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JTA photograph

JUDEA AND RUTH PEARL light the family menorah at the White House ceremony.

## White House Hanukkah: Comfort and contradiction

*Judea Pearl talks about his conversation with the President*

By RICHARD ASINOF  
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ON DEC. 10, President Bush held a menorah-lighting ceremony at the White House, using the family menorah of Judea and Ruth Pearl, whose son, *Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Pearl, was brutally murdered in 2002 by terrorists in Pakistan, to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

The gathering included the Pearls, Rabbi Gershon Sizomu of the Abayudaya Jews of Uganda, Holocaust survivors Gerald and Joan Schwab, Elliot

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## Interfaith mission: Local rabbi meets with Pope

*Temple Sinai's Rabbi Peter Stein travels to Rome to discuss Catholic-Jewish relations*

By MARY KORR  
mkorr@jfri.org

**“W**HEN IN Rome, do as the Romans” — which is exactly what Rabbi Peter Stein of Temple Sinai and Arthur Urbano, a theology professor at Providence College, did on a recent interfaith conference in Rome this fall. They enjoyed the pasta, the wine, the historic sites — and a papal audience with Pope Benedict XVI during the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in October.

During the papal audience, Stein and Urbano sat on the elevated stage in the guests of honor section just behind the Pope. The rabbi said he was impressed by the



AT VATICAN CITY In Rome, Rabbi Stein, right, and Professor Arthur Urbano, who teaches theology at Providence College. They attended the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in October, as part of the group, the Interreligious Information Center.

pageantry at the Vatican City event, as many groups waving flags, singing and speaking different languages, waited joyfully to address the pope, and by the Pope's linguistic ability. “He addressed each group in their native tongue, speaking

Spanish, French, Italian, German and English,” Stein said.

Several members of their group addressed the pope — a Holocaust survivor, a son of parents who had survived

See STEIN, Page 9

## In primaries Jewish voters will matter

*Jewish voters key segment in Jan. 3 Iowa caucuses, Jan. 8 N.H. primary*

By AMI EDEN  
JTA staff writer

**P**RIMARY SEASON has traditionally been a spectator sport for Jewish voters (as opposed to big-time Jewish political donors), thanks to an electoral schedule that has historically favored states with tiny Jewish communities.

In 2004, for example, by the time a state with more than 100,000 Jews held a primary, Howard Dean was long gone, John Edwards was on his last legs and John Kerry had essentially locked up the Democratic nomination.

This election cycle, as the nation readies for the Iowa caucuses on Jan. 3 and the New Hampshire primary on Jan. 8, it appears as if the Jewish vote could play a role in deciding the

See VOTERS, Page 2

## Thanks to GTECH, computer lab opens at JCC

By MARY KORR  
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PROVIDENCE — The Jewish Community Center (JCC) felt like they had won the lottery last week, when GTECH

installed a gleaming \$15,000 computer laboratory in a former board room that was freshly painted and carpeted by the company, a leading provider of information technology to government-authorized lotteries.

The lab contains nine state-of-the-art, flat-panel monitors and computers loaded with the latest educational software, new glass desks and computer chairs, a scanner-printer, and a projector with a portable projection screen and digital cameras.

The children in the after-

school program, Kidspace, helped dignitaries cut the blue ribbon and eat the cookies. It was the 11th lab installed by the Providence-based company for children around the world — the very first opened

See LAB, Page 3

## PHDS welcomes Rabbi Rose

By DAVEEDA GOLDBERG  
Special to *The Voice & Herald*

**F**ROM BEVERLY Hills to B'nai Brak in Israel, Rabbi David Rose, 25, has covered a lot of ground in his young life — both literally and culturally. And as the newly hired Director of Admissions and Alumni Affairs at the Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS), Rabbi Rose will keep moving, though in a much more Rhode Island-sized trajectory. So far, he's journeyed from PHDS to

the Jewish Community Center preschool and as far as Sharon, Mass., in his efforts to build bridges between PHDS and other Jewish institutions and communities throughout the region. He expects alumni relations to be somewhat easier: “There seem to be alumni everywhere around here,” he said.



Rabbi David Rose

As admissions director, Rabbi Rose hopes to recruit five to seven new students for the coming year. PHDS and the associated girls' high school, the New England Academy of Torah, now have 146 students combined, having grown by about 30 students in the last four years. With Rabbi Rose's help, the school administration hopes to continue and increase the trend.

Rabbi Rose himself could stand as a metaphor for

See ROSE, Page 8



Photos by Mary Korr

ON DEC. 19, the new computer laboratory donated by the GTECH Corp. of Providence was opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

## Ethiopian aliyah nears end

BY URIEL HEILMAN  
JTA staff writer



Photo by JTA

**Advocates push to allow 8,500 more Falash Mura to Israel**

NEW YORK (JTA) — With Israel's Interior Ministry on the verge of bringing its Ethiopian aliyah operation to a close, a coalition of Ethiopian advocacy groups is pressing the government to add another 8,500 would-be immigrants to the ministry's consideration.

For now it seems nothing short of a court order will force the Interior Ministry to screen the additional Ethiopians for aliyah eligibility under the special terms granted to the Falash Mura -- Ethiopians who claim links to Jewish progenitors.

The advocacy groups say

Israel is shirking its obligations under a February 2003 government decision to bring up to 26,000 Falash Mura to Israel, and they have petitioned the Supreme Court to take action.

The Interior Ministry says it has fulfilled its obligations, and that the 8,500 Ethiopians represent a new group beyond the 26,000 specified in 2003.

## VOTERS: Jewish communities can be a key to victory in presidential races

From Page 1

Democratic nomination. That's because this time around many big states have pushed up their primaries and polls show a tightening race for the Democratic nomination.

The Republican picture is even tighter and more complicated, but with the bulk of Jews identifying as Democrats, the question is whether Edwards and U.S. Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.) and Barack Obama (D-Ill.) will still be battling come Super Tuesday on Feb. 5, when primaries will be held in 23 states with about two-thirds of the country's Jewish population. Just six states are voting ahead of Super Tuesday this year -- compared to 14 states in 2004 -- which means

fewer chances for the race to be wrapped up before Super Tuesday. And with polls showing a tough three-way race in Iowa, and Obama and Clinton neck-and-neck in New Hampshire and the Jan. 26 South Carolina primary, it will be difficult for any of the top three Democrats to knock out the other two before the overwhelming majority of American Jews get to vote.

Assuming the race is still on coming out of South Carolina, the nation could once again end up turning its collective eye to Jewish voters in South Florida. Florida boasts the third largest Jewish population, behind New York and California, and is poised to provide a major boost.

## Enriching the understanding of Torah

*New women's Torah commentary brings together insights, scholarship of women*

BY RABBI ANDREA L. WEISS  
Special To The Voice & Herald

LAST WEEK marked the debut of *The Torah: A Women's Commentary*, which brings together the scholarship and insights of women from all segments of the Jewish community and from around the world.

For the past two years, in advance of the commentary's publication, I have previewed drafts in congregations across the country. Inevitably, when I conclude my teaching, a male member of the audience raises his hand and asks one of the following questions:

- Why should men be interested in a women's Torah commentary?
- Why would you create a commentary that only speaks to half of the community?
- In this day and age, shouldn't we create a work that brings together women and men instead of segregating them?

For much of the long and illustrious history of Jewish biblical exegesis, commentaries have been written by men. Such commentaries typically aim to elucidate the plain sense of the text and make the Bible meaningful for subsequent generations. *The Torah: A Women's Commentary* strives to do the same.

To achieve these goals, *The Torah: A Women's Commentary* presents five forms of com-

mentary, showing how traditional Jewish sources responded to texts pertaining to women.

A more philosophical essay called "Contemporary Reflection" explores various aspects of the Torah portion and challenges readers to consider how it speaks to us as contemporary Jews. Finally, the "Voices" section offers a collection of creative responses to the portion, mainly poetry.

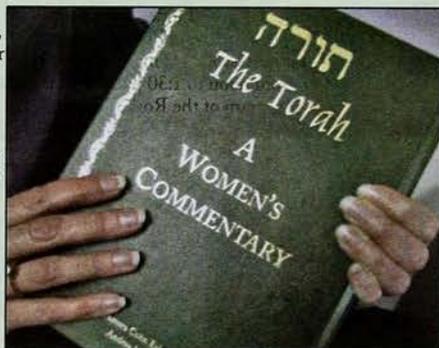
No one questions why women should read a Torah commentary written by men; for the longest time, that is all we had. So why should anyone ask whether or not men should read a Torah commentary written by women?

If a Torah commentary sheds light on the biblical text and its enduring meaning, should

anyone wonder about its relevance for both women and men? If a commentary showcases the most up-to-date research on the Bible and ancient Israel, offers insightful readings of the biblical text and wrestles with its complexities, should anyone doubt its value for all those who study Torah?

The new commentary does not seek to supplant existing Torah commentaries but to supplement them, adding an

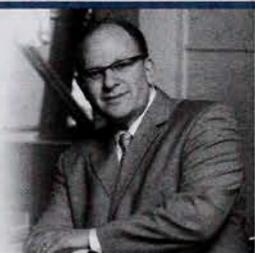
See WOMEN, Page 19



mentary for each Torah portion. The "Central Commentary" contains the Hebrew text and a gender-accurate English translation, along with a verse-by-verse explanation of the biblical text, highlighting female characters and issues involving women.

A shorter, "Another View" essay focuses on a specific element in the *parsha* in a way that complements, supplements or sometimes challenges the Central Commentary. The Post-Biblical Interpretations section gathers teachings from rabbinic writings and classical Jewish commentar-

*Charting a Course for Investors in the Micro-Cap Stock Market*



Eliot-Rose President, Gary Siperstein, has been investing in micro-cap value companies for over two decades. During his career as an investment professional, Gary has focused on micro-cap value investments. He understands that historically this sector has been a strong performer and continues to hold vast potential. To learn more about how we can help you achieve your investment goals, call us at 401.588.5102.



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### CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

For Greater Rhode Island

Dec. 28 4:03  
HAPPY NEW YEAR  
Jan. 4 4:08  
Jan. 11 4:15



### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"I think it would be great if [Jewish and Catholic] communities got together to do things for Israel."

Rabbi Peter Stein, Temple Israel

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### IN THIS ISSUE:

The queen of records when vinyl was king.

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### COMING NEXT ISSUE:

A Jewish hockey player on the ice in Ireland.



# Rosh Hodesh: Sarah as partner

*Women's Alliance series focuses on Jewish matriarchs*

By JESSICA PERLMAN  
Perlman\_Jessica@yahoo.com

PROVIDENCE — Rabbis Sarah Mack, Elyse Wechterman and Amy Levin spoke at the first of three Rosh Hodesh events with a focus on "Sarah — As Partner," which examined how "family partnerships reflect or contrast with those in the Torah."

About 45 women attended the talk put on by the Women's Alliance (WA) at the Jewish Federation and held at the Jewish Community Center. In its ninth year, the theme is "Biblical Matriarchs: Models for our Relationships."

"These programs emphasize the importance of leadership and equally supportive roles that women play in Jewish traditions," explained Bea Ross, WA president.

"I think it's always worth it to come together to study Torah. There's always a special dynamic when women come together, and we are a particularly blessed community in that we have so many female rabbis, so this was just a wonderful

opportunity to appreciate each other," said Rabbi Levin of Temple Torat Yisrael.

In addition to the discussion, the event included a continental breakfast and plenty of opportunity to catch up with old friends.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for the women of the Jewish community to come together for a little bit of study, a little bit of socializing and a little bit of engagement," said Rabbi Wechterman of Congregation Agudas Achim.

"We enjoy working together, that goes without saying," Rabbi Mack, of Temple Beth-El, explained.

The Rosh Hodesh series continues on Wed., Feb. 6, at Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Center in Warwick, from noon to 1:30 p.m., with the second program of the Rosh Hodesh series, which will focus on "Rebekah — As Parent." Clinical social worker Ruth Berenson will explore Rebekah as a mother, differentiating between her method of parenting, and that of today's modern parents. The event costs \$10 and lunch will be served. Child-care will be available for \$5.

For information, contact Shanna Yarmovsky at 421-4111, ext. 206.

# 'Cantor Claus' brings cheer

By JESSICA PERLMAN  
Perlman\_Jessica@yahoo.com

CHARLESTOWN — It may be surprising for some to hear Cantor Richard Perlman, the spiritual leader of Temple Am David in Warwick, impersonating Santa Claus, but for Perlman, it's a role that he's played for the last 19 years.

"Every December, I go to the Charlestown Town Hall to do *tikkun olam*, my annual act of kindness," he explained. "I'm given a list of children with very special needs, and I call on the phone, disguising my voice as Santa Claus."

"Cantor Claus" as he's come to be known, truly puts on a performance. Pinching his nose, he waits for the parent, caregiver or possibly even the child to answer the phone. Once connected, he says in a high-pitched, elf-like voice, "This is the North Pole operator." When the child comes to

the phone, he remains in character, explaining that "he has a very special phone call from the North Pole."

Transforming himself into the jolly red elf, Perlman's booming voice barely masks the excited shrieking at the

other end. Using the form he has been given which has been filled out by a parent or guardian, he is able to converse with the children about events that only a magical elf would know.

"Congratulations on climbing the big tree in the backyard," he said to one child. "You must be so proud. That's what happens when you never give up."

"Although Santa Claus is not a Jewish figure, I feel as though I'm acting as a Jewish *Shtetl* *Tzibur*, which is a messenger of the Jewish people," explained Perlman. "If what I'm doing tonight is making the holiday more enjoyable for these kids, then that's a true act of compassion."

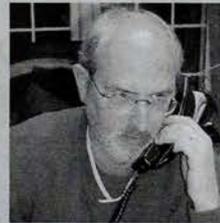


Photo by Jessica Perlman  
CANTOR Richard Perlman

# LAB: Access to computers at the right age

From Page 1

in 1998, at the Providence YMCA.

Anna Aloschine, 9, thanked GTECH for the gift with a giant card that was addressed "to the computer lab donors," and drawn by the youngsters in the after-school program at the JCC. With poise and in a clear voice, she told Michael Prescott, vice president and deputy general counsel of GTECH, that the lab would allow her to "get part of my homework done before I go home. I can also do research and learn new skills."

Prescott said the company's "After School Advantage" program is a natural fit for GTECH, enabling students who may not have the opportunity to "cross the digital divide."

At the opening event, JCC president Jeff Vogel recalled how his career in computer science began in an after-school program he attended as a youth in Westchester, New York. "With the right type of access to computers at the right age, this will heighten the interests of children to go into fields like computer science, or math."

Aurora Rees, 7, sat down at one of the Dell computer stations and worked on spatial relationships, trying her hand at a beautiful digital butterfly jigsaw puzzle. And Janai Abis, 9, played a quick game called Crazy Taxi and then tried Animal Alphabet,

a typing instruction program.

The lab will be open for students from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and "will greatly enhance our after-school and camp programs," said Sue Suls, director of community programming and adult services. She answered the initial phone call from GTECH, and began to get excited as she realized their criteria and the JCC's programs seemed a good match.

The JCC serves approximately 65 Providence youth ages 5 to 15 after school. JCC Center Director Kevin Olson thanked GTECH and the City of Providence for demonstrating the "essence of what community is — bringing people and groups together. We look forward to many new dialogues." He said the JCC functions as "a community center for all of Providence."

Providence City Coun-



ANNA ALOSHINE, 9, presented a big thank-you card from the JCC's Kidspace program to GTECH VP Michael Prescott.

cil member Cliff Wood said "partnerships such as this make

me feel we have faith in the future of Providence."

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE EDITOR The Jewish Americans

BY RICHARD ASINOF  
rasinof@jfri.org

ON Wednesday, Jan. 9, PBS will begin airing its three-part series, "The Jewish Americans" by David Grubin. The two-hour segments, as a whole, create a remarkable panoramic portrait of Jewish life in America.

Narrated by Liev Shreiber, the documentary captures the uniqueness of the Jewish experience in America, the struggle to become American and, at the same time, to maintain a Jewish identity. It also provides insights into the Jewish Americans' changing relationship with Israel and Zionism over the last 100 years.

Many of the tales recounted may seem familiar to some. The third segment, "Home," opens with Bess Myerson becoming the first Jewish Miss America. The second segment, "The Best of Times, the Worst of Times," begins with Detroit Tigers' star Hank Greenberg swatting a home run in the middle of a pennant race. The narrator retells how Greenberg was granted Talmudic permission by a rabbi to play on Rosh Hashanah, but then went to services on Yom Kippur, refusing to play.

What makes the series come alive, however, is its willingness to tell both the good and the not-so-good, with fresh insights. The lives of Jewish workers in the garment industry in New York City, many of them recent immigrants, are told; so, too, is the tragedy of the Triangle shirt factory fire, where hundreds perished because the owners, who were Jewish, locked all the doors, preventing any escape.

The Jewish support of the civil rights is retold, but so, too, is the ugliness of the New York City teachers' strike, which pitted African-American against Jew. Julius Lester, an African American writer who wrote a very bitter poem about Jews during the strike, recounts why he wrote the poem. Years later, he converted to Judaism, even serving as a spiritual leader of a Jewish community in New England, and we hear him chanting, "Sim Shalom."

The people used by Grubin as commentators, historians and retellers of Jewish history in America are well chosen. It is Supreme Court Justice Ruth Ginsberg who talks about Justice Brandeis. Mandy Patinkin discusses the music and songs of Irving Berlin. Ann Landers talks about Abraham Cahan and his "A Bintel Brief" advice column.

It won't compete with the manipulative, gimmick-packed of most television shows these days, but watching "The Jewish Americans" should prove to be a rewarding experience for parents and particularly children. Reserve the 9-11 p.m. slot on Jan. 9, 16, and 23 for family viewing.

## A MAJORITY OF ONE

# Aish HaTorah: Judaism on the fast track

WE WERE BORN in the same year, *The New Yorker* and me, and we have been a devoted couple ever since. Our relationship has survived even the dumbing-down the magazine has undergone over the past two decades (Style issues? Cartoon issues? Feh!) and I still wait eagerly for its weekly appearance in our mailbox.



Yehuda  
Lev

But in its Dec. 7th issue *The New Yorker* crossed a line that demands rebuttal. It was a Talk of the Town piece titled "Dial-a-Rabbi", brief, interesting, and surprisingly, unfinished. Its author, Lizzie Widdicombe, spent a day with Rabbi Stuart Shiff, "... one of six rabbis employed by Aish HaTorah, a non-profit Jewish-education organization..." as part of its Executive Learning Program. The rabbi spends his working days traveling from one office to another, giving private lessons in Torah to young and wealthy Jewish executives and professionals, people who want to increase their connection to and knowledge of Judaism but haven't time or perhaps the desire to do it in a religious setting.

Rabbi Shiff's students, who pay an average of \$10,000 dollars for the privilege, describe his efforts thusly. "Studying the Torah took my mind off the stress" and "I've gained so much knowledge. This is the beauty of the program; the rabbi comes to your office, you discuss the Torah, and you talk about life." In her article, Widdicombe mentions some of the

topics they discuss; Hanukkah, Genesis, the Jewish calendar, the rigidity of Jewish religious beliefs and more.

So what about this piece demands rebuttal? Widdicombe failed to ask for specifics about what was being taught in these private sessions, an error I did not make about 20 years ago when, as associate editor of *The Los Angeles Jewish Journal*, I was asked by Aish HaTorah to interview a similar participant in their learning program. (Such assignments are included in the job description for editors of Jewish newspapers.)

We met in his office and after he had

**"This is the beauty of the program; the rabbi comes to your office, you discuss the Torah, and you talk about life."**

recited the usual praise about how much he and his wife were learning, I asked my key question. "Can you tell me some specifics about what you have learned? Perhaps the single thing that has impressed you the most?"

"Certainly. Did you know that 5,000 years ago there were 10,000 Jews and 10,000 Chinese and that because of anti-Semitism our numbers have been kept low while there are more than a billion Chinese today?"

I confessed that I was unaware of this. "Who told you that?"

"My rabbi."

"Could you reach him on the phone? I'd like to know his source of information."

"Of course." He called the rabbi, put on the speakerphone and I asked him directly the source of his historical data.

"No problem," said the rabbi. "It's in our writings."

And that was the end of the conversation.

To her great credit, the Orthodox woman who was public relations director for Aish HaTorah and who was present at the meeting, was as appalled by what she heard as I was. Later she went to the director of the organization's Los Angeles office and questioned him about the validity of the program. According to her, this was the gist of his reply.

"You have to understand that we deal with people who know very little about Judaism and that each one has to be approached in a way that will excite their interest."

Put that way, the program sounds like a kookier version of the Kabbalah Centre, with its special Kabbalah water and red strings around believer's wrists to protect them against evil spirits, or a belief in the recent presence on earth of the Messiah, or even the practice of swinging a chicken over the head of a new Jewish mother to rid her newborn of any evil spirits that might have avoided the defensive maneuvers of the red strings.

Or, put another way, if I may quote Mr. Phineas T. Barnum, "There's a sucker born every minute."

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

## Letter to the Editor Interfaith holiday celebration not a 'dilemma'

IN regards to your "December Dilemma" article, even though it is a regurgitation of the interfaithfamily.com website's article, my wife and myself sort of found the use of the word "dilemma" a little hard to digest. We are an interfaith couple going on 11 years of marriage. We have a beautiful 2 1/2 year old daughter, who we decided to raise in the Jewish faith (my religion, my wife is Catholic). We did all the reading and research as requested of us by the rabbi that married us, and we made a conscious decision long before we were married to raise our children in the Jewish religion.

We always have an enjoyable time for Hanukkah as well as Christmas. The symbols of the tree and Santa Claus are

symbols of joy and happiness for the seasonal celebration of Christmas. We find them just as enjoyable as we do the lighting of the menorah. I feel that people forget that the term "interfaith" means, "Interfaith refers to cooperative and positive interaction between people of different religious backgrounds." Interfaith marriages should acknowledge the faith of both parents, and not force a choice of one or the other, and those couples that choose to abide by the definition of "interfaith" should not be frowned upon.

Interfaith holiday celebration should not be considered a "dilemma."

The letter writer wishes to remain anonymous

## 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.

## VIEWPOINT A city's big, green secret

BY DANIEL ORENSTEIN  
Special to the Voice & Herald

ANOTHER month has passed, and another proposal for a new ecological community in the Negev has been released. The routine is familiar: A well-meaning individual or group wants to rekindle the Zionist passion for settlement with a modern flair.

This time a businessman wants to create a community for high-tech entrepreneurs to live and work in. The settlement will be ecologically cutting-edge, and designed to fit in with the landscape.

But once again, the initiators have ignored all of Israel's national statutory planning guidelines, which discourage the creation of isolated new communities. They have turned a deaf ear to the environmental professionals, who have repeatedly explained why these

See ECO, next page

## THE OLD OLIVETTI Nightmare scenarios

**M**Y RECURRING nightmare first hit in Junior High School. The dream is always different, yet in theme always the same. I'm wherever I am and suddenly I remember that I hadn't submitted a required term paper in Spanish class (that was



**Josh Stein**

the first, so I give it as exemplar of all). If a benevolent deity were observing he'd wake me then and there; but no such luck. On and on I dream of flunking out of Junior High; the fear becomes angst, the angst, blooms into panic until, finally, gasping for breath, sweat covering my body I awake with a start. But even then the terror has not subsided because I can't immediately ascertain if the task not done was a dream, or not. Gradually, reality takes hold and I remember that there were no Spanish term papers in the 8th grade. But still the heart palpitates, still the light of day is slow to comfort, still the vise around my head is not fully loosened, until it is.

I tell you that because a variant of it happened again, recently. On Saturday last I napped. But my reverie was suddenly interrupted by the dream of the undone assignment. I had a column to write for *The Voice & Herald* and unlike Spanish term papers, this was real. I awoke with a start but without an idea. What to write, what to write, what? The Forward had arrived while I slept. It's usually good fodder for ideas, but not that issue. But then, grasping for straws, I knew there was one ace in the whole as yet unexplored. David Klinghoffer. He doesn't always appear and so my immediate prayer was, "Let there be Klinghoffer," and I was rewarded with ... Klinghoffer! His essay was on Huckabee and evolution, but, to be honest, I didn't follow the thread of it, and so I despaired. But then I read the description of the author: "David Klinghoffer, a senior fellow at the Discovery Institute, is the author of the forthcoming 'How would God Vote? Why the Bible Commands You to Be a Conservative' (Doubleday). So maybe there is a compassionate deity who hath delivered a column into my hands, after all.

Now, one of the first things you learn in Ph.D. school is:

"Never discuss something you've not read." Normally this makes excellent sense, but as Doubleday has not yet spewed forth this tome, may I be excused if I disobey, just this once? Done! I grant myself the dispensation.

Let's start with basics: What's the difference between a conservative and a liberal? The former thinks society is pretty much the way it should be. The latter realizes that things could be much better. I'm thinking that a compassionate deity would not expect readers of *Tanakh* to support policies that make the rich richer, the poor poorer, the nation engaged in unnecessary wars of opportunity.

According to a recent column by Bob Herbert in *The New York Times*, Wall Street fat cats are collecting \$38 billion in seasonal bonuses this year. My guess is that they read Klinghoffer and vote for Bush. On the other hand, only 16 percent of workers think their children will be better off than they are. And what does *Tanakh* say about this? "And you shall not glean your vineyard...; you shall leave them for the poor and stranger." This is one of six references in Leviticus which suggests that rapacious employers should leave at least something for the tired, the poor, the homeless, the people liberals are concerned to protect. I don't know how Klinghoffer will address this issue.

Labor is protected in *Tanakh*, not to be exploited as modern conservatives are wont to, justifying it with market-driven theories. Every Yom Kippur Isaiah asks: "Is not this the fast that I have chosen... to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring the poor that are cast out to your house; when you see the naked, that you cover him...?" Liberals seek to provide for the needy; Bush conservatives cut taxes and when a hurricane struck New Orleans the poor (and the poor always suffer most in a natural disaster) found that there was neither money nor interest in helping them recover. Is that what *Tanakh* teaches? I'll have to wait until Klinghoffer's tome enlightens.

I began by discussing nightmares, but the real nightmare of course, would not be a column unwritten, but four more years of compassionate conservatism with faith-based initiatives and tax breaks for the wealthiest.

Joshua B. Stein can be reached at [jstein@rwu.edu](mailto:jstein@rwu.edu).

## NOT ALONE Matters of taste

**I**N A SOCIETY where it becomes increasingly wrong to call anything wrong, we run the danger of transforming all choices, from the most inconsequential to the most weighty, into matters of personal preference. Certainly, there is great virtue in exercising profound respect for human dignity and in avoiding stigmatization of people and their convictions. Nevertheless, not every opinion, every position, every value is a matter of taste.

Before elaborating upon this, let me first clarify some related points made in my last column. In criticizing our culture's celebration of Black Friday, I by no means intended to criticize individuals who took advantage of the sales. Especially at a time when healthcare and other expenses are rising far faster than salaries, there is good reason to seek ways of saving money. In addition, I want to acknowledge that much of the purchasing on Black Friday was no doubt done unselfishly, to purchase gifts for others. As a persuasive writer, I tried to dramatize my points and draw strong contrasts, but I never meant to insult anyone.

Indeed, my central point concerned not individual behavior but societal values. The question I posed was what we value as a community, whether we are talking about the broader American community or our local Jewish community, the latter of which I take to be my main audience. My answer remains that the values evident in Black Friday, particularly in the celebration of it and the massive media coverage devoted to it, are not values worthy of so much attention. And, I would add, this is merely part of a culture where word of celebrity antics routinely leads the news and trumps world,

national, and local news stories involving life and death.

What appears to many of us as an overturning of values in media priorities is, perhaps, a piece of a larger cultural shift. This shift is most striking in that it can be described not merely as a change in what values we hold, but rather a change in our very notion of what values are!

This would, of course, not be the first such revolution in the definition of values. The Jewish philosopher Hannah Arendt celebrated the Athenian notion of virtue as achievable only through participation in the political sphere as a citizen. In that worldview, a person could be truly and completely virtuous and moral only through the political activity of citizenship. Certainly, this option was available only to the few, namely men who were landowners, but the point remains that virtue was rooted in social and political participation.

By contrast, for at least two centuries now in the Western world, virtue has been disconnected from political life, and we view morality largely in individual and interpersonal terms. A person can live a full and fulfilling moral life without ever participating in the political process. Nonetheless, in such a system there is still right and wrong and rules of moral behavior, governed by legal, religious, and more informal, social networks.

What I am describing is yet another shift, one where values and virtue essentially lose their connection to a sense of right and wrong, at least to any communal sense of right and wrong. Instead, the individual becomes the first and the final arbiter of what is good and just. From within such a worldview, it becomes difficult to justify defining anyone else's values or choices or actions as

wrong, let alone evil.

And so, just as one's favorite ice cream flavor is a matter of taste or personal preference, so become all other choices, even moral ones.

Yet there is, or ought to be, a substantial difference. This difference is clear from the sorts of questions we might ask of someone stating an opinion. If someone says her favorite flavor of ice cream is pistachio, we would not ask her to justify her preference.



**Alan Krinsky**

However, to ask someone to justify with reasons a political or ethical position is quite reasonable. Why do you support or oppose the war in Iraq? Why do you prefer this presidential candidate? Why do you oppose or support the death penalty? We expect people to offer reasons and reasoned arguments to these questions in a way we do not expect people to do to justify their favorite flavor of ice cream. And yet, in our day many people feel they can take positions on doctor-assisted suicide, cheating on exams or taxes, the labeling of genetically-modified foods, abortion, or so many other moral and political issues without feeling they have to justify or provide reasons for their positions.

Even though there is no universal consensus on moral values, we ought to resist the transformation of all morals into matters of taste. We ought to recall that community helps give substance and meaning to values beyond taste.

Alan Krinsky can be reached at [adkrinsky@pop.netzero.net](mailto:adkrinsky@pop.netzero.net).

## ECO: The city should serve as an environmental model

From previous page

proposed villages are ecologically destructive.

In many ways, I am sympathetic. Who among us has not looked to the hilltops of the Galilee or the plains of the Negev, with their promise of allowing one to leave the pollution of the cities and get back to the land? But although such a life may sound ecologically progressive, the opposite is true. Fortunately, our national planning board knows this and has already prevented some of these proposals from advancing beyond the color-brochure stage.

There are, in fact, many ecological communities in Israel today. They are called cities. The

city is a place where most of us live. Its high density allows us to reside close to our work, stores and schools, which often saves us from ridiculously long commutes in our private cars. It frequently allows us to rely on decent public transportation, and we can even walk or ride bikes to our destinations. We use a small amount of residential land per capita, an important point in a country that has

almost no land left for our aesthetic pleasure, recreational use and ecological needs. We share the same infrastructure, electricity, water, roads and waste collection as our neighbors, which means that kilometers of

pipes, wires and asphalt are never wasted serving only a single or few families. Because we use less energy per capita than those living in sprawling, low-density communities, our greenhouse-gas emissions are also lower.

An increasing amount of academic research supports the contention that compact cities allow for the most ecologically sustainable form of development.

Daniel Orenstein, a former Providence resident, is a postdoctoral fellow at the Technion Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning and a lecturer at the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies.

## Cooper to lead Community Relations Council, Israel center

By MARY KORR  
mkorr@jfri.org

FOR the last five years, Marty Cooper, a North Kingstown resident and former president of Temple Am David in Warwick, has been a strong advocate for the Jewish communities "below the Thurburns Avenue curve."

Having served on the editorial board and business committee of *The Voice & Herald*, and as interim managing editor for several months, he was recently appointed director of the Federation's Community Relations Council (CRC) and the new Israel Action Center.

The JV&H staff dubbed him the "interim managing mensch." He's a funny man ("I was born at an early age," he says) and the first to help out a friend or co-worker. He takes the Red Sox and Cleveland Indians (his hometown team) very seriously, and relaxes by reading sports baseball related books such as baseball encyclopedias and stories.

At his first meeting with

the CRC board, he expressed his admiration for the work its members have done over the years; he wants to revive and re-energize the group "to make us the best team in New England advocating for social justice in the Jewish and interfaith communities - that should be our goal. With David Leach as the current CRC chair, we should be able to work to achieving that goal."

He said the CRC "was looked up to in the Jewish and R.I. communities for the work it did. I would like to see that happen again."

The CRC has been without a director since Kevin Olson left over a year ago; during his tenure, and in the years preceding, it was a part-time position.

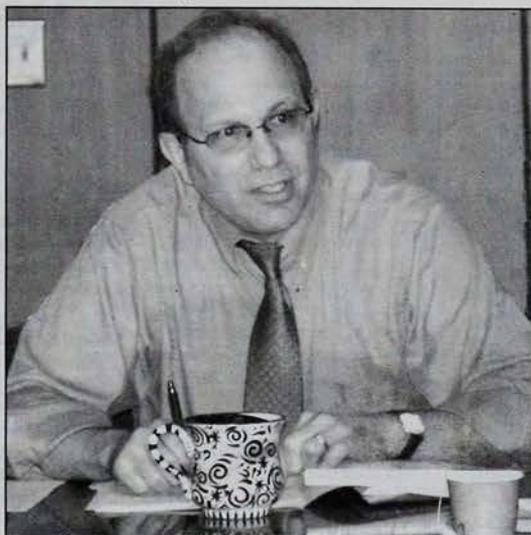


Photo by Mary Korr

MARTY COOPER listens to the remarks of a board member at a Community Relations Council meeting held recently.

Cooper plans to develop a strategic plan and recruit new volunteers, recognizing that there is a dynamic team already in place.

event on June 1 to celebrate Israel's 60th anniversary, which is in the planning stages. He will also oversee the "Partnership

He has been out in the greater Rhode Island community, meeting with congregational and lay leaders from the Jewish and ethnic and interfaith communities. On the CRC agenda: tackling the issues of poverty, homelessness, security in Jewish schools and buildings and Israel advocacy.

As part of Israel Advocacy and promoting the State of Israel, Cooper will help lead the Federation's community

2000" program where Rhode Island participates in programs with the community of Afula in Israel. Cooper works with Ellie Elbaum, chair of the Partnership 2000 program and the Southern New England Consortium, a group of Federations in Connecticut and Massachusetts which have relations with Israeli towns and cities.

Cooper has a degree in communications, majoring in broadcast management and production from Ohio University. Before joining Federation, he was a partner in Sage Business Solutions in Cranston. He also worked at American Insulated Wire as director of marketing for 15 years.

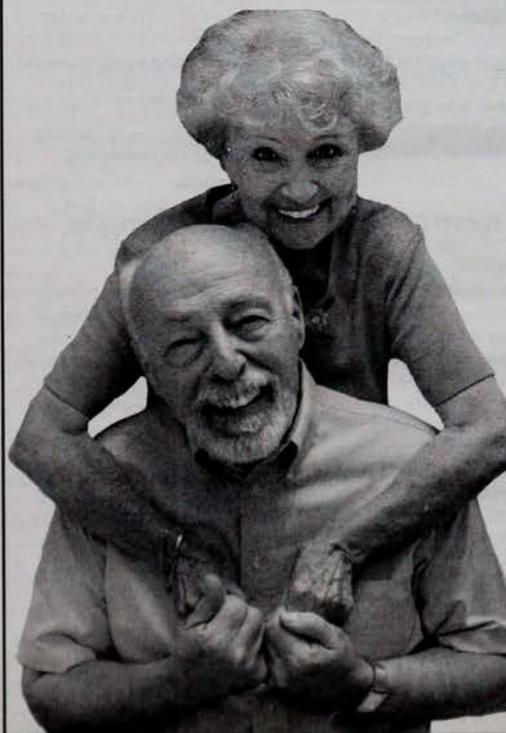
He and his wife, Betsy, came to Rhode Island 21 years ago, when she was recruited by the University of Rhode Island's school of management, where she is a professor and president of the faculty union.

The couple has three children, Rachel, 23, and twins Leah and Benjamin, 18.

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# Reform tries to lure men back

BY SUE FISHKOFF  
JTA staff writer

SAN DIEGO — The men's prayer service was the smallest of several morning worship offerings at the recent biennial convention of the Union for Reform Judaism.

About 40 men showed up, some wearing prayer shawls and *kippot*, others with bare shoulders and heads. A handful of younger participants wore *tefillin*.

Meeting the needs of boys and men was a major focus of a two-day, pre-biennial Reform symposium on gender differences in Jewish education. Among the speakers was Doug Barden, executive director of the Men of Reform Judaism, formerly known as the North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods.

"Within the Reform movement we've confused gender stratification with gender differentiation," said Barden, a major proponent of the separate-but-equal approach. "We need to reverse the disaffiliation of men without setting the egalitarian clock back 30 years."

Women are more religiously active in most faiths in this coun-



Michael Fox Photography

A MEN'S SHACHARIT service on Dec. 13 was part of the focus on men's spiritual needs at the Union for Reform Judaism's biennial convention in San Diego.

try, and have been for a century. But the gender gap in Jewish life, particularly in the liberal movements, has grown greater in recent years.

While the majority of Reform rabbis are still men, the upcoming crop from the movement's Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion is three-quarters female.

The recent symposium is only

one of several recent examples of the Reform movement and other segments of the Jewish commu-

front.

As part of its effort to address such concerns at the adult level, the Reform movement just published two new books from URJ Press devoted to men's needs and congregational programming ideas, although neither publication received the splashy reception accorded the much larger, more scholarly *"The Torah: A Women's*

**"Let's face it, men are not streaming into our synagogues."**

Rabbi Eric Yoffie

nity attempting to address the gender gap on the participation

Commentary."

In addition, the Men of Reform Judaism just put out *"The Men's Seder,"* a Passover Haggadah for men designed as a response to the women's seder movement.

More than 250 Reform congregations have ordered the book, Barden said, and he expects some will sponsor men's seders this spring. Once the idea takes hold, he plans to take the project to the Conservatives and Reconstructionists.

Focusing on meeting men's specific needs is a "matter of great sensitivity," acknowledges URJ President Rabbi Eric Yoffie.

"Let's face it, men are not streaming into our synagogues," he said in a talk to the same lunchtime crowd Barden addressed. "We have not been able to come up with an approach to gender that makes sense and can move us forward."

**Washington 15 info session**

On Sunday, Jan. 7 at 6:30 p.m., an information session will be held in the JFRI conference room discussing the Washington 15 conference, scheduled for March 16-18 in Washington, D.C. For more information, please contact Amy Rovin, Director of Outreach and Leadership Development at JFRI, at 401-421-4111, ext. 169, or [arovin@JFRI.org](mailto:arovin@JFRI.org).

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## PEARL: Jewish refugees from Arab lands deserve consideration in peace equation

From Page 1

Benjamin, the vice president of the Iranian American Jewish Federation, and Yuli Edelstein, a former Soviet refusenik and a deputy speaker for the Israeli Knesset.

For Judea Pearl and his wife, Ruth, it was their first visit to the White House, and the first time that they had met in person with President Bush. In an exclusive interview with *The Voice & Herald*, Judea Pearl talked about the event, the conversation with the President, as well as the context surrounding the gathering.

For Pearl, this impressive gathering of Jewish figures, all of whom had experienced persecution throughout the world, served as a stark contrast to the events at the peace conference at Annapolis two weeks earlier.

"The president's speech," he said, "was a 'comfort' in response to what happened in Annapolis, where the demand that Palestinians recognize the right of Israel to exist as a Jewish state was dropped, and the Palestinians proclaimed that they would never recognize Israel."

At one point, Pearl continued, "the president said something to the effect: 'Don't worry, I'm not going to impose a terrorist state next to Israel.' President Bush gave me the impression that he will make sure that the Palestinians are ready, able and willing to control terrorism before they

have [his support for] a state."

The president also spoke about his concerns about the threat from Iran, but Pearl said there was nothing new in his statement. "President Bush said that America is very concerned about Iran, and it will prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear power."

The issue of Jewish refugees from Arab countries in the Middle East — and the belief that this issue should be part of any equation for peace in the Middle East — was one of the major focal points of the conversation, according to Pearl.

At the gathering, it was reported by JTA that Yuli Edelstein asked the president: "The world brings up the issue of refugees,

but what about us? There are over a million Jewish refugees. What about the equation here?"

President Bush admitted that he was "unaware" and hadn't thought about it in those terms, according to Pearl. "The president promised that he would give it serious consideration," Pearl said.

President Bush also engaged in a personal conversation with Ruth Pearl, asking her about her own experiences fleeing Iraq as a 15-year-old. She described to him how she left with one briefcase in her escape to Israel.

The family menorah used in the lighting ceremony held great significance, Pearl explained. It had belonged to his grandparents; it was a wedding gift his grandmother received in 1909 from her mother. His grandfather brought the menorah with him when he emigrated from

Poland in 1924 to what is now Israel, to a small town of B'nai-Brak, about 10 miles from Modi'in, where the Macabees

revolt had first begun. "I remember from my childhood lighting the menorah in my grandfather's house," he said.

For Pearl, the menorah was symbolic of the entire Zionist dream. "It is a reminder that Israel was not formed by the Holocaust, it was the result of an organic and natural process

of 2,000 years of yearning," Pearl said.

It is, Pearl continued, exactly what the President Ahmadinejad of Iran is trying to refute. "His reason for concentrating so much energy on the holocaust," Pearl said, "is to create the myth that Israel was created by the holocaust, that it is a recent creation."

For Pearl, the use of his family menorah to the White House was "a metaphorical journey," a circle, of Jewish history.

"Hanukkah historically ties the Jews to the landscape, it connects the Jewish people with the land of Israel, it represents liberation, the delivery from oppression," Pearl said.

The Pearls presented the president with two books, "I am Jewish," and "At Home in the World," a collection of their son's writings. President Bush, Pearl said, turned the books so that they would be visible for the cameras.

Pearl said he was moved by the president's mention of his son's murder as an example of religious intolerance, and that "a common denominator to terrorist acts all over the world is an intolerance of other religions."

"Danny," he said, "was a journalist driven by a desire to building bridges and create friendships."

"The world is in dire need of an icon for peace," Pearl said, "one that reflects its natural impulse for freedom and understanding."

**"Hanukkah historically ties Jews to the landscape, it connects Jewish people with the land of Israel, it represents liberation, the delivery from oppression."**

Judea Pearl

## ROSE: The school sells itself

From Page 1

the message he hopes to convey: don't judge a book by its cover — or, at least, not entirely. Though the bearded, gentle-voiced rabbi has all the appearance of a *Hasid*, his father is a Beverly Hills doctor and he himself was the captain of the Beverly Hills High School football team. His background, he maintains, allows him to be comfortable with a whole spectrum of people, from the highly religious to the profession

That is the same balance that PHDS has going for it, says Rabbi Rose. Though the school is deep committed to its religious mandate, it is equally committed to professionalism in both of its curricula. He sees the school as two private schools rolled into one, with a secular studies program that is designed to compete with any private school in Rhode Island.

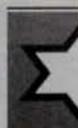
"I'm not a pushy guy," says Rabbi Rose. "I think the school sells itself, so we don't need anyone to sell it." As he sees it, his job is to get the word out so that parents will visit the school and see for themselves.

See RABBI, Page 24

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POPE BENEDICT XVI during papal audience with interfaith group.



RABBI STEIN with six-branched Holocaust menorah.

### STEIN: I think it would be great if Jews and Catholics in Rhode Island did things together for Israel

From Page 1

the Holocaust, and a young German. They presented the pope with a six-branched Holocaust menorah, to represent the six million who perished.

"I know it was a very special moment for the organizers of the conference who presented the Holocaust menorah to him in our name. We gave the Holy Father just the one gift, the Menorah, as a sign of our mission and unity," Urbano said.

There were a few rabbis and priests present but the group was comprised of mostly lay people interested in interfaith dialogue and continuing the work of the Vatican II Council of 1965, which condemned anti-Semitism and sought to repair Catholic-Jewish relations.

Stein noted that the current pope was a young priest present at Vatican II, and takes its message very personally.

They also met with Jerzy Kluger, the late Pope John Paul II's Jewish childhood friend.

Stein said Kluger reminisced about his childhood, living across the street from then Karol Wojtyla. "He talked about their friendship and then how that whole life was taken away during World War II - similarly to what a lot of survivors describe. He was incredibly humble about the experience of their friendship in Rome," Stein said.

"Some of the other presenters went out of their way to describe the reunion of Kluger and John Paul in Rome when he became Pope, and in particular, the level of recognition and respect Kluger enjoyed within the Vatican-everyone knew who he was and that he was important. One testament to his legacy: the meeting where he spoke was held at the North American Pontifical College. When some of the seminarians heard that Kluger was there, they were really moved and excited and

made a point of joining us to hear him."

Stein said there are over 700,000 Catholics in the state of Rhode Island, and it is likely that most have never been inside a synagogue. "Building bridges is about understanding one another, and the other's prayers, rituals, beliefs and sharing ours," he said.

Urbano went to the conference as a representative of the Diocese of Providence.

"We met some great people at the conference, folks "in the trenches," involved in various interreligious activities in the local temples and churches. It was wonderful to hear what's going on in other parts of the country - lecture series, Bible studies, service projects - plenty of ideas to bring back to Rhode Island," Urbano said.

He and the rabbi are planning activities for Urbano's parish church in Cranston and Temple Sinai.

"I think it would be great if both communities got together and did things for Israel," Stein said. Before coming to Temple Sinai, Stein worked in the Pittsburgh community and participated in an educational initiative, called CJEEP, whose purpose is to increase mutual understanding and appreciation among students and educators of both faiths and to minimize or eliminate stereotyping, anti-Semitism and bigotry.

Stein said there are many interfaith couples in his congregation and in Rhode Island. "They are living this every day. We have to create an atmosphere of inclusion."

"Overall, I learned that friendship is the key. You could see it and feel it among the participants, Jewish and Catholic, who have known each other for years. I'm confident the friendship Rabbi Stein and I have begun to build will bear good fruit in our future pursuits," Urbano said.



RABBI STEIN with Jerzy Kluger, Jewish boyhood friend of Pope John Paul II.

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A typical tenement street in Brooklyn.

## In the tenements, health was precarious

FROM THE OUTSIDE, all old tenements look alike: drab, frail and uninviting. And even on the inside their poorly lit corridors seem indistinguishable, differing only in the amount of graffiti, the noise-intensity of the screaming children and the inescapable cooking odors from each apartment. These buildings all share the sour stench of poverty, like escaping sewer gas, which permeated each of their floors.



**Stanley Aronson M.D.**

But a tenement structure is more than a relic of 19th-century architecture designed to teach occupants the extent to which they can survive without fresh air. Each squalid tenement represents an involuntary community of extended, first-generation families crowded together by circumstances beyond their control. With five apartments per floor and a minimum of six residents in each flat, a tenement becomes the enforced residence for about 200 souls varying in age from imperiled infancy to the feeble elderly - a small village with neither mayor nor police force to adjudicate disputes between tenants.

Noise was the constant accompaniment of life in the tenements. Parents did not talk to each other, they yelled; children did not converse, they screamed; and doors were never closed, they were slammed. Even the hours preceding dawn were bereft of silence for this was the time when workers on the night-shift

returned from their labors and others were awakening to drive their wagons or stock their pushcarts unto the busy streets. Other communities had tolling bells to signify terrible or awesome happenings; but the tenements, filled with Jewish families, had only silence to announce such events. Silence, like unbidden telegrams, spoke eloquently of disaster or grief. Thus, the building silenced itself on Yom Kippur or whenever there was serious illness or impending death somewhere in its midst.

Consider now a Brooklyn tenement somewhere on Vermont Avenue and sometime in 1928. On the third floor front there lived a struggling family called the Silversteins, an average household consisting of the parents, a surviving grandmother, one unmarried aunt and four children all below the age of 10. Old man Silverstein - he was hovering about age 40 - worked as a cutter in a garment factory and looked as though he had modeled for a Dickens novel on sweat shops. Mrs. Silverstein, worn down by life at age 35, cooked, cleaned and seemed in eternal mourning. Her mother, known to the rest of the tenement as "Bubba," brooded quietly by the front window inspecting the ebb and flow of human traffic below. The maiden aunt, the mother's younger sister, always silent, worked somewhere in town but no one knew the nature of her labors. And the four children, three girls and a boy, were learning the various defenses needed for urban survival.

A Sunday in early spring, a working day in the densely

See TENEMENTS, Page 24

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## Jewish News Briefs

COMPILED BY YEHUDA LEV  
yebudal@cox.net

### Barak to meet with Mubarak

**SHARM EL-SHEIK:** Ehud Barak was in Sharm el-Sheik Wednesday to meet with Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak.

Barak, on his first official visit to Egypt since becoming defense minister, presented evidence to Mubarak of Egyptian soldiers helping smuggle Hamas members and arms into Gaza.

Israel sent videotapes of this smuggling activity to Washington last week, which could result in convincing the U.S. Congress to withhold millions of dollars in foreign aid to Egypt.

Egyptian Intelligence Minister Omar Suleiman, who also met with Barak, promised Egypt would do everything in its power to stop Hamas arms smuggling into Gaza, Israel Radio reported.

Mubarak criticized Israel's plans to build 307 housing units in Har Homa, a neighborhood located in eastern Jerusalem. "The failure of two rounds of negotiations between the Israeli and the Palestinian sides this month is due to the Israeli settlement activity," he told reporters after the meeting.

The talks were also to focus on Egypt's attempts to mediate a deal between Israel and Hamas to broker the release of captive soldier Gilad Shalit in exchange for Palestinian prisoners held in Israel. Discussion of a hudna, or cease fire, between Israel and Hamas in Gaza was also scheduled to be on the agenda.

President Bush is scheduled for a nine-day visit to the Middle East during January 8-16. He will visit Israel, the West Bank and a number of Arab countries, but the Gaza Strip, controlled by Hamas, is not included in his itinerary. Nor is there a three-way meeting involving the president, Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Mahmoud Abbas, who heads the Palestinian Authority, to be found on the schedule. (JTA)

### Israel rejects Hamas' bid

**JERUSALEM:** Israel has rejected an overture from Hamas for discussions about a temporary cease-fire. Ismail Haniya, leader of the Hamas government in the Gaza Strip, made the offer in a telephone call to an Israeli journalist. But Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said that Israel had "no interest in negotiating with elements" that did not fulfill the internationally approved conditions of recognizing Israel and renouncing violence. Palestinians based in Gaza have been firing rockets into Israeli villages and Olmert has described the hostilities in Gaza as "a true war" between the Israeli military and "terrorist elements." (New York Times)

### \$7.4 M pledged to PA

**PARIS:** International donor states pledged \$7.4 billion for the Palestinian Authority during a meeting, earlier this month,

in Paris. Representatives of 90 countries intend the money to strengthen the PA's affluence and institutions. The United States pledged \$555 million of the total, which was described by the Hamas rulers of Gaza as a "declaration of war." Hamas, labeled a terrorist organization, is languishing in Gaza since June when it routed the PA. U. S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told the meeting, "This is the most promising opportunity to seek peace that we have had in nearly seven years and we need to seize it." (JTA)

### Shalit negotiations resurface

**GAZA:** Negotiations to release kidnapped Israeli Army Corporal Gilad Shalit, have reportedly been renewed, according to a high official in Hamas. The report has not been confirmed by any Israeli source but it adds that Hamas is pressing Egypt to assist in any arrangements. According to the Jerusalem Post, Hamas says it is now prepared to accept the release by Israel of 500 Palestinian prisoners instead of double that number originally demanded. One report says that an agreement may be arrived at during a visit this week of Defense Minister Ehud Barak to Cairo. But it appears more likely that if Shalit is to be freed it will be after President Bush's Middle East visit in January. (Jerusalem Post)

See BRIEFS, Page 12

### Bush to visit Middle East

**WASHINGTON:** Presidential travel plans are always subject to change, but as of press time

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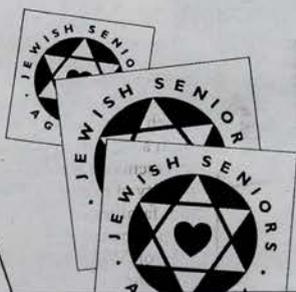


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**From South County: 95N.** Take Exit 16 (Rte 10) toward Rte 2/Cranston. Exit at Cranston St./Industrial Park. Head straight through the light onto Niantic Ave. The building is on the right.

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**BRIEFS**

From Page 11

**Jewish groups denounce torture**

**WASHINGTON:** An umbrella organization of Jewish policy groups has backed a Congressional initiative that would prevent torture. The Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) said it supported an effort by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Cal.) to compel interrogators of prisoners to comply with Geneva Convention guidelines on humane treatment. The President has vowed to veto any such legislation. Earlier the American Jewish Committee said that waterboarding, a technique that simulates drowning, was inarguably torture and should be banned. (JTA)

**Muslim aids Jewish students in attack**

**NEW YORK:** A Muslim student, Hassan Askari, came to the rescue of four Jewish students in a New York subway train this month when they were attacked by 10 young men and women in an apparent hate crime. The incident began when the attackers wished the Jews a "Merry Christmas" and they responded with "Happy Hanukkah." Walter Adler and three friends tried to fight off the 10 and were losing ground when Askari jumped in. He held

off the attackers long enough for Adler to pull the emergency stop cord. Police arrested the 10 at the next station. Adler, who suffered a broken nose, said "That a random Muslim kid helped some Jewish kids shows what's positive about New York." (JTA)

**Yoffie on Shabbat**

**SAN DIEGO:** Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union for Reform Judaism, spoke to the

what does not exist." He called for renewed Shabbat observance as an antidote to a culture that has obscured the boundary between work and leisure. The rabbi got involved in domestic politics when he said that individual states and not the Federal Government should determine health care policy. He assailed the increasing demonization of American Muslims after 9/11 and urged more Israel education in advance of the Jewish state's 60th anniversary. (JTA)

**"A New York institution thought to have departed forever just two years ago, reopened for business this month. The Second Avenue Deli, a center of Jewish life in New York for decades, welcomed customers in both Yiddish and English."**

6,000 delegates at the Reform Movement's bi-annual convention and was very critical of the manner by which Shabbat morning services in many Reform congregations have been taken over by bar-mitzvah celebrations. "Bar Mitzvah is the occasion, symbolically at last, when a young person joins the community of Jews. But you cannot join

**Second Ave. Deli re-opens**

**NEW YORK:** A ribbon, (actually a string salami) was ceremonially sliced and a New York institution thought to have departed forever just two years ago, reopened for business this month. The Second Avenue Deli, a center of Jewish life in New York for decades, welcomed customers in both Yiddish and English and served its smoked fish and various deli meats with many of the same waiters who had worked there for years. There were two minor differences. Although the owners claimed they had only updated prices from two years back, it will still cost you \$21.10 plus tax and tip for a salami on rye and a cup of coffee. The Second Avenue Deli is now on 33rd Street between Lexington and Third Avenues. "They'll find us, never fear" said one owner. (Forward)



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# Jewish Community Calendar

## SATURDAY

December 29

### Bresler & Shelley Katsh & their Klezmer Hasidic Music

**WHERE:** The Brooklyn Coffee & Tea House, 209 Douglas Ave., Providence.  
**WHEN:** 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
**COST:** \$9  
**MORE INFO:** www.brooklyncoffeeandteahouse.com 575-2284

## WEDNESDAY

January 2

### Cranston Senior Guild meeting

Bingo will be hosted by Dorothy and Judah Rosen, followed by refreshments and a raffle.

**WHERE:** Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston.  
**WHEN:** 1 p.m.

### Torat Yisrael story hour

Jewish stories, songs, a craft and a take-home family resource page. Program led by Torat Yisrael's education director Ronni Guttin and Rabbi Amy Levin. Also introducing PJ Library. Open to entire Jewish community.

**WHERE:** East Greenwich Free Library Community Room, 82 Peirce St., East Greenwich  
**WHEN:** 10:15 a.m.  
**MORE INFO:** Rachel 885-9722 or rsilverman1@verizon.net

## THURSDAY

January 3

### Temple Emanu-El Purim Spiel rehearsals.

Performers and crew, all levels of talent welcome. Children welcome to participate with adults who are fully participating members of the Spiel cast and crew.

**WHERE:** Temple Emanu-El Alperin Meeting House, 99 Taft Ave., Providence  
**WHEN:** 7 p.m.  
**MORE INFO:** 331-1616

### Yad L'Tomchim: Support for Caretakers at Torat Yisrael

The group will provide those caring for the sick or the elderly with a supportive and understanding circle to share the challenges of caretaking.

**WHERE:** Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston  
**WHEN:** 7 p.m.  
**MORE INFO:** Also meets on Jan. 17. Everyone welcome.

## FRIDAY

January 4

### Torat Yisrael's Simhat Shabbat

Program for young families consisting of a kid-friendly Shabbat dinner followed by an interactive service with stories, songs and prayers.

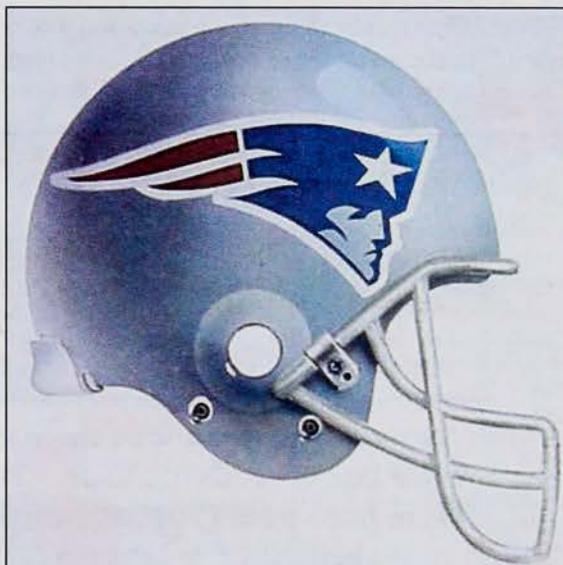
**WHERE:** Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston  
**WHEN:** 5:45 p.m.  
**COST:** \$10 per family  
**MORE INFO:** RSVP by Jan. 1, 785-1800

### Beth-Elders

### Shabbat Dinner

Shabbat service: "My Dreams for the Future," Barbara Tannenbaum

**WHERE:** Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence.  
**WHEN:** Dinner: 6:30 p.m. Ser-



**GO PATRIOTS.** On Sunday, Jan. 13, Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St. in Warwick will host a party to watch the New England Patriots in high definition on the big screen. Hot dogs, potato chips, popcorn and more. Exact time TBA. Call 463-7944 for more information.

**vice:** 7:45 p.m.  
**MORE INFO:** 331-6070

### Congregation Agudas Achim Shabbat B'Yachad

Shabbat B'Yachad (Shabbat Together) family service designed for young children and their families includes a vegetarian/dairy-catered dinner.

**WHERE:** Congregation Agudas Achim, 901 N. Main St., Attleboro  
**WHEN:** Services start at 5:45 p.m.  
**COST:** \$15/adult \$5/child \$35/family cap  
**MORE INFO:** 508-222-2243

## SUNDAY

January 6

### Torat Yisrael blood drive

**WHERE:** Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston  
**WHEN:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**MORE INFO:** 785-1800

## MONDAY

January 7

### Jewish Film: That's Show Biz

Premiere, musical comedy, music by Hankus Netsky.

**WHERE:** AS220 115 Empire St., Providence.  
**WHEN:** 8 p.m.  
**COST:** \$6  
**MORE INFO:** Mark Goldberg, 727-2035

## TUESDAY

January 8

### The Kabbala of Israel (Six lesson course)

Course on the Kabbala of Israel. Dis-

cover and uncover where Israel is in the heart of a Jew and where the Jewishness is within the heart of Israel. Course brought by the International Rohr Jewish Learning Institute and Chabad of RI.

**WHERE:** One of three locations: Tues., 7 p.m. Warwick (Cowesett) Wed., 8 a.m., Providence (Downtown) Thurs., noon Providence (Downtown)  
**COST:** \$80 (Scholarships available.)  
**MORE INFO:** RSVP Chabad, 884-7888

## THURSDAY

January 10

### RI Interfaith Power & Light Conference: Greening Your Congregation

Faith-based communities' conference on climate change in Rhode Island. Panel includes Temple

Emanu-El

**WHERE:** Bishop Hendricken High School, 2615 Warwick Ave., Warwick.  
**WHEN:** 7 p.m.  
**MORE INFO:** www.riipl.org/conference\_2008.htm or 267-0029

### PJ Library Parties (ONGOING)

All parties include: Jewish stories, songs, craft and kosher snack.

**WHERE:** Providence Public Library Rochambeau Branch, 708 Hope St., Providence  
**WHEN:** 6:30 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M.

### Hug N'hamah: Circle of Consolation at Torat Yisrael (ONGOING)

Provides those mourning the loss of loved ones a supportive circle to which to bring the emotional and spiritual challenges of their grief.

**WHERE:** Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston,  
**WHEN:** 7 p.m.  
**MORE INFO:** Also meets on Jan. 24. Everyone welcome.



**PJ LIBRARY PARTY** On Thursday, Jan. 10, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., the Rochambeau branch of the Providence Public Library at 708 Hope St. will host a PJ Pajama Party, with Jewish stories, songs, craft and kosher snack.

## SUNDAY

January 13

### Torat Yisrael Men's Club speaker and breakfast

Talk by: Keith Stokes, executive director of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce. Topic: 350 Years of Faith, Family & Freedom.

**WHERE:** Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston  
**WHEN:** 11 a.m.  
**COST:** Donations accepted  
**MORE INFO:** RSVP by Jan. 8 785-1800, Stephanie@toratysisrael.org.

### Patriot's Football at Am David

Divisional playoffs in high definition on the big screen. Hot dogs, potato chips, popcorn and more.

**WHERE:** Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick.  
**WHEN:** TBA  
**MORE INFO:** RSVP by Tues., Jan. 8 463-7944



**KLEZMER.** Fishel Bresler and Shelley Katsh return to the Brooklyn Coffee & Tea House on Saturday, Dec. 29, from 8 to 10 p.m., 209 Douglas Ave. in Providence. Admission is \$9.



**GO GREEN.** On Thursday, Jan. 10, at 7 p.m. at Bishop Hendricken High School, 2615 Warwick Ave, Warwick, the RI Interfaith Power & Light Conference will hold a discussion on "Greening Your Congregation," a faith-based communities' conversation on climate change in Rhode Island. Panel will include Temple Emanu-El members.

# Voice & Herald Hanukkah Contest Winners

The Jewish Voice & Herald thanks all the young artists and writers who entered the newspaper's annual Hanukkah contest. The themes for the contest were "Another Hanukkah Miracle," or "How Green is my Hanukkah" (an environmentally friendly Hanukkah). The editors congratulate the following winners.

## A Hanukkah Tale

*A miracle in ancient Morocco*

*This tale was written by the following 8th grade students at the Jewish Community Day School: Max Brumberg-Kraus, Sylvia Catania, Anton Koudriavtsev, Daniella Levine and Dablia Neeman.*

*The students wrote the story in Hebrew, in a class taught by Yardena Winkler; it was translated and expanded by Max Brumberg-Kraus.*

ONCE UPON a time, in old Morocco, there was a grand synagogue. It was an ancient building, one of the oldest temples in the world.

However, this synagogue happened to be built on some of the best ground. The ruler of that land would be very rich. And so it came that Lord Apolinar, one of the Spanish king's most trusted allies, learned of this land.

He yearned for the power and riches he would receive, once the land was his. He

called for one of his servants, Casimiro.

"Casimiro, tell me, how do I come upon this great land?"

"My lord, there is a very old synagogue upon that land. We would have to take the land by burning down that forsaken building."

The lord responded, "Let it be so. If you truly wish to serve me, than you and your men must pull down that building."

And it was so. Casimiro and his men went up to the temple and knocked a thunderous knock, upon the door.

"Jews of this place, we will return in four days. If any of you are still here, then you will be

firewood for this building."

And he and his men left them in awe. The people of this temple were very close to each other and

from trees long past, some say even before the great temple was destroyed in Jerusalem. A young boy took the seeds and planted them onto the ground before the synagogue.

This was his way of saying goodbye to his beloved temple.

The third day went by.

Casimiro and his men returned,

as they said they would. Now, when they got there they couldn't get to the door. In front of the temple there was a grand tree. The branches of this tree reached up into the heavens. The tree was taller than all the buildings in the land. The branches were arms beckoning to God to save the synagogue.

Then Casimiro said, "We came here to destroy this building. Yet

something here doesn't appear to be right. Four days ago I saw not one tree here. Now I am here and there is the largest tree that has met my eyes. I can't destroy this place. If such a tree could grow in less than four days, then this is a holy place. We shall not destroy this land. It is now decreed, that should any man desecrate this building, they shall be executed."

And it was so. All the families of the synagogue rejoiced. And one boy felt a little happier, and rejoiced a little louder, than the others.

*In The Voice & Herald Hanukkah Writing contest for ages 10 to 13, the winners are: Shira Krinsky, 11, Providence, whose poem appears on the facing page. The above winning entry was written by a group of students in the eighth-grade Hebrew class at the Jewish Community Day School.*

**"Now in this synagogue there was kept a small box of seeds in the ark. These seeds were from trees long past, some say even before the great temple was destroyed in Jerusalem."**

to the building. They grieved and begged God to save them.

The first day went by.

They tore their cloths and fasted.

The second day went by.

They drank and sang together. This was the last time that they could be together.

Now in this synagogue there was kept a small box of seeds in the ark. These seeds were



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# Voice & Herald Hanukkah Art Contest Winners

Ages 7 to 9



Isabella Horstmann, Sarah Levine and Lucy Schwartz, 9, Marion, Mass.



Julia Levin, 9, Dartmouth, Mass.



Kayla Gillman, 9, Cranston

Ages 4 to 6



Reese Sock, 4, Warwick



Asher Schudrich, 6, New Bedford, Mass.



Yaakov Aryeh Weiner, 6, Providence

## Wicked King Antiochus

By Shira Krinsky, age 11

Hanukkah is a time  
For fun and retelling  
Of this tale in rhyme

Once there was a nice guy  
His name was Mattisyahu  
He had five sons; wasn't shy

There was an evil man  
King Antiochus was his name  
To stop the Jewish nation was his plan

The wicked king said  
Jews can't keep the Torah  
So the Jews a revolt did head (note: make)

In secret they did learn  
'Cause they didn't agree with the king's rule  
For nothing but HaShem's reward in return

With tops would they play  
When caught by those evil men  
"We're playing a simple game," would they say

One day, very fed up  
Antiochus marched into the Temple  
The holy priests said, "Sup?"

Antiochus pushed them out  
He put in a guy named Menelaus  
The priests wanted to shout  
Menelaus didn't behave well  
He stole gold and silver

Then to the king it he did sell  
All the Jews said "GET AWAY!"  
So when ol' Anti was in Egypt  
When they said "OUT!", he said "Kay..."

When Antiochus saw that, he was mad  
On the Sabbath he did attack  
Thousand were slew, or sold as slaves—  
how sad

Into the Temple went Anti and his men  
Everything they could they took  
And into it a statue of a pig they set

The law said to it you must bow down  
So some guys did obey  
But the ones who didn't went to ghost town

To Mattisyahu we'll go back  
He was one who refused  
"Who ever is with G-d come with me,"  
he yelled and grabbed his sack

His five sons and other Jews came with him to the hill  
The old king heard and set up an army  
And many Jewish men he did kill

The Jews fought like a trained army  
The Greeks didn't think they were that good  
And acted all smarmy

But the Jews weren't dumb  
They planned a surprise attack on the bad guys  
They never expected what was to come

So the Jews won  
But the story's not over  
There was still the Temple to call on

The Temple was beyond repair  
The Jews saw it some cried  
Jugs and stuff were everywhere

The Menorah had not been lit  
For a container of oil they looked  
But there was only one whose top had not been split

It was a miracle, a nait  
But it lasted eight days, not one  
Yes, that is HaShem's ways

You might think  
Nothing like this will happen to you  
And then you'll blink

But, that there-the blink  
Was a miracle  
It's true, if you'll take time to think

Now, this might sound silly  
But it's true  
It's a miracle your new dress is frilly  
how sad

There are miracles all around you  
And when you read this—  
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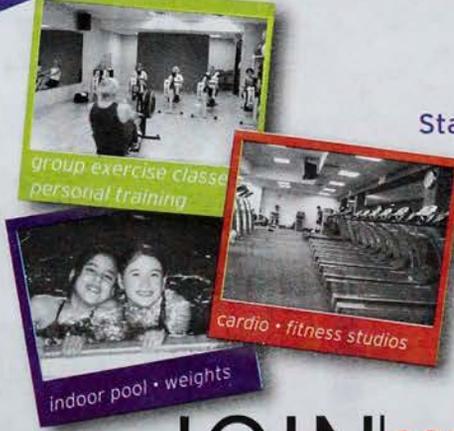
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**OPEN HOUSE**  
Sun., Jan. 27 10am-3pm



# Oranges: Golden winter fruit adds zest to main dish, dessert

By **MARLYN GRAFF**  
mgraфф@jfri.org

**O**RANGES ripen to brighten up the winter. They can be eaten as such, juiced, and made into many different dishes. Oranges from the sunny Mediterranean appear often in Sephardic cooking, and of course, they are a major export of Israel. Bursting with vitamins A and C, oranges deliver all sorts of health benefits.

The following dessert recipe is from food writer Clarissa Hyman's cookbook: "The Jewish

*Kitchen: Recipes and Stories from Around the World."*

## NORTH AFRICAN COCONUT & ORANGE CAKE

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup shredded coconut
- 7/8 cup freshly squeezed orange juice
- 1 cup plus 1 tbsp. Butter or shortening
- 1/4 cup superfine granulated sugar
- grated zest of one orange
- 4 eggs

2 cups plus 2 tbsp. All-purpose flour, sifted with 1/4 tsp. baking powder and 2 tsp. cinnamon

- 1 cup ground almonds
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds

### SYRUP

- 1 cup plus 2 tbsp. Superfine granulated sugar
- 7/8 cup freshly squeezed orange juice

### METHOD

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees.

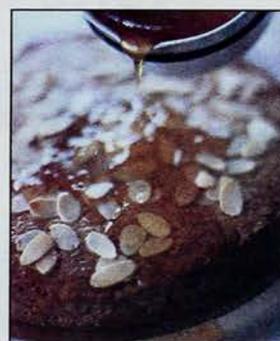
Grease and line a 9-inch springform cake pan

Soak the coconut in the orange juice for about 20 minutes

Beat the butter, sugar and grated zest until light and fluffy. Add the eggs, one at a time. Stir in the sifted flour, then add the coconut, juice and ground almonds.

Pour the mixture into the cake pan, sprinkle with sliced almonds and bake for 45-50 minutes, until golden. Ten minutes before the end of baking, make the syrup.

Combine the sugar and orange



Coconut & orange cake

juice in a saucepan and stir over a low heat until the sugar dissolves. Raise the heat and boil, uncovered, for about 5 minutes, until the syrup thickens.

Pour most of the hot syrup over the hot cake in the pan and let cool before turning out. Just before serving, drizzle the remaining syrup over the cake.

Here are a few tangy ideas of my own:

### ORANGE-BEET SALAD

This is a tasty salad, beautiful on the table. It contrasts the sweet, slight acidity of the oranges with the richness of the beets.

### INGREDIENTS:

Salad greens, about four cups,

See ORANGES, facing page



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**ORANGES:** Beet it up for a little color

From previous page

or enough for your shallow salad bowl or plate

- 2 large oranges, any variety
- 3 large beets
- 1/3 cup slivered almonds or pine nuts, lightly toasted

**DRESSING:**

- 1/2 cup canola or other salad oil. Peanut is good if you don't have allergies (Make sure your guests don't have allergies as well.)
- 2 Tblsps. orange juice
- 2 Tblsps. lemon juice
- 1 Tbsp. honey
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Shake ingredients together until well mixed.

**METHOD:**

Wash beets and wrap separately in foil. Roast in a 350 oven about 30 minutes or until a thin skewer tests tender. Remove and cool until you can handle them. Peel, (the skin will slip off quite easily) and slice in about 1/4-inch slices. You might want to put on plastic gloves so your hands won't turn red.

Shred the greens and place on salad plate or bowl. Peel the oranges, stem to end with a sharp knife, removing all the white pith and slice across thinly, removing any seeds. Alternate orange and beet slices over the greens. Just before serving shake up dressing, drizzle over salad and sprinkle with nuts.



Chicken a l'orange

**CHICKEN A L'ORANGE**

A 4-lb. chicken cut up into 8 pieces or 8 pieces of your favorite chicken parts, bone in and skin on. (You can remove skin later if desired.)

- 1 cup orange juice or 1/2 cup juice plus 1/2 cup white wine
- 2 Tblsps. orange liqueur (Opt. but will intensify the flavor)
- 1/2 cup olive or vegetable oil
- 1 Tbsp. honey or packed brown sugar
- 2 tsps. chopped garlic
- 1 tsp. salt or 2 tsps. kosher salt
- Several grinds of pepper
- Rinse and dry chicken and put into a plastic bag or bowl.

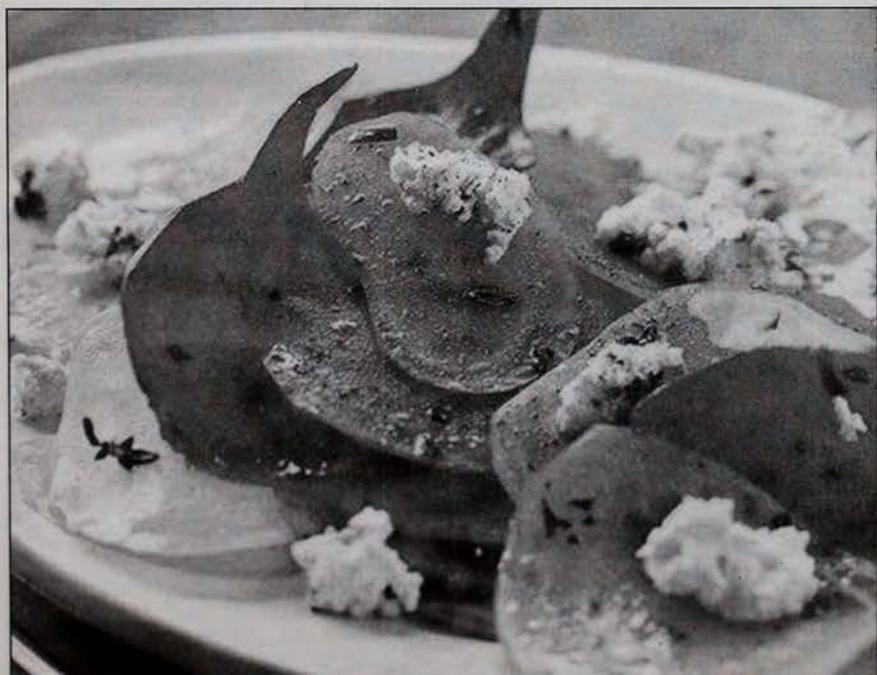
Mix all other ingredients and pour over chicken. If using bag, close tightly and place in a bowl. Marinate in the refrigerator at least 6 hours or overnight, moving it around occasionally to distribute flavors.

Remove chicken from liquid and drain. Reserve marinade. Dry on paper towels.

Arrange chicken in a large baking pan. Bake in 325 oven for about 45 minutes or until nicely browned and cooked through. When chicken is almost done, dissolve a heaping Tbsp. of cornstarch in a little of the marinade in a saucepan. Stir in the rest of the

marinade, bring to a simmer, stirring, and cook until clarified and thickened. Place cooked chicken on a warmed platter, brush with sauce, decorate with orange slices, sprinkle with parsley, and serve. Pass rest of sauce separately.

To impress the diners, you can flame the chicken. Put a couple of Tblsps. orange liqueur in a long-handled, deep-bowled spoon, light it and pour over the chicken on the platter.



Beet and orange salad makes a colorful offering

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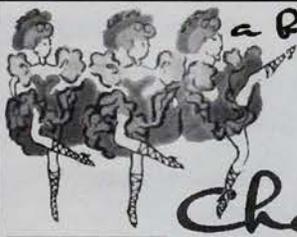
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# New Year's brunch: lox strata, challah French toast

BY MARYLYN GRAFF  
[mgraft@jfri.org](mailto:mgraft@jfri.org)

## EASIER THAN QUICHE

Instead of lox and bagels, here's a recipe for a lox "strata." You can make it the day before and just slide it in the oven on New Year's morning in case you don't feel up to much preparation.

For a 9 X 12 baking dish:

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 lb. Nova lox
- A loaf of firm white bread such as Pepperidge
- 6 large eggs
- 4 cups milk
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 1 or 2 tomatoes, sliced

### PREPARATION:

Grease a baking dish and arrange slices of bread to cover bottom. (If you are super fancy and like to feed the birds, you can trim off crusts.)

Arrange lox over bread with onion slices over lox. Arrange more bread on top. I like to cut the bread into triangles and overlap slightly to make it pretty. Beat eggs lightly and stir in milk. (Depending on how salty your lox is, you might want to season with a little salt and pepper. Pour evenly over bread, making sure all is covered. Arrange tomato slices on top. Bake at 350 about an hour until puffy and browned.

### VARIATIONS:

This versatile dish can also be made with frozen chopped spinach, moisture pressed out and seasoned, chopped broccoli, asparagus or other veggies, sprinkling with shredded cheese, inside and on top. You can make a sweet strata with apples, cinnamon, nuts and raisins, cinnamon and sugar on top, or canned apple or blueberry pie filling if you

don't have time to slice and peel apples.

## JEWISH FRENCH TOAST

Nothing makes better French toast than challah. Slightly stale is okay because it's a little firmer. Make slices about 1/2 inch thick. Heat a large frying pan and melt butter to give a 1/8 inch coating.

For egg batter, use a proportion of 2 eggs to 1 cup milk to 1 tsp. sugar and a half tsp. vanilla. Beat egg(s) in a shallow bowl, stir in milk and sugar. Dip challah slices and make sure they're well coated on both sides.

(Don't worry if they fall apart, just use a spatula to get them into the hot pan.) Fry on both sides until nice and brown. Keep warm on a platter in the oven.

Or, you can make the French toast in a shallow baking dish, laying the challah in and pouring batter over until well soaked. Bake at 350 about 30 minutes until browned and puffy.

Have bowls of berries, jams, pitchers of maple syrup, cinnamon and sugar and powdered sugar as toppings.

Have a large bowl or platter of cut-up fresh fruit.

## FRITTATA

The Italians make frittatas with almost any kind of vegetable. We're going to use sauteed potatoes and onions to make this one hearty. You will need a ten inch skillet.

### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Tblsps. butter
- 2 medium-large onions, peeled and sliced
- 3 potatoes, russets or Idahoes, peeled and sliced or cut-up
- 8 large eggs or 4 eggs and 4 egg substitutes, beaten
- Salt and pepper to taste

Heat oven to 350.

Melt butter in pan and stir in onions when butter begins to sizzle, stir until lightly caramelized and mix in potatoes. Cook, stirring occasionally until all are nicely browned and potatoes are cooked but firm. Stir in eggs and move around with fork to make sure nothing is sticking to bottom of pan. Turn, cook until eggs are set around the edges. Slide pan into oven and cook for 8 to 10 minutes until set and light brown on top. You can sprinkle with cheese at this point if desired and leave in oven for another minute or two until melted.

## HOW ABOUT SOMETHING FIZZY TO DRINK?

It doesn't have to be champagne. Asti Spumante (sweet) or prosecco (dry) are some delicious and inexpensive Italian sparklers. There are also good ones from Spain and California among others. If you're going to add fruit juice, you don't want to waste the Dom Perignon anyway.

The teetotalers and the underage can enjoy ginger ale in a flute or wine glass with orange or cranberry juice.

To dress up the drinks you can open a pomegranate and drop a few seeds into the bottom of your champagne flute.

Also have plenty of coffee, preferably from a "fair-trade" brand.

It's not my job to tell you this, but you can fix up a very nice brunch by buying some bagels, lox and a couple of kinds of cream cheese, a coffee cake and some pastries from a good bakery, and a fruit platter from the supermarket. Scramble some eggs or egg beaters so something will be home made. Please toast the bagels.



Scrumptious challah French toast

**WOMEN:** Presenting scholarship, insights of women on Torah

From Page 2

array of new voices to our collective conversation about the Torah.

Take one brief example from Naomi Steinberg's Central Commentary in the *parsha Vayigash*. Steinberg observes that the story of the reconciliation of Joseph and his brothers "presents a study in the human capacity for lasting change" and the importance of forgiveness.

How can we explain the transformation we witness in Judah? Steinberg answers this question by speculating on the effect of Judah's earlier encounter with his daughter-in-law Tamar, who deceived Judah in order to become pregnant.

She writes: "While not mentioned in this *parashah*, Tamar has been a pivotal figure in Judah's own growth. Their encounter in Genesis 38 best accounts for Judah's new capacity to sympathize with his father."

Last month, the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature and American Academy of Religion featured a panel of scholars gathered to celebrate the publication of the women's commentary and to reflect on its

significance. One of the panelists was the renowned Jewish feminist theologian Judith Plaskow, the author of the influential 1990 book, *Standing Again at Sinai*, a contributor to the commentary and a member of its editorial board.

**"As women and men study its words, it has the potential to bring people together."**

Plaskow characterized the publication of the commentary as a "watershed event," perhaps as important as the ordination of the first woman rabbi.

How is the publication of this commentary a turning point? One answer to that question became clear when the panel ended and I spoke to one of our authors, a Bible professor who wrote one of the Central Commentaries in Leviticus.

The professor said she did not fully appreciate the significance of this project until she taught the commentary she wrote to the Sisterhood group at her local

synagogue. She explained that for the first time, many of the women saw themselves as part of the implicit audience of the Torah. They were no longer bystanders listening in on a conversation aimed at someone else. Instead, they sensed that the Torah was speaking to and about them. They were able to see how the text was relevant to them as contemporary women and how their lives as women were relevant to the interpretation of the biblical text.

This volume gathers five forms of exegesis into a single location. It collects the wisdom of several hundred Jewish women – scholars, clergy, poets and other writers – into one place. It assembles the writings of Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist, Orthodox and secular Jews into a common source.

As women and men study its words, it has the potential to bring people together, enriching our evolving understanding of our most sacred text.

*Rabbi Andrea L. Weiss is assistant professor of Bible at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York.*

**Jewish Community Calendar**

From Page 13

**TUESDAY**  
**January 15**

**Israeli Reform rabbi to speak at Habonim**

Rabbi Michael Boyden, spiritual leader of Kehilat Yonatan, a reform congregation in Israel founded in 2001, will speak on "Israel at 60: Fulfilling a Dream."

**WHERE:** Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington  
**WHEN:** 7:30 p.m.  
**MORE INFO:** Call 245-6536

**FRIDAY**  
**January 18**

**Torat Yisrael Shabbat service and dinner**

Family-friendly Shabbat service followed by dinner.

**WHERE:** Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston  
**WHEN:** 6 p.m.  
**COST:** \$18/adults. Children 10 and under free.  
**MORE INFO:** RSVP by Jan. 14. 785-1800

**MONDAY**  
**January 28**

**Magic Ark Family events come to Striar JCC**

The show includes a balancing act atop a seven-foot unicycle, juggling of items including lawn chairs, electric guitars and much more.

**WHERE:** Striar JCC 445 Central St., Stoughton, Mass.  
**WHEN:** 2 p.m.  
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**MORE INFO:** 617-965-5226 www.striarjcc.org

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Photo by Meredith Sine

THE SIXTH-GRADE CLASS at the Jewish Community Day School receive their Hebrew prayer books and bibles at a ceremony held at the school.

## JCDS holds *siddur* ceremony

By RABBI MITCHELL LEVINE  
Special to *The Voice & Herald*

(Hebrew Bibles) from Elaine Kroll and Ellie Lewis.

PROVIDENCE — On Mon., Dec. 3, at the Jewish Community Day School's *shabari* (morning) service, the students in grade six received their middle school *siddurim* and *Tanachim*

In presenting the *siddurim*, Mrs. Kroll represented Sanford Kroll, the founding president of the former Alperin Schechter Day School, and Mrs. Lewis presented the *Tanachim* in memory of Shirley Aronson Goldberg.

In recognition of the community spirit of inclusiveness, students and their families are allowed to choose the *siddur* that they will use during their middle school years. This year's choices included *Sim Shalom* (Conservative), *Artscroll* (Orthodox), and *Kol Haneshamah* (Reconstructionist).

## Touro Fraternal presents Warwick Symphony

By JESSICA PERLMAN  
Perlman\_jessica@yahoo.com

PROVIDENCE — Touro Fraternal Association, New England's largest independent Jewish fraternal order, launched its winter festivities with a free winter concert presented by the Warwick Symphony Orchestra at the Jewish Community Center, offering both seasonal and Jewish musical selections.

Founded in 1966 by George H. Low, the orchestra was created as a contribution of the War-

wick Adult Education Program and currently includes 60 local members.

"Don't let the light go out... that's what the concert is about today," said Touro member Jerry Tebow, as he introduced the orchestra to the crowd of 140.

Under the direction of Dinarte Gerro, the orchestra played various selections of music including, Shalom Chaverim, (an Israeli folk song,) SATCHMO! (A tribute to Louis Armstrong,) Slavonic Dance No. 3 and Festive Sounds

of Hanukkah.

The Cranston Warwick USY was also in attendance, selling refreshments with proceeds going to the USY and their activities.

The orchestra presents two series of concerts, both in the winter and spring.

For information about the Warwick Symphony Orchestra visit [www.wsori.org](http://www.wsori.org).

For information about Touro, visit [www.tourofraternal.org](http://www.tourofraternal.org).

## Leisure Club: very busy

By BLOSSOM KIRSHENBAUM  
Special to *The Voice & Herald*

As grandparents, they have no time for nostalgia. They are too busy keeping up. As citizens, they want information — not about the senior years merely, but about how the city of Providence is evolving around them, and what's doing in the local schools, libraries, and community centers, too. So who are the members of the Leisure Club, which meets at Temple Emanu-El?

According to coordinator Miriam Abrams-Stark, the group began 30 years or so ago. Her impression is that Rabbi Joel Zaiman was responding to a need expressed by members of the Temple Emanu-El congregation, a huge group then retiring from professions and jobs. Some, born abroad, had knowledge to share of life in other capital cities: Vienna, London, New York. Others, talented in music and the arts, hoped for group expeditions to concerts, plays, and museums. Those from local families were repositories of local history and could answer questions for newcomers. There was much to share, even without calling in guest speakers. Programs about new technology, legal issues, debates within Judaism, and world conflicts drew widely from within the larger community.

Now and then the group celebrates a birthday party — even if the cake must be sugar-free. While we have had our nonagenarians, the many who are merely 60 get the chance to rejoice in their youth! And to know there is a group ready to applaud and share nakhas year after year.

Recent programs have brought in, for example, my own presentations about new Jewish-American writers. Readers who know Nobel laureates Saul Bellow and I. B. Singer, Bernard Malamud, Grace Paley, Norman Mailer, and other distinguished late-greats get to hear excerpts from Shalom Auslander, Dara Horn, Amy Bloom, Gloria Frym. In October, Sue Robbio came from City Hall, where she directs Senior Services, to talk about "Inside Mayor Cicilline's Office."

Norman Jagoliner, in his "Musical Mornings," treated the audience to highlights from the career of pianist Vladimir Horowitz; his sense of "classics" includes George Gershwin.

Young Samantha Pohl came from Brown-RISD's Hillel to speak about "iPods, Internet and Individuality: The 'Millennials' Generation and Jewish Identity." Helen Kagan delved into Catholic-Jewish relations and will be returning for Part two on the subject. Terry Connan not only presented the basics of Tai Chi but also involved the group in trying out the exercises. Retired from Barrington's Temple Habonim, Rabbi James Rosenberg, himself a poet, was — here I cannot pretend to be impartial, this has to do with soul — stirringly and calmly brilliant discussing on Yehudah Amichai's last poems: *Gods Change Places: But Prayers Remain Forever*.

Visitors are welcome to any of these programs, which take place on Mondays and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to noon with a break in between for socializing. President Beryl Meyer may be contacted at 274-8745.

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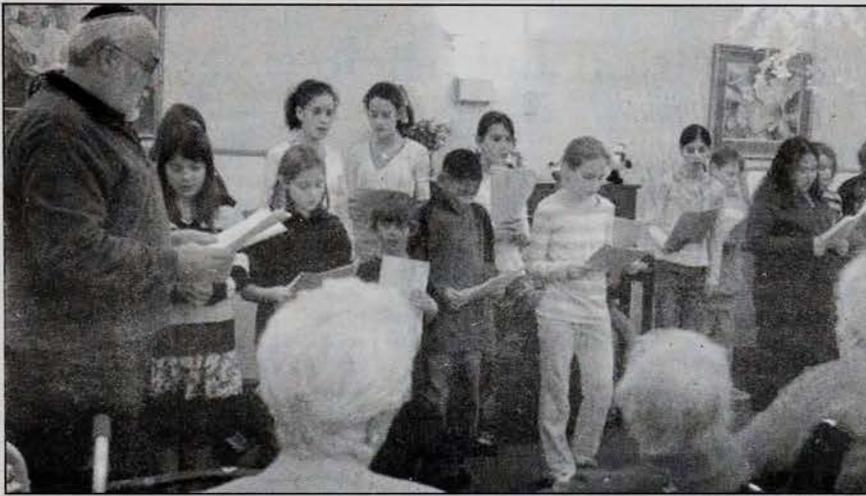


Photo courtesy South County Hebrew School

THE REV. ETHAN ADLER leads students from the South County Hebrew School in song at the Scallop Shell Nursing Home in Wakefield.

## Students bring cheer to nursing home

*S. County Hebrew School families show spirit of Hanukkah*

BY REV. ETHAN ADLER  
Special to *The Voice & Herald*

WAKEFIELD — On Sun., Dec. 9, students, teachers and families of the South County Hebrew School visited the Scallop Shell Nursing Home for their annual Hanukkah Song Festival. For several years, the school has brought holiday cheer and good spirits to the residents of Scallop Shell. Included were several

traditional Hanukkah songs, and some not-so-traditional, such as "Herman the Hanukkah Candle," and a spin-off of the classic, "Jingle Bells," sung with lyrics beginning with "Yingeles, Maidelebs, it is Hanukkah..." A member of the teaching staff introduced the songs, explaining the message of the particular song. The Hanukkah candles were also lit in this community celebration.

Students presented the residents in attendance with homemade Hanukkah cards, then distributed cards to those residents who were not able to

attend the program.

Families then gathered at the school for a communal Hanukkah lighting, classroom activities, and a dairy luncheon.

This program is one of many that the school undertakes in order to reach out to the community, and perform acts of *tzedakah*, righteousness, and *tikkun olam*, repairing the world. The school is currently collecting funds and items to support a local family undergoing hard times, and another family, in nearby Connecticut, who lost their home in a recent fire.

## Local students hold seder, write to troops

BY JESSICA PERLMAN  
Perlman\_jessica@yahoo.com

NARRAGANSETT — This Thanksgiving, students from The South County Hebrew School and Temple Am David learned to be thankful for more than just the feast on the table and the day out of school. On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, both schools came together for a Thanksgiving Seder.

"We decided to take it from a Jewish perspective," explained Cantor Richard Perlman, spiritual leader at Temple Am David. "We're going to use the Passover Seder as the model for Thanksgiving because on Passover, we're very thankful that God freed us from slavery, that God gave us our freedom from Egypt. If it weren't for that, we wouldn't be where we are today."

For the past six years, the two schools have been working hard in combining programming, and merging both students and teachers together in unity.

Susan Sugarman, assistant director of education at Am David, also looks at these collaborations as means of renewing

friendships. Since many of the children only see one another in summer camp, combining the two schools tend to break up the summer a bit.

"When they get together, you'll see some of their eyes light up and they'll go right over to someone whom they've known from camp. I think that's really the essence of this," she said.

After the Thanksgiving Seder, the children wrote letters to soldiers and decorated baskets

which they filled with various canned goods and other types of treats for the needy.

"We're using this opportunity to combine two schools with similar interests, and we wanted to have the kids think of ways of giving thanks, and thinking of those who protect our freedom," said Rev. Ethan Adler, education director of The South County Hebrew School. "We're thinking of those who don't have the means that we have to celebrate the holiday."

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EXODUS 1:1 — 6:1

## Political and religious power

*The debate over how Moses killed the Egyptian has implications for Jewish response to military power*

By IRWIN KULA

The following article is reprinted with permission from CLAL: The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership.

**M**OSESES, who had grown up in Pharaoh's palace, chances on a horrifying scene of injustice, an Egyptian beating a Hebrew slave. Moses does not act impulsively, but rather looks about, to see if there is someone else to save the Hebrew slave. Seeing no one, Moses feels compelled to intervene and kills the Egyptian.

The tradition has difficulties reconciling the image of Moses as the teacher of Torah with Moses as a man of force. This is reflected in the following discussion. One rabbi tells us, "Moses struck the Egyptian with his fist and killed him." But the other sage explains, "Moses overpowered his enemy by uttering God's name."

These two different interpretations reflect a debate with profound contemporary implications: Should the Jew respond to enemies with physical force or rely upon God to save the Jewish people from destruction?

For 1,800 years, rabbinic Judaism in the face of exile and political powerlessness developed a rich and creative culture of learning, piety and prayer. Covenantal consciousness was nurtured primarily by a sense of dependency upon God and patient waiting for the "appointed time," when God would redeem

us from the suffering condition of exile. To assume power was to rebel against God — we were, so to speak, to use God's name.

The political renewal of the Jewish people in this century challenges this understanding. The existence of the State of Israel and the radical shift from political powerlessness to power prevents Judaism from being exclusively described as a culture of learning and prayer. We now must bring covenantal consciousness beyond the circumscribed borders of home and synagogue into the realm of power and politics.

The rabbis cited above saw Moses as either using force or using God's name. Our challenge is to integrate the two — to be passionately concerned about the moral/covenantal quality of our army and our politics — to develop a sense of covenantal holiness in an unprecedented moment of Jewish power.

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## JERUSALEM JOURNAL

## A unique pilgrimage

BY DANIEL STIEGLITZ  
Special to The Voice & Herald

EVERY YEAR, thousands of people descend upon the city of Chevron. They do this in honor of *Shabbat Parshat Chayei Sara*, the Torah portion that details the death of Sara, and Avraham's purchasing of a place to bury his beloved wife. This place is called *Maarat HaMachpela* (the cave of Machpela) and is located in the city of Chevron. Eventually, all of the patriarchs and most of the matriarchs would come to be buried there. So, in honor of this Torah portion, people gather in Chevron to be at the exact location that is described in *Chayei Sara*.

I first learned of this tradition eight years ago when I was studying in a yeshiva not far from Chevron. Since then I have been interested in experiencing this unique Shabbat for myself. This year was my first opportunity to do so, and I seized the chance so that I could satiate a curiosity that was now several years old.

As this mass-migration to Chevron has been taking place for many years now, the organizations involved have become very adept at making sure everything goes as smoothly as possible. They were very well prepared when it came to getting these thousands of people to Chevron. I first got a glimpse of this meticulous organization when my friend and I looked at the bus schedule the night before our departure to Chevron. Fearing that if we left too late we may not get a spot on a bus, we had originally thought of departing early in the morning, so as to ensure we would get to Chevron without having to worry about public transportation. Our worries were dissuaded when, upon looking at the bus schedule online, we saw that buses to Chevron would be leaving every five minutes throughout the day.

The bus dropped us off in Kiryat Arba, which is right next to Chevron. Upon my arrival in Kiryat Arba and Chevron I could see that there were people everywhere. Though space is limited, the residents of these two com-

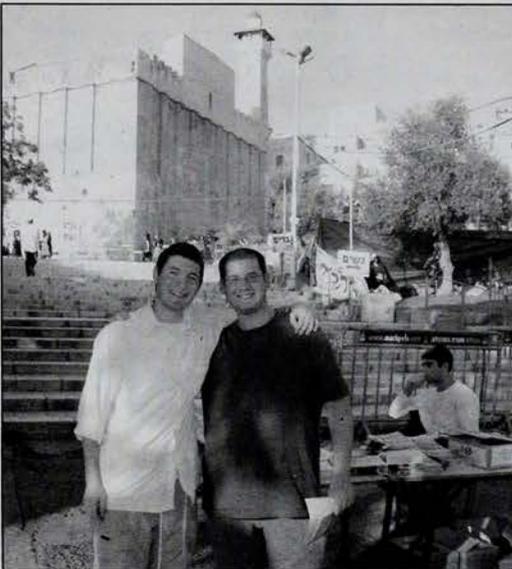


Photo courtesy of Daniel Stieglitz

DANIEL STIEGLITZ, at left, with a friend, on a pilgrimage to Chevron, location of the tombs of the matriarchs and patriarchs.

munities graciously and generously open up their homes to anyone who wishes to experience this Shabbat in Chevron. Some people stay in packed homes, putting their sleeping bags and mattresses on the floor like pieces of a puzzle in order to maximize floor space (all of which is needed). Some people (including entire families) brought tents and slept outside, eating pre-cooked

both meals, and hosted an open house Q&A session with Feiglin after each one.

*Davening* (prayers) over Shabbat were very unique. Within *Maarat HaMachpela* they only open up the room that contains Yitzchak and Rivka's grave markers a total of 10 days out of the year (including this Shabbat) since the Arabs control it the rest of the year. Even though there are markers for each of the matriarchs' and patriarchs' graves, this room is said to be directly above the

actual location of all their graves, since in reality they were buried next to one another, not spread out all over the place like their markers are.

I was very fortunate to get there when I did each time; when it became too crowded people were told to *daven* outside. Shabbat night I *davened* in the room with Yitzchak and Rivka's markers and everyone in the room (all several hundred of us) were pretty much *davening* together, since there was a loud and energetic *Carlebach-style davening* in the center of the room. Together we sang, *davened*, and danced directly above where are forefathers and mothers chose for their final resting places.

Shabbat day I woke up very early (around 5:45 a.m.) since I knew it would get crowded, and I really wanted to

be able to hear the Torah reading inside *Maarat HaMachpela*. It was very meaningful hearing the part about how Avraham bought the cave to bury Sara in, while at the same time standing almost directly above that very spot that's described in the Torah.

If there was one thing I got out of this unique Shabbat experience, it was that by living in Israel one does not have to just read about the exploits of their ancestors. It is also possible to see, live, and experience these things as closely as possible for oneself.

Daniel Stieglitz, a Providence native, made aliyah in July.

**"They only open up the room that contains Yitzchak and Rivka's grave markers a total of 10 days out of the year (including this Shabbat) since the Arabs control it the rest of the year."**

food they had brought with them. One visiting family across the street from where I was staying was very well prepared. They brought an RV, and built a makeshift *Sukkah* so they could eat outside in private.

I myself was staying with a family in Chevron that a friend of mine in Ulpan made arrangements for me to stay with. I was very fortunate that they lived only a few minutes walk from *Maarat HaMachpela*, which gave me very easy access to it over the course of Shabbat. Among the other guests staying with this family was also Moshe Feiglin, an up-and-coming politician who is trying to take over the Likud party. My hosts had us over for

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## TENEMENTS: New generation of immigrants packed in slums

From Page 10

Jewish neighborhood of Browns-ville, but not for old man Silverstein, whose given name was known only to his wife and his Creator. He customarily was dressed in drab gray working clothes as he rushed down the stairs to go, each daybreak, to the subway entrance. But not on this Sunday; nor were there the usual household noises that bespoke of activity within. Just silence. Later in the morning an automobile parked in front of the tenement and an unsmiling man wearing a suit, tie and neat overcoat entered the building. Clearly, he was a physician since he carried the identifying black bag and he owned a car. He entered the Silverstein flat while the other third-floor occupants peered anxiously through partially opened doors.

Hours passed and the aura

of silence which began in the Silverstein apartment had now spread through the entire tenement. Children who normally spoke only in screams now subdued their yelling; and silence, like contagion, spread from floor to floor. The doctor was still there while the older boys of the neighborhood, more interested in modern conveyances, began to circle his car speculating about the mysteries of internal combustion engines and such strange items as windshield wipers.

At one point, the doctor left and rushed to the corner drugstore to make a rapid telephone call. And about another hour passed when a black van arrived and two uniformed men ascended to the third floor carrying a portable stretcher. They soon emerged from the Silverstein apartment carrying one of the

children on their stretcher; and the fate of this little girl was obvious; a sheet covered her face.

The little Silverstein child had died of a terrible disease called diphtheria, a disease nurtured in places of poverty. Before the preventive immunization programs, diphtheria had been a constant menace to the inner city youngsters, carrying a 25 percent mortality rate. But since the year 2000, this nation has witnessed only three cases of diphtheria, all in immigrant children.

For the Jews of America, the tenement-era is now confined to the wondrous recollections. There is a new generation of non-Jewish immigrants, now packed in urban slums and who are just as vulnerable to diseases of poverty as were Jews, their predecessors.

Stanley M. Aronson, MD can be reached at [smamd@cox.net](mailto:smamd@cox.net).

## RABBI: This is a very open school

From Page 8

When asked where new students are likely to come from, Rabbi Rose admits that within Providence, most families who would want their children to go to PHDS are already there. He points to neighboring communities such as Sharon, as prime recruiting ground. "The school is not for everyone," says Rabbi Rose. But, he maintains, it is not the ultra orthodox stronghold that people may think. "This is a very open school; there are kids who are not religious here...and the parents are happy with the Jewish values

they are getting from the school."

As for alumni affairs: "My job is not to fundraise from the alumni," explains Rabbi Rose, "but to develop relationships that haven't been developed for years and to strengthen the school."

Rabbi Rose comes to Providence with his wife Michal, a graphic designer. They have a 2-year-old daughter, Channa Rivka, and a 4-month-old son, Yaakov Levi.

Daveeda Goldberg is a writer who lives in Providence.

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# When vinyl records were king, Ruth Israeloff was the queen

*Providence business woman owned and managed Beacon Records on North Main Street*

By RICHARD ASINOF  
rasinof@jfri.org

**I**N the 1950s, when Beacon Records opened for business at its new location at 821 North Main St., singer Nat King Cole joined Ruth Israeloff, her husband, Milton, and their son, James, to mark the festivities.

The store, which had first begun as Les Brown's Records (named after the renowned bandleader), was the entrepreneurial creation of Milton and Ruth Israeloff, who recently died at the age of 88.

Israeloff's parents, Rose and Samuel Shaulson, came to America from Jerusalem with her older sisters, Freida and Dora, and her eldest brother, Phil. The family settled in Providence, where Ruth Israeloff was born, along with her other siblings, Joseph, Bertha, Sessile, and Gerald. The family business was Beacon Jewelry.

A graduate of Hope High School, Israeloff and her husband, Milton, started the record store business in the 1940s with a \$500 loan from her father. When Milton went off to serve in the U.S. Army as a clerk during World War II, Ruth took over running the store.

After the war, the business prospered, and with her husband



Photograph courtesy of Sam Israeloff

**NAT KING COLE** makes an appearance at the ceremony opening Beacon Records. To the left of Nat King Cole is Ruth Israeloff, in sunglasses. In front of her is her older son, James, who would later become national sales manager at Beacon Records. To the left of Ruth Israeloff is her husband, Milton.

as a partner, Israeloff fashioned Beacon Records into one of the leading record stores in New England. The store became the main supplier for jukebox operators throughout the Northeast.

In addition, Beacon Records pioneered in the merchandising of records in racks at discount stores, such as Woolworth's and Grant's. Beacon Records would buy records wholesale, and then distribute them for retail sales in racks at the different department stores. Through this innovative sales technique, Beacon became the leading "rack jobber" in the world, according to Sam Israeloff, Ruth's youngest son.

"There is a story," Sam Israeloff recounted, "related to Frank Sinatra's first gold record. Beacon

Records supposedly bought a large number of Sinatra's record wholesale to help push it over the sales mark to make it gold," he said.

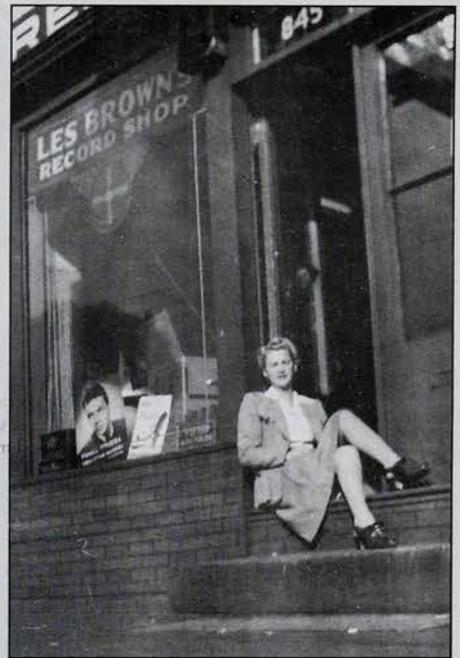
Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, numerous recording artists would make appearances and, more often than not, they would end up staying at the Israeloff home on the East Side. "I slept on the living room couch so that Jerry Vale could sleep in my bed," Sam Israeloff recalled. Musical performers from the Four Aces to the Four Tops were frequent guests at the Israeloff home. They would come to Providence to promote their records, performing at the store, singing with cardboard megaphones.

"My mother liked jazz and swing," Sam Israeloff recalled. The record store, however, was a source of recordings for the very sophisticated listener. It carried the complete Schwann

Catalogue, as well as the top classical artists on Deutch Gramophone, drawing customers from as far away as Hartford and New Haven. The store also supplied the Brown University library.

When Beatlemania hit in 1964, Beacon Records became a merchandiser of Beatles' wigs, which proved very profitable. Similarly, when a song about the Green Berets became popular in 1967, Beacon Records sold green berets.

"My mother was always very generous; she always had an open house for her family and friends," Sam Israeloff said. "She was also a *beckuva* businesswoman."



Photograph courtesy of Sam Israeloff

**RUTH ISRAELOFF** on the steps in front of Les Brown's Record store, which she started with her husband, Milton, and then took over managing the store while her husband served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

The Israeloffs eventually sold Beacon Shops and Beacon Record Distributors to ABC Record & Tape Sales, part of the American Broadcasting Company. Her husband Milton and son James stayed on for a few years to ease the transition.

Israeloff is survived by her sons, James and Samuel of Fort Lauderdale, a brother, Gerald Shaulson of Cranston, two grandchildren, Jacqueline Anglin of Chicago and Tracy Gordon of Germantown, Md., and three great grandchildren, Madeleine, Matthew and Conor.



Photograph courtesy of Sam Israeloff

**RUTH ISRAELOFF** with actress **JAYNE MANSFIELD** in the 1960s at the National Association of Record Merchandisers Convention at the Fountainbleu Hotel in Miami Beach, Fla. From left: Milton Israeloff, Ruth Israeloff, Jayne Mansfield and James Israeloff.

## Obituaries

### Dorothy Bochner, 91

**WARWICK** — Dorothy Bochner, 91, died Dec. 15. She was the wife of Abraham (Al) Bochner for 73 years. She was a daughter of the late Harry and Jennie (Solomon) Lebowitz. She was a member of the former Temple Beth Israel.

She leaves a son, Ronald Bochner of Cranston, three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Charles, Joseph and Hyman Lebowitz. Donations may be made to favorite charity.

### Miriam R. Brown, 88

**DEERFIELD BEACH, Fla.** — Miriam R. Brown, 88, died Dec. 13. She was the wife of Louis Brown; they were married for 68 years. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Reverend

Meyer E. and Annie (Long) Smith, she had lived in Florida for 17 years, previously residing in East Providence and Providence.

She was the co-owner with her husband of the former Campus Florist in Providence and later was the executive assistant and bookkeeper for Bliss Properties. She was a member of Congregation Ohawe Sholam Synagogue, a former member of Temple Beth-El and a member of the former Pioneer Women.

She leaves her children, Betty Kramer and her husband Harvey of Silver Spring, Md.; Rabbi George Brown and his wife Tamar of Rehovot, Israel; Cantor Rennie Brown and his wife Marjorie of Pawtucket; Daryl Brown of Deerfield Beach, Fla.;

Bonnie White and her husband Tzvi of Batar, Israel; Karen Schneider and her husband Ezra of Gaithersburg, Md.; and Rabbi Steven Brown and his wife Sheila of Brooklyn, N.Y.; sisters, Eva Zucker of Pawtucket and Sarah Friedman of Deerfield Beach, Fla. She also leaves 35 grandchildren and 85 great-grandchildren. She was the sister of late Gertrude Kantrowitz, Cantor Jacob Smith and Abraham Smith.

Donations may be made to a favorite charity.

### Ruth Miriam Gamson

**FALL RIVER** — Ruth Miriam Gamson died Dec 14. Born in Fall River, a daughter of the late Manfred L. and Bella M. (Kaufman) Gamson, she was

## OBITUARIES

From Page 25

a lifelong resident of the city.

Ms. Gamson was a graduate from BMC Durfee High School, class of 1937, and assumed the task of keeping the addresses of her 650 classmates for reunions.

She was employed by the former Lamport Co. as office manager for 36 years, after which she was employed as librarian at *The Fall River Herald News* for 13 years until her retirement in 1987. She was a member of Adas Israel Synagogue and their Sisterhood, a member of the Fall River Jewish Home, and a life member of Hadassah.

She is survived by one niece, Phyllis Culp of Yates Center, Kan., and two nephews, Russell Gamson of Fall River, and Marvin Gamson of Palm Desert, Ca. She was the sister of the late Herman and Nelson Gamson.

Donations may be made to Hadassah.

**Pauline Kaufman, 93**

CRANSTON — Pauline Kaufman, 93, of Scandinavian Home, died Dec. 16. She was the wife of the late Milton Kaufman. Born in Providence, daughter of the late Max and Mary (Wexler) Peskin, she had lived in Cranston for 55 years. She was an office worker for many years, retiring five years ago. She was a member of Temple Am David, a former founding member of Temple Torat Yisrael and a long-time season ticket holder of Providence College basketball.

She leaves a son, William Kaufman and his wife Meri of Warwick; daughters, Linda Friedman and her husband

Edward of Owings Mills, Md., and Marion Woolf and her husband Mark of Cranston; she was also the sister of the late Irving, Milton and Samuel Peskin, Toby Wexler and Bessie Yarlas. She leaves her grandchildren Michael, Meredith, Matthew, Joshua, Carole, Stephanie, Mitchell, Jason and Adrienne; she was also the great-grandmother of Shayne, Malcolm, Darren, Christina and Jasmine.

Donations may be made to the Scandinavian Home, 1811 Broad St., Cranston, RI 02905 or the Providence College Basketball Mullaney Fund, 549 River Ave., Providence, RI 02918.

**Miriam Rubin, 95**

NARRAGANSETT — Miriam Rubin, 95, died Dec. 16. She was the wife of the late Milton Rubin. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a daughter of the late Harry and Rebecca (Lehrman) Blau, she had lived in Narragansett for six years. She was a Girl Scout leader for 35 years.

She leaves a daughter, Denise Rubin of Narragansett; two sons Norman Rubin of Churchville, Penn., and Michael Rubin of Sweden; a sister, Beatrice Kasner of Margate, Fla.; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Phillip Blau and Edna Kudish.

Donations may be made to Girl Scouts of America, 125 Charles St., Providence, RI 02904.

**David Sherman, 92**

NORTH SMITHFIELD — David Marvin Sherman, 92, died Dec. 12. He was the husband of Evelyn D. (Sydell) Sherman and they were married for 68 years. Born in Providence, a son of the late Israel and Ida

**URI Hillel names development director**

KINGSTON — Lawrence B. Sadwin has been named as URI Hillel's first director of development.



Larry Sadwin

"URI Hillel has grown tremendously in the last two years and is serving more students than ever before. In order to continue to expand our programs and services to the approximately 1,200 Jewish students at URI and to realize our dream of building a permanent Hillel facility at URI, our board determined that it was key to hire a development director," said Barbara Sokoloff, URI Hillel board president.

"I am thrilled to be part of Hillel at URI," said Sadwin. "As a URI alum and an active member of the Jewish community, I have the unique opportunity to combine both of my interests."

**Super Lawyers**

PROVIDENCE — *Super Lawyers* magazine, published

## Simchas

in all 50 states, names attorneys in each state who received the highest point totals, as chosen by their peers and through the independent research of Law & Politics. Named to the list of Super Lawyers in Rhode Island, in addition to Richard A. Licht and Susan Leach Deblasio, mentioned in *The Voice and Herald* issue of Nov. 30, were Ronald C. Markoff, specializing in real estate law; Edward



THE HONORABLE BRUCE M. SELYA presents Laura Stroud, Ph.D., with the 2007 Award for Research Excellence.

## PEOPLE

D. Feldstein, business/corporate, real estate, estate planning and probate; David M. Gilden, real estate, business/corporate; Stanley J. Kanter, real estate; David J. Rubin, real estate, land use/zoning, banking; and Robert I. Stolzman, real estate, land use/zoning, and business/corporate.

**Alan Hough joins Reliable Respiratory**

NORWOOD, Mass. — Reliable Respiratory of Norwood has announced the appointment of Alan Hough of Barrington as account representative, covering Rhode Island, eastern Connecticut and the Springfield, Mass. area. Hough has had extensive experience in the health-care field in the region.

**Miriam psychologist receives Selya award**

PROVIDENCE — Laura Stroud, Ph.D., a psychologist at The Miriam Hospital, was presented with the 2007 Bruce Selya Excellence in Research Award at Lifespan's 15th Annual Research Celebration, by The Honorable Bruce M. Selya.

The Bruce Selya Excellence in Research Award was instituted to honor Selya, former Lifespan Board Chairman, for his commitment to academic medicine. It provides recognition for research excellence and is given to an investigator noted as a "rising star."

(Priest) Sherman, he had lived in North Smithfield for four years, previously residing in Boca Raton, Fla., and Cranston. He was the owner of the David M. Sherman Company in Providence for 40 years, retiring in 1997. He was a member of Touro Fraternal Association and a former member

of Temple Torat Yisrael.

He leaves a son, Elliot J. Sherman and his wife Sharen of Pawleys Island, S.C.; a daughter, Marcia I. Gold and her husband David M. of North Smithfield; a sister, Shirley Scherr of Boca Raton, Fla.; grandchildren Joshua, Daniel, Scott, Eric and

Michelle; great-grandchildren Jason, Alexander, Amelia, Angelina and Kevin. He was the father of the late Bruce Lee Sherman and the brother of the late Dorothy Sokolow.

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# We Are Read Everywhere

(Where in the world will we go next?)



**IN TUSCANY**

MORT AND JOAN GRAY of Cranston recently took a trip to Florence, Italy, and the Tuscan hill towns. This photo was taken inside the beautiful Pitigliano synagogue in the "antico ghetto" where there is a Museum of Jewish Culture, and sites of a kosher butcher, bakery, dye house, ritual bath and kosher wine cellar.

**We have now been to:**

Croatia, Tuscany, Bonaire, Istanbul (more than once!), Luxor, Egypt; Paris, Prague, Italy, Quebec, Alaska, Hawaii, The Grand Canyon, Warsaw, Budapest, Vienna, Peru, Buenos Aires, Disney World, Iceland, Turkey, Brazil, Jerusalem, Jordan, the Great Wall of China, Florida, California, Tanzania, Germany, Israel and a riverboat cruise in Europe.

We invite readers to take along a copy of the *Jewish Voice & Herald* on their next trip and send us a photo.

Photos can be emailed to [voiceherald@jfri.org](mailto:voiceherald@jfri.org), with "We Are Read Everywhere" in the subject line. Or, send to JV&H at 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI, 02906.



**IN DUTCH CARIBBEAN**  
HARRY AND SANDY FINKELSTEIN, right, of Cranston had these photos taken in Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean, on a November trip.



**IN CROATIA**  
BEVERLY AND MORIS TEATH, left, of Hamden, Conn., formerly of Providence, took the newspaper along on their visit to the oldest Sephardic synagogue (sinagoga) in Dubrovnik, Croatia. The couple was in Europe on a 50th wedding anniversary trip.

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Our community-wide high school is coordinated by the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island in partnership with area synagogues. All Jewish teens in grades 8-12, regardless of affiliation or synagogue membership are invited to participate.

For more information or to register for classes, contact:  
Shira Garber Strosberg  
Director of Community Education  
Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island  
401.331.0956, ext. 181; [sgarber@bjeri.org](mailto:sgarber@bjeri.org)



## Who says teens today only *connect* with one another on the Internet?

These teens sit in a circle – face to face – to make Judaism an experiential, hands-on, and challenging component of their high school experience.

In this “Israel Today” class at the Harry Elkin MIDRASHA Community High School, Jennifer, Emily, Pam, Meredith and Leah deepen their connection to Israel through an activity with our community’s Young Israeli Emissaries. Together they learn about the different voices within Israeli society: their cultural, religious, historic similarities and differences, and ultimately a greater understanding about the complexities of the State of Israel.

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The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island ensures that more than 200 Jewish teens are actively engaged with Jewish learning, Jewish living and Jewish community.



The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island helps these teens and many others like them by allocating your financial contributions to programs and services offered by dozens of Jewish agencies in Rhode Island, including the Bureau of Jewish Education. Through the Federation, you can perform the sacred act of *tikkun olam* – healing the world – every day of the year.

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# Welcome to Jewish Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts!

Shalom!

Welcome to the Jewish Voice & Herald's annual Guide to Jewish Living! This booklet contains everything you need to know to get involved in your Jewish community. We have preschool sing-along classes, Hebrew tutors, Israel trips, film festivals, tasty victuals and lots more.

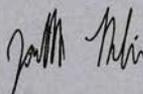
Special thanks to Harriett Frank for her tremendous help with this year's edition.

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If you would like to be listed in next year's Guide, please email your entry to [voiceherald@jfri.org](mailto:voiceherald@jfri.org), fax it to 401-331-7961, or mail it to 130 Sessions Street, Providence, RI 02906.

Use it in good health!

Sincerely,



Jonathan Rubin  
Managing Editor  
Jewish Voice & Herald

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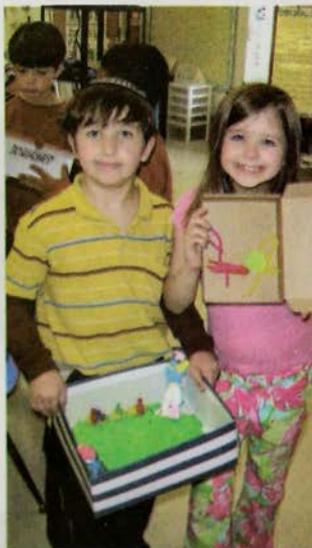
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The Jewish Voice & Herald is published by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

# Locations of Jewish resources in Rhode Island

## Jewish population by region

Providence / Pawtucket

7109

South County

1790

West Bay (Cranston & Warwick)

6347

Northern RI

1037

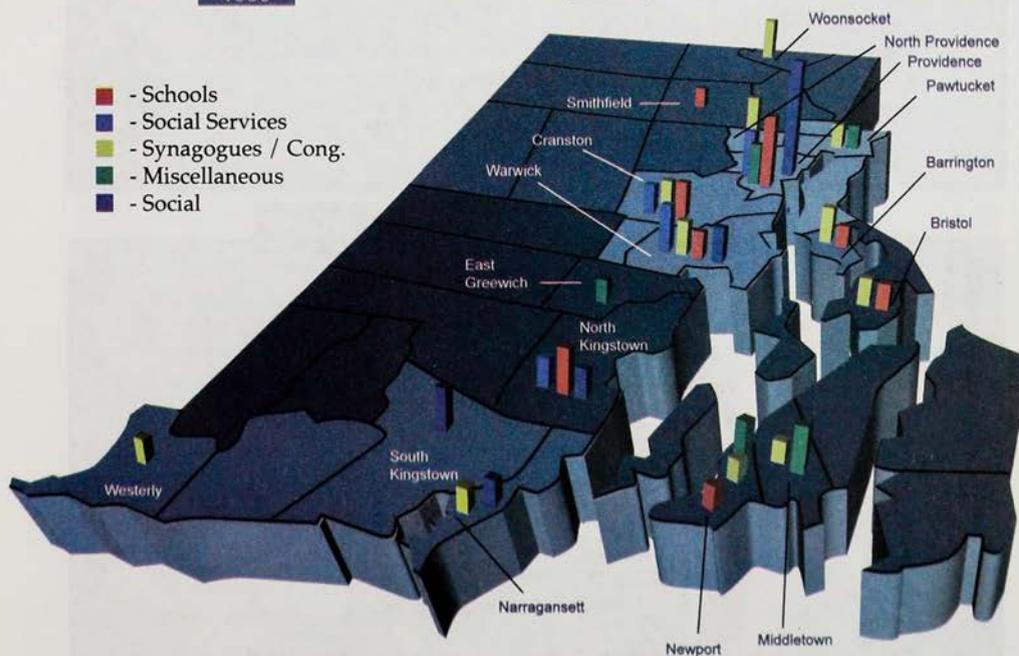
East Bay (Barrington)

1080

Southern RI

1037

- - Schools
- - Social Services
- - Synagogues / Cong.
- - Miscellaneous
- - Social



## *Jewish Resources Listings*

	(Orange) Schools	(Light Blue) Social Services	(Yellow) Synagogues / Cong.	(Green) Miscellaneous	(Dark Blue) Social
Woonsocket	0	0	1	0	0
Smithfield	1	0	0	0	0
Pawtucket	0	0	1	1	0
Providence	7	5	7	3	8
Cranston	2	1	2	0	2
Warwick	1	3	2	0	2
East Greenwich	0	0	0	1	0
Barrington	1	0	2	0	0
Bristol	1	0	1	0	0
North Kingstown	2	1	0	0	1
Narragansett	0	0	1	0	1
South Kingstown	0	0	0	0	1
Westerly	0	0	1	0	0
Middletown	0	0	1	2	0
Newport	1	0	1	2	0

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*If your organization has changes  
or additions for next year's guide,  
please send them to:  
vocieherald@jfri.org  
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# 1. Jewish Learning – Children and adults

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## Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island (BJE)

130 Sessions Street  
 Providence, RI 02906  
 Phone: (401) 331-0956  
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 Executive Director:  
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## *Preschools / Nursery Schools*

See also Baby, page 29

## Providence Hebrew Day School Nursery School

450 Elmgrove Avenue  
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 Fax: (401) 331-0030

E-mail: [pscheinerman@phdschool.org](mailto:pscheinerman@phdschool.org)  
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Barrington contact:  
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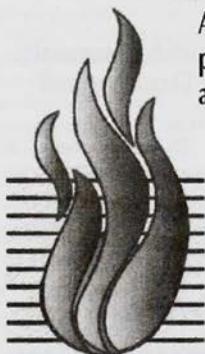
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## Fall River Jewish Home

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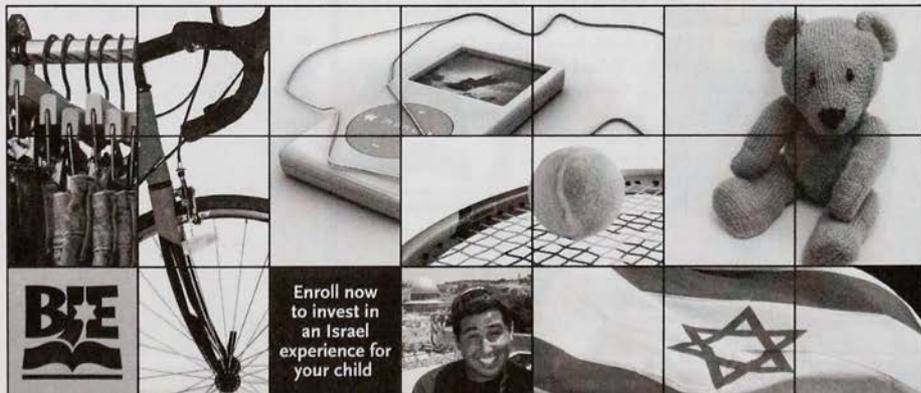
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## Supplementary Hebrew Schools

Many synagogues have Hebrew  
schools for children before Bar/Bat  
Mitzvah age. See synagogues  
(page 33).

### South County Hebrew School

375 Kingston Road  
PO box 5732

Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: (401) 486-0110

Email: eadler3@cox.net

Director: Ethan Adler

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www.thefridayschool.org

Education Director:

Steven Schwartz

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**Harry Elkin Midrasha  
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of the BJERI**

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Phone: (401) 331-0956  
Fax: (401) 274-7982

E-mail: sgarber@bjeri.org  
Director of Teen Education & Israel Desk:

Shira Garber Strosberg  
A supplementary religious education program of the Bureau of Jewish Education for teens grades 8-12, offering 5 hours of courses per week on Wednesdays and Sundays. Open to all students in the community regardless of previous religious education, denomination, or synagogue affiliation. Classes are held

in locations around Rhode Island. HEM also offers special programs and trips throughout the year, such as the March of the Living, the Jewish Civics Initiative and the Philadelphia Trip.

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Phone (401)274-1361

Email: [nkarp.nerc@gmail.com](mailto:nkarp.nerc@gmail.com)  
Fax: (401) 274-3398

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Fax: (401) 863-1591  
E-mail: [Hillel@brown.edu](mailto:Hillel@brown.edu)

[www.brownhillel.org](http://www.brownhillel.org)

Director:

Rabbi Serena Eisenberg  
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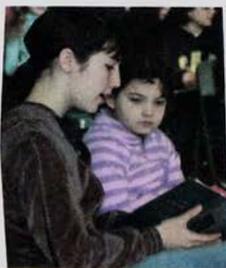
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E-mail: jstein@rwu.edu  
www.RWU.edu  
Chaplain:

Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer  
 Advisor: Joshua Stein

Provides social and religious services for the Jewish population at Roger Williams University.

**Johnson and Wales  
University Hillel**

8 Abbot Park Place  
Providence, RI 02903  
Phone: (401) 598-1499  
Fax: (401) 598-1171

E-mail: rabjag@earthlink.net  
Chaplain:

Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer  
 Coordinates Jewish activities and programs on campus.

**Hillel Foundation at the  
University of Rhode Island**

12 Fraternity Circle  
Kingston, RI 02881  
Phone: (401) 874-2740  
Fax: (401) 874-2136  
E-mail: hillel@urihillel.org  
www.urihillel.org

Executive Director:  
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Jewish Student Life  
Coordinator:  
Meredith Kaufman

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Phone: (401) 232-6944

Email: [wsamter@bryant.edu](mailto:wsamter@bryant.edu)  
Advisor: Dr. Wendy Samter  
Jewish student activities and events.



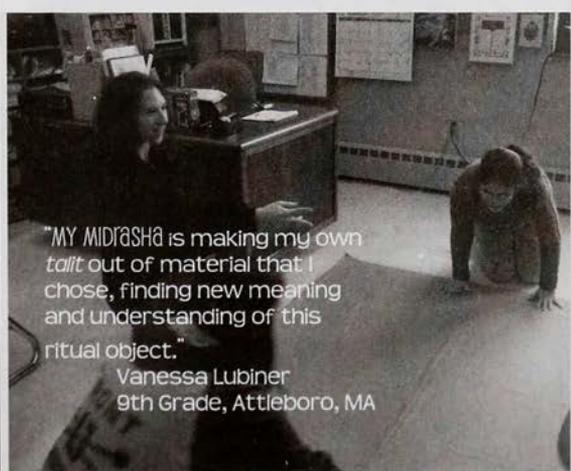
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(401) 421-1486

Spiritual Leader:

Rabbi Mendel Laufer

Email rebmendel@msn.com

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### *Adult Education*

(Also see *synagogues*, page 33-44)

### Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island (BJERI)

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Fax (401)383-2788

Email info@providencekollel.org  
www.providencekollel.org

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**March of the Living**

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 Email: [rwalter@bjeri.org](mailto:rwalter@bjeri.org)  
 New England Regional  
 Director: Richard Walter

An international program that explores Jewish identity and learns about the past, present and future by traveling through Poland and Israel. The New England Region of March of the Living is held biannually and is for high school juniors and seniors.

**Special Needs****Special needs Education  
(at the BJE)**

Contact: Lawrence Katz  
 Phone: (401) 331-0956  
 Email: [lkatz@bjeri.org](mailto:lkatz@bjeri.org)

The Bureau of Jewish Education administers the special needs programs of the local religious schools. Parents who wish to refer their children to a special needs program should contact the school's education director/principal.

The Bureau's library has a collection of books and videotapes pertaining to students with special needs.

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## 2. Social and community services

### Chapter summary:

Social services — Page 23  
Senior Services — Page 24  
Financial Resources / Philanthropy — Page 27  
Baby Resources — Page 29  
Adoption — Page 30  
Jewish healing groups — Page 30  
Soup kitchens — Page 32

### Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI)

130 Sessions Street  
Providence, RI 02906

Phone: (401) 421-4111

Fax: (401) 331-7961

[www.jfri.org](http://www.jfri.org)

President: Herbert B. Stern

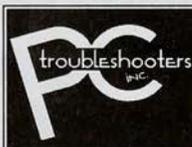
Executive Vice President:

Stephen R. Silberfarb

The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island is the central

fundraising organization for the Greater Rhode Island Jewish community, allocating funds, assisting Jewish agencies locally, in Israel and throughout the world; and advocating as the Jewish voice for social justice in the community.  
Provides community grants

for Jewish organizations, and to individuals. Donates money from its annual campaign to more than 60 local organizations and many others around the world.  
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\* A collaborating program of Jewish Family Service, Jewish Seniors Agency and the Jewish Community Center, core agencies of the Jewish Federation of RI

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Foundation, University of Rhode Island Hillel

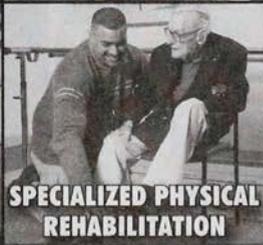
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Fax: (401) 861-8806  
Website: www.jccri.org  
Center Director: Kevin Ols  
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from infants to young adults and seniors, married and single, can participate in an array of social, educational, cultural, and recreational activities. With commitment to Jewish tradition, programs at the JCC are designed to bring people together in a social, recreational and community setting. Membership is open to all and many programs are open to non-members.

Facilities include a state of the art fitness center, group exercise and mind-body classes, personal training and massage, a full gymnasium and an indoor heated swimming pool. Enrichment classes and sports leagues are offered year-round. The JCC provides child care including infant-toddler center, preschool (with sites in Barrington and Cranston), as well as after school and school vacation programs for school age children.

J-Camp is offered all summer long and offers a variety of sports, arts and other specialty camps. Community and Jewish holiday and enrichment programs are offered as are programs designed specifically for Senior Adults.

The JCC is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and is a member of the Jewish Community Centers Association of North America.

## ***Social services***

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 Jewish Family Service offers a variety of social services to sustain, nurture and strengthen the emotional

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- Adoption Options (offices in Providence and in Rehoboth, Mass)
- Home Care services, including care for the elderly and disabled
- Doulas for postpartum mothers and newborns
- Nutrition programs including lunch at the kosher mealsite in Cranston (Temple Torat Yisrael), kosher meals on wheels and individual consultations
- Lifeline emergency response service

Jewish Family Service is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

HADASSAH

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## Senior Services

*Also see senior activities, Page 61*

### Jewish Seniors Agency (JSA)

229 Waterman Street  
 Providence, RI 02906  
 Phone: (401) 351-4750  
 Fax: (401) 421-5905  
 E-mail: [jewishseniors@aol.com](mailto:jewishseniors@aol.com)  
[www.jsari.org](http://www.jsari.org)

Executive Director:

Paul R. Barrette

Serving the elderly with a wide range of programs and partnerships, including a Comprehensive Adult Day Center, Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island (JERI), Shalom Apartments, Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living, and the JSA Women's Association

### Agewell of Rhode Island

(401) 223-2335 or  
 1-866-524-3935 (5-AGEWELL)  
 Beth Laramee, Information Specialist

AgeWell RI is an umbrella program whose goal is to provide seamless delivery of services to older adults, their family members and caregivers. AgeWell provides information and referral and links for older adults and their family members or caregivers to services, as appropriate.

Whether you have a specific question or just don't know where to turn, AgeWell RI will provide you with sound advice, guidance and direction. AgeWell RI is a collaborative program of Jewish Family Service, the Jewish Seniors Agency and the Jewish Community Center, all core agencies of JFRI.

### Comprehensive Adult Day Center

Phone: 401-351-2440  
[www.jsari.org](http://www.jsari.org)

Director: Jennifer Minuto  
A program of the Jewish Seniors Agency. This licensed and "A+" rated facility strives to meet the needs of seniors and disabled adults. The center operates Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and gives seniors with physical impairments, memory loss or Alzheimer's disease the chance to interact socially with others while being monitored medically. Activities are therapy-based, arts and music, meals and transportation.

### Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island (JERI)

229 Waterman Street

Providence, RI 02906

Phone (401) 621-5374

Director: Susan Adler

Email: [sadler\\_jeri@jsari.org](mailto:sadler_jeri@jsari.org)

A Jewish Seniors Agency program. JERI's staff and volunteers reach out to hundreds of seniors in nursing facilities, hospitals, assisted living residences and private homes. Assists seniors in observing Jewish traditions and holidays, conducts religious services, and provides one-on-one personal visits.

### Jewish Family Service Home Care

229 Waterman Street

Providence RI 02906

Phone: (401) 331-1244

Fax: (401) 331-5772

Email: [info@jfsri.org](mailto:info@jfsri.org)

[www.jfsri.org](http://www.jfsri.org)

Coordinators: Linda Amore, RN and Joan Burbridge, RN  
Home care services provide trained and licensed Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) to assist the sick, elderly or temporarily disabled

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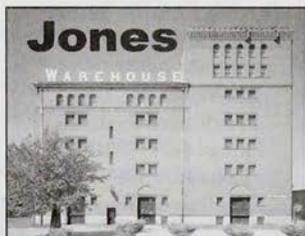
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and their families at home. Personal care, assistance with activities of daily living, meal preparation, light housekeeping and other services. Certified and licensed by the DOH and are supervised by RNs.

### Lifeline RI

Phone: (401) 331-1244

RI Coordinator:

Christine Boe

A program of Jewish Family Service. 24-hour emergency response system which helps disabled and/or older individuals remain secure and independent in their own home.

### Kosher Meals on Wheels West Bay

Phone: 781-1771 /  
331-1244 ext. 42

Contact: Jennifer Moddis  
Jewish Family Service's kosher meals on wheels service available to homebound residents of Cranston and Warwick.. Monday through Friday.

### Kosher Meals on Wheels Providence

Phone: 861-8800 ext. 107  
Contact: Elly Leyman

A service provided by the Jewish Community Center Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence. Volunteers deliver hot meals to frail elderly in Providence and Pawtucket, plus weekly luncheon mealsite at JCC.

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## Senior Housing

### The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living

3 Shalom Drive  
Warwick, RI 02886  
Phone: (401) 732-0037  
Fax: (401) 921-0602  
www.tamariskri.org  
Executive Director:  
Roberta Sinapi

A kosher assisted living facility, where residents are welcomed, comforted and protected. State-of-the-art Renaissance Memory Support Unit.

### Shalom Apartments (I and II)

1 Shalom Drive  
Warwick, RI 02886  
Phone: (401)738-4414  
Fax: (401) 738-2490

Email: shalom@conversent.net

Director: Bonnie Sekeres  
Providing affordable housing, and fostering independence in a dignified and secure setting.

### **Other resources**

For a list of non-denominational senior and assisted living resources in Rhode Island, contact Rhode Island Senior Housing & Care at (401)222-2231, or [www.health.state.ri.us](http://www.health.state.ri.us)

## Financial Resources / Philanthropy

### Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI)

130 Sessions Street  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 421-4111

Fax: (401) 331-7961  
www.jfri.org  
President: Herbert B. Stern  
Executive Vice President:  
Stephen R. Silberfarb

Serves the Jewish community of Rhode Island and Southeastern Mass. Federation's mission is to perpetuate and enhance a

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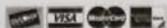


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85 Touro Street  
 Newport, RI 02840  
 Phone: (401) 847-4794  
 Fax: (401) 845-6790

E-mail: info@touro-synagogue.org  
 www.touro-synagogue.org  
 The Touro Synagogue Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation whose focus is on the historical preservation of Touro Synagogue and the teaching of religious diversity, color, Jewish history and the history of Touro Synagogue. 30,000 worldwide guests visit the national site each year for educational experiences. Newly restored facility.

**Gemilath Chesed of Pawtucket and Central Falls**

(The Pawtucket Hebrew Free Loan Association)  
 P.O. Box 2055  
 Pawtucket RI 02861  
 Phone: (401) 729-1312

Email: digital5\_1@yahoo.com  
 Hebrew Free Loan Association makes loans of \$1,500 or less to individuals for repayment within 12 months.

**Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association**

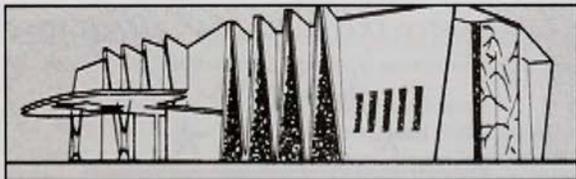
58 Burlington Street  
 Providence RI 02906  
 Phone: (401) 331-3081  
 Lends money at no interest to those with short-term financial needs. Complete confidentiality assured.

**South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association**

400 Reservoir Avenue,  
 Suite LL-A  
 Providence RI 02907  
 Phone: (401) 781-1949  
 Lends money at no interest to those with short-term

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**www.shalom-cbi.org**

financial needs. Complete confidentiality assured.

## Baby resources

### Babies, Kids and Kibbitzing

130 Sessions Street  
Providence RI 02906  
(401) 421-4111 ext. 163

Email: [kpariseault@jfri.org](mailto:kpariseault@jfri.org)  
A program for new Jewish mothers who would like to meet other mothers in a fun and creative environment. Arts and crafts, snacks, and songs. Meets monthly. A program of the Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

### Shalom Baby

(401) 421-4111 ext. 163  
Email: [kpariseault@jfri.org](mailto:kpariseault@jfri.org)  
A free "welcome to the community" package for new

babies and their mothers. Safety plugs, bibs, babysitting aids, Jewish community info, gift certificates and more.

### Shalom Friends

40 Gardiner Street, Warwick,  
RI 02888

Phone: (401) 463-7944  
[www.shalomfriends.org](http://www.shalomfriends.org)

Program Director:  
Sharon Sock

Shalom Friends is a music and movement program geared toward children from birth



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music, arts and crafts projects, discussion time with parents / caregivers and more. No prior Jewish experience necessary. Open to the community.

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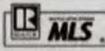
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## Postpartum Doula Service for New Mothers

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Fax: (401) 331-5772  
Email: info@jfsri.org  
www.jfsri.org

Trained doulas provide physical, emotional, informational and practical support during the adjustment period immediately after the birth of a baby. They can assist with family bonding, postpartum nutrition, meal preparation, sibling care, light housekeeping and laundry.

## Adoption

### Adoption Options

229 Waterman Street  
Providence RI 02906  
Phone: (800) 337-6513  
or (401) 331-5437  
Fax: (401) 331-5772

www.adoptionoptions.org  
Coordinator: Betsy Alper

Offers services for adoptive parents, birth mothers and children. This includes home studies, pre- and post-adoption counseling, support groups and child placement. Informational meetings on the third Thursday of every month. A program of Jewish Family Service, with office in Rhode Island and Rehoboth, Massachusetts.

## Jewish healing groups

### The Greater R.I. Center Jewish Healing

230 Lantern Lane East  
North Kingston, RI 02851  
Phone: (401) 267-0029  
E-mail: webmaster@  
jamestownr.com

www.jamestownr.com/rihealing/

Director: Howard Brown  
The Rhode Island Center for Jewish Healing, a non-profit organization, conducts study groups, and workshops to promote the understanding and practice of Jewish spirituality in Rhode Island. Its emphasis is on the non-affiliated or marginally affiliated population. Offerings include holiday-oriented retreats (Passover, Rosh Hashanah) and study groups in "anger management" from a Jewish spiritual perspective.

### Jewishlink

76 Carpenter Street  
Rehoboth, MA, 02769  
Phone: 508-252-6500

Email: [jewishlink@yahoo.com](mailto:jewishlink@yahoo.com)  
[www.jewishealing.com](http://www.jewishealing.com)

Director: Wally Spiegler

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## A word to the Jewish Community



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## Hospitals

### The Miriam Hospital

164 Summit Avenue  
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Phone: 793.2500

Mmartin@lifespan.org.  
The Miriam Hospital is a private 247-bed, not-for-profit, acute care general hospital founded by Rhode Island's Jewish community in 1926. Named in the 100 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals and received National Magnet award for Excellence in Nursing Services

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401-331-6070  
[www.temple-beth-el.org](http://www.temple-beth-el.org)

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Providence RI 02906  
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Coordinator: Harriett Frank  
Email: [billharriettfrank@cox.net](mailto:billharriettfrank@cox.net)  
[www.judykindnesskitchen.org](http://www.judykindnesskitchen.org)

An all-volunteer soup kitchen which prepares lunch on Sundays at Cong. Beth Sholom, for delivery to more than 150 homeless at Crossroads Rhode Island.



***Best  
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from  
Senator  
Jack  
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Paid for by the Reed committee.

### 3. Synagogues and congregations

#### **Chapter summary:**

Reform— Page 33  
Reconstructionist — Page 34  
Conservative — Page 34  
Orthodox — Page 37  
Non-denominational — Page 43

## **Reform**

### Temple Beth-El

70 Orchard Avenue  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 331-6070  
Fax: (401) 331-8068

E-mail: rshalansky@temple-  
beth-el.org

www.temple-beth-el.org  
Executive Director: Ruby  
Shalansky

Spiritual Leaders:

Rabbi Leslie Y. Gutterman  
Rabbi Sarah Mack

Reform synagogue that offers cultural events, and a variety of worship services. Programs include activities for infants and toddlers, young families, outreach for interfaith families, social action, religious school, adult enrichment, The Braude Library, Helen and Bertram Bernhardt Museum, Temple Beth-El Brotherhood and Sisterhood, and Temple Beth-El's Cemetery.

### Temple Sinai

30 Hagen Avenue  
Cranston, RI 02920  
Phone: (401) 942-8350  
Fax: (401) 942-3260

Email: Stein@  
templesinairi.org  
www.templesinairi.org

Spiritual Leader:

Rabbi Peter Stein

A suburban Reform congregation providing Friday evening and Saturday morning services. Active Sisterhood, Brotherhood, senior group, social action, adult education and youth group activities. Award-winning religious school and nursery school.

### Temple Habonim

165 New Meadow Road  
Barrington, RI 02806

Phone: (401) 245-6536

Fax: (401) 245-6536 (call first)

E-mail:

rabbi@templehabonim.org  
www.ci.barrington.ri.us/town/  
worship/habonim.htm

Spiritual Leader:

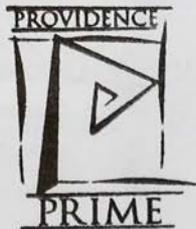
Rabbi Andrew Klein

Reform Synagogue founded in 1963. Religious school grades K-10, JCC pre-school, youth group, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Sisterhood, Renaissance group, and adult education.



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FAX: (401) 272-5746



279 ATWELLS AVENUE  
PROVIDENCE, RI 02903  
TEL: (401-454-8881  
FAX: 401-272-5746

### Newport Havurah

P.O. Box 3904  
Newport, RI 02840  
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President: Howard Newman

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901 North Main Street  
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Fax: (508) 222-2243  
E-mail: office@agudasma.org  
www.agudasma.org

Spiritual Leader:

Rabbi Elyse Wechterman

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congregation, integrating  
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education, spiritual growth,  
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## *Conservative*

### United Brothers Synagogue

205 High Street  
Bristol, RI 02809

Phone: (401) 253-3460

Spiritual Leader: Scott Tepper  
Rhode Island's second  
oldest synagogue welcomes  
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students. Shabbat services are  
held the first Friday of the  
month (no services in July/  
August). Adult education  
classes are held on the  
Sunday following services.  
Affiliated with Temple  
Shalom Middletown.

### Temple Torat Yisrael

330 Park Avenue  
Cranston, RI 02905  
Phone: (401) 785-1800  
Fax: (401) 785-0182

Email: Rabbi@ToratYisrael.org  
Spiritual Leader:  
Rabbi Amy Levin

A Conservative synagogue offering a daily minyan, a part-time cantor, religious school, adult education courses and varied programming including men's Club, monthly Shabbat dinners, and annual Ira S. and Anna Galkin Hanukkah concert.

### Congregation B'nai Israel

224 Prospect Street  
Woonsocket, RI 02895  
Phone: (401) 762-3651

Fax: (401) 767-5243

E-mail:

synagogue@cbi.necoxmail.com  
www.shalom-cbi.org  
Spiritual Leader: Cantor  
Jeffrey Cornblatt

A Conservative synagogue where interfaith families are welcomed and egalitarian services offer women an equal role. Hebrew school, summer



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**Congregation Beth David of Narragansett**

102 Kingston Road  
Narragansett, RI 02882  
Phone: (401) 789-3437

Email: info@bethdavidri.org  
www.bethdavidri.org

Spiritual Leader:  
Rev. Ethan Adler

Conservative style congregation. Summer members welcome.

**Temple Shalom**

223 Valley Road  
Middletown, RI 02842  
Phone: (401) 846-9002  
Fax: (401) 682-2417

E-mail: rabjag@earthlink.net  
www.templeshalomri.org

Spiritual Leader:  
Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer  
Conservative Judaism in a contemporary and progressive tradition; devoted to the continuation of Jewish values, education and culture. Features a diverse schedule of services, Samuel Zalman Bazarsky Religious School, classes and activities. Gift shop.

**Temple Emanu-El**

99 Taft Avenue  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 331-1616  
Fax: (401) 421-9279

E-mail: info@teprov.org  
www.teprov.org

Spiritual Leaders:  
Rabbi Wayne M. Franklin  
Rabbi Alvan J. Kaunfer  
Conservative congregation offers a full range of religious services, educational opportunities for children and adults, bar/bat mitzvah training, choral groups, youth programs, social action projects, and community events; cemetery and gift shop, and The Natalie and Abraham Percelay Museum.

**Temple Am David**

40 Gardiner Street  
Warwick, RI 02888  
Phone: (401) 463-7944  
Fax: (401) 463-9262

Website:  
www.templeam david.org  
E-mail: amjoyce2@cox.net  
Spiritual Leader: Cantor  
Richard Perlman

A Conservative congregation, member of United Synagogue. Holds daily Minyan and Shabbat Services. Hebrew School, adult education program, gift shop and Shalom Friends program.

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145 Brownell Ave  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
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Fax: (508) 997-3173

Email: ti@tinewbedford.org



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Spiritual Leader:

Rabbi Raphael J. Kanter

A Conservative congregation.  
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### Temple Beth El of Fall River

385 High St.

Fall River, MA, 02720

Phone: (508) 674-3529

Fax: 1-508-674-3058

Spiritual Leader: Cantor

Richard Wolberg

Conservative synagogue.  
Adult education, sisterhood,  
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## Orthodox

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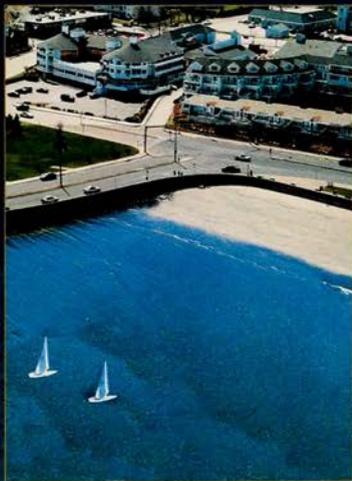
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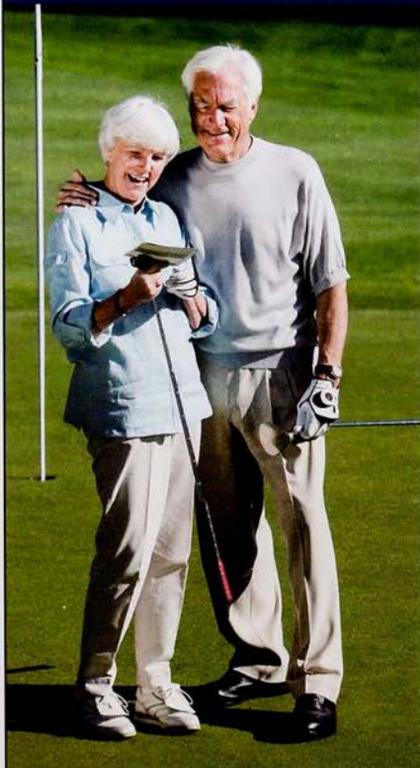
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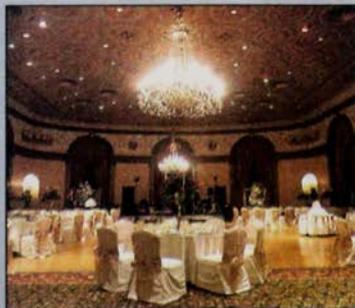


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## 4. Religious life

### Chapter summary:

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Kashrut — Page 50

Rabbis — Page 50

Eruv — Page 50

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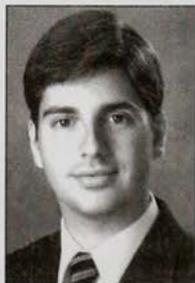


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## 5. Get out and do something!

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#### Chapter summary:

- Camps — Page 51
- Scouting — Page 52
- Teen activities — Page 53
- College / campus — Page 58
- 20s and 30s — Page 58
- Men's — Page 58
- Women's — Page 58
- Senior activities — Page 61
- Israel activities — Page 62
- Veterans — Page 62
- Public affairs / advocacy — Page 62
- Neighborhood Associations — Page 65

### Camps

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#### Jewish Committee on Scouting ( Narragansett Council

Boy Scouts of America  
Jules A. Cohen, Chair  
85 Scabbletown Road  
North Kingstown, RI 02881  
Phone: (401) 294-6617

E-mail: julesacohen@cox.net  
The committee, part of  
a national organization,  
supports and encourages  
Jewish scouts and scouting  
activities, while seeking  
to enhance a boy's Jewish  
identity through scouting.  
It also supports the full-  
time Jewish chaplain  
at Camp Yawgoog who  
conducts worship services,  
leads discussion groups,  
helps scouts earn their  
religious medals and badges  
and works with other  
resident clergy to promote  
interdenominational  
programs and activities.

#### Cub Scouts, Pack 104

c/o Congregation Beth Shalom  
Contact:  
Russel Raskin, Cubmaster  
(401) 273-2299



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Claudia Fiks, Youth and  
Camp Director

Email: cfiks@jccri.org  
www.jccri.org

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Phone: (401) 331-0956  
Email: astein@bjeri.org

Program Director:  
Amy Stein

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actively and financially support the Jewish community for a lifetime. It gives them an opportunity to establish an endowment fund in their names. This

program is funded by the JFRI and operates in partnership with Federation and the Bureau of Jewish Education of R. I. Open to all Rhode Island Jewish teens.

**Cranston-Warwick United Synagogue Youth**

Temple Am David / Temple Torat Yisrael  
Phone: Am David (463 79) or Torat Yisrael (785-1800)

Email: rhondaw@cox.net

Contact: Rhonda Weiss  
The Cranston- Warwick United Synagogue is affiliated with Temple Am David and Temple Torat Yisrael, members of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. The chapter conducts social and spiritual events promoting community Jewish awareness.

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E-mail: sgarber@bjeri.org  
Director of Teen Education  
& Israel Desk:

Shira Garber Strosberg  
A supplementary religious  
education program of the  
Bureau of Jewish Education  
for teens grades 8-12,  
offering 5 hours of courses  
per week on Wednesdays  
and Sundays. Open to all  
students in the community  
regardless of previous  
religious education,  
denomination, or synagogue

affiliation. Classes are held  
in locations around Rhode  
Island. HEM also offers  
special programs and trips  
throughout the year, such as  
the March of the Living, the  
Jewish Civics Initiative and  
the Philadelphia Trip.

**Jewish Civics Initiative**

130 Sessions Street  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 331-0956  
Fax: (401) 274-7982

Email: sgarber@bjeri.org  
Director of Teen Education  
& Israel Desk:

Shira Garber Strosberg  
The Jewish Civics Initiative  
is an educational program  
that encourages students  
to apply Jewish values to

public policy and social  
justice issues. The program  
has three major elements:  
an innovative curriculum  
based on Jewish values,  
a retreat in Washington,  
D.C., and community-  
based service learning  
projects. The highlight of  
the retreat in Washington  
is the opportunity to lobby  
members of Rhode Island's  
congressional delegation  
about issues that the  
participants choose.

**March of the Living**

130 Sessions Street  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 331-0956  
Fax: (401) 274-7982  
Email: sgarber@bjeri.org



259 Taunton Ave.  
Seekonk, MA 02771  
(508) 336-5584

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**Director of Teen Education  
& Israel Desk:**

Shira Garber Strosberg  
The March of the Living is an international, educational program that brings Jewish teens from all over the world to Poland on Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Memorial Day. Attendees march from Auschwitz to Birkenau, the largest concentration camp built during World War II, and then travel to Israel to observe Yom HaZikaron, Israel Memorial Day, and Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel Independence Day. The New England Region of the March of the Living is for teens in grades 11 and 12 and leaves in the spring of 2008.

**Maccabi Games at the JCC**

Phone: (401) 861-8800  
ext. 149

The Maccabi Summer youth games are an athletic and social experience for Jewish teens ages 13-16 interested in competing in an Olympic style setting for gold, silver and bronze medals. The JCC of Rhode Island has tryouts for several team sports in October and November for any interested athletes.

**National Conference of  
Synagogue Youth**

1931 Commonwealth Ave.  
Brighton, MA 02135  
Phone: (617) 332-6279  
Fax: (617) 254-NCSY  
(Boston Office)

E-mail: [info@nerncsy.org](mailto:info@nerncsy.org)  
[www.nerncsy.org](http://www.nerncsy.org)

New England chapter of a Jewish youth group for teens in grades 9-12 and

Junior NCSY for youth in grades 5-8. Provides opportunities for teens to meet with friends, attend exciting trips and events, gain leadership skills, and learn about their Jewish identity. Nationally runs affiliated summer camps in Israel, Europe, the U.S. and Canada.

**Philadelphia Trip  
for Teens**

130 Sessions Street  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 331-0956  
Fax: (401) 274-7982  
Email: [sgarber@bjeri.org](mailto:sgarber@bjeri.org)  
Director of Teen Education

**& Israel Desk:**

Shira Garber Strosberg  
The Philadelphia Trip is an educational program about Jewish values, rights and responsibilities. The highlight of the trip is a day spent helping the homeless on the streets of Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Trip is for Jewish teens in grades 8-12 in Rhode Island & Southeastern Massachusetts.

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(PROVTY)**

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Advisors: Kate and

Andrew Bramson

PROVTY is a youth group for high school students grades 9-12 who are members of Temple Beth-El.

United Synagogue Youth of Temple Emanu-El (USY)

Phone: (401) 331-1616

Email: miriam@teprov.org

Director:

Miriam Abrams-Stark

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**March of the Living**  
(See Holocaust education)

## College and Campus

See New England Rabbinical College

— Page 13

Brown Hillel Foundation

— Page 13

Roger Williams University Hillel

— Page 14

Johnson and Wales Hillel — Page 14

Hillel Foundation at URI — Page 14

Bryant College Hillel Club — Page 15

Chabad of College Hill — Page 16

## 20's and 30's

### Perspectives

Jewish Community Center

401 Elm Grove Avenue

Providence, RI 02906

Phone: (401) 861-8800 ext. 205

Fax: (401) 861-8806

www.providenceperspectives.com

Call for more information.

A social outlet, resource and connection to the Rhode Island Jewish community for Jews in their 20's and 30's, both married and single.

## Men

(See also Temple Beth El brotherhood, Temple Shalom men's club, Temple Sinai men's club, Temple Torat Yisrael men's club.)

### Touro Fraternal Association

45 Rolfe Square

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Cranston, RI 02910

Phone: (401) 785-0066

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Martin Waldman, contact

and president

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## Women

(See also Sisterhood of Temple Beth El, Temple Shalom Sisterhood, Temple Sinai



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B'nai Israel)**

Phone: (401) 762-3651

Fax: (401) 767-5243

E-mail:

[cbi\\_synagogue@juno.com](mailto:cbi_synagogue@juno.com)

Typically meets on the first Sunday after Rosh Hodesh and offers religious, cultural, intellectual, and social programs for all community members. See Congregation B'nai Israel for more info on page 35.

**ISA Women's Association**

*(See Jewish Seniors Agency  
for more info or visit their  
website at [www.jsari.org](http://www.jsari.org))*

Phone: (401) 884-0039

Coordinator:

Marilyn Smith

A group of women of all ages whose main objective is to raise funds in order to support the various Jewish Seniors Agency programs. The Women's Association currently supports the JERI Program's holiday observances, special projects, and visits to nursing home residents.

**Na' Amat USA**

Phone: (401) 453-9643

E-mail:

[busybeaderkagan@aol.com](mailto:busybeaderkagan@aol.com)

Coordinator: Marilyn Kagan

The D'Vorah Dayan Chapter of Na' Amat USA raises funds to provide educational and social services for women and

children in Israel. Advocates equal rights for women in Israel and USA, and secure child care centers in Israel.

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**National Council of Jewish  
Women/R.I. Section (NCJW)**

65 Orchard Avenue  
Providence RI 02906  
Phone: 401-331-5087

E-Mail:  
rvogelri@yahoo.com  
www.ncjw.org

The National Council of Jewish Women is an instrument of social change, championing the needs of women, children, and families through programs of education, advocacy and community service addressing women's reproductive rights; addressed the issue of domestic violence in the Jewish home and developed a corresponding curriculum for use in Jewish schools; awarded scholarships and "camperships"; and provided for some of the needs of the R.I. Women's Center.



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Suite 3

Cranston, RI 02920

Phone: (401) 463-3636

Fax: (401) 463-3697

E-mail: rhodeislandchapter@hadassah.org

www.hadassah.com

Supports programs and projects in Israel including medical care and research at Hadassah Hospitals, education and counseling at Hadassah College, supports programs for children-at-risk. The Chapter offers book discussions and educational programs, community

service opportunities, a national political agenda, and more.

### The Miriam Hospital Women's Association

164 Summit Avenue  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 793-2520  
Email:

mferreira@lifespan.org

Meets to contribute to the physical and mental well-being of the patients; develops public interest, helps to provide volunteers and supports improvement of the medical and health services.

### Women's Alliance of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (WA)

130 Sessions Street  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 421-4111  
Fax: (401) 331-7961

www.jfri.org

The Mission of the Women's Alliance is to instill a sense of Jewish identity for all women through raising funds in support of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, diversified programming, leadership development, and community service; and to impart to the community on behalf of JFRI the evolving needs of the Jewish people locally, nationally, in Israel and overseas.

## Senior activities

See also Senior service, page 24

### Cranston Senior Guild

Phone: 723-8580  
Social, educational and philanthropic activities for seniors, Jewish and otherwise. Serving all of Rhode Island.

### JCCRI Senior Adult Programs

401 Elmgrove Avenue  
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Phone: 861-8800

Email: eleyman@jccri.org

Director: Elly Leyman

Programs offered for seniors adults include computer classes for 55 and up, Yiddish Shmooze, Plain Talk Group, nutrition classes, cultural activities and a weekly lunch and speaker series. Also Mah Jong Mavens, cards and bridge.

### IJS Kosher Mealsite at Temple Torat Yisrael

Phone: 781-1771 /  
331-1244 x.42  
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(See following page)

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*Core agencies of the Jewish Federation of RI*

E-mail: info@jfsri.org  
www.jfsri.org  
Coordinator: Ronda French  
A program of Jewish Family Service. Kosher meals are served Monday through Friday at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston. Daily activities include exercise, entertainment and discussion groups, begins at 11 a.m. with lunch served at noon. Small donations appreciated. Menu on website.

**Leisure Club of Temple Emanu-El**

Phone (401) 331-1616  
Coordinator:

Miriam Abrams-Stark  
The Leisure Club of Temple Emanu-El serves the senior citizens of the community. The Club offers a wide range of educational programs throughout the year, plus trips to nearby sites of interest, and social events. Open to the community.

***Israel activities***

**Israel Task Force of the Community Relations Council**

Phone: ( 401) 421-4111  
*A committee of the Jewish*

*Federation of Rhode Island focusing on supporting and promoting Israel.*

***Veterans***

**Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. Dept. of Rhode Island**

P.O. Box 100064  
Cranston, RI 02910  
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***Public Affairs / Advocacy***

**Community Relations Council**

Email: ricrc@yahoo.com  
Phone: (401) 421-4111  
A program of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. Interprets concerns of the organized Jewish community to the broader Jewish community, the general community, government officials, and the media. Builds coalitions for effective action and opportunities for community involvement; and educates, assists, and enables the Jewish community to pursue social justice. Affiliated with the

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**Rhode Island Jewish  
Environmental  
Alliance (RIJEA)**

www.rijea.org

Phone: 401-831-2999

Email: alicia.lehrer@  
alum.barnard.edu

Coordinator: Alicia Lehrer

RIJEA is a volunteer group of Jewish activists, scholars and professionals, which works with the Rhode Island Jewish community to strengthen environmental



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### RI AIDS Task Force

Phone: (401) 421-4111  
The AIDS Task Force of the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation plans various programs throughout the year including a World AIDS Day Interfaith Prayer Service and an annual Interfaith Passover AIDS Seder of Hope. In addition,

members go to Jewish schools to educate our children about AIDS and work in the larger Rhode Island community on AIDS advocacy and education.

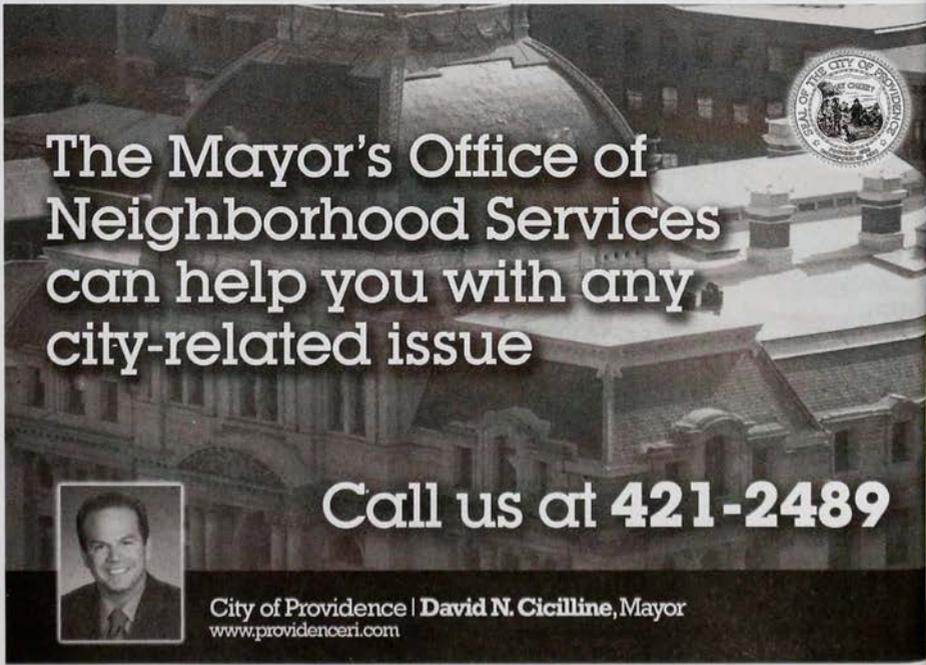
### Rhode Island Center for Community & Justice (RICJ)

c/o URI Shepard Building,  
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Fax: (401) 467-2707  
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Webite:www.ricj.org  
Director: Toby Ayers, PhD  
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Fax: (617) 535-0255

Email: [information@boston.mfa.gov.il](mailto:information@boston.mfa.gov.il)

[www.israeemb.org/boston](http://www.israeemb.org/boston)

Consul General:

Nadav Tamir

Provides consular services such as passports and visas. Its Public Affairs Department promotes Israel awareness throughout New England and is made up of four sections: Academic Affairs, Cultural Affairs, Information Department, Media and Public Affairs.

## ***Neighborhood Associations***

### **South County Jewish Collaborative**

Phone: (401) 832-3835'

Phone: 782-2684 / 789-6515

Email: [Rwinkler@regencytravelclub.com](mailto:Rwinkler@regencytravelclub.com)

A collaborative of South County Jewish organizations (Congregation Beth David, Jewish Community Council and South County, Hadassah, South County Hebrew School) whose purpose is to enhance the educational, spiritual and social needs of Jewish South County residents.

## **6. Entertainment and food**

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Sadly, Rhode Island currently

has no kosher restaurant, but there are a few places where you can get fresh kosher desserts, challah or a great brisket, and we have a number of kosher caterers for special occasions.

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Film — Page 66  
 Music — Page 66  
 Museums and History — Page 66  
 Theater — Page 67  
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## Film

### Rhode Island Jewish Film Festival

Contact: Richard Walter  
 Phone: (401) 331-0956  
 Email: [rwalter@bjeri.org](mailto:rwalter@bjeri.org)  
 Taking place November 8-

18, 2007. The Rhode Island Jewish Film Festival, a partnership of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island and the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island, celebrates the richness and diversity of Jewish life with a variety of films shown at locations throughout Rhode Island. Award-winning and provocative films, documentaries and guest speakers for both adults and children. This year, the RIJFF will be collaborating with the Rhode Island International Film Festival.

## Music

### Michael Miller's Swing

205 Slater Avenue  
 Providence, RI 02906  
 Phone: (401) 421-1116  
 Cell Phone: (401) 316-9949  
[sybmike@cox.net](mailto:sybmike@cox.net)  
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### Sounds of Simcha

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 Phone: (401) 822-1479  
 E-mail: [freedman3@cox.net](mailto:freedman3@cox.net)  
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### Bresler's Klezmer Hassidic Ensemble

857 Hope Street  
 Providence, RI 02906  
 Phone: (401) 273-9814  
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### Yarmulkazi (Klezmer music)

Contact: Rebecca Anne Fischel  
 Email: [klezmer@brown.edu](mailto:klezmer@brown.edu)  
 Telephone: 973-865-7334  
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## Museums and History

(See Temple Emanu-El, Temple Beth E

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130 Sessions Street  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 331-1360  
Fax: (401) 331-1360  
E-mail: office@rijha.org  
www.rijha.org  
Office Manager: Anne  
Sherman

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of Rhode Island from  
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and quarterly newsletters,  
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**Rhode Island  
Holocaust Education  
and Resource Center**

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Phone: (401) 453-7860  
Fax: (401) 861-9246  
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Phone: (401) 847-4794  
See page 28 for full entry

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Fax: (401) 725-0449  
Email: nfpliskin@aol.com  
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[www.quidnessett.com](http://www.quidnessett.com)

Fax: (401) 726-7668

E-mail:

danielcatering@cox.net

www.danielkoshercatering.com

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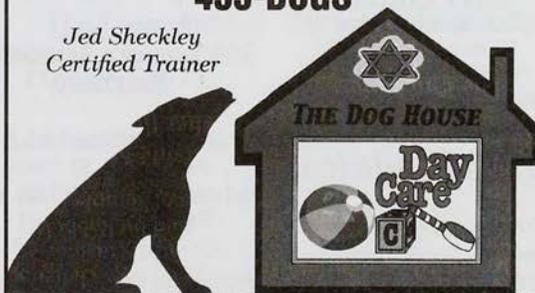
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www.tavascatering.com

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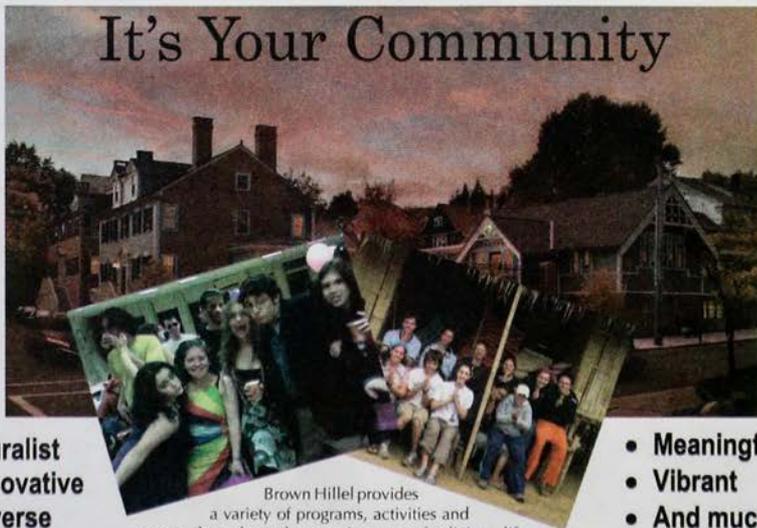
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www.brownhillel.org

For more information about Brown Hillel contact Jonathan Nieman, Associate Director, at 401.863.3398

Shira Garber Strosberg  
The Israel Desk of the  
Bureau of Jewish Education  
of Rhode Island provides  
resource information for  
Israel experience programs,  
including summer, semester  
and year-long programs  
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also provides scholarships  
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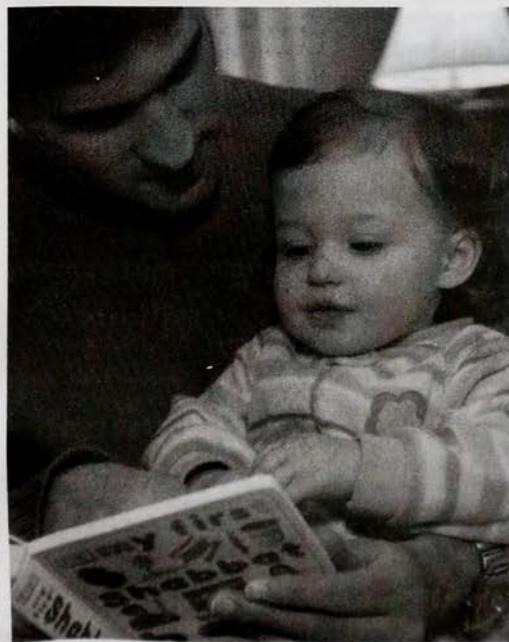
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Fax: 861-8806  
Email: [vestnikri@yahoo.com](mailto:vestnikri@yahoo.com)  
Russian-language monthly newspaper. Program of the Jewish Community Center of RI.

**Rhode Island**  
**Community Spirit**

401 Elmgrove Avenue  
Providence, RI 02906  
Phone: (401) 383-2786

E-mail: [info@providencekollel.com](mailto:info@providencekollel.com)  
Published by the Providence Community Kollel. A free quarterly publication serving the Jewish educational and spiritual needs of Rhode Island.

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Email: [rijewish@verizon.net](mailto:rijewish@verizon.net)  
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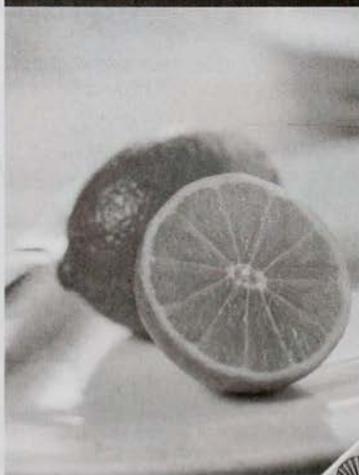
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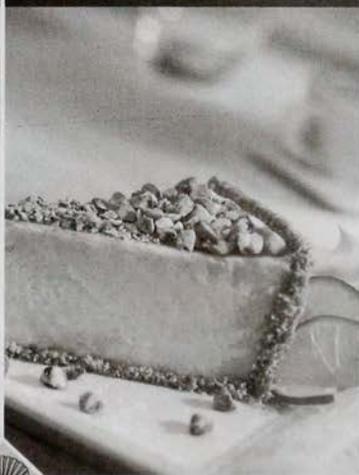
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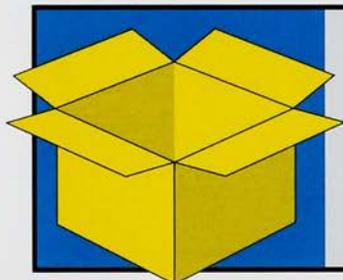


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