Fleck	Sponsored by Baker Books	Feb. 26
Solomon Burke		Mar. 3
Cherryholmes		Mar. 25
Buddy Guy		Apr. 14
On Stage		
American Voices: DEBRA WINGER AND TED KOOSER		Feb. 2
Camelot	Sponsored by ACUSH-NET COMPANY	Feb. 23
4D Art presents The Tempest		Mar. 17
Five by Design's Club Swing		Apr. 6
Ed Asner in The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial		Apr. 27
Betsy (an American musical)		May 12
Patti Lupone		May 19
Bold, Brave, Innovative		
2 Foot Yard		Mar. 31
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Clifford the Big Red Dog LIVE		Mar. 25
Seussical the Musical		Apr. 15
Special Events		
Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro)		Feb. 3
Bowfire		Feb. 11

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