

The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

SERVING RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

2 Cheshvan 5769

Vol. X — Issue XVII

www.jvhri.org

October 31, 2008

Concert commemorates Kristallnacht

Vivacity of local Jewish community shines through

BY NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — On Nov. 9, 1938, the Jews of Germany and Austria were devastated as the Nazis rampaged, destroying Jewish homes, businesses and synagogues, in one horrific night of destruction called Kristallnacht (the night of broken glass).

More than 100 Jews were killed and some 30,000 more were deported or imprisoned.

That night marked the beginning of the Holocaust against Europe's Jewish citizens, which culminated in

See CONCERT, Page 16



The "night of broken glass" 70 years ago was an organized attack against Jews in Germany.



Photo by JTA/GPO/BPH Images

TZIPI LIVNI, the foreign minister of Israel and head of the centrist Kadmia Party, officially asked President Shimon Peres for new general elections in an Oct. 26 meeting at the President's residence in Jerusalem. Elections are now likely to take place in February or March.

Livni asks Peres to declare early elections

Livni shuns what aide terms 'blackmail' by Shas Party

BY LESLIE SUSSER
JTA Staff Writer

JERUSALEM (JTA) — With Israel now headed for new

general elections probably some time early next year, supporters and opponents of

NEWS ANALYSIS

Tzipi Livni are putting a very different gloss on her failure to form a governing coalition.

Opponents say Livni's inability shows she is not yet seasoned enough to lead. Supporters counter that the reasons

for her failure show precisely why she is the best candidate. Livni says that had she been willing to give in to excessive political and budgetary demands by prospective coalition partners, she easily could have formed a government. Instead she took a stand.

[According to newspaper reports, Livni went a long way

See LIVNI, Page 12

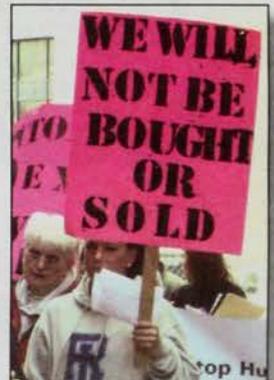


Photo by Mary Korr

MARCHERS AGAINST SEX trafficking in Providence stop in front of three alleged brothels.

Marchers protest sex trafficking in R.I.

Coalition had its start at NCJW forum

BY MARY KORR
Senior Contributing Writer

PROVIDENCE — On Oct. 25, the R.I. Coalition Against Human Trafficking (RICAHT) led a march

See MARCH, Page 10

Boston Jewish Film Festival: 20 years celebrating Jewish culture

This year, festival features Gen X filmmakers

BY PENNY SCHWARTZ
Special to The Voice & Herald

BOSTON — Over the last 20 years, the annual Boston Jewish Film Festival has become the place to be. The week-long cultural happening is also a social gathering where Jews and non-Jews view — and discuss — a wide-sweeping range of top quality films, from award-winning titles to those that are lesser known.

This year's festival, which runs from Wednesday, Nov. 5, through Sunday, Nov. 16, does not disappoint. From Haifa to Paris, from Texas to Belgium and Berlin, the selection of first-rate films widens perspectives through a global lens of contemporary Jewish filmmaking.

This year, the critically acclaimed festival screens 46 independently produced

films and reflects the work of film artists from 16 countries, spoken in 13 languages.

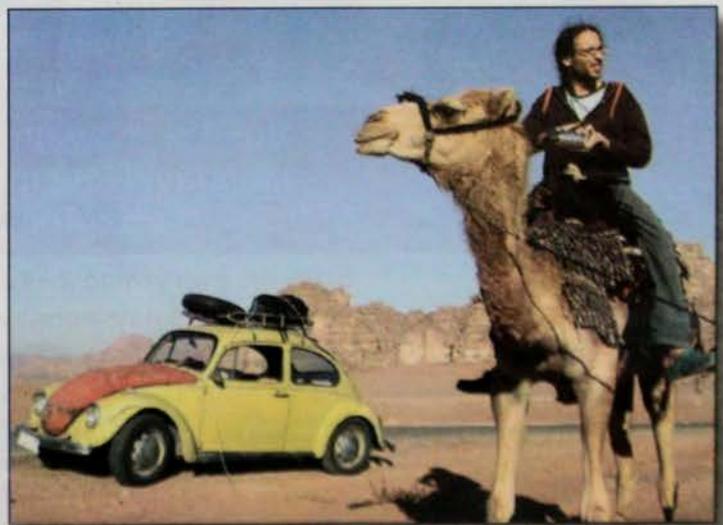
Films will be screened in nine locations, from the Museum of Fine Arts, to the Institute of Contemporary Art, to the Coolidge Corner Theatre, West Newton Cinema and Showcase Cinemas in Randolph.

Highlights include three North American premieres, three U.S. premieres, two East Coast premieres and 18 New England premieres. The Festival presents more than 35 film artists, noted speakers, and panelists from around the world.

"Films have an incredible ability to transport you to another place and time," says Sara Rubin, executive director of the festival.

But beyond viewing individual films, there is a strong communal aspect to the festival, she says. Viewers are not alone in their homes, but engaged with

See FESTIVAL, Page 9



'THE BEETLE' screens in its New England Premiere during the Boston Jewish Film Festival on Saturday, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m., at the Museum of Fine Arts.

Our Jewish community in action



Photo by Nancy Kirsch

PROVIDENCE MAYOR DAVID CICILLINE accepts a gift from Greta Steiner (left) as Elly Leyman, senior and adult programs coordinator for the Jewish Community Center, looks on. Cicilline spoke to a group of seniors on Oct. 24.



Photo courtesy of URI Hillel

URI STUDENTS AND HILLEL STAFF enjoyed "Pizza in the Hut" in the Hillel sukkah on Oct. 15.



Photo courtesy of Shifra Rabenstein

SHIFRA RABENSTEIN will speak to the third annual Southern New England Conference for Jewish Women on Nov. 16.

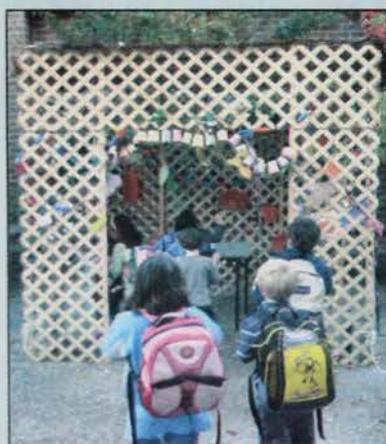


Photo courtesy of JCCRI

STUDENTS IN THE JCCRI KIDSPACE PROGRAM enter the sukkah they helped decorate.

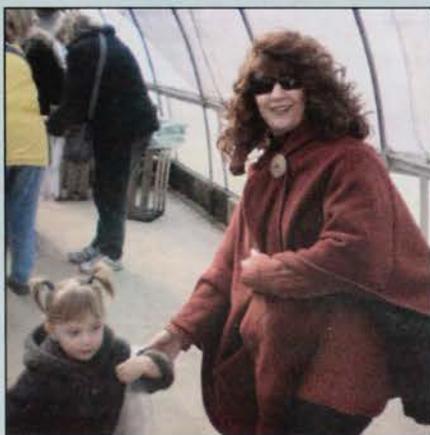


Photo courtesy of Shalom Playgroup, JFRI

MARISA GARBER and her daughter Tessa, of Pawtucket, attended the recent Shalom Playgroup at Four Town Farm in Seekonk, Mass.



Photo courtesy of Hasbro

PROVIDENCE MAYOR DAVID CICILLINE (left), Hasbro Chairman Al Verrecchia, Chairman of Hasbro's Executive Committee Alan Hassenzfeld, and Hasbro's President and Chief Executive Officer Brian Goldner celebrate the renovation and re-dedication of the Hasbro Boundless Playground on Oct. 27 at Roger Williams Park in Providence.

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CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES For Greater Rhode Island

Daylight saving time ENDS Sunday, Nov. 2.
Turn clocks BACK 1 hour Sunday night.

Oct. 31	5:21
Nov. 7	4:13
Nov. 14	4:06

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"We should support Mel Brooks.
We need the word."

Alan Zuckerman

See Page 6

IN THIS ISSUE:

Peasants' rights vs. medical might in 19th century Italy. A review of Kertzer's *Amalia's Tale*.

See Page 20

COMING NEXT ISSUE:

BAR/BAT MITZVAH GUIDE



Meet David Kertzer: Provost, researcher, historian and author

His father, a rabbi, helped conduct the first service held at Rome's synagogue after the city's liberation in 1944

By MARY KORR

Senior Contributing Writer
PROVIDENCE – David I. Kertzer, provost at Brown University, sat down with the *The Voice & Herald* to discuss his latest book, *Amalia's Tale* (See review, Page 20), published this year.

Voice & Herald: You are a historian, social anthropologist and professor of Italian studies. Many of your books are set in Italy. What made you interested in Italy in the first place?

Kertzer: My father. [Morris Kertzer.] I write a little bit about him in *The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara*. He instilled in me a love of Italy. He was a chaplain in the war [World War II] and entered Rome as the city was being liberated. He helped conduct the first service held at Rome's synagogue since the war began [June, 1944].

Voice & Herald: So your father was a rabbi?

Kertzer: Yes. He became director of inter-religious affairs for the American Jewish Committee. He also wrote books. His book, *What is a Jew?* sold more than 400,000

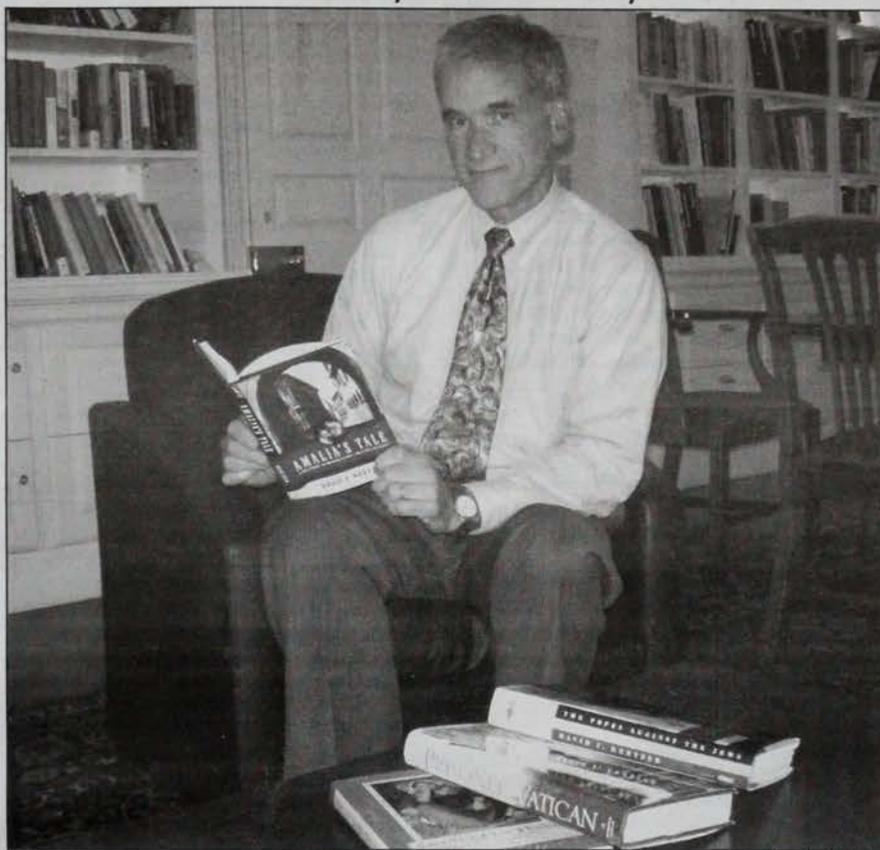


Photo by Mary Korr

DAVID I. KERTZER in his office at Brown University, where he is provost, with some of his titles.

copies – many more than any one of my own books!

Voice & Herald: *Amalia* is an accidental tale, in that you found this story by happenstance in an archive. What is it like working in these archives and could you describe some of them? I have the image of old, dusty rooms with manuscripts piled helter-skelter.

Kertzer: Well, they vary. Some of the archives contain old ledgers and record books. Others are medical files; and I can tell you the handwriting of doctors back then was as bad as it is today. Many documents

are piled up on long tables and haven't been touched in a century. The foundling home archives

In these archives I'm doing research but I'm also a detective. After I wrote *Edgardo Mortara*, I was looking for another true story to write about.

Voice & Herald: In this book of almost 200 pages, the reader finds a world he or she may not remember fully from European history classes, yet it is a modern world in the sense of social unrest, class struggles, political machinations, gender and economic inequalities, with decisions rendered by a Supreme Court. Do you see parallels today?

“When the world of the rich collides with that of the poor, it is rarely the rich who suffer.”

David Kertzer

are now in a hospital in Bologna that was an asylum, named for one of the doctors who was featured in the case. I also managed to gain access to old medical records from the syphilitic clinic of Amalia's day.

Books by David I. Kertzer

- Amalia's Tale*
- Prisoner of the Vatican*
- The Popes against the Jews*
- The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara*
- Politics and Symbols*
- Sacrificed for Honor*
- Ritual, Politics and Power*
- Comrades and Christians*

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The Jewish Voice & Herald (ISSN number 1539-2104, USPS #465-710) is printed bi-weekly, except in July when it is printed once a month.

All submitted content becomes the property of The Jewish Voice & Herald. Reservations and opinions contained in these pages are published as a service to the community and do not necessarily represent the views of The Jewish Voice & Herald, or its publisher, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

Copy Deadlines: All news releases, photographs, etc. must be received on the Thursday two weeks prior to publication. Submissions may be sent to: voiceherald@jfri.org

Published by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island
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Advertising: The Jewish Voice & Herald does not accept advertisements for pork or shellfish, or attest to the kosher of any product.

Business Committee:

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Periodicals postage paid at Providence, RI

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:
Jewish Federation of RI, 130 Sessions Street, Providence, RI 02906

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FROM THE
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The future of newspapers

RECENTLY, I sat down to have coffee with M. Charles Bakst who, until his retirement in September, had been the veteran political columnist at *The Providence Journal*.

The statewide newspaper has fallen on hard economic times. As a result of falling revenues of its parent company, Rhode Island's largest daily newspaper has stopped printing its local sections and cut back severely on its local writing and editing staff.

We live in a time when both newspaper readership and revenues have steeply declined precipitously. As the current economic crisis deepens, those trends will no doubt accelerate.

Bakst, a keen observer as ever, talked about the importance of niche community newspapers, such as *The Voice & Herald*, to focus on local reporting — providing our readers with information that they cannot get anywhere else.

A few days later, I went to a celebration of the first 30 years of *The Providence Phoenix* at Lupo's, two institutions that provide a cultural yardstick for the city's renaissance in the last three decades. The growth and success of the alternative press during the last four decades was always very much about technological change — the move from linotype to offset printing, abetted by the rapid changes in computer software and hardware.

Technological change still rules. Today, the younger generation reads everything online first; e-mail is passé, and Facebook is the preferred method of conversation. The latest competitive market for web developers is high schools.

The question — one that the Editorial Board and the Business Committee of *The Voice & Herald* regularly wrestle with is this: Given the dour economic climate, coupled with changes in reading habits, how will a local Jewish community newspaper continue to thrive?

The Voice & Herald is mailed for free to Jewish households throughout Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts. The good news, in terms of market penetration, is that we reach about 95 percent of the Jewish population, estimated to be 23,500, in our area of distribution.

We are also distributed for free at more than 80 locations — libraries, pharmacies, bookstores, supermarkets, bakeries, delis, temples and community centers. We are mailed to all of Rhode Island's legislators.

See NEWSPAPERS, Page 14

IT SEEMS TO ME How high the wall between church and state?

*Now a private citizen,
I am exercising my
freedom of speech*

FOR THE PAST several years my wife Sandy and I have chosen to stay home on New Year's Eve; instead of wearing ourselves out during an evening of frenetic and expensive activity, we have been welcoming the New Year by joining friends for an ample and leisurely noonish brunch on January 1.

On New Year's Day, 2007, just six months before my retirement, fortified with a couple of celebratory glasses of champagne, I found myself venting my spleen at what I considered to be the mounting evils of the Bush administration.



Rabbi Jim Rosenberg

A member of my synagogue seemed to be both surprised and pleased to see me so worked up over a number of political issues. "How come you never talk like this in your sermons?" he asked. "Why don't you ever write about these matters in our temple bulletin?"

Scarcely pausing to catch my breath, I blurted out, "You know, there is such a thing as the First Amendment to our Constitution; and the First Amendment enshrines the notion of separation of church and state. I certainly don't want to jeopardize our temple's tax-free status."

It seems to me that the wall between church and state "must be kept high and impregnable," to echo the words of Justice Hugo Black in his decision in the 1947 case of *Everson v. Board of Education*.

I have come to understand that this metaphor of the wall of separation is by no means an invention of 20th-century jurists; the language goes all the way back to our third president, Thomas Jefferson, who in 1802 wrote in a letter to the Danbury Baptist Association: "...I

contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' [initial clauses of First Amendment] thus building a wall of separation between Church & State."

The Religious Action Center in Washington has from time to time issued practical guidance as to how to interpret our First Amendment. With an eye to the upcoming November elections, the Religious Action Center recently sent out an e-mail to Reform rabbis reminding us that: "As a general rule, synagogues and clergy, acting in an official capacity, MAY NOT engage in activities on behalf of, or in opposition to, any particular party or candidate for office, at any level of government. You must remain non-partisan; even the perceived appearance of partisanship can result in your 501(c)3 status being revoked."

The e-mail includes among the several specific DO NOTS: "Temples

"For nearly 40 years as a congregational rabbi, I have sought to adhere to both the letter and the spirit of these laws [enshrining the separation of church and state]."

and clergy acting in an official capacity may not endorse candidates; for clergy, that extends to messages from the pulpit and bulletin articles."

In addition, it said: "Religious organizations are not permitted to endorse their own members running for any office either expressly or by implication."

Over nearly 40 years as a congregational rabbi, I have sought to adhere to both the letter and the spirit of these laws. Thus, whenever a Temple Habonim member running for local or statewide office has sought my endorsement, I have politely but firmly said, "Sorry, I can't."

In my sermons and bulletin articles I have stuck to the issues, not the candidates. I will confess that some weeks before the 2006 congressional elections, I did push the envelope in my *Kol Nidre*

sermon by suggesting that many officials in Washington resembled those sleazy characters, Tom and Daisy Buchanan, in F. Scott Fitzgerald's Jazz Age classic, *The Great Gatsby*: "They were careless people, Tom and Daisy — they smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money or their vast carelessness or whatever it was that kept them together, and let other people clean up the mess they had made..." I wondered out loud how many of the denizens of D.C. might fit this description.

Given my longstanding support for the principle of the separation of church and state, it is only fair to ask how I can possibly justify my joining a partisan national organization, Rabbis for Obama. In brief, I am acting as a private citizen, not as rabbi emeritus of Temple Habonim. My name appears on their membership list as Rabbi James B. Rosenberg, Providence, R.I.

I have added my voice to those of hundreds of my colleagues because members of the McCain campaign have tried

to smear Senator Barack Obama as an alien, an outsider, not one of us "Americans," one who "pals around with terrorists." I consider such hate speech odious, dangerous, and ultimately anti-American.

Furthermore, I consider it detestable that the Republican Jewish Coalition distorts Obama's record and labels him "reckless on Israel."

I can assure you that almost 600 rabbis would not endorse Obama if we considered him to be hostile to the Jewish state.

Finally, I have joined Rabbis for Obama even though I am a staunch supporter of the principle of church-state separation because I am also a staunch supporter of that clause in the First Amendment, the one immediately following those guaranteeing freedom of religion, which emphatically insists that Congress shall make no law "abridging the freedom of speech." A major challenge of my rabbinic has been to hold these values of freedom of speech and church-state separation in creative tension.

Rabbi James Rosenberg can be reached at rabbimeritus@templehabonim.org

Letter to the Editor Taxes, you and me, Obama and McCain

YOU get up in the morning and turn on the light (electricity taxes).

Take a shower (water taxes, sales tax on your shampoo and soap).

Dress for the day and eat your breakfast (agricultural subsidies).

You get in your car to drive to work (registration and licensing, vehicle taxes, gasoline taxes, fees to dispose of the old tires and oil).

You pull out onto the roadways (transportation taxes).

At work your employer pays business taxes, federal and state.

You eat a quick sandwich at the café around the corner. They, too, are paying business taxes and fees, on

almost every aspect of their business, which they pass on to you in the price of the sandwich. There is also that extra sales tax, if you eat in the café.

After a long day, you finally arrive home (property taxes). You grab a beer (liquor taxes) and sit down to watch the news (cable taxes).

You call your children (telephone taxes). After dinner you sit down to pay the bills and look at your paycheck (Social Security taxes, federal and state income taxes, Medicare taxes).

Sen. Barack Obama only wants to take a scalpel to the budget. First of all, that's a very small instrument, when an axe is more appropriate. But, more troubling,

is that it's simply code for redistributing wealth from successful, wage earners to the victimized poor and minorities. It's code for keeping the social welfare programs in place and expanding them at the growing expense to all taxpayers.

Sen. John McCain, on the other hand, is proposing an across-the-board spending cut on federal government; putting the entrenched bureaucracy on a diet. It will force the bureaucracy to cut waste, duplication and inefficiency. It's a step of fiscal sanity our government could use.

Patricia Morgan
West Warwick

FROM THE OLD OLIVETTI

Election is not a choice between good and evil

Rumors and innuendoes serve no useful purpose in political debate

IN A FEW DAYS we will have a choice between young and old; Keynesian trickle up, and supply side/trickle down; between a Harvard Law Magna Cum Laude and a Naval Academy legacy who graduated 894th out of a class of 899. One wants to discontinue the war in Iraq, the other wants to fight on (and on and on) until victory.



Josh Stein

Both men are honorable at their cores; this is not a Zoroastrian contest

between good and evil; each has erred and is willing to admit it.

We have the opportunity, 45 years after Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, to put a black man in the White House.

Just think of that. In August 1963, Dr. King referred to Negroes as victims of the unspeakable horrors of police

brutality, their bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, not being able to gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. Their basic mobility could be only from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. Their children were stripped of their selfhood and robbed of their dignity by signs stating "For Whites Only." "We will not be satisfied," he thundered magisterially, "until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."

That time is almost here. America now treats its African-American citizens with the dignity they deserve. Hillary Clinton's supporters were convinced that it was a woman's turn to be president, and they were almost right. The representative of the other oppressed group won the day this time. There will be a woman president elected; it is a consummation devoutly to be wished - but apparently it's the black man's turn first. I can't explain it; I don't justify it, but it is. We cannot turn away from the opportunity to

elevate America, to make King's dream and ours, a reality.

Anticipating losing, McCain and his running mate Sarah Palin or their surrogates have begun to hurl charges at Obama. "He's a Socialist!" In fact, he's not, nor is it illegal. I've just checked the Constitution. "He's a Muslim!" In fact, he's not, and it's not illegal. I've just checked the Constitution, again. "He

heartfelt thanks for his life and career. And then, we'd get Sarah Palin. She wasn't McCain's first choice; Lieberman was, but the party bosses reined in their maverick and so he picked Palin, a woman with whom he'd had a total of three hours of conversation. When he was forced to give in and accept the inevitable "he was furious," according to one of his advisors, as quoted in the October 27 *New Yorker*. "He was pissed. It wasn't what he wanted." It's not what any reasonable person wants - just ask conservative columnists David Brooks, Charles Krauthammer and

George Will, all of whom have rejected her as presidential. And yet if the old man wins and dies, she's who we get.

McCain suffers from Stockholm Syndrome. In 1973, hostages taken in an aborted bank robbery, held captive for six days, actually tried to help the robbers when the police finally broke in and afterwards refused to testify against them. Back in 2000, McCain was running for the Republican Party's nomination against Governor George Bush. After losing badly

in Iowa, he beat him in New Hampshire and Karl Rove's gloves came off. The people of South Carolina were bombarded with innuendo and outright lies that McCain had fathered an illegitimate black baby. Illogically enough, he was simultaneously branded a "fag" in flyers sent to churches. In South Carolina, remember! He went down to defeat then, and what is he doing now? Adopting the techniques of his captors. Lies and innuendoes, the same sort of thing that cost him 2000. A McCain rally in North Carolina began with this introduction - not by the candidate himself - "Liberals hate real Americans who work and accomplish and achieve and believe in God."

According to Gail Collins in *The New York Times*, people in Ohio were told that Obama didn't go to Hawaii to be with his ailing grandmother but to destroy evidence that he's not really an American citizen. It's a pity; McCain's not a bad man; he's just a man behaving badly. Desperation will do that to some people.

Joshua Stein is a professor of history at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. He can be reached at jstein@rwu.edu.

"We cannot turn away from the opportunity to elevate America, to make King's dream and ours, a reality."

attended Jeremiah Wright's church for 20+ years!" Yes, that's true, but it's neither illegal nor relevant. McCain deserted his wife for his paramour 20 years ago. It doesn't matter.

What matters is the approach to the economy; what matters is inspiring hope in a forlorn nation.

John McCain, for all his service to the nation, is of the past; he would have made a terrific candidate in 2000, but of the four candidates running, surely it will be he to whom America first tearfully bids

Letters to the Editor

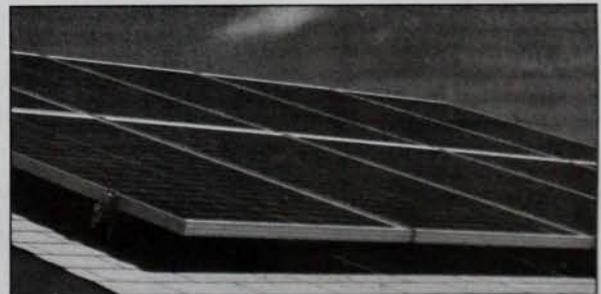
Voice & Herald, Oct. 17, "Breast cancer survivor shares her story") on cancer risks, the breast cancer genes, and recommendations for gene carriers educates our community, especially Ashkenazi women, about the critical importance of genetic screening for breast and ovarian cancer. Thank you for the outstanding coverage of the NCJW and Hadassah breast cancer symposium.

Maxine Richman
Barrington

Long-term investment - and returns

IN your most recent issue of *The Voice & Herald* there appeared a reader's response to an article written by Richard Asinof advocating a residential solar heating system. The writer estimated that it would take 16 years to pay back one's investment in a solar unit. However, I have to take issue with his conclusion that it is "no bargain."

I am reminded of the traditional story of a man walking along a road who notices a very old man planting a carob tree. The young man laughs at the old one saying, "You



will surely be long dead before that tree has fruit."

The old man smiled and replied, "Yes, but my grandchildren will enjoy it."

In our discussions of the costs and benefits of decisions regarding our energy needs, I would hope we all can be more like that old man, and make decisions which will be best for our grandchildren and great-

grandchildren, instead of our own short term interests.

Rob Cable
Cranston

Editor's Note: In Asinof's article, the average savings for installing three items - solar hot water collectors, photovoltaic panels, and rain barrels - for each homeowner was \$3,100 a year. The predicted cost was \$25,000, for a payback of a little more than eight years.

Sickened by the violent Akko clash

I JUST FINISHED reading the article about the rioting in Akko (*The Voice & Herald*, Oct. 17, "Akko riots: a sign of Arab-Jewish Troubles") and I am sickened by the blatant violation of *Yom Kippur* that touched off this violent clash.

An Israeli Arab, unless he or she is a convert to Judaism, is under no obligation to observe the restrictions of *Yom Kippur*, and therefore has every right to listen to music while driving his car in his own neighborhood.

As we proudly assert, Israel is a democracy, not a theocracy. It is a painful realization that the desecrators of this most holy of days in the Jewish calendar were those Jews who went out of their way to leave their homes late on *Kol Nidre* evening in order to drag this driver from his car and beat him.

Would it have been so hard to ignore the few seconds of music as the car passed by? Was it beyond anyone's imagination to wave the driver down and kindly remind him of the significance of the day?

David Wasser
Cranston

It's a matter of principal

IN THE OCT. 17 issue (*The Voice & Herald*, "A Very Frank Barney Frank") there is a spelling mistake in one of the words in the box titled: "Highlight of the rescue plan."

It said "principle" but should have said "principal" which refers to the dollar amount balance of a loan.

Besides that, if one studies the history of the problem, Barney did not give the exact truth/facts of this matter.

Melvin N. Lash
Newport

Kosher carelessness

I REALLY do enjoy *The Voice & Herald*, but I am appalled and embarrassed by your publishing of a flagrantly non-kosher recipe, "Chicken with Olives, Tomatoes & Feta" in the Oct. 17 issue. Such carelessness makes a bad impression.

Varda Lev
Providence

Excellent story

KUDOS to Senior Contributor Mary Korr for her excellent in-depth article (*The*

As economic crisis deepens, we need to focus on domestic violence

Domestic violence: an American epidemic we don't want to talk about

BY LORIBETH WEINSTEIN
Special To The Voice & Herald

WASHINGTON (JTA)

—As we enter the final stretch before this historic election, the economy and the war in Iraq are at the forefront of our minds, and for good reason.

The seriousness of these issues for all Americans cannot be overstated, but I'd like to take a moment to focus on those for whom our current crisis literally will hit too close to home. October is more than just the month before November: It's also Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Domestic violence is the American epidemic we don't want to talk about, hear about or know about. But in my 30 years as an advocate for women and children, I've never been more concerned about the victims of domestic violence than I am right now. Families already buckling under the weight of domestic violence in the best of

times can collapse in times of economic downturn and war.

As Jews, we don't get to take a vacation from *tikkun olam* and *tzedakah* because we find an issue disturbing or because something is affecting our bottom line. We are commanded to repair the world, to help those less fortunate, because it's the right thing to do. And when our pocketbooks fail us, we still have our conscience and our voice.

If we don't focus our attention on vulnerable families now—if we don't encourage our leaders and future president to do the same—we very likely will see increases in the already too costly human price of this national scourge.

The statistics are staggering for this equal-opportunity destroyer. One in four U.S. women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime; one in six will be the victim of an attempted or actual rape; one in 12 will be stalked. Nearly 5.3 million acts of intimate-partner violence occur each year among U.S. women aged 18 and older, resulting in 2 million injuries

and nearly 1,300 deaths.

A poor economic prognosis matters in a uniquely grave way to women and children in families where abuse happens.

VIEWPOINT

According to a 2004 study by the National Institute of Justice, women whose male partners experienced two or more periods

"The statistics are staggering for this equal-opportunity destroyer. One in four U.S. women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime."

of unemployment over the five-year course of the study were three times more likely to be abused.

A spike in cases will be devastating for a system where supply is already not keeping up with demand: According to the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services, 7,707 requests for services went unmet due to shortage of funds and staff in one 24-hour period.

Let's wake up to what is really going on in families of all races, religions and economic levels behind the closed doors of our apartments and starter homes, mansions and military bases.

The recent tragic stabbing death of 29-year-old Sgt. Christina E. Smith was the third off-post domestic violence murder of a Fort Bragg service-woman in four months. Sgt.

Richard Smith, 26, was charged, along with a friend, with first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder of his wife. A local police spokesperson responded: "No, gosh, not another one."

The war matters enormously to our leaders, to our citizens, and to the parents and spouses of soldiers who pay the ultimate sacrifice. But it also matters to families of military women like Christina E. Smith. Families already under strain become another, rarely talked about, casualty.

So we've got to keep doing what we know makes a difference, such as running domestic violence prevention programs

that model and teach healthy relationships for teens, and we need to maintain partnerships aimed at ensuring full funding of the Violence Against Women Act and Family Violence Prevention and Services Act and appropriate funding of the Victims of Crime Act, or VOCA.

Only two years ago, the Lifetime Women's Pulse Poll, conducted by Roper Poll, revealed the degree to which domestic violence informed the voting decisions of women and men over 18. Ninety-seven percent felt that the issue of domestic violence and sexual assault against women and girls was important and would impact who they voted for in the election.

Jewish Americans are compassionate and the more we know about an issue, the more we care about an issue. Let's come together as one voice and let our leaders know that in the best and worst of times we are not going to let domestic violence continue. That we hold them, and ourselves, accountable for making it stop.

Loribeth Weinstein is the executive director of Jewish Women International.

NOW BATTING

The producer of Sarah Silverman's video is a @#\$\$%*!

Why we need to save a Yiddish expletive

Editor's Note: This column contains adult content that may not be suitable for readers of all ages.

A FEW DAYS AGO, I received an e-mail message purporting how Mel Brooks, the comedian, is organizing a movement,



Alan Zuckerman

just don't do the job.

Schmuck, in German, means jewelry. In the Americanized Yiddish of a previous generation, it has a richer meaning, so let me try to help those who don't know this very useful word. Fool is too bland, and anyway, that's a *shlemiel* (which should not be confused with a *shlim-mazzel*, but that's a digression).

The best formal definition that I can come up with is:

an expletive derived from the Yiddish for the male organ, implying a person exhibiting stupidity and outrageousness gone wild in a consistent manner, if only for a moment.

That's why usage matters so much here. It's used in cries like, "What a!" "Boy, is he a!" (note that it's never used about a woman), and even "Boy, was I a!" (I am using three dots, because my guess is that this newspaper, published as it is by Rhode Island, is too serious a venue for the word.)

Why have I departed from my usual serious comments to address this issue? A lot of the activities of the current presidential campaign can only have been produced by such people.

In my opinion, it certainly characterizes the producer of the Sarah Silverman video, the one that urges young Jews to go to Florida to convince their grandparents to vote for Obama. Millions of people have viewed it, and media coverage has been astounding. If you haven't seen it, you are an unusual American Jew.

In the video, Silverman, another comedian playing

at being serious, talks to the camera while flanked by an African-American man and elderly woman, presumably her grandmother, or at least someone's Jewish grandmother.

Following her usual format, Silverman makes wild and offensive comments; some of them are about blacks (and eventually the man walks out) but most are about Jews (but her "nanna" or "bubbie" sits still).

Silverman's words demean

"We should support Mel Brooks. We need the word."

elderly Jews, forget her elders past support for Democratic candidates, directly suggest that they are racist, and urge the Jewish grandchildren to save their grandparents and with them the American Jewish community.

Jackie Mason saw the video and made his own in response. Taking it seriously, he told his peers to vote their conscience—not funny, but apposite.

I don't like Sarah Silverman's video. It's not her humor. Sometimes, I find her very funny. It's not even the politics.

The video reeks of ignorance, condescension, and *chutzpah*.

After viewing the video, I fired off an e-mail to the producer. In our give and take, I noted that there was no evidence to support his assumption that elderly Jews will not support Obama and his implicit claim that they are racists.

Furthermore, I added, because these offensive views are packaged into a video and spread around the world, he

should apologize to these Jewish grandparents.

His response tells us that the s-word applies: "As for an apology... come election day, if the Jewish community provides the margin for McCain, we will owe the country and the world an apology."

A DEEPER PROBLEM

Where to start? Should I note that recent polls are split between the claim that elderly Jews are more likely to support Obama than all other Jews and the observation that they are at least as likely to support the Democratic candidate as other Jews?

No. These polls are not worth much, even if they are better than the silliness that provided

the excuse for the video.

Should I add that young voters are notorious for having especially low levels of turnout, and there is no reason to think that young Jews are any different from their peers?

All told, the odds are that Silverman, her producer, and their peers are less likely to vote for Obama than their grandparents. No, that's not the point, because it's not only about the accuracy of the claims.

The problem is deeper. The video simply assumes that unless the benighted grandparents learn from their wise grandchildren, the world will blame the Jews. They will be the cause of a new wave of anti-Semitism.

On a recent "CBS Sunday Morning," Sarah Silverman admitted that she made the video for the publicity, so I guess that I should let her off the hook (and the word does not apply to women).

The producer told me that he did it to save the Jewish community. Imagine that: this young Jew believes that if Jews don't support Obama in sufficient numbers and that if Obama loses, the world will blame the Jews. How's that for stupidity

Dear Friends,

Our community, our nation and the world are experiencing some of the most challenging economic conditions of our lives. In these uncertain times we write to reassure you that—as always—the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island is committed to keeping our Jewish community strong in every way.



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As the central Jewish organization of Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts, we remain steadfast in our devotion to caring for those who are in need. Some of you may, for the first time, find yourselves in the unexpected position of turning to the community for help. Whether you need help with heating bills, hot meals, housing or other support, do not hesitate to turn to us or our partner agencies—particularly AgeWell RI, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Senior Agency and the Jewish Community Center—if there is any way we can provide a hand. Our community's first point of contact is **Beth Laramee**, a community Information Specialist. Beth can be reached at **401.223.2335** or **866.524.3935**. All inquiries are confidential.

We will continue with our work to strengthen our community's commitment to Jewish life, in our belief that no family should be unable to participate for financial reasons. Please let us know if your family's involvement in your synagogue, day school or camp is at risk, so we can try to help.

At the same time, as the Jewish community's central fundraising and planning organization, we remain committed to the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island Annual Campaign. We hope that those of you who are able will give even more generously to aid members of our community who are struggling now. Our annual campaign is called *Hineni* (Here I Am) for good reason: All of us who can do so need to step forward now and make our presence felt.

As a Jewish community, we are all in this together. Whether you need help or can offer it, let us remain strong in our commitment to one another.

Doris Feinberg
President

Stephen R. Silberfarb
Executive Vice President & CEO

I am proud to be a volunteer in the Jewish community

Missions to Ethiopia, Israel and Poland have enabled me to meet Jews around the world

By BONNIE STEINBERG JENNIS
Special To The Voice & Herald

HINENI. I am here because of those who helped my family thrive in America. I volunteer for Jewish Federation of Rhode Island to support those who need help now, and those who have yet to come.

I have been privileged to have served as the campaign chair of the JFRI's Women's Alliance for the past two years. On missions to Ethiopia, Poland and Israel, I have met Jews throughout the world who are part of our family. They invariably turn out to be closer than I could have imagined.

My mother died when I was nine years old, so I relied on friends and relatives to support me and guide me in growing up. My best friend's mother was my hometown surrogate. This summer, my guide through Poland, who survived the Holocaust because of multiple surrogate mothers, turned out to be the aunt of that same best friend from childhood.



BONNIE STEINBERG JENNIS inspects remains of Kassam rockets that have been fired into Sderot from Gaza. More than 5,000 rockets were launched into that area during the past few years. Jennis, along with fellow Rhode Islanders, was on a mission to Poland and Israel.

On last year's mission, I helped bring our brothers and sisters out of Ethiopia, enabling them to go home to Israel. While there are still gaps to close, this community is working very hard to ensure a bright future for their children, and we are helping with our donations.

But it is here at home that my

volunteer work is most apparent to me. When I see young

"I volunteer for the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island to support those who need help now, and those who have yet to come."

Jewish children gathering at a PJ Library story hour, or when I see

Jewish seniors at a kosher meal site, I am proud to volunteer for an organization that enables cradle to grave care for our entire Jewish family. I am proud to be here. *Hineni*.

Bonnie Steinberg Jennis is the Women's Alliance Vice President for Campaign.

Hineni
הנני
Here I am.

Are you 70^{1/2} or older?
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Despite current economic conditions, there is good news for community-minded philanthropists. Congress has extended the deadline for the Charitable IRA provision through 2009.

This provision allows individuals 70^{1/2} or older to distribute up to \$100,000 from an IRA directly to a charity. Your distribution can be used to contribute to JFRI's annual campaign or to establish a restricted endowment fund. This fund will support whatever charities you like--forever.

Whether you are passionate about world Jewry or Jewish causes here at home, you have the opportunity to make a lasting investment in the community you love. No other gift is as strategic or impactful as a gift to the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. Our experienced philanthropy team understands where the need is greatest and stands ready to help you create the charitable vehicle that most appropriately fits your goals.

To start planning your gift for 2008, call **Bradley Laye, Chief Philanthropy Officer** at 401.421.4111 x173

Hineni
הנני
Here I am.

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The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

FESTIVAL: The region's biggest Jewish cultural event

From Page 1

others in the audience. Films are introduced and there's often a discussion led by local experts. Filmmakers tell Rubin that their films are received differently at Jewish film festivals. People laugh, and they understand Yiddish expressions, she says.

The breadth of films at this year's festival could not be wider. Comedy, drama, gripping documentaries, and this year's special focus on Jewish Gen X filmmakers coming of age as artists

These young filmmakers offer a new generation's exploration of age-old issues, from the Holocaust, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and what it means to be Jewish in a non-Jewish world, Rubin writes about the festival.

In "Cycles" (New England Premier, France/Germany/Switzerland, 2008), a dramatic comedy about life's passages and family dynamics set in Paris, the 28-year-old filmmaker is part of a younger generation that looks at larger issues in terms of the individual, Rubin tells *The Voice & Herald*.

This more personal perspective also extends to films exploring more global issues, such as the Holocaust, Rubin observes. In "Bon-Papa, A Man Under German Occupation," (France, 2007), young director Leila Ferault uncovers her own family's obscure history of her non-Jewish paternal grandfather, part of the

Vichy regime. Rubin says that in the film, Ferault addresses the question: "What does it mean to have had that part of my heritage?"

FEATURED FILMS

The gala opening celebration, on Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Norton's Woods Conference Center in Cambridge, Mass., features the New England premiere of the new, award-winning comedy, "The Beetle." Director Yishai Orian's wife, pregnant with their first child, insists he scrap his beloved VW Beetle for a safe family car.

Yishai's comic struggles with his "inner Peter Pan" take him to Jordan in a last ditch effort to salvage the relic before his child arrives. Along the way, former owners of his Beetle tell remarkable life sto-



CYCLES is the Closing Night Film, screening in its New England Premier on Sunday, Nov. 16, at 7:45 p.m. at the MFA.

ries involving the car. Leading a discussion of the film will be Sol Gittleman, popular Tufts University Professor and former provost.

Other Israeli-made films include: "Rabin-Peres: Every-

family and exposes prejudices and stereotypes on both sides of the country's Jewish-Arab divide.

Through screening more contemporary Israeli films, Americans are gaining a fuller sense of what life in Israel is like, Rubin says.

Opening night, on Nov. 5 at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, features "The Deal,"

(USA/Canada, 2007). Actor William H. Macy shows his

ing Israel"; and "Strangers."

Following last year's success of screening the popular Israeli television series, "In Treatment," this year's festival includes episodes of "Arab Labor," a prime-time Israeli comedy, starring award-winning actor Salim Daw (Avanti Popolo, "James' Journey to Jerusalem") and actress Clara Khoury ("Syrian Bride"). "Arab Labor" is the first ever TV series to feature an Arab Israeli

leading man and screenwriter chops in this riotous Hollywood send-up that also includes Meg Ryan, Jason Ritter and Elliott Gould, as an unforgettable Hollywood rabbi.

Less familiar films are often treasures, Rubin advises. Among the North American premieres is "The Gift to Stalin," (Kazakhstan/Russian/Israel/Poland, 2008), a tug-at-your-heartstrings drama set in 1949 Stalin-era Kazakhstan.

A young Jewish boy is rescued by a brash but soulful Kazakh railroad worker and an extended family of outcasts who love and protect him. The vast expanse of the Kazakh landscape is dazzling.

JEWISH CULTURAL EVENT

Over the years, the festival has expanded and it is now New England's largest Jewish cultural event, with last year's attendance at 13,500. There is more collaboration with other festivals and there is also more year-round programming, including the Martha's Vineyard festival during the summer.

The "Encores" program, held during the year, repeats many audience favorites, and allows people a chance to see films they missed during the festival, Rubin says.

For further information, film schedules, descriptions, and tickets, visit www.bjff.org.

Tickets may be ordered at www.ticketweb.com, or (866) 468-7619.

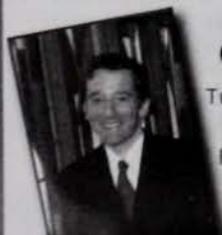
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Sara Rubin, executive director
Boston Jewish Film Festival

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MARCH: Protesters seek action against alleged brothels operating as spas

From Page 1

through downtown Providence to focus awareness on the issue.

Escorted by two policemen on motorcycles, the march wended its way to three "alleged" brothels masquerading as spas and stopped in front of each to address any victims who might be inside.

Melanie Shapiro, a RICAHT member, tilted her microphone attached to a portable amp as she looked up to the fourth floor of one building and led the group of about 30 in the cry: "Blind eyes, no more..."

The silence from above spoke louder than the voices below.

Two years ago, the Down Town Spa in this building on Custom House Street was closed by a sweeping federal crackdown on a human trafficking ring that stretched across the Northeast from Rhode Island to Washington, D.C., according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

The federal investigation uncovered a vast network of Korean-owned brothels posing as massage parlors, health spas and acupuncture clinics. More than 30 people were arrested and charged, including the manager of Down Town Spa.

On Oct. 25, a sign at the entrance to the building read Down Town Acupressure.

One member of RICAHT spoke of the "Korean taxis" seen on the streets here that transport their human cargo from city to city.

NCJW IMPETUS

RICAHT had its genesis in a forum on human trafficking held by the Rhode Island chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) and the office of Providence Mayor David Cicilline two years ago.

In that period, legislation has passed to stiffen penalties for human and sex trafficking, yet there still remains gaps in the anti-prostitution laws in Rhode Island.

What takes place indoors and



Photo by Mary Korn

MARCHERS WIND THEIR WAY through Providence to focus attention on the growing numbers of alleged brothels in the state.

off the streets between consenting adults is not a criminal offense in the state. As a result, the number of brothels has expanded, from perhaps a dozen to 30, according to the coalition's research.

"The word has gone out that

Rhode Island is the place to come and open up a brothel. There are no teeth in the law. Providence is becoming the sex capital of the Northeast," said University of Rhode Island Professor Donna Hughes, a leading international researcher and expert on human and sex trafficking.

She and others spoke before the march, at a meeting held at Grace Church on Matthewson Street. It was tough talk, with no words minced.

"There has been no Rhode

Island federal prosecution of cases of human trafficking," Hughes said. "One of only three states. I ask U.S. Attorney Corrente, why?"

"There have been no prosecutions in the state. I ask Attorney General Lynch, who helped

who sits on the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and who is a former R.I. attorney general, to throw his support behind the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Act, which has passed in the House of Representatives but is stalled in

the Senate. It would create a new set of criminal statutes which will make the prosecution of sex-trafficking offenses easier and more efficient.

She said what is needed is a victim-centered approach in which the victim is provided the services she needs and the perpetrators are prosecuted, similar to the domestic violence approach that has evolved in the last 25 years.

Laura Pisatura, a former prosecuting attorney and now director of advocacy and legal

services at Day One, the sexual assault and trauma resource center in the state, said victims are further victimized by the criminal justice system. Day One is working with victims of sex trafficking through police departments and hospitals and runs a 24-hour helpline.

"There is a lack of a victim-centered approach to sex trafficking and prostitution," Pisatura said. "I know that firsthand. It is difficult for a victim to stand up against her abuser. We need to stop treating the victims as criminals."

Hughes said women who agree to testify are brutalized by these trials, and often crack down under questioning or recant.

THE 'INVISIBLE PIMP'

Felicia Delgado is an outreach worker on the streets, trying to help "commercial sex workers." She works for a

See TRAFFICKING, Page 11

"The word has gone out that Rhode Island is the place to come and open a brothel."

Donna Hughes, URI professor

draft anti-trafficking legislation more than a year ago, why?"

A 2008 report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows a paltry number of cases prosecuted nationwide, about 400, with success in about 113 for 2007.

Hughes urged those present to call Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse,



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THE R.I. COALITION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING is asking top law enforcement officials why there have been no prosecutions for human trafficking in Rhode Island.

TRAFFICKING: Rhode Island – the place to come to open a brothel

From Page 10

program called R.E.N.E.W. in Central Falls and Pawtucket, a program administered by the Pawtucket Citizens Development Corporation, which works in cooperation with the two police departments.

Delgado said some of the women are on the streets "supplementing their income because of cuts in state aid just to feed their children. I call that an invisible pimp – the system that cuts her income and forces her into the street."

She also spoke about prostitution and trafficking invading elderly high rises. "They

allow their apartments to be used as a brothel to supplement their income," she said. "Today, by marching, we are fighting for the voice that can't fight. We are marching for the voice that cannot be heard but is still crying."

Delgado knows well that voice; it is an inner one. She is a former streetwalker.

For more information on RICAHT, go to www.riagainstrafficking.org

Mary Korr can be reached at mkorr@verizon.net.

Kollel conference to focus on women's issues

Theme is teaching Jewish values, building self-esteem

BY PROVIDENCE KOLLEL STAFF
 Special to The Voice & Herald

PROVIDENCE - On Nov. 16, the women's division of the Providence Community Kollel will sponsor at the JCC the third annual Southern New England Conference for Jewish Women. The event will include presentations on teaching Jewish values to our pre-schoolers, building self-esteem in our children, a historical analysis of Chanukah, Judaism's view of miracles and more.

Keynote speaker Shifra Rabenstein, of Baltimore, Maryland, will share her message for living a positive, active and engaged life. With her husband Rabbi Yehoshua Rabenstein, she focused her time on building community and strengthening Jewish values. When



Photo courtesy of Providence Kollel
KEYNOTE SPEAKER, SHIFRA RABENSTEIN, brings message of hope and inspiration

she was pregnant with their third child, her husband suffered traumatic brain injuries in a bus accident. The conference is at the JCC on Nov. 16 from 10

a.m.- 2 p.m. A gourmet lunch will be served. For more information or to register for the event, call 273-3923.

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AS WE GROW OLDER

Changes in attitude, changes in diet, adjusting to loss

To all the complainers, I say: no alternative

IT DOES NOT seem fair that we are asked to make demanding adjustments at the stage in life when adjustments are most difficult. New cars are supposedly easier to operate and have great new



Tema Gouse

adjustments and that may be fine if you still have the flexibility of youth.

The navigator in your car is supposed to assure that you will never get lost. And it

does, in fact, serve that function for all drivers who are not yet receiving Social Security. My contemporaries silently bemoan the cost of that mechanism and wish they could make sense out of the instructions. That is just one example of unfair demands made of the ageing population.

There are multiple new gadgets and other items that tax the diminishing gray matter of seniors. Roads have detours that hopelessly strand newcomers to an area and really intimidate the older driver, particularly when the sun begins to fade.

Some restaurants kindly adjust menus to diners who suffer celiac or lactose intolerance but do nothing to the menu to accommodate fat levels, richness or size of entrees that might assure that Grandma or Grandpa will not be up all night with gastric problems.

I know; we are supposed to be adults in charge of our own behavior. But the calendar has deprived us of so many pleasures all ready that it very difficult to resist chocolate cake.

Some may deny it but we all have vanities. For some it is their appearance. For others, their vanity centers around their intellectual or professional achievements or how much money they have accumulated.

The vanity of some seniors revolves around the achievements of their children – or other members of their families. And that pride is deserved but is sometimes flaunted to

the less fortunate. And, if you have lived long enough you should adjust to the enjoyment of your blessings and be sensitive to not offend others.

But now it is necessary to address the emotional adjustments that are often less obvious to others.

It is astonishing how often we witness the insensitivity of others. They can be haughty or boastful. They make cruel jokes about people who are less capable of retaliating.

“One-ups-man-ship” is a quality that is not an asset in our youth but is downright obnoxious and unfeeling coming from senior citizens. Developing an awareness of the pain it inflicts is a necessary adjustment. Old age is not a forgivable excuse for insensitivity.

Finally, it is important to examine the most private and usually the most difficult transition. It is loss. Loss comes in

many forms. Unfavorable self-image. Loss of good health or mobility. The loss of status, socially or economically. Loss of friends

or relatives or partners.

Each issue has its own unique pain. There is no complete relief for any of them. And each adaptation is unique. When different forms of loss occur concurrently the loser needs as many forms of resolution. Friends and loved ones can help in tangible ways. But it is the loser who must find the tools, practical and emotional, to contend with the changes, which are almost always very difficult. Our lives are always in a constant stage of change; each year we age makes change and adjustment harder. It is difficult to understand but resistance to confronting modifications in our lives originates in our unconscious fear that trials and adjustments may be part of what the future holds for us. In an ideal world, everyone is supportive of everyone else but in the real world, it just “ain’t” so.

We delude ourselves that we are strong enough to deal with any loss. Would that it were so! The other reality of life is that most of us find strengths we never knew we had. (“Necessity is the mother of invention.”) We find solu-



Menus do little to accommodate fat levels, richness or size of entrees that might assure that bubbe and zayde will not be up all night with gastric problems. It's hard to resist, for instance, chocolate cake.

tions for burdens we never carried before. We complain about backaches and bemoan the diagnosis of arthritis until we learn that our neighbor has stenosis, which really hurts.

In most instances we prefer the world and its challenges that were part of our earlier years. We block out the memories of the weight of the demands that were then made of us. We forget our impatience with the diminished abilities of our elders. When my grandfather was my age he had been senile for many years. I, in turn, have very little patience with occasional temporary loss of names or incidents.

The corny response to all of this is: “Stop complaining and count your blessings.” Easier said than done. But I will invoke an oft-used Israeli phrase, “Ayn b’vera” which translates as “no alternative.”

“The calendar has deprived us of so many pleasures already that it is very difficult to resist chocolate cake.”

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Campaign for Jewish voters in Pennsylvania turns nasty

Republican e-mail alleges that Obama could bring about another Holocaust

By LISA HOSTEIN
JTA Editor

PHILADELPHIA (JTA) – The Pennsylvania Republican Party distributed an e-mail last week signed by three prominent Jewish Republicans suggesting that a vote for Barack Obama could bring about another Holocaust.

The e-mail, sent to 75,000 Jews in the state, extolled John McCain's support for Israel and questioned Obama's commitment to Israel.

It concluded that: "Jewish Americans cannot afford to make the wrong decision on Tuesday, November 4th, 2008. Many of our ancestors ignored the warning signs in the 1930s and 1940s and made a tragic mistake."

In the ensuing uproar, the political operative who wrote the e-mail was fired and its signatories – including I. Michael Coslov, the campaign chair of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and the person widely assumed

to become the next federation president – distanced themselves from it.

Signers said they had not read through the e-mail before agreeing to affix their names to it.

A few days after the e-mail was sent, the Republican Jewish Coalition again took up the Holocaust theme in leaflets distributed in heavily Jewish neighborhoods in suburban Philadelphia.

These latest salvos, coming just days before the election, epitomize what some are calling the most bitter presidential campaign ever seen in the Jewish community.

Republicans have tried to chip away at the traditionally overwhelming Jewish support for Democrats by sowing seeds of doubt about Obama's positions on Israel through a campaign of e-mails and ads in Jewish media. Democrats deride such efforts as scare tactics born of desperation; the Republicans say they want voters to know the truth.

With Obama enjoying a double-digit lead in the state, according to most polls, the McCain campaign is devoting tremendous resources here – in appearances and advertising – in the final days of the race, hoping to turn the Democratic

state Republican red.

Both campaigns say they believe the state's more than 400,000 Jews could play a decisive role.

The e-mail continued to stir debate this week, with the Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Committee both condemning it.

After the uproar, Coslov repudiated part of the letter he had signed, calling it "extreme." Obama is not "right for the Jewish people," he said, "but I don't think he's going to cause another Holocaust." Sandra Schultz Newman, a former state Supreme Court justice and another of the e-mail's signatories, issued an apology to those who had

e-mailed her objecting to the letter.

Beyond the bluster, both campaigns are reaching out to Jewish voters with an intensity rarely seen in previous presidential elections.

The Obama campaign has overwhelmed the McCain camp in the sheer number of Jewish events scheduled. In synagogues, community centers and home parlor meetings, Obama surrogates have taken to the stump seeking to assuage lingering concerns about Obama's experience and foreign policy priorities, and to drum up enthusiasm for the Democratic ticket.

The surrogates have included U.S. Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.), former New York City Mayor

Ed Koch, Obama Middle East policy adviser Dennis Ross and Pennsylvania's popular governor, Ed Rendell.

State Rep. Josh Shapiro, the deputy speaker of the Pennsylvania Legislature and a leader in the state's Jewish outreach effort for Obama, said Jewish voters have become more comfortable with the Democratic candidate as they have gotten to know him.

Judy Davidson, who has organized many of the Republican events with little help from the McCain campaign, says longtime Jewish Democrats are on the cusp of voting for McCain – they just need a little encouragement.

NEWSPAPERS: A vision for the future

From Page 4

We are, as one Jewish agency executive wryly observed, "Jewish direct mail."

We have also developed a new redesigned web site, jvhri.org, that will soon move to becoming more interactive with our readers – in the parlance of technology, from 1.5 to 2.0.

Our small, dedicated staff continues to provide excellent coverage of our Jewish community. Our sales staff continues to sell advertising in this difficult economic world; in the upcoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah special section,

we have increased both the volume and sales for ads over last year, despite a heavy attrition rate of previous advertisers, due to the bad economic conditions. Advertisers have responded very well to the repositioning of the newspaper in the marketplace during the last year.

We are also very fortunate to have the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island as publishers, whose leaders understand that enormous value of the newspaper in serving both as an independent voice for the Jewish community and a communications channel for

the Federation. We are also fortunate to have strong lay leadership on our Editorial Board and Business Committee.

Surveying the future landscape, *The Voice & Herald* will continue to survive – and thrive – because our readers and advertisers very much like, and depend upon, the newspaper, and find it valuable.

Because most of our income comes from advertising, if and when you patronize any of our advertisers, please let them know you saw their ad in *The Voice & Herald*.

YIDDISH: Words that carry a greater meaning

From Page 6

and outrageousness gone wild?

So we have a choice: we can take his claim seriously or we can assume that he is really joking (after all, no one can

really believe that). Either way, that's why we should support Mel Brooks. We need the word.

Alan Zuckerman can be reached at Alan_Zuckerman@brown.edu.

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JERUSALEM JOURNAL

One country, one community, a diversity of beliefs

Bridging the differences between religious, secular Jews

ISRAEL is the land of the Jews. It is a state that has progressed through leaps and bounds in its relatively short modern history. Centuries ago, the Jews were expelled from their homeland, leaving behind mere remnants of their once great population.

And then, beginning in the late 19th century with the first waves of *aliyah*, the Jews steadily began to regain their foothold in the land of their heritage.

This time, however, the centuries of dispersion and diaspora had added a new flavor to what it meant to be a Jew.

As the "wandering Jew" progressed through history in the many corners of the world, so, too, did the diversity of the beliefs, customs, and even how one identified oneself as a Jew. Now, here in the modern state of Israel, this diversity has come together to form the ultimate Jewish melting pot. But perhaps



Daniel Stieglitz

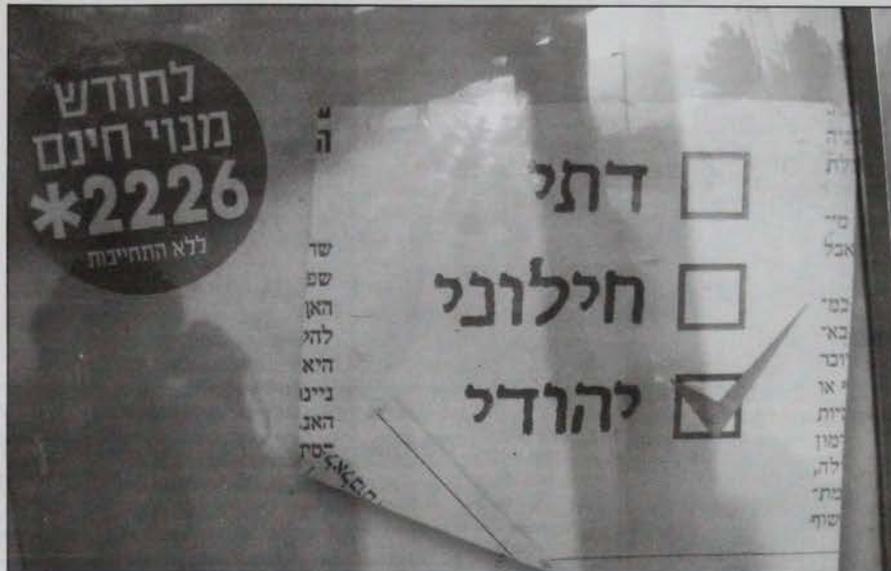


Photo by Dani Stieglitz

A NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT at the central bus station in Jerusalem, with check boxes that include choices for religious ("dati"), secular ("chiloni") and Jewish ("Yehudi").

the most pronounced diversity in the land of Israel is that which exists between the religious and secular Jews.

I have to admit that when I first made *aliyah*, I was disappointed by the apparent lack of unity between these two diverse

populations. Even more so, I was saddened to see that there was

have experiences such as *ulpan* and the army where I have been surrounded by all types of *olim* (immigrants) from a wide range of beliefs and backgrounds.

These shared experiences not only helped us to overcome our apparent differences, but

also a great amount of friction and animosity between these groups. I have been fortunate to

"I see a perfect world as one where we all respect one another's beliefs, while at the same time never disrespecting our own."

to respect the very differences that make us unique. I feel that in most cases, the greater population of Israel is lacking in this level of respect.

I am lucky to have many cousins and their families here in Israel. However, while I am an observant Jew who holds by strict levels of *kasbrut* and *Shabbat*, my relatives are completely secular.

This makes even occasional visits to their homes for *Shabbat* or a meal nearly impossible.

Nonetheless, I am happy to say that my relationship with my Israeli cousins is a strong one. They are always calling to check up on me and see how I'm doing, and from time to time we will get together for a family *simcha* (happy occasion) or casual gathering.

It is from this very diversity that I had one of my more memorable *Shabbat* experiences in Israel. Spending *Shabbat* with my relatives is very complicated due to the levels of *kasbrut* and *Shabbat* observance. When talking with one of my second cousins with whom I have a particularly good relationship, she insisted that I come spend a *Shabbat* with her family and she would do everything she could to make sure I had a proper *Shabbat* atmosphere.

See ISRAEL, Page 16



Faye L. Silverman

Patricia M. Herron

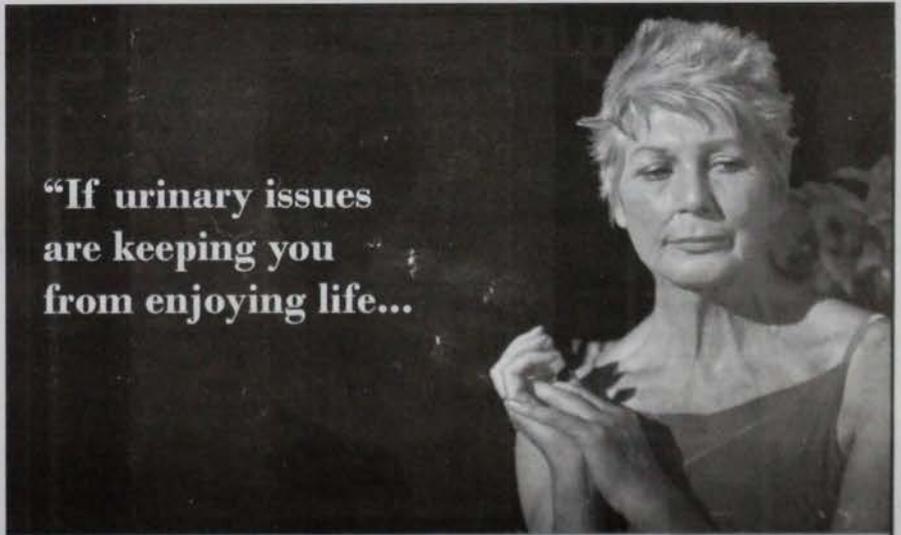
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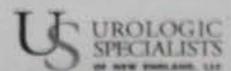
...you should know that several new treatments are available to make things better. Some are gentler than older treatments; others address problems that couldn't be helped in the past. If you're getting up 3, 4 or more times in the night, if you dread sneezing, coughing or even laughing, I invite you to call my office to arrange for an evaluation. Then we'll talk about how these new treatments might relieve the urinary issues and help you get back to enjoying life."



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CONCERT: An evening of music to celebrate hope, inspiration

From Page 1

the death of six million Jews and millions of others the Nazis deemed impure, such as Gypsies, individuals with disabilities, gay and lesbians, and others.

Seventy years later, on Nov. 9, 2008, more than 1,000 community members are scheduled to attend a commemorative concert, "Shining Through Broken Glass," at 7 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

Actor and producer Leonard Nimoy will narrate this dramatic and choral concert that includes an ecumenical adult and youth choir comprised

of more than 200 individuals from such diverse entities as Central Congregational Church, Providence

College's chamber choir, Temple Emanu-El's choir, Temple Beth-El's choir, and Providence Gay Men's Chorus.

In all, 180 adults from eight adult choirs and 100 children from four youth choirs, and 40 musicians will come together to perform in this celebratory concert.

"It has been an enormous challenge to hold rehearsals [for so many diverse groups]," Cantor Brian Mayer said, "though I am blessed to have the assistance of Elissa Heath, our project manager, who's a planner par excellence."

"This project has an 'artistic planning team' that has been dreaming together about this concert for two years," said Mayer. "My colleagues [at the Cantor Educator Program at Hebrew College in Newton Centre, Mass, where Mayer

is the Associate Dean. I] are the brains behind this effort, though I had the initial idea."

These individuals - Cantor Dr. Scott Sokol and Cantor Lynn Torgove - will sing in the evening's concert, and his colleague, Cantor Joseph Ness, will conduct.

Cantorial soloists also include Temple Beth-El's Cantor Judith Seplowin. T

A WORK OF INSPIRATION

Mayer, who's been working on this idea for a decade, explained that his childhood cantor, Cantor Charles Feld, a Kristallnacht survivor, inspired

justice and harmony."

If the evening's proceeds generate a profit, Heath said, monies will be donated to Temple Emanu-El and the Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island, for Holocaust programming and education.

Joshua Stein, professor of history at Roger Williams University and a *Voice & Herald* columnist, offered his thoughts on the upcoming event.

"That this tragic event [Kristallnacht] can be commemorated in a magnificent venue, with song and theater, by

music and light is testimony to the vivacity of the local Jewish community, some few members of whom lived through

"This concert is a culmination of my family's German-Jewish heritage and my life's work as a cantor and Jewish music professor."

Dr. Cantor Brian Mayer

him to pursue cantorial school.

"My whole life I have been inspired by cantors - my mother's father, whom I never knew, was a cantor in Brooklyn, Cantor Charles Feld and Cantor Max Wolberg, a professor I had in cantorial school, encouraged me to focus my studies on the German Jewish cantorial tradition.

The concert, which is not a fundraiser, is meant to accomplish three goals, said Elissa Heath. "It is an opportunity to bring the community together to celebrate, commemorate and dedicate."

According to Heath, the concert celebrates 1,000 years of Jewish arts and culture and commemorates the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht. And, she continued, "it enables us to dedicate ourselves to building a world filled with peace,

the event itself," he said. "It is almost miraculous that so much could be brought together so beautifully by so few."

Celebrated Jewish music from the Middle Ages through modern times will be on the program. Although recordings are likely to be made for archival purposes, Mayer cautioned people to not expect to be able to buy any CDs of the evening's performance, as union issues may prevent the organizers from creating CDs for commercial purposes.

As of press time, tickets were still available. Call 421-ARTS. Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$500, with discounted prices for students and seniors. Anyone who purchases a \$500 ticket is invited to attend a special post-concert reception with Leonard Nimoy at the Renaissance Hotel.

ISRAEL: Land of diversity amongst Jewish beliefs

From Page 15

In the days before *Shabbat* we discussed the various arrangements that would need to be made. She spoke with her religious in-laws who would prepare all of my food in their kosher kitchen. Her husband located the closest synagogue and checked the *Shabbat davening* (prayer) times in advance. Though it took more preparation than they were used to for a normal *Shabbat* at home, from the moment I stepped through their door they never made me feel anything less than welcome.

As I do not travel on *Shabbat*, our time together was spent in the confines of their own neighborhood. In the middle of *Shabbat* I went for a walk with my cousin and out of curiosity asked her what she would be doing on *Shabbat* if I was not around.

She replied by saying that normally she would take her children out to a place like the mall so that they wouldn't be cooped up inside all weekend. This helped me to realize that though this was a different *Shabbat* experience for me, what with things like the television being on and the children playing games on the computer, it was a different *Shabbat* experience for them as well.

A few months ago, my brother came for a visit and we met a mutual Israeli friend of ours for breakfast. While discussing the population of Israel, my brother pointed out that throughout the country you have neighborhoods that are populated by religious Jews, and those that are populated by secular Jews. You have those that are entirely *Haredi* (ultra Orthodox), and those that are entirely Orthodox.

Then he asked, where is there a community where you can find all of these groups together in one place? Almost simultaneously, my friend and I replied, "It's called the land of Israel."

There are many definitions as to what classifies a perfect world. Some say it is a world in which everyone stands unified holding on to the same beliefs. I see a perfect world as one where we all respect one another's beliefs, while at the same time never disrespecting our own. It is that mutual respect that can bind us together as a unified whole and perhaps bring Israel and the greater Jewish world together as a single community.

Dani Stieglitz can be reached at dstieglitz@gmail.com

Jewish Community Calendar

FRIDAY

October 31

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend

Dr. Shnayer Leiman will be the Phyllis & Sydney Horvitz Scholar-In-Residence at Ahavath Achim Synagogue

WHERE: Ahavath Achim, 385 County St, New Bedford, Mass.

MORE INFO: (508) 994-1760

SATURDAY

November 1

Marilyn Price

Storytelling concert, "Is there an Elijah in your life?"

WHERE: Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

COST: \$10/advance, \$12/door

MORE INFO: 739-1973

Tot Shabbat

An age appropriate Shabbat morning services including singing, dancing, prayers and story telling. Ages up to 7 years with a parent.

WHERE: Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick

WHEN: 10:30 a.m.

MORE INFO: 463-7944

Kids night out

A special night for kids at the JCCRI. Open to children grades K-5, members and non-members. Treasure hunt, board games, swim in the pool, gym activities and arts and crafts. Pasta dinner, popcorn and ice cream.

WHERE: JCCRI, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence

WHEN: 5-10 p.m.

COST: Members/ \$25, non-members \$35.

MORE INFO: 861-8800, ext. 147



ON NOV. 9, AT 7 P.M. at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence, "Shining Through Broken Glass: A Kristallnacht Concert," featuring guest narrator, Leonard Nimoy, will include more than 200 adult and youth voices in ecumenical choirs. For ticket information, contact 421-ARTS.

SUNDAY

November 2

Annual Kidstuff Sale

Toys, clothes, books, furniture, maternity clothes and baby gear. Sale will continue on Monday, with 50 percent off all items.

WHERE: JCCRI, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence

WHEN: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MORE INFO: 861-8800, ext. 130.

Mensches in Action

A group of teenagers committed to helping the community one home at a time doing odd jobs, such as leaf raking. Temple Emanu-El and Temple Am David are partnering for this program. If you could use the help, let us know.

MORE INFO: 331-1616 or 463-7944

Autumn Bazaar

An array of beautiful items from vendors including giftware, jewelry, candy, handmade wooden boxes, handbags, and children's books.

WHERE: Temple Sinai Social Hall, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MORE INFO: Ellen at ejrtad@verizon.net

Israeli Classical Concert

CJP and Harvard host the 12th season of the Boston Modern Orchestra featuring saxophonist Kenneth Radnofsky

WHERE: Sanders Theatre at Harvard University

WHEN: 3 p.m.

MORE INFO: www.bmop.org

Gastronomic Judaism

R.I. chapter of Hadassah sponsors a snapshot of food in Jewish consciousness, featuring a challah-baking demo, featuring "Duffy" Page and Nita Pliskin.

WHEN: 2 p.m.

WHERE: Congregation Ohave Sholam, Pawtucket

COST: \$5

MORE INFO: 463-3636 or e-mail RhodelslandChapter@Hadasah.org

Blood Drive

Opportunity to observe the mitzvah of saving a life.

WHERE: Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

WHEN: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 P.M.

MORE INFO: 785-1800

MONDAY

November 3

Sobriety For All

Temple Sinai is hosting a recently formed Alcoholics Anonymous group for men and women

WHERE: Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston

WHEN: 7-8 p.m.

MORE INFO: 942-8350

Howard Friedman

Former leader at AIPAC will give a talk sponsored by Providence Community Kollel

WHEN: 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Save The Bay, 100 Save the Bay Dr., Providence

MORE INFO: 273-3923

TUESDAY

November 4

Election Day

Vote for the candidates of your choice

WHERE: At your local polling place

WHEN: Until 9 p.m.

Vacation Camp

For grades K-6 at the JCCRI (will repeat on Nov. 11, Veterans' Day)

WHEN: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

WHERE: JCCRI, 401 Elm-grove Ave., Providence

MORE INFO: 861-8800, ext. 147

WEDNESDAY

November 5

Boston Jewish Film Festival

The 20th annual Boston Jewish Film Festival presents the best contemporary films on Jewish themes. Runs through Nov. 16.

WHERE: Opening Night, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, "The Deal."

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

MORE INFO: For complete schedule, go to www.bjff.org, or call (617)244-9899

THURSDAY

November 6

Lunch and Learn

Discussion of weekly Torah portion with kosher deli lunch, led by Cantor Rick Perlman.

WHERE: Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick

WHEN: noon - 1 p.m.

COST: Year \$52/year, \$10/session
See CALENDAR, PAGE 33

Cases and Materials on
Civil Terrorism Law

David J. Strachman
James P. Steck

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CALLING ALL BOOMERS AND SENIORS. On Monday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. in the JFRI Boardroom, attorney David Strachman will talk about "legal wellness," or how to be legally fit to protect your future. Call 861-8800, ext. 107, to RSVP. Strachman is the co-author of *Civil Terrorism Law: Cases and Materials*, published in June 2008.

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Republican? Democrat? Independent? Eat, eat, you'll feel better

No matter the outcome, you need food to sustain you

BY NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@jfri.org

WHETHER you're a political junkie or totally fed up with the election news, we have collected some yummy appetizers for you to make and eat.

You don't have to chew on your fingernails while fretting or cheering about Election Night returns. Instead, enjoy this selection of appetizers and salads.

Whether you're home alone or watching the returns with friends and family, you deserve something better than potato chips and dips, so consider whipping up some of these non-sweet treats for an Election Night feast.

All of these recipes can be made ahead, so you won't miss a second of late-breaking news.

GOAT CHEESE TERRINE

Ingredients:

4 ounces goat cheese, room temperature
¼ cup butter, room temperature
6 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
12 slices provolone cheese, thinly sliced
1/2 cup pesto sauce
3/4 cup pine nuts, toasted
1/2 cup sun-dried tomatoes, sliced basil leaves

Method:

Line 9x5x3-inch loaf pan with plastic wrap.
Combine goat cheese,

butter and cream cheese and microwave 30 seconds or until melted.

Place 4 or 5 slices of provolone on bottom and sides of pan.

Layer with half of each: cheese mixture, pesto, pine nuts and tomatoes.

Place 4 slices of provolone on top of mixture and spread with remainder of cheese mixture, pesto, pine nuts and tomatoes. Top with remaining provolone.

Cover with plastic wrap. Place cans on top of loaf to compress terrine. Chill overnight.

Unmold by inverting on serving plate. Decorate with basil leaves.

Serve with crackers and party-size pumpernickel or rye bread.

Serves 8 to 12.

From *Divine Kosher Cuisine, Catering to Family and Friends*, Congregation Agudat Achim, Niskayuna, N.Y., © 2006 Congregation Agudat Achim, all rights reserved.

EGGPLANT AND FETA SPREAD

Ingredients:

Eggplants weighing approximately 3-1/2 pounds
7 ounces of feta cheese, crumbled
2 tablespoons of extra-virgin olive oil
Pita bread and olives

Method:

Grill the eggplants until they are black and blistered on the outside and soft and smoky on the inside OR roast them in the hottest oven for 45 minutes.

When they are cool enough



Vote first then eat.

to handle, peel the eggplants and press to remove excess liquid.

Place on a large plate or cutting board and mash vigorously with a fork.

When the eggplant flesh is thoroughly broken down, mash in the crumbled feta cheese.

Drizzle the olive oil over it and mix to a smooth paste.

Serve with pita bread and olives.

Serves 4 as an appetizer.



From *The Jewish Kitchen, Recipes and Stories from around the World* by Clarissa Hyman, © 2004 Clarissa Hyman, all rights reserved.

SUN-DRIED TOMATO SPREAD

Ingredients:

1 cup sun-dried tomatoes
2 cups of water
3 or 4 garlic cloves
1 tablespoon thyme
3 sprigs fresh basil
½ cup olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste

Method:

Heat the water in a saucepan. When it comes to a boil, add tomatoes and soak until soft. Strain tomatoes well.

Add batches of garlic, thyme, basil, oil, salt and pepper with

tomatoes into a blender and blend to desired consistency.

Serve

on baked

crostini, pita

or crackers.

Serves 6 to 8 people.

From *What's Cooking At Hadassah College? Recipes from the Culinary Arts Department of Hadassah College Jerusalem*.

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CAULIFLOWER, ANCHOVY AND OLIVE SALAD

Salad Ingredients:

3 small heads of cauliflower
Salt to taste
6 cups of water
3 to 4 thinly cut anchovies
½ cup black pitted olives
1 red, 1 yellow and 1 orange pepper, all seeded and cut into thin strips

Dressing Ingredients:

1/2 cup olive oil
1/4 cup cider vinegar
2 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon mustard
Salt and pepper to taste
1 teaspoon ground oregano
2 to 3 sprigs chopped thyme leaves

Method:

Heat water and salt in a large pot. Separate cauliflowers into medium-size flowerettes. Drop in boiling water and cook for 12 to 15 minutes. Drain well in a colander and let cool.

Place cauliflower pieces in a salad bowl. Add anchovies and olives and mix. Add peppers.

In a jar, mix oil, vinegar, honey, mustard, salt and pepper, oregano and thyme leaves. Close and shake well.

Pour over salad and mix. Let rest for at least 30 minutes before serving.

Serves 12 to 18 people

From *What's Cooking At Hadassah College? Recipes from the Culinary Arts Department of Hadassah College Jerusalem*. © 2006 Hadassah College Jerusalem, all rights reserved.

See NOSH, Page 19

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The JEWISH VOICE & HERALD

NOSH: Election night comfort food

From Facing Page

ROASTED PEPPER, ARTICHOKE AND CARAMELIZED ONION FRITTATA

Ingredients:

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 small onion, thinly sliced
Salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

1/2 cup canned artichokes, cut each artichoke into quarters, or 1/2 cup sliced hearts of palm

1/2 cup jarred roasted red pepper, chopped into 1/2 inch pieces. (don't get the kind that is preserved in vinegar and oil)

4 large eggs
1/4 cup soy milk
4 sprigs fresh flat leaf parsley, discard the stems and finely chop the leaves

Method:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place the olive oil in an 8 to 10 inch oven proof frying pan.

If the pan has a plastic handle, triple-wrap the handle with aluminum foil.

Heat the oil over medium heat and add the onion. Season with salt and pepper, cook for 15 minutes or until the onion is caramelized, and shake the pan every few minutes. Add the artichokes or hearts

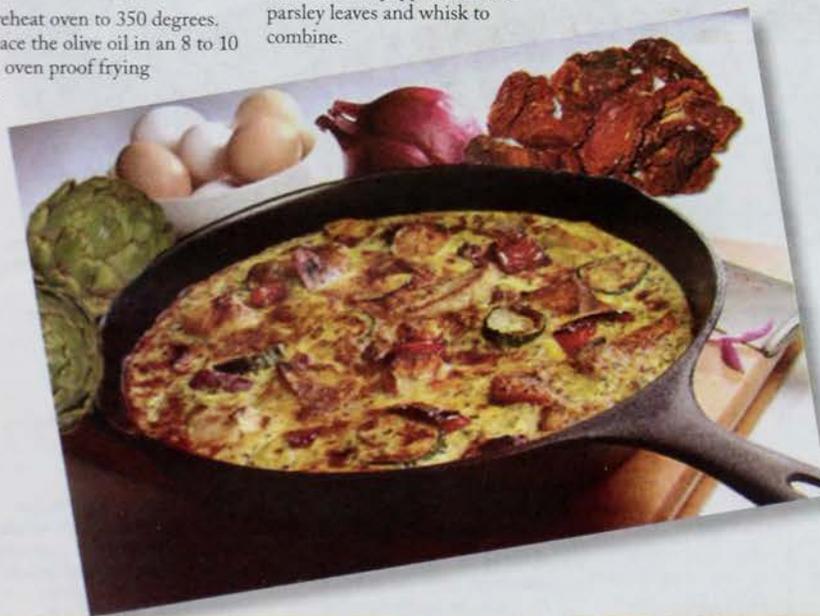
of palm and the chopped peppers. Sauté 3 minutes. In a medium bowl, whisk the eggs with the soy milk. Season with salt and pepper. Add the parsley leaves and whisk to combine.

of palm and the chopped peppers. Sauté 3 minutes. In a medium bowl, whisk the eggs with the soy milk. Season with salt and pepper. Add the parsley leaves and whisk to combine.

loosen the edges, making sure the bottom is loosened as well. Place a plate over the pan and flip the frittata out onto the plate. Serve warm or at room temperature. Can be made a day in advance. Serves 4 to 6 people.

"You don't have to chew on your fingernails while fretting or cheering about Election Night returns."

From *Kosher by Design Entertains*, by Susie Fishbein, © 2005 Mesorah Publications Ltd., all rights reserved.



What's Cooking?



Watch for our "GOOD FOOD" section in the November 28th issue of *The Voice & Herald* for a hearty helping of inspiration. You'll find meal planning tips, great recipes, nutrition news and more.

If you have a family or favorite winter recipe you would like to share, we'd love to print it.

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Peasants' rights vs. medical might in 19th-century Italy

The story of Amalia's Tale found in dusty asylum archive

By MARY KORR

Senior Contributing Writer

PROVIDENCE – David I. Kertzer couldn't get the strange and tragic story of Amalia out of his mind. Readers of *Amalia's Tale* will not be able to, either. Kertzer came upon the story in a long-forgotten archive while doing research on infant abandonment in 19th-century Italy. The book resurrects the lawsuit brought by Amalia Bagnacavalli, a 23-year-old peasant, against the Bologna foundling home known as the *Bastardini*, the house of the "little bastards," when she contracts syphilis shortly after accepting an infant to wet-nurse. Wet-nursing was a common and generations-old practice among poor rural women, to add to a family's meager earnings. Even Amalia's father was born in the centuries-old foundling home.

At first Amalia, mother of a healthy baby girl, is horrified by the appearance of the withering, whimpering infant she is handed. She asks for another, but the home's doctor pressures her: who does she think she is? And, he reminds her, she will not earn the 9 lire a month. Nor would she get the train fare home. Reluctantly, Amalia agrees.

"It was only when they were on the train headed home that Amalia first took

Paola out of her swaddling to examine her more carefully. What she saw made her shudder. The baby's body was malformed, her chest strangely twisted. And something else was wrong. At the foundling

BOOK REVIEW

home Amalia had noticed that Paola's eyes seemed suspiciously filmy. Now that she got to look more closely, Amalia realized that the baby was blind."

Paola is but the first of many victims in a story that has few heroes – except for a country doctor who wages a fruitless war with Bologna's health authorities, and who, fed up, urges Amalia to sue the home. Excruciating details power the narrative. The description of the ravages of syphilis on the babies, Amalia and her husband are chilling. The treatment with mercury was often as toxic as the disease, turning patients an ashen gray, which became the tell-tale sign of a syphilis victim.

Kertzer notes at one time up to 10 percent of European men had syphilis – its victims were rumored to include Beethoven, Van Gogh, Baudelaire, Oscar Wilde and Flaubert.

As a scholar, historian and social scientist, Kertzer is meticulous – but it is his liter-

rise of a new social and political order in post-Papal rule.

Pope Pius IX has been banished to the Vatican, a self-styled prisoner. The old order of city-states ruled by the Pope/Kings was gone. In 1871, Rome fell to the army of an Italy united for the first time, with Rome as its capital.

Reform is taking hold. There are peasant revolts and insurrections stirred up by young firebrands – socialists as well as anarchists who flock to Italy from Europe and Russia.

Amalia's attorney, Augusto Barbieri, is an ambitious legal eagle who rides the "leftist" winds. He wants to get ahead and be seen as a champion of the poor.

Count Francesco Isolani, who heads the foundling home's board, struggles against the political and social tides that threaten the aristocratic ruling elite.

They are characters steeped in their times but clothed in human frailties. You would recognize some of them in today's courtroom dramas or boardrooms.

The scientific world in the late 19th century, too, is in flux. The new invention of the microscope is becoming more widely used to detect the bacterium that identifies syphilis. (Successful treatment lies ahead, with the introduction of penicillin in 1943.)

Pasteurization of milk is also in the future, and infant bottle-feeding with cow's milk was most often deadly. Thus, the wet-nurse "system" kept alive the massive numbers of abandoned

babies left at foundling homes throughout Europe. The mothers were prostitutes or, as the age of industrialization emerged, poor factory workers. In addition, it was a church law that unwed mothers must surrender their infants to these establishments.

There were vast numbers of Amalias who worked as wet nurses in Europe as part of this complex social service network founded by the church, which sought to save these infants from spiritual and physical damnation and death. The wet nurses and their families both benefited from and were victimized by this system.

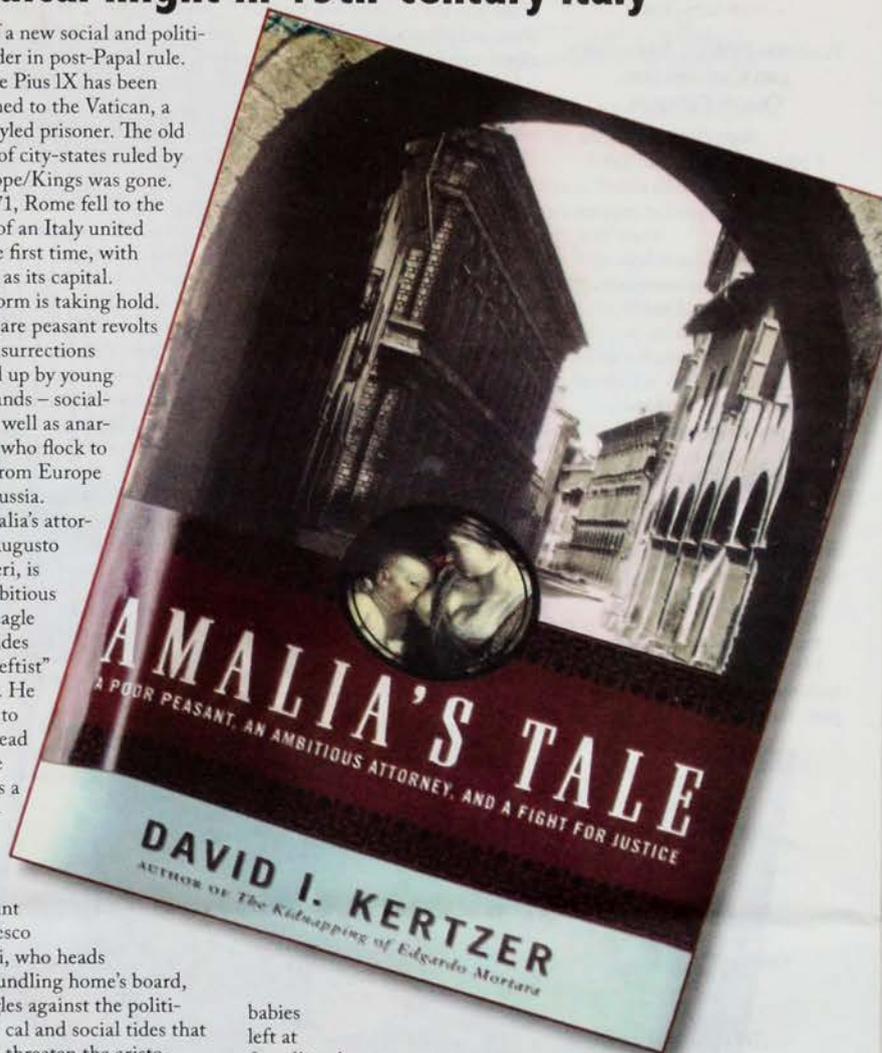
The reader follows Amalia's tortuous case through a decade

DAVID I. KERTZER, the provost at Brown University, uncovered *Amalia's Tale* while doing research on infant abandonment in 19th century Italy.

of deliberations, appeals, and counter-appeals, until a history-making settlement is finally reached. Justice is rendered in this case, but for whom?

And therein lies the tragedy.

Mary Korr can be reached at mkorr@verizon.net.



"What she saw made her shudder. The baby's body was malformed, her chest strangely twisted."

Amalia's Tale

A Poor Peasant, an Ambitious Attorney, and a Fight for Justice

(Houghton Mifflin, March 2008)

ary adroitness that propels the tale to its surprising conclusion.

He has an eye for colorful detail. As Amalia enters the medieval walled city of Bologna, there are posters advertising the arrival of Buffalo Bill Cody and his Wild West Show, which featured the young, quick-on-the-draw Annie Oakley.

WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE

The protagonists – Amalia, her attorney, and the count who heads the foundling home's board – embody the fall and the

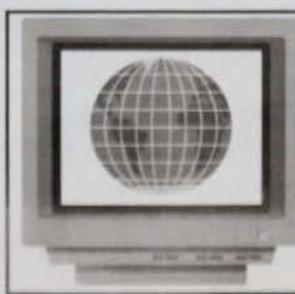
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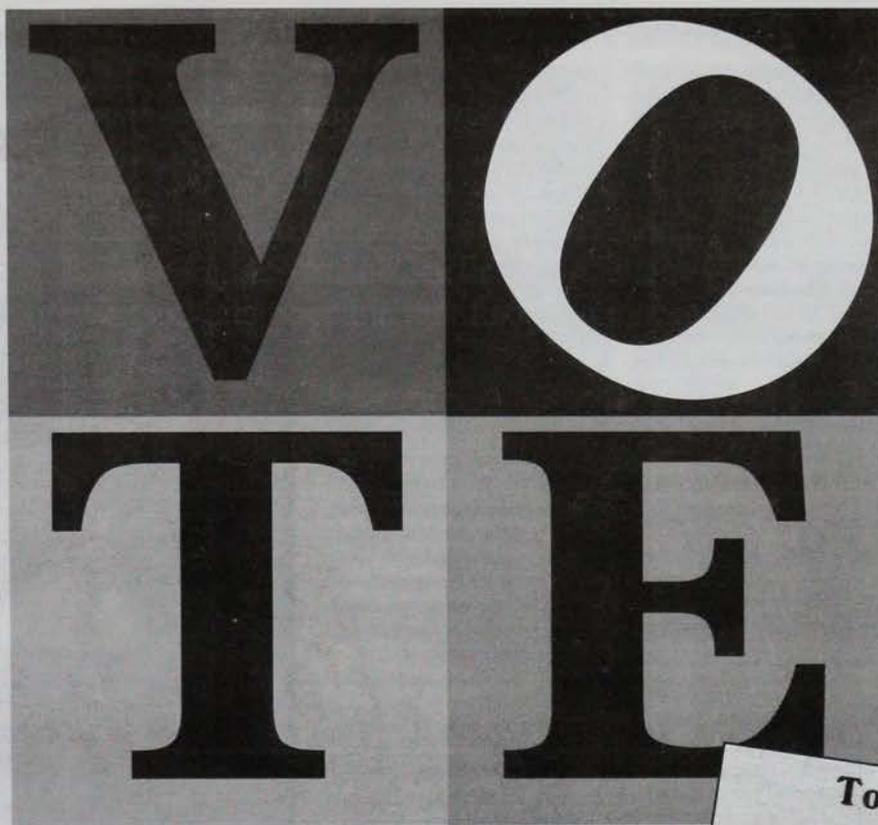
The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit.
Nelson Henderson

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Jacob Eaton, R.I.'s first Jewish legislator, advanced Jewish causes

A strong Zionist, Eaton called for an independent Palestine in 1919

BY NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@jfri.org

MANY OF US remember the first election in which we voted or the peculiarities of a favorite politician, but how many *Voice & Herald* readers remember Jacob A. Eaton, Rhode Island's first Jewish member of the General Assembly?

Political dynasties rise and fall and political names come and go, but as Rhode Island's first elected legislator, Jacob A. Eaton should not be forgotten.

It's interesting to note that his campaign re-election material implies that Eaton's religion was a sticking point for some voters, just as Senator Obama's race might be for some voters this year. It stated, "The issue is not, as his opponent is trying to make it, racial or political - but between Experience, Ability, Education and Training on one side, and the lack of all of them on the other side."

Born in Romania in December 1871, Eaton came to America in 1894 and, a year later,

came to Providence on a business errand. He never left. Unlike today's current political climate in Rhode Island, the Republican Party held the most power in the state. Naturalized in 1899, he became a member of the Republican Third Ward Committee in 1901 and its chair in 1903, a position he held until he died.

Although he was unsuccessful in his efforts to be elected to the Providence City Council, he learned politics from General Charles Brayton, then among the state's leading Republican political leaders.

Elected to the House from Providence's Seventh Representative District (which included the city's North End), Eaton lost the seat in 1910 but was re-elected in 1911 and served in that position until he died in March 1921.

When he held both an elected office in the General Assembly and an appointed position as the jury commissioner, *The Providence Journal* chided Eaton for continuing to serve in the General Assembly, as it was "dual office holding."

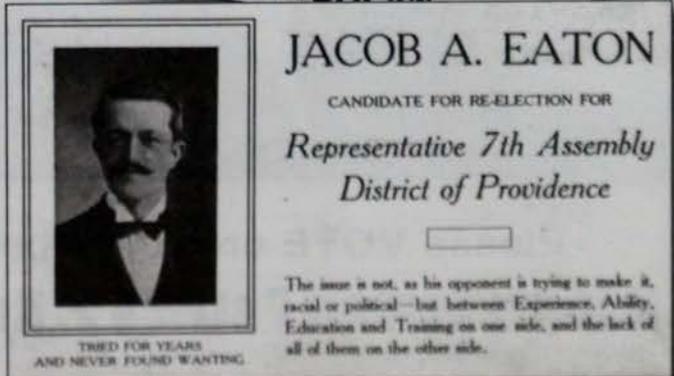
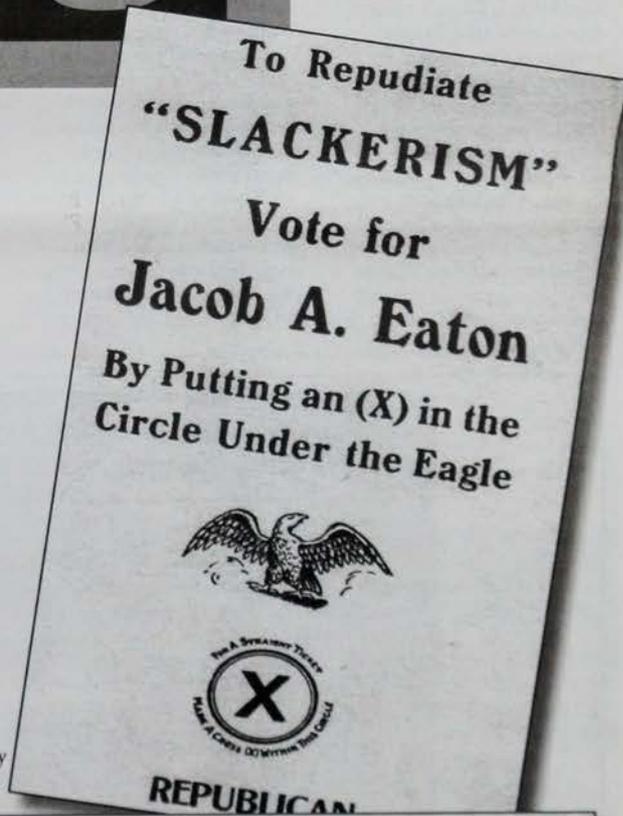
In addition to that position, Eaton also served as secretary of the state's printing commission. Ironically, those very same conflict of interest issues have continued to plague 21st century politicians in our General Assembly.

Eaton was heavily involved

in the Jewish community and Jewish causes, as a charter member of and founder of the Touro Fraternal Association. A member of Congregation Sons of Zion, Independent Order of B'rith Abraham, Hebrew Free Loan Association, the Hebrew Institute and other organizations, Eaton also sponsored bills to support activities of the Council of Jewish Women for the North End Dispensary, and to include any days of solemn fast [such as *Yom Kippur*] as school holidays.

Melvin Zurier's "Jacob A. Eaton: A Biographical Note" from the November 1965 edition of the *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes*, said:

"It is Eaton's role in the history of the Rhode Island Jewish community, however, that is particularly significant... He made no bones about the fact that he was a Jewish politician and that he wanted to advance Jewish causes and help deserving Jews become established... To the North End Jewish immigrant, Eaton was the embodiment of America. He was an idol, a friend, a



See EATON, Page 22

CAMPAIGN LITERATURE from one of Eaton's campaigns for election.

Courtesy of R.I. Jewish Historical Association

EATON: Legislator was an early champion of Zionism

From Page 21

counselor. Although until he died, he spoke with a marked *Yiddish* accent, he was the link between the North End and the power structure of Rhode Island...The image of Eaton, the immigrant, rising to Eaton, the powerful political leader, was doubtless an inspiration to many Jewish politicians of his time and later."

Zurier's research indicates that Eaton was a man of strong integrity and vast generosity, often fulfilling the Torah's commandments to "feed the hungry" and "clothe the naked."

He was an early champion of Zionism, and in 1919, he introduced a resolution to promote the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine, as well as another resolution to protect Jewish rights and liberties in the settlement of World War I. Zurier's research doesn't reveal what happened to either of those resolutions.

Never married and with no family members in the United States, it seemed that Eaton devoted his life to politics and his constituents. He played a strong role in influencing and guiding several other Jewish individuals who became politically active, including Phillip Joslin, who became a Superior Court judge, and Maurice

Robinson, who became a Rhode Island state senator and a judge.

Whatever happened to some of Eaton's opponents – identified by Zurier as Harry Bachrach, George Helford and Isaac Moses – is a question, perhaps, for the historians among us?

Among his accomplishments, according to Eaton's campaign material, he introduced and helped pass legislation that:

- Appropriated funds for the

duced in Zurier's piece, said:

"Who would have prophesied from its Romanian beginnings that [Eaton's life] would close in this devoted service to the people of Rhode Island? There are thousands of native-born Rhode Islanders today who have far less information regarding its history than he possessed and far less of the real Rhode Island temper and spirit. He became, in a word, thoroughly acclimatized. He found in the public affairs of the City and State interest and inspiration for his entire energies. He was sleepless in defense of the people's rights.

He united with his extraordinary aggressiveness a sincere desire that the taxpayer should receive a full equivalent for his money. He fought, sometimes

against great odds, to maintain his seat in the Legislature, but he was much more than a ward leader...the work he did for his fellow citizens was genuine and substantial. Everyone likes courage, and of this Jacob Eaton had an abundance..."

Thanks to the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association and Melvin Zurier for the Biographical Note that depicts Eaton's contributions to Jewish society in early 20th century Rhode Island.

"He made no bones about the fact that he was a Jewish politician and that he wanted to advance Jewish causes and help deserving Jews become established."

Lying-in Hospital (the predecessor to the current Women & Infants Hospital) and the St. Vincent de Paul Infant Asylum.

- Established a 54-hour work-week law that reduced the hours of work for women and children and included stores in these provisions.

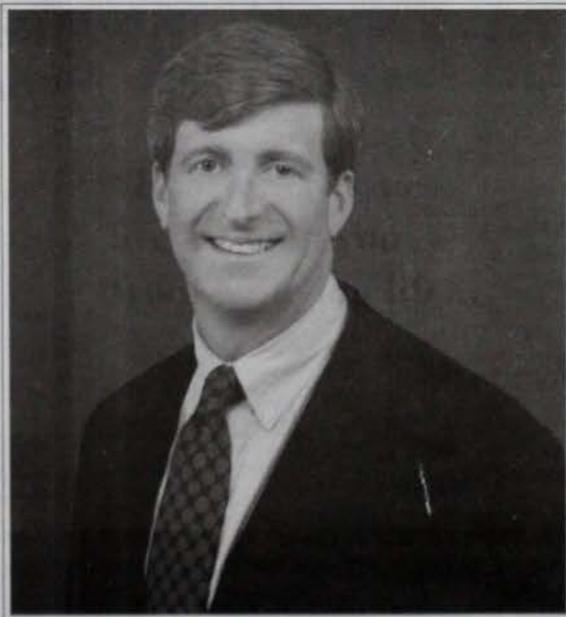
- Established police service pensions based on years of service only, with no restriction as to age.

A *Providence Journal* editorial after Eaton's death, repro-



Photo courtesy of R.I. Jewish Historical Association

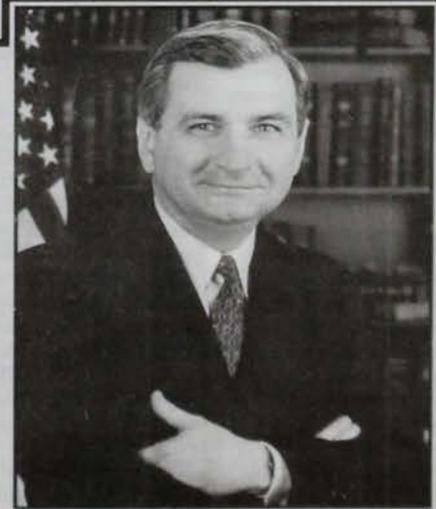
JACOB A. EATON served more than a decade in Rhode Island's General Assembly as the state's first Jewish legislator.



Please VOTE on November 4th

Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy

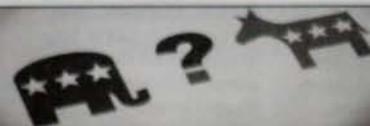
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Senator Jack Reed

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Tuesday November 4th

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IT'S
UP TO
YOU!

Temple Sinai Brotherhood hosts 26th annual breakfast forum

Political dialogue, differences do not ruin appetites

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@jvfi.org

MORE THAN 60 people enjoyed bagels, lox, eggs and coffee cake and peppered politicians with questions about healthcare costs, the current economic crisis, illegal immigration and Gov. Sarah Palin's qualifications to serve in the White House, at an Oct. 19 political forum sponsored by Temple Sinai's Brotherhood.

These political breakfasts, which the Brotherhood has sponsored for at least 26 years, serve two purposes, said Richard Blackman, Brotherhood secretary and event coordinator: "They provide exposure for political candidates and an education for our congregants and others who might attend. People should know who their political candidates are and it gives them an opportunity to vent and ask questions."

Brotherhood member Joel Gerstenblatt introduced the politicians.

Mark Zaccaria, a marketing consultant and former North Kingstown Town Council member, is the Republican candidate for the 2nd Congressional District, the seat held by incumbent Rep. James Langevin.

Zaccaria said he's frustrated that our political discourse has been molded by sports metaphors: "If you're a Red



U.S. Rep. James Langevin



Langevin's Republican challenger, Mark Zaccaria



U.S. Sen. Jack Reed

Sox fan, then you think that the Yankees are bums."

"We need to have a bias toward smaller government," he said. When asked, Zaccaria was unable to identify issues on which he disagreed with Sen. John McCain, if any, though he said he would have voted against the bailout. Our country's problems will improve when we "liberate the economy," he said. "Give me any problem in America and I'll tell you how it relates to the economy." A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he suggested that consolidating some of our military bases would help.

In turn, Rep. James Langevin pledged his ongoing strong support for Israel, a country he's visited twice and the Middle East's only established democracy. Addressing healthcare cost questions, Langevin said that he and Rep. Christopher Shays (R-Conn.) have introduced a universal health care bill mod-

eled after the health insurance coverage offered 9 million individuals - federal employees, their families and retirees. In 2007, the average price increase for that plan was only 1.8 percent. While our energy dependence

"This political forum provides exposure for political candidates and an education for our congregants. It gives [participants] an opportunity to vent and ask questions."

Richard Blackman
Temple Sinai Brotherhood

on foreign sources has significant implications on national security, energy, health and the environment, Langevin noted, alternative energy sources can lead to job creation and innovation here in the U.S. In reference to the huge sums of money we owe China and Saudi Arabia for oil, Langevin said, "You can only spit in your banker's eye for so long."

PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS
Minority Leader of the R.L. House of Representatives Robert Watson of East Greenwich spoke on behalf of the McCain campaign. Watson reminded the audience that Sen. McCain

has ridden an election roller-coaster since 2000. Asked about Palin's credentials, Watson said, "She's highly qualified, yes. [People] don't make decisions in a vacuum. I believe a citizen, if given that sort of assistance [from White House staff and aides], could make good decisions."

It's not the minutiae of legislative language that gets bills passed, Watson said, but personalities. "If you put Nancy Pelosi and Barney Frank in charge of spending money, trust me, they'll spend it," he said.

State Sen. Josh Miller, a Democrat from Cranston, identified himself as Rhode Island's only Jewish state senator and an early supporter here

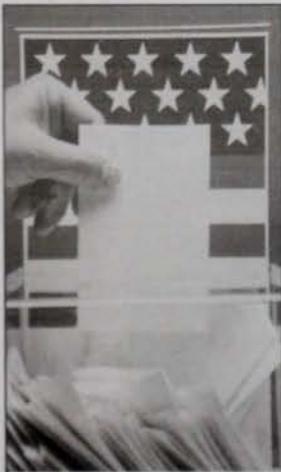
for Senator Obama presidential campaign. "We [Democrats] don't ask what government can do for us," Miller said. "We ask government what it can do for our community - whether that community is a disabled neighbor, health care concerns on a national level or someone else who needs our help. Sen. Obama has the personality to prevail."

Facing only token opposition, Sen. Jack Reed spoke more about what he hopes a Democratic presidential administration, with a Democratic majority in the United States Congress, might accomplish. A stimulus package that focuses on repairing and improving our nation's infrastructure, reducing our energy dependence on foreign entities, managing health care costs are all critically important, he said, as is restoring the country's reputation as a strong aspirational power.

"I'm impressed by Senator Obama's thoughtfulness, deliberation, temperament and intellect will," said Reed. "I believe he will be a superb president."

Reed, who has been to Iraq at least a dozen times, warned that military leaders predict international conflicts will arise in the next five to 10 years around such environmental issues such as insufficient drinking water or land that can't sustain crops.

In a phone interview, Blackman, who was out of town for the Oct. 19 forum, said: "I got an e-mail from a congregant who reported, 'The event was very informative and the food was good.'" Blackman laughed as he said, "Serve good food and they will come."



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Thank you for your generous support in past elections. For that endorsement of my stewardship in office, I am exceptionally grateful.

In this election my opponent has tried unsuccessfully to call my reputation for honesty and probity into question. Despite his attack ads and press releases filled with half-truths and innuendo, your informal feedback tells me that my integrity remains intact in your eyes. Your kind comments buoy my spirits daily.

With your support of my re-election, I pledge to you my continued pursuit of better government, a protected and improving environment, and a fiscally responsible approach to budgeting in difficult economic times both in our state and in our nation.

Thank you for your consideration and your vote on Election Day, November 4th.

Sen. Mike Lenihan

What are they saying about Senator Michael Lenihan

"Senator Lenihan is considered a bit of a maverick, willing to question the Senate's status quo."

Narragansett Times

"...a thoughtful champion of separation of powers reform..."

Providence Journal editorial

"One of the all-time class acts in state government."

The Providence Phoenix

Mike Lenihan is "one of the most respected lawmakers in the General Assembly. Rhode Islanders should feel secure [that this] responsible, hard working legislator is minding the store."

Newport Daily News





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Voting: Your right and responsibility

*Know the issues
before you enter the
voting booth*

By NANCY KIRSCH
nkirsch@jfri.org

GIVEN this year's hotly contested presidential election, *The Voice & Herald* is providing some advice on how to minimize any voting confusion.

For those who haven't registered to vote, it's too late. In Rhode Island though, you can cast a "same day" ballot for President and Vice President if you are otherwise eligible to vote. The deadline in Rhode Island was Oct. 4, in Massachusetts it was Oct. 15.

To get some insider tips, we spoke by phone with Chris Barnett, spokesperson for R.I.'s Secretary of State Ralph Mollis and Brian McNiff, spokesperson for Massachusetts' Secretary of State Thomas F. Galvin.

Voters who don't have access to transportation to their voting places might contact the national, state or local candidates' local offices (before Election Day) to see if they can arrange transportation.

RHODE ISLAND

The Secretary of State's web site, www.state.ri.us, has a Voter

Information Center that allows voters to check the status of their voter registration their polling place, and to print out a sample ballot. Barnett's advice to voters, especially first-time voters:

- Know where you are expected to vote. Check that your voter registration information is accurate by going to the Voter Information Center on the web site. If there are problems with your registration information, it's better to address them now, rather than on Election Day at the voting booth.

- Go to the polls during off-peak hours. The busiest hours are 7-9 a.m. and 5-7 p.m. All Rhode

Island voters who registered without providing either of these documents may be asked for identification at the polls.

- If you don't have a computer and need information about voting, call the Secretary of State's hotline at 222-2340.

- On Election Day, as a voter, you can wear buttons, t-shirts and other items of political paraphernalia that bear your view on politics or the candidates, Barnett said.

MASSACHUSETTS

- The web site is: www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidx.htm and the homepage includes a link,

"Find Your Voter Information Here." Click on that, complete some basic information and it will give

you polling place information.

- Massachusetts voting locations are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and voters who are still in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote, said McNiff.

- No computer access? Call the state's information numbers at 617-727-2828 or 1-800-462-8683 for more information.

- If you wear a button, hat, t-shirt or anything else that displays or promotes political candidates or political parties, McNiff said, you may be stopped from entering the polling place and from voting.

"The ballot is stronger than the bullet."

Abraham Lincoln

Island polls close at 9 p.m., and open at varying times - 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m. or 9 a.m., depending on the city you live in.

The Voter Information Center on the web will tell you what time the polls in your city or town open.

- Become familiar with the ballot before you walk into your polling place, by reviewing or downloading a sample ballot from the website.

- First-time voter who provided a Rhode Island driver's license or a Social Security card won't need to bring identification to the polls. But, Barnett

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Voter turnout could set a record

R.I. rolls have increased this year by 42,000

By MARY KORR
Senior Contributing Writer

PROVIDENCE – Based on a surge in voter registrations, Rhode Island, as well as the nation, could see a record turnout in the presidential election on Nov. 4.

According to Chris Barnett at the Secretary of State's office in Rhode Island, there are 701,000 eligible voters in the state. The rolls have increased by more than 42,000.

There have been successful voter registration drives in the workplace, at high schools and colleges, and at swearing-in ceremonies for new Americans, as well as major pushes by both parties.

Data published by the Board of Elections show there are more Democrats registered in the state than Republicans, by a 3-to-1 ratio. There are slightly more unaffiliated registered voters than Democrats, and these independents are the largest voting bloc in the state.

The state projects more than a half-million of those registered could turn out to vote. In the last presidential election, there was a voter turnout of 62 percent in Rhode Island. In 1992,



Photo by Mary Korr

NEW CITIZENS were given voter registration forms at the citizenship ceremonies held at the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium.

there was a 76 percent turnout.

In its most recent poll, the Taubman Center for Public Policy showed 94 percent of eligible voters said they intended to vote; and 55 percent felt the country was going in the wrong direction and needed a change.

"This year is a message election in which large numbers of people are unhappy with the political status quo. They don't like the war, are worried about the economy, and feel the current administration does not represent their values. This discontent has led record numbers of people to register and indicate they plan

to vote. All indications are that we will have a record turnout in the general election," said Darrell M. West, former director of the Taubman Center at Brown and currently vice president and

has passed to register, an eligible state resident may show up at the polls on Election Day and vote for the presidential ticket only.

In most cases, go to your city or town hall to vote if you are in this category. However, there are four exceptions: Providence, The Dunkin' Donuts Center, Smithfield, Smithfield Senior Center; Coventry, Town Hall annex; and Little Compton, Wilbur McMann School.

In order to register, you must be a resident of Rhode Island, a U.S. citizen, at least age 18 on or before Election Day 2008 and have a valid social security number or

"The heaviest turnout is expected from 7 to 9 a.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m., so plan to vote during off hours."

director of governance studies at the Brookings Institution.

Thousands of as-yet unregistered voters may turn out to vote as well. Although the deadline

Rhode Island driver's license.

EMERGENCY BALLOTS

Emergency ballots are also available at town and city halls, for those who are registered to vote but who, unexpectedly, find they will be out of town on Nov. 4. You will fill out the emergency ballot, seal it, and it will be counted on Election Day.

WHEN TO VOTE

Secretary of State, A. Ralph Mollis, said, "On Nov. 4, some Rhode Islanders may be headed to their third different polling place this year alone. We are working with the state Board of Elections and local boards of canvassers to ensure voting goes smoothly.

"The heaviest turnout is expected from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., so plan to vote during off hours. We are working with many of the state's chambers of commerce to encourage employers to allow their employees to vote during off hours."

In addition to the race for president, the November ballot will feature contests for Jack Reed's U.S. Senate seat as well as Rhode Island's two seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. There are also races for state representative, state senate, town council and school committee in many communities.



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ELECTION DAY

NOVEMBER 4, 2008

Rhoda Perry

Democrat
District 3

State Senate

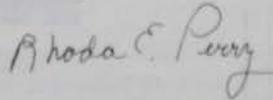
Dear Friends,

I am very grateful for all the support I have received during my tenure as your State Senator. I have endeavored through my work to earn your respect, and I have demonstrated to you my ability to translate the values of our community into state law.

In the coming legislative session, as Chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, I am well-positioned to continue the fight for quality health care for all Rhode Islanders.

I'm proud to represent the voters of District 3 and I am asking you to help re-elect me when you cast your ballot for this year's election.

Sincerely,




Rhoda E. Perry
State Senator District 3

Paid for by the Rhoda Perry for Senate Committee,
27 Top Street, Providence, RI 02906
Tel. 751-7165 www.rhodaperry.com
Joan Gelch, Chair

More young people headed to the booth in 2008

College students relay their concerns

BY MARY KORR
Senior Contributing Writer

THE YOUTH vote is expected to play a large role in this election. "The remarkable youth voter turnout in the primary process underscored the historic role young people are playing in the political process this year," said Bill Purcell, director of Harvard University's Institute of Politics.

A poll by the institute this month found that 70 percent of four-year college students plan on voting with economic issues as their number one concern.

Several Brown University and URI students shared their views on the upcoming election with *The Voice & Herald*.

When asked what she thought this country needs to do to restore hope in a viable future for all Americans, Sarah Rosenthal answered, "Bring home the soldiers and care for them once they're here, regulate credit default swaps, rebuild infrastructure, increase and improve education spending/policy."

In addition to voting and canvass/phone for candidates she believes in, Rosenthal said she is volunteering her time with public school students and returned veterans.

Tyler Rosenbaum said he is concerned about social issues.

"I'm tired of social conservatives legislating their religion."

"The second step [towards a healthy and viable future for young Americans] is evident as well, and it involves Americans realizing that you cannot simultaneously have tax cuts and spending increases. Essentially,



Photo courtesy Rock the Vote

THE INTERNET AND YOUNG VOTER organizations have been successful in getting young people to register for the presidential election. Rock the Vote set up programs across the country and registered 2.5 million young people.

America will have to realize that taxes will have to go up."

Jeremy Feigenbaum said: "Our national security and our standing in the world concern me greatly, but I would be remiss if I failed to men-

tion the state of the economy and the environment as other major issues that concern me."

When asked if, among his peer group, he has seen an increased interest in the 2008 presidential

campaign than in previous years, he answered: "The competitive primary mobilized many of us to get involved in Rhode

Island, and the serious issues facing our nation have made many of my peers recognize the importance of this election. In every election, pundits say it is the election of our lifetime but, for my generation, I

think this one really will be.

"Our country needs to invest in renewable energy and in green jobs, increase funding for education, bring our troops home from Iraq, and institute

tax policies that support the middle class," he said. "Every one of these aspects is absolutely essen-

tial for ensuring a stable and viable financial future."

Melanie Shapiro is a senior at the University of Rhode Island and expects to go to law school.

Her chief concerns are human rights around the world.

"In every election, pundits say it is the election of our lifetime but, for my generation, I think this one really will be."

Jeremy Feigenbaum

Opening times of polls

Barrington 7 a.m.
Bristol 7 a.m.
Burrillville 7 a.m.
Central Falls 7 a.m.
Charlestown 7 a.m.
Coventry 7 a.m.
Cranston 7 a.m.
Cumberland 7 a.m.
East Greenwich 7 a.m.
East Providence 7 a.m.
Exeter 7 a.m.
Foster 7 a.m.
Glocester 7 a.m.
Hopkinton 7 a.m.
Jamestown 7 a.m.
Johnston 7 a.m.

Lincoln 8 a.m.
Little Compton 7 a.m.
Middletown 7 a.m.
Narragansett 7 a.m.
Newport 8 a.m.
New Shoreham 9 a.m.
North Kingstown 7 a.m.
North Providence 7 a.m.
North Smithfield 8 a.m.
Pawtucket 7 a.m.
Portsmouth 7 a.m.
Providence 7 a.m.
Richmond 6 a.m.
Scituate 7 a.m.
Smithfield 7 a.m.
South Kingstown 7 a.m.

Tiverton 8 a.m.
Warren 8 a.m.
Warwick 7 a.m.
Westerly 7 a.m.
West Greenwich 7 a.m.
West Warwick 7 a.m.
Woonsocket 8 a.m.

The polls in all cities and towns in Rhode Island will remain open for voting until 9 p.m. Any person eligible to vote who is in line to vote at 9 p.m. will be allowed to cast his or her vote before the polls close.

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REAL ESTATE INSIGHTS

Real estate is as local as your street, your neighborhood

What does it mean to be in a buyer's market?

AFTER 30 YEARS in the business, I remain convinced that real estate is as local as your street, your neighborhood or your town. While activity remains quite strong in places like the East Side of Providence and Barrington, other areas are slow because of foreclosures



Sally Lapides

and the lack of job growth. We are all preoccupied with the economy and the upcoming election, our financial security, the banking system, our healthcare costs, job losses, the cost of education and the values of our houses. With all these issues weighing heavily on our shoulders, it is no wonder that selling or buying a house is difficult. Consumer confidence is down and buyers are taking longer doing their research, visiting houses and weighing options. They make lists of the houses that fit their needs and order them based on how they intend to begin the offer process. There is much less emotion in a market like this. Everyone is looking for a deal

and wants the assurance that even if the market goes down, they will have gotten a good deal.

Competitive and motivated sellers are pricing well and listening to offers when they are presented. Savvy buyers know that in a market with a 10 percent decline in value, that even if they are taking a \$50,000 hit on their \$500,000 home, but are buying a million dollar home for \$900,000, they are actually \$50,000 ahead

So, it is no wonder that I spend a great deal of my time advising real estate professionals in my company so they can better educate and counsel their buyers and sellers. Many Realtors have not seen a market like this one, and they are perplexed by a "buyer's market."

I remember reading a book called *Philistines at the Hedgerow* by Steven Gaines. When the stock market plummeted 500 points in October 1987, Gaines described the real estate business in the Hamptons as coming to a halt "like a crowbar in a speeding bicycle." That is not the case today in Rhode Island. The market is slower but it has not come to a halt; in fact, 312 single-family homes have closed this month.

There are other things I do during my week that remind me of what else is important. I spend time volunteering for some of the most wonderful institutions in Rhode Island, such as



Trinity Rep, the RISD Museum and the Rhode Island Foundation's Equity Action Fund.

These organizations are some of the little treasures that make Rhode Island such a diverse and exciting place to live and contribute to the overall economy.

This is why I am getting involved in the Steering Com-

and investments. In the Berkshires, the local government and arts organizations led an economic initiative for the past five years that has created more than 6,000 jobs and led to more than \$10 million in investments for capital improvements.

MOVING THE METERS

I recently spent a rainy morning a couple of weeks ago testifying in front of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), with a dozen citizens who came

to raise concerns about the placement of gas meters on houses throughout the state.

Some came to object to another rate increase, others spoke about unbundling their bills; I came to talk about the placement of the meters.

It is hard enough for a seller

to sell a house with the meters hidden on the side of their house. While National Grid made some allowances for historic homes on the East Side of Providence, in the West End, they are putting the meters on the front of all houses, historic and modern.

We brought pictures of multi-unit buildings with up to a dozen ugly meters destroying the exterior of the building. The PUC listened patiently and sent us on our way. I felt a little discouraged when I left the hearing, but found some comfort in the fact that my actions, however small might have some effect.

That is the idea behind Equity Action's Widening Circle initiative - small groups of people getting together to raise awareness about this important fund. The hope is that those people in attendance will be encouraged to have their own widening circle gathering, and support will grow exponentially.

I believe it's important to do whatever I can to make our world a better place to live, to help clients to make informed decisions on their real estate investments, to help foster the arts and to educate our children, and to raise awareness for oppressed. If we all do a little, we will together do a lot.

Hope is in our future, and if we all do our part, we will be that much stronger as a community when we are done.

Sally Lapides can be reached at slapides@residentialproperties.com.

"The market is slower but it has not come to a halt; in fact, 312 single family homes have closed this month."

mittee for Creative Providence and its arts and cultural plan for the capital city, which will assess and recommend a cultural plan to the City.

Hopefully, the plan will be attached to the city's master plan and become a guide to public policy, private initiative

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Campers and staff enjoy Israeli dancing

Pictures courtesy of Camp JORI

Camp JORI: register now

By CAMP JORI STAFF
Special to The Voice & Herald

REGISTRATION for Camp JORI's 2009 season is in full swing and, in an effort to conserve environmental resources, JORI has joined the many camps registering campers online.

Campers are encouraged to register early for the best choice of sessions. Visit www.campjori.com and click on online registration to begin the easy, secure process. Families who require a traditional paper application may call the camp at 463-3170.

Last summer's highlights included the completion of the

Markoff Auditorium where campers and staff performed both "The Wizard of Oz" and "The Lion King."

In addition, JORI hosted AMI, a music and cultural arts group from Israel, who led workshops in songwriting, storytelling, drawing, theatre arts and provided the entire JORI community with a lively, interactive night-time concert. Other fun events included inter-camp swim meets, soccer and basketball tournaments, golfing at the Jewish Seniors Agency tournament.

The 2009 summer will offer some new adventures. Camp JORI plans to install a ropes course, purchase new sailboats,



IT'S NO FISH TALE - JORI camper Daniel Brandes, caught this fish.

and expand the mentoring program.

For more information, contact JORI at 463-3170 or campjori@hotmail.com.



Photo courtesy of Jewish Seniors Agency

TLC participants enjoy packaging Chanukah menorahs for nursing home residents.

Menorahs light the way

By JERI STAFF
Special to The Voice & Herald

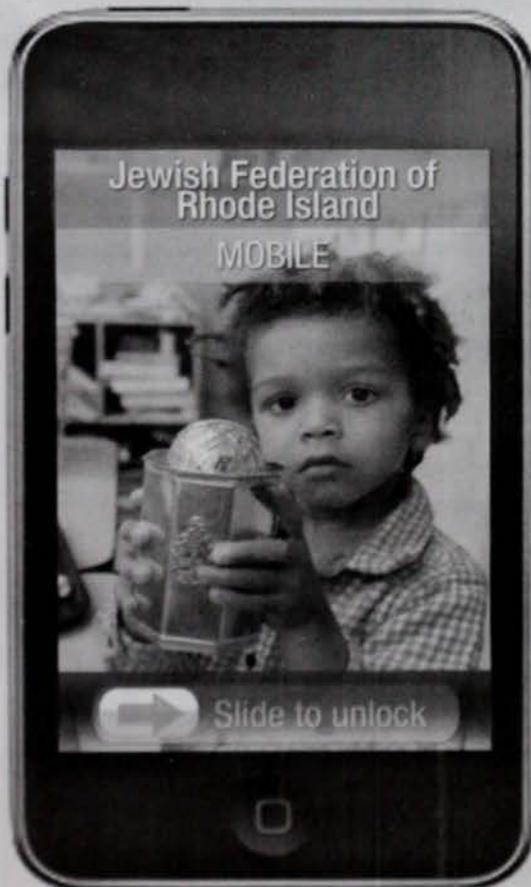
JEWISH ELDERCARE of Rhode Island (JERI) will distribute wooden Chanukah menorahs and crayon candles to Jewish individuals in nursing homes throughout the state during November.

Made by Herb Meister and painted by Camp JORI campers this past summer, the menorahs will brighten the holidays for nursing home residents.

Volunteer participants of the To Life Center Adult Day Services prepared the gifts in beautiful cloth gift bags.

If you want to volunteer with or need information about JERI, contact JERI Director Susan Adler at 621-5374 or sadler-jeri@jsari.org.

For information about To Life Center Adult Day Services, contact TLC Director Jennifer Minuto at 351-2440 or jminuto-cadc@jsari.org.



Jewish Federation of Rhode Island
www.JFRI.org

Super Sunday November 16th

Hineni
הינני
Here I am.

Answer the call!

The 2009 Annual Community Campaign Phonathon

Join us for Super Sunday on November 16th.

Count me in! I look forward to joining my community for Super Sunday, the annual phonathon, on November 16th at the JCC from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

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For more information, call 401-421-4111 x 172



Photo courtesy of American Cancer Society - R.I. Chapter

PINK WAS THE PREFERRED CLOTHING COLOR for the gray day, as thousands of walkers gather at the start line of the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Providence.

Walkers raise record \$1 million to fight breast cancer

Funds used for cancer awareness, research

BY AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY - R.I. CHAPTER
Special to The Voice & Herald

PROVIDENCE - Some 12,000 walkers and hundreds of volunteers participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Oct. 19 at Roger Williams Park in Providence, and raised \$1 million to fight breast cancer and provide

hope for all people facing this disease. This is the first time the organization has reached this milestone in Rhode Island.

Of every Making Strides Against Breast Cancer dollar donated, 94 cents is used for the organization's mission.

In 2008, there will be 182,460 new cases of breast cancer among women in the United States, with 770 here in Rhode Island.

For more information or to make a donation, visit www.cancer.org or call 1-800-ACS-2345.

Author addresses Jewish Historical Association meeting

Academics win awards for essays

BY JEWISH HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION STAFF
Special to The Voice & Herald

At the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association annual meeting on Oct. 26 at the Jewish Community Center, local author, Ronald Florence, spoke to a crowd of 125 people about his book, *Lawrence and Aaronsohn: T.E. Lawrence, Aaron Aaronsohn, and the Seeds of the Arab-Israeli Conflict*.

At that meeting, the Association announced the co-winners of its Eleanor F. Horvitz Award. James Roberts' article, which will appear in the 2008

Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes, is: "The Jamaican Misadventures of Aaron Lopez's Son-in-Law and Factor, Abraham Pereira Mendes." Barry Stiefel's article, "Touro's Place among Synagogues of the British Empire Prior to 1776," was based on a chapter in his dissertation. Dr. Stiefel was the lead author

Victoria, British Columbia.

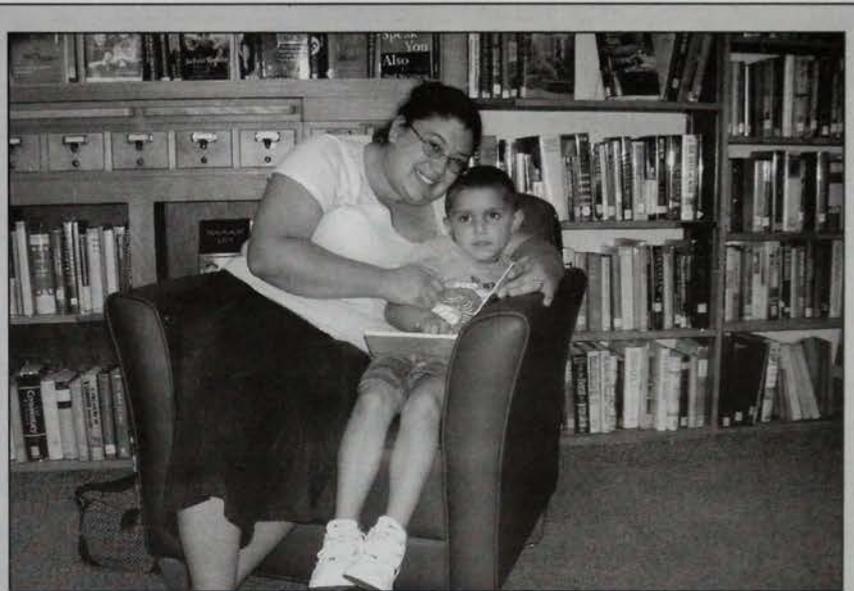
The deadline for submitting essays for next year's Horvitz Award is July 15, 2009; the awards recognize an outstanding essay written by an undergraduate or graduate student of any aspect of Rhode Island Jewish history. The winter receives a \$1,000 prize and the essay is published

in the Association's annual journal. Previous winners were students at Brandeis, Brown, Harvard, Tufts, Wellesley and the University of Rhode Island.

For additional information, please contact Anne Sherman at: 331-1360 or rjhist@aol.com.

"James Roberts and Barry Stiefel are co-winners of the Association's Eleanor F. Horvitz Award."

of an article in the 2007 *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes* about three of the oldest synagogues in the Americas: Touro and those in Recife, Brazil and



TO RENOVATE A LIBRARY

MELINDA MORELLI and her son, Raider, of Warwick, enjoy reading in one of the comfortable, new easy chairs in the recently renovated William G. Braude Library at Temple Beth-El in Providence.

Temple Beth-El hosts presentations on Reform kibbutzim, new Reform prayer book

BY TEMPLE BETH EL STAFF
Special to The Voice & Herald

DR. WILLIAM MILES, an expert on Reform kib-

butzim, will speak on "Zion In the Desert: American Jews in Israel's Reform Kibbutzim" to the synagogue's Life Long Learning Committee and the community at large on Nov. 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Miles explores core questions of identity by following a group of fellow American Jews, including one of his own Long Island high school classmates who, in the 1970s and 1980s, established the two Reform Movement kibbutzim in Jewish history.

On Nov. 14, at 7 p.m., Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman, the Barbara and Stephen Friedman Professor of Liturgy, Worship, and Ritual and Director of the Synagogue 2000 Initia-



DR. WILLIAM MILES will speak at Temple Beth-El on November 12 at 7:00 p.m.



Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman will speak on the new prayer book at Temple Beth-El.

tive for synagogue spirituality, at the HUC-JIR, New York, will speak at Temple Beth-El about the synagogue's new prayer book, *Mishkan Tefilah*. At 10:15 a.m. on Nov. 15, following Shabbat services, Rabbi Hoffman will lead congregants in a Torah study session.

For more information, contact Temple Beth-El at 331-6070.

PJ Library Calendar

Saturday, November 1

PJ Library Storytime
Temple Am David Tot Shabbat
40 Gardiner Street, Warwick
10-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 6

BOOK CLUB
Jewish Community Day School RI
85 Taft Avenue, Providence
3:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11

PJ Library Storytime
Temple Emanu-El
99 Taft Avenue, Providence
9:30-10:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 13

PJ Library Storytime
Providence Public Library
Rochambeau Branch,
Children's Library, 2nd Floor

708 Hope Street, Providence
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 14

PJ Library Storytime
Temple Emanu-El, EKS Program
99 Taft Avenue, Providence
5:45 p.m.

Sunday, November 16

PJ Library Storytime
Temple Sinai, K Room

30 Hagen Avenue, Cranston
9:45-10:45 a.m.

Sunday, November 16

PJ Library and
Temple Torat Yisrael Story
Time at CLAYGROUND
5600 Post Road, East Green
wich (in the Benny's Plaza)
3-4:30 p.m.



The PJ Library

Obituaries

Shirley (Borodach) Bellin

PROVIDENCE – Shirley (Borodach) Bellin died Sept. 28 at home. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Dr. Leonard Bellin, and her children, Steven and Phyllis Bellin of Shorashim, Israel; Susan and Howard Peskoe of Glen Rock, N.J., and David and Revital Bellin of Maalot, Israel; her grandchildren, Sarah, Oren, Ari, Yoni, Nitsan, Gilad, Adi, Ayelet, Dvir, Yair, Noam and Eitan, and her great-granddaughters, Shalhevet and Hadar.

Born in Willimantic, Conn., she was a daughter of the late Abraham and Helen Borodach. She also leaves her siblings, Sylvia Rosenthal of East Greenwich, Gerald Borodach of New York City and Barbara Kritz of Bethlehem, Penn.

A graduate of the Beth Israel Hospital School of Nursing, she was active in many organizations, including Miriam Hospital Women's Association, Hadasah and Temple Emanu-El.

Donations may be sent to the Leonard and Shirley Bellin Endowment Fund at Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906 or Odyssey Health Care, 2374 Post Rd., Suite 206, Warwick, R.I. 02886.

Arline Berman, 89

WARWICK – Arline (Klemins) Berman died Oct. 11. She was the wife of Nathan Berman to whom she was married for 67 years.

Born in Boston, she was the daughter of the late Isidore and Dora (Wolfe) Klemins. She was a member of Temple Israel in Natick where she had lived for 42 years before moving to Warwick in 2004.

Besides her husband, she leaves her sons, David Berman of Providence and Mark Berman and his wife Susan of Kingston, and her sisters, Irma Swart of Marlboro, Mass. and Joyce Richman of Rosehill, Minn.

Contributions may be sent to Kent Hospital Foundation, 455 Tollgate Rd., Warwick, R.I. 02886.

Donald S. Bernstein

CRANSTON – Donald S. Bernstein died Sept. 29 at the Scandinavian Home in Cranston. He was the husband of the late Sylvia (Premack) Bernstein.

Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, a son of the late Samuel and Sophia (Goldstein) Bernstein, he had lived in Providence for 81 years before moving to Cranston nine years ago. He owned Bernstein Optometry in Providence for 59 years, retiring nine years ago. He was a member of Touro Fraternal Association and Temple Am David.

Father of Ellen Shaw and her husband Sanford of Cranston and the late Gerald Bernstein. Brother of Lillian Ryan of Quincy, Mass. and the late Bert Bernstein. Grandfather of one, great-grandfather of three.

Contributions may be made to Temple Am David or Scandinavian Home.

Norman Bilsky, 88

CRANSTON – Norman Bilsky died Oct. 14. He was preceded in death by his wife, Caroline (Castiglioni) Bilsky, to whom he was married for 34 years.

Born in Providence, he was a son of the late Jacob and Rose (Solomon) Bilsky. A member of the U.S. Army occupation forces, he helped rebuild Japan after the bombing of Nagasaki; he received a campaign medal for his service. He worked for New England Telephone Company for more than 37 years and retired in 1983.

He leaves his children, Gail Frigon, with whom he lived, and her husband Joseph of Cranston, Norma Pigeon and her husband Gary of Warwick, Paul Bilsky and his wife Doreen of Chepachet, William Bilsky and his wife Melanie of Cranston, and Jean Pigeon and her husband Brian of Exeter. He was the brother of Morton Bilsky and his wife Lois of Framingham, Mass., and the late Donald Bilsky. Grandfather of Gary, Jacob, Jennifer and Jason Pigeon, Joshua and Samantha Bilsky, and Robert and Lauren Feeney, and great-

grandfather of Nicholas Pigeon. Contributions may be made to Providence Turners, 118 Glenbridge Avenue, Providence, R.I. 02960.

Khaya Dinaburskaya, 93

PAWTUCKET – Khaya Dinaburskaya died Sept. 25 at Miriam Hospital.

She was the wife of the late Sergei Krasnov. Born in Belarus, a daughter of the late Hertz and Racia Dinaburskiy, she had lived in Pawtucket for 16 years. Khaya was a kindergarten director in Belarus for 50 years, retiring in 1985. Mother of Eleonora and Inessa Krasnova, both of Smithfield. Sister of Mira Dinaburskaya of Pawtucket. She leaves two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to the Jewish Community Center in Providence.

Ann Gaffin, 68

PROVIDENCE – Ann Gaffin died Oct. 5. Born in Worcester, Mass., she was the wife of Alan Gaffin and mother of Michael (Sue) of Providence, Jeffrey (Valerie) and Robyn, all of New York. Grandmother of Sadie, Joshua and Allie. Contributions may be made to Temple Emanu-El Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, 99 Taft Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906.

Sheridan "Paul" Goldman, 94

PROVIDENCE – Sheridan "Paul" Goldman died Sept. 19 at home. He was the husband of the late Sylvia (Wax) Goldman.

Born in Kansas City, Mo., he was a son of the late Louis and Cora (Morgan) Goldman.

He was an Army veteran of World War II. He and his brother Milton owned and operated the former Paul Goldman Dodge, also known as Goldman Brothers Auto Sales, in South Attleboro, Mass. before he retired in 1980.

He is survived by his daughter, Ronnee Wasserman of Bristol, his grandchildren, Steven Schwartz

of Woodbury, N.Y., Judy Matt of Providence, and A.J. Wassermann of Barrington, and his great-grandchildren, Alyssa, Sabrina and Daniel Schwartz, Michael Matt and Devin Taleghani. He was the brother of the late Milton R., Goldman.

Contributions may be made to RI Home & Hospice, 169 George St., Pawtucket, R.I. 02860.

Nadine M. Greene

CRANSTON – Nadine M. Greene died Sept. 22 after a long illness. She was the wife of Richard Schoer.

Born in Providence, a devoted daughter of the late Leo and Celia (Lucksniensky) Greene, she had lived in Cranston for 30 years. Nadine was a teacher at Central Falls High School for 28 years and retired eight years ago. Sister of James Greene, Marilyn Thomas, Sana Greene and Bernice (Berne) Greene.

Contributions may be made to Children's Shelter of Blackstone Valley, 15 Gates St., Pawtucket, R.I. 02861 or American Cancer Society, 931 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 3004, Warwick, R.I. 02886.

Beatrice Ruth Horenstein, 93

WARWICK – Beatrice Ruth Horenstein died Oct. 20 at home. She was preceded in death by her husband, Sheldon Horenstein, and her daughter, Joyce Watkins.

Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Louis and Goldie (Rosen) Chester. She leaves her children, Lynda and Richard, both of Warwick; her granddaughter, Stephanie, and great-grandchildren, Andrew and Joseph; as well as her brother Samuel Chester of Cranston.

Contributions may be made to Hospice of Nursing Placement, Inc., 334 East Ave., Pawtucket, R.I. 02860.

Gloria Medoff Kelman

PORTLAND, Ore. – Gloria Medoff Kelman, formerly of Hadley, Mass., passed away on Oct. 8. She was the wife of Gideon Freudmann and mother of Natasha and Sarina.

Gloria is survived by brothers Daniel Kelman and his wife Susan Rand Brown of Hartford, Conn., John Kelman and his wife Christine of Orange, Conn., and David Kelman of West Hartford, Conn., as well as six nieces and nephews.

Born and raised in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Fred and Libby (Medoff) Kelman.

A graduate of George Washington University, Gloria was diagnosed with breast cancer nearly eight years ago. Gloria was an artist, well-respected for jewelry design, graphic arts and photography.

Contributions may be made to the Quest Center for Integrative Health/Gloria Kelman Fund, c/o Jo Brody, Program Manager, 2901 East Burnside Avenue, Portland, Ore. 97214.

Estelle Kortick, 87

EAST GREENWICH – Estelle Kortick died Oct. 7 at Rhode Island Hospital. She was the wife of the late Ernest Kortick.

Born in Fall River, Mass., a daughter of the late John and Dora (Sleprow) Manick, she had lived in East Greenwich for 18 months and had previously lived in Boynton Beach, Fla. She was a life member of Hadassah.

Mother of Debi Gordon and her husband, Marvin, of East Greenwich and Jan Margolies and her husband, Alan, of Jacksonville, Fla. Grandmother of Brian and Lindsay Gordon and Ali Margolies. Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 931 Jefferson Blvd, Suite 3004, Warwick, R.I. 02886.

SEE OBITUARIES, Page 32

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Joseph L. Margolis, 101

WARWICK — Joseph L. Margolis died Sept. 24. He was preceded in death by his wife Anna (Davidson) Margolis to whom he had been married for 77 years, and his son Michael. Born in Providence, he was a son of the late Morris and Helen (Schiffnagel) Margolis. He owned Industrial Supply Company and, after working for more than 65 years, he retired in 1995.

He had been president of South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association and Sharee Zedek Synagogue.

He leaves his daughters-in-law, Susan Smith of Providence and Patricia Margolis Alessandro of Fla.; his grandchildren, Dr. Gary Margolis and his wife Dr. Penny Shull of Richmond, Va., Dr. Amy Delorie and her husband Dr. Christopher Delorie of Stratham, N.H., Dr. Debra Margolis and her husband Dr. Robert Dorf of Merrimack, N.H.; seven great-grandchildren; and his great-nephews, Dr. Henry Margolis and his wife Marla Shatkin of Natick, Mass., and Dr. Marshall Margolis and his wife Carol Drake of Freehold, N.J.; one great-niece and two great-great nephews. He was the brother of the late Louis Margolis.

Contributions may be made to Tamarisk Assisted Living, 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick, R.I. 02886.

Ida (Dabrusin) Martin, 94

WORCESTER, Mass. — Ida (Dabrusin) Martin died Sept. 24 at the Worcester Jewish Health Care Center. She was the wife of the late Jason Martin.

Born in Peekskill, N.Y., she was a daughter of the late Hyman and Lena (Bass) Dabrusin. She had lived in New Bedford for 40 years before moving to Florida and then to Worcester.

She was a life member of Hadassah, and a former member of Brandeis, National Council of Jewish Women, Tifereth Israel and its Sisterhood, and the New Bedford Jewish Convalescent Home. She is survived by her children; Kenneth Martin of Boynton Beach, Fla., William Martin of

Long Meadow, Mass., and Lawrence Martin of Shrewsbury, Mass.; her sister, Rose Levinson of Irvine, Calif.; seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Samuel and Alex Dabrusin.

Contributions may be made to the Jason Martin Scholarship Fund, c/o Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford, 467 Hawthorn St., N. Dartmouth, Mass. 02747.

David Newman, 87

NARRAGANSETT — David Newman of Delray Beach, Fla. died Sep. 29 at his summer residence in Narragansett. He was the husband of Nina Newman for more than 62 years. Born in Poland in 1921, he was a survivor of the Holocaust and a founding member of the Holocaust Survivors of Rhode Island.

Mr. Newman was a plumbing and heating contractor and a land developer in Rhode Island for 45 years, retiring 13 years ago.

He was a member of Temple Beth David and the RI Jewish Fraternal Association. He had been a past president of Providence Plantations Lions Club, a past member of Congregation Shaare Zedek and the Master Plumbers Association.

He is survived by his sons Leonard Newman of Wakefield and Michael Newman of Barrington and their respective wives, June and Lisa, and his grandchildren, Jacob, Peter and Benjamin. Contributions may be made to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.

Hattie Rice, 94

WARWICK — Hattie Rice died Oct. 24 at Brentwood Nursing Home. She was the wife of the late Theodore Rice.

Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Nathan and Annie (Vinoker) Slobodinsky. Hattie and her husband owned and operated Nathan's Express for more than 50 years. She was a former member of Temple Am David.

Mother of Ira and Sharon Rice of Cranston, grandmother of Amy and Pamela, great-grandmother of Phillip, Samuel and Maya. Sister of the late Morris Slobin, Harry Slobodinsky and Rose Brookner.

Contributions may be made to Temple Am David.

Florence Silverman, 95

PAWTUCKET — Florence Silverman died Sept. 2 at home. She was the wife of the late Harold Silverman. Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Raphael and Mamie (Nelson) Silverstein. A lifelong resident of Rhode Island, she had worked as an interior designer.

She leaves her daughter, Sue Sirota and her husband Jonathan of Sudbury, Mass.; her grandsons, Mark Sirota and his wife Michelle and Josh Sirota and his wife Betsy Slattery; great-grandchildren Benjamin, Leah, and Alex Sirota. She was the aunt of Muriel Port Stevens and great-aunt of Peter Stevens and Ruth Stevens Olson. She was preceded in death by her brother, Sidney Silverstein, her sisters, Anna Port and Pearl Shore, and her nephew, Stanford Stevens.

Contributions may be sent to Muriel Port Stevens Endowment Fund, RI Philharmonic Orchestra, 667 Waterman Ave., East Providence, R.I. 02914 or Hospice of Nursing Placement, 334 East Ave., Pawtucket, R.I. 02860.

Norma (Gladstone) Soforenko

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Norma (Gladstone) Soforenko died Oct. 9. Born in Fall River, she was a daughter of the late Alexander and Etta (Maker) Gladstone.

A graduate of Rhode Island College, she was active in the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and recently retired from her position with the Bureau of Labor and Statistics.

She is survived by her children, Joel Soforenko, Marjorie Soforenko, and Cynthia MacLeod and her husband Robert; her grandchildren, Daniel, Jeffrey, Julie, Carolyn and Michael; her brothers, Larry Gladstone and his wife Elaine and Arthur Gladstone and his wife Maxine. She was preceded in death by her brother Bernard Gladstone and her sister-in-law Harriet (Fishbein) Gladstone.

Contributions may be made to The American Cancer Society.

Rita G. (Gotlib) Solomon, 88

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — Rita G. (Gotlib) Solomon, a lifetime resident of New Bedford, died Sept. 21.

Born in New Bedford, she was the daughter of the late Israel and Gennie (Lansky) Gotlib. She worked for several years in the textile mills in New Bedford and later for Cherry & Webb, the Star Store, and the Record Center. She belonged to Tifereth Israel Congregation and its Sisterhood, and the Sisterhood of Ahavath Achim; she volunteered at the Brockton Veterans' Hospital.

She leaves her children, Hope J. Silva and Lloyd Solomon and his wife Brenda all of New Bedford; her grandchildren, Judith Souza, Deborah Medeiros and her husband Michael, Beth Silva and her husband Darius, Amy Solomon, Ronald Solomon; and nine great grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Milton and Annie Gotlib and Evelyn Ladinsky, and grandmother of the late Antone Souza.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Alvin Waksler, 83

PROVIDENCE — Alvin Waksler died Sept. 23 in Providence. He was the husband of Adele (Rosen) Waksler to whom he'd been married for 58 years. Born in Providence, a son of the late Israel and Eva (Sief) Waksler, he had lived in Cranston for more than 50 years.

He served in Europe during World War II. He was an electrical hardware salesman before he retired in 1996. Father

of Ilene Moore and her husband Dennis of Cranston and David Waksler and his fiancée Cathy Vachon of Smithfield. Brother of Jerome Waksler and his wife Carole of Somerset, Mass. and the late Harvey Waksler. Grandfather of Jason Moore and his wife Kristine of Cranston, and uncle of Tracy and Craig.

Dorothy Ann (Gold) Weinberg, 86

PAWTUCKET — Dorothy Ann "Dottie" (Gold) Weinberg died Oct. 2. She was the wife of the late Marcus Leon Weinberg. Born in St. Joseph, Mo., the daughter

of the late Jack H. and Fannie M. (Rositzky) Gold, she had moved to Providence at the age of 18.

She worked at the former Peerless Furs and the former Murray's Jewelers, and retired in 1975. A volunteer at Miriam Hospital, she was a former member of Crestwood Country Club, Hadassah, Temple Emanu-El and its Sisterhood, and Temple Beth-El. She is survived by her children; Shelley W. Lynch of Pawtucket and Michael H. Weinberg of Groton, Mass.; her grandchildren, Dana D. Weinberg, Gregory O. Trautman and Jacque M. Lynch, and her great-grandchildren, Emily, Natalie and Juliet. She was the mother-in-law of the late Paula D. Weinberg.

Contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 245 Waterman St., Providence, R.I. 02906.

Leonard Zuckerman, 85

LONGBOAT KEY, Fla. — Leonard J. Zuckerman died Oct. 6. He was the husband of Adele (Shuster) Zuckerman.

Born in New York City, a son of the late Harry and Helen (Lehman) Zuckerman, he had lived in Providence for 40 years before moving to Florida in 1990.

Mr. Zuckerman was a former officer of Ralph Shuster, Inc., a non-ferrous metal recycling company before retiring in 1990.

A World War II veteran, he served in Europe as a bombardier and received a Purple Heart. He was a member of Temple Emanu-El and a former member of Ledgemont Country Club.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his children, Kenneth Zuckerman and his wife Linda of North Kingstown, Debra Zuckerman of Providence, and Robert Zuckerman and his wife Carol of Bristol; and his grandchildren, Alix, Lindsey, Paige and Mikayla. He was the brother of the late Mildred Fisher.

Contributions may be made to a Jewish Family Service in your area.

D'VAR TORAH**Channeling Negative into Positive**

PARASHAT NOACH
GENESIS 6:9-11:32

This week's parashah reminds us that righteous people can learn from the less righteous.

BY RABBI ABBA WAGENSBERG
Special to The Voice & Herald

THIS WEEK'S Torah portion opens with the following statement: "Noah was an *ish* (man) *tzaddik* (righteous person) *tamim* (who was completely righteous)" (Genesis 6:9). The word *ish* is a compliment in its own right, and the additional descriptions heap honor upon honor on Noah. No other personality is described with so many consecutive praises in one verse!

The first verse in the Book of Psalms teaches: "Fortunate is the man who has not gone in the counsel of the wicked, and has not stood in the path of sinners, and has not sat in the company of scoffers." The Midrash Socher Tov, in the name of Rabbi Yehuda, comments that the phrase "Fortunate is the man," refers to Noah.

Why is Noah described as "fortunate"? According to Midrash, Noah was fortunate in that he did not follow the ways of the three categories

of people (wicked, sinners, scoffers) cited in Psalms. These categories correspond to the three generations that arose in the world over the course of Noah's lifetime: the generation of Enosh (Adam's grandson, who initiated the practice of idolatry); the generation of the flood (immersed in immoral behavior); and the generation of the dispersion (who built the Tower of Babel in order to wage war against God). It was Noah's good fortune that he did not go in the path of any of these three generations.

NOAH SURROUNDED BY EVIL

The Midrash teaches us that Noah spent his entire life surrounded by evil and wickedness, yet he managed to make himself into one of the most righteous people who ever lived. This is a remarkable feat. How is it possible for a person to maintain such a high level of spirituality while surrounded by an environment of depravity and corruption?

Ben Zoma says, "Who is a wise person? One who learns

CALENDAR: Community happenings

From Page 17

MORE INFO: 463-7944

Intro to Judaism Class

Four-month course that will run through March 19, sponsored by the R.I. Reform community. Mixes study, discussion and practical experiences. Partners in inter-faith relationships encouraged to enroll together.

WHERE: Temple Beth-El, Orchard Ave., Providence

WHEN: 7-9 p.m.

COST: \$160/person, \$225/couple

MORE INFO: 331-6070, or e-mail religiousschool@temple-beth-el.org

Circle of Consolation

Supportive circle for those who have lost a loved one, led by Dr. Judith Lubiner and Rabbi Amy Levin.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

MORE INFO: 785-1800

Veterans Shabbat

Dinner and service to honor veterans

WHERE: Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston

WHEN: 6 p.m., with dinner to follow

COST: \$18

MORE INFO: RSVP 785-1800

Shabbat Hallelu

A service in song, first Friday of every month

WHERE: Temple Beth-El, Orchard Ave., Providence

WHEN: 7 p.m.

MORE INFO: 331-6070

FRIDAY

November 7

Educational Weekend

Temple Emanu-El's educational weekend will focus on "The Eradication and Rebirth of Jewish Life in Germany," with guest lecturer will be Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, chancellor emeritus at JTS, who will talk about the legacy that was lost. Shabbat dinner to follow.

WHERE: Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence

WHEN: 7 p.m.

MORE INFO: 331-1616 to RSVP

Yiddish Shmooz

Mara Sokolsky, librarian at Temple Emanu-El, will share stories in impeccable Yiddish. Also, a sing-along of well-known Yiddish songs.

WHEN: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: JCCRI, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence

MORE INFO: 861-8800, ext. 107

SUNDAY

November 9

Kristallnacht Concert

Presented by Temple Emanu-El in partnership with the Holocaust Education and Resource Center of Rhode Island, with guest narrator Leonard Nimoy

WHERE: Veterans Memorial Auditorium

WHEN: 7 p.m.

MORE INFO: 331-1616

MONDAY

November 10

Legal Wellness

Seminar for baby boomers and senior adults with Rhode Island Elder Law Attorney David J. Strachman. Topics include: living wills, health care proxies, powers of attorney, wills. Q & A follows.

WHERE: JCCRI, 401 Elmgrove

Ave., Providence

WHEN: 7 p.m.

MORE INFO: 861-8800 ext.107 to RSVP

Knitting Circle

Join the JFRI Women's Alliance Community Service Committee to knit baby blankets for "Shalom Baby" bags that are given to all new mothers in the community.

WHERE: Home of Karen Triedman Markoff, 99 Presidents Ave., Providence

WHEN: 7-9 p.m.

MORE INFO: 421-4111 ext. 163 to RSVP

Documentary films

Screening of two films on genocide, human rights, focused on Jewish, Armenian experiences.

Where: Studio Cinema, 376 Trapelo Rd., Belmont, Mass.

WHEN: 7 p.m.

MORE INFO: (617) 566-7557

COST: \$7

TUESDAY

November 11

Jewish literacy classes

South County Jewish Collaborative, in collaboration with Providence Community Kollel, will conduct four eight-week sessions, meeting one evening a week.

WHEN: 7:30 - 9 p.m.

WHERE: The South County Jewish Collaborative, 375 Kingstown Road, Narragansett

MORE INFO: 463 3451, or e-mail mskaufman@verizon.net.

COST: \$36 donation for eight-week session

WEDNESDAY

November 12

Weighing the options

Experts at The Miriam Hospital discuss weight loss strategies

WHERE: Lafayette House, 109 Washington St., Foxboro, Mass.

WHEN: 6-8:30 p.m.

MORE INFO: 444-4800

THURSDAY

November 13

JERI Satellite Office Hours

Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island holds "drop-in" satellite office hours. Director Susan Adler and Assistant Director Ethan Adler will be available to counsel and advise seniors and their families.

WHERE: Sakonnet Bay Manor, 1215 Main Road Tiverton

WHEN: 10-11:30 a.m.

MORE INFO: 621-5374

FRIDAY

November 14

New Prayerbook Inauguration

Reform Judaism's new prayerbook, *Mishkan T' Filah*, will be inaugurated at Temple Beth-El, featuring an address by Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman.

WHERE: Temple Beth-El, Orchard Ave., Providence

WHEN: 7 p.m.

MORE INFO: 331-6070

Tot Shabbat Dinner

A celebration for families with kids under age six.

WHERE: Temple Etz Chaim, 900 Washington St., Franklin, Mass.

WHEN: 6 p.m.

MORE INFO: (508) 528-5337, or e-mail earlychildhood@temple-etzchaim.org.

COST: \$4 kids, \$7 adults

SUNDAY

November 16

Nourish Your World

A conference for Jewish women in Southern New England, sponsored by Providence Community Kollel

WHERE: JCCRI, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence

WHEN: 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

MORE INFO: 273-3923

TUESDAY

November 18

Jewish Parenting, Children with Special Needs

A workshop by Betsy Singer Cable, LICSW, LCPD, ACSW as part of Keshet Program.

WHERE: Agudas Achim, 901 N. Main St., Attleboro, Mass.

WHEN: 7-8 p.m.

MORE INFO: Nicole Jellinek at keshet@agudasma.org or 338-8301.

SUNDAY

November 23

Installation of Rabbi Asher C. Oser

Featuring Rabbi Dr. David Horwitz, Rabbi Sidney Shoha, chair in Rabbinic and Community Leadership at Yeshiva University, followed by a champagne brunch.

WHERE: Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence

WHEN: 11 a.m.

COST: Brunch \$18 per person

MORE INFO: 621-3393 or office-bethsholom@yahoo.com

D'VAR TORAH

From Previous Page

from everyone" (Avot 4:1). It seems reasonable for us to want to learn from righteous people - but what is wise about learning from the wicked? The Berditchiver Rebbe remarks that righteous people are able to perceive positive qualities in even the most negative situations. From everything they encounter, they learn how to serve God better.

Noah epitomized this ability to channel negative forces toward a higher purpose. Instead of being corrupted by his evil generation, Noah used it as an opportunity for spiritual growth. He had

the "best" teachers available! All Noah had to do was learn to take their ingenuity, arrogance, passion, jealousy and zeal, and use them in a productive, constructive way to get closer to God.

May we all learn how to transform the power of every energy and drive into positive action in order to become the best we can possibly be.

Rabbi Abba Wagensberg is a disciple of Rabbi Chaim Pinchas Scheinberg, and is a popular lecturer in Jerusalem. Originally from New Jersey, he and his family live in the Old City of Jerusalem.

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Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave.
Temple Torat Yisrael Mealsite
Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave.
The Waters Edge, 2190 Broad St.
Ursula's European Pastries, 1860 Broad Street
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Blossoms Florist
Felicia's Coffee (5757 Post Rd.)
East Providence:
Town Wine & Spirits
Centre Court Tennis Club
Middletown
Temple Shalom
Narragansett
Cong. Beth David
Newport
Inn on Bellevue
Touro Synagogue
North Kingstown
JW Graham
Wickford Flowers
Daves
North Kingston Library
South Kingston
Temple Shalom
Pawtucket:
East Side Eden, 1 Alfred Stone Road
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Yarn outlet
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Clark the Florist
Coffee Exchange
Cong. Beth Shalom, 275 Camp St.
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Wakefield Prescription
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Majestic Cleaners, 3868 Post Rd.
Shalom 1 & 2, 1 Shalom Drive
Tamarisk, 3 Shalom Drive
Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St.
Warwick Public Library
West Warwick:
Galaxy II
Wickford:
J. W. Graham
Wickford Flowers



Rhoda and Sherwin Zaidman

50th Wedding Anniversary

Rhoda and Sherwin Zaidman of Warwick celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 15, 2008. They celebrated with a party, hosted by their children, at Twin Oaks later in June, and a family cruise to Alaska.

Wedding

Hyla Kaplan, daughter of **Dan and Cindy Kaplan** of Barrington, and **David Rosenberg**, son of **Carole and the late Norman Rosenberg** of Monroe Township, New Jersey, were married June 22 in Philadelphia.

Rabbi Peter Riger officiated. **Cara Kaplan**, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, while **Adam Rosenberg** was his brother's best man. Other attendants included **Adam Kaplan**, brother of the bride; **Jennifer Rosenberg**, sister-in-law of the groom; and twin flower girls, **Abby and Sophie Rosenberg**, nieces of the groom. The bride, who received her B.A. from Emory University and J.D. from American University Washington College of Law, practices immigration law with the firm of Fragomen, DelRey,



David and Hyla Rosenberg

Bernsen & Loewy in Philadelphia.

The groom, who received his B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis and his M.S.W. from the University of Pennsylvania, works

for the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia as the Director of the Center for Social Responsibility.

After a wedding trip to Hawaii, the couple reside in Philadelphia.

Engagement

Nikki May Parness, originally of Cumberland, R.I., and **Michael Harris Snyder**, originally of Randolph, Mass., announce their engagement. The bride is the daughter of **Larry and Shelley Parness** of Narragansett. She earned her undergraduate degree from Boston University and MBA from Bentley College and currently works as a principal systems analyst with Fidelity Investments in Boston.

The groom is the son of **Bonnie and Harvey Gersham** of Waltham, Mass. and **Martin Snyder** of Randolph, Mass. He earned his undergraduate degree and MBA from Bentley College and is currently a compliance officer at State Street in Boston.

They will marry in the summer of 2009.



Michael Harris Snyder and Nikki May Parness

We are read everywhere

Where in the world will we go next?

Eilat, Israel

ON A RECENT TRIP TO ISRAEL, this group, visited Eilat with *The Voice & Herald*. Left to right: Mark Kaplan, Sheree Kaplan-Allen, Cindy Kaplan and David Allen (all of Massachusetts), Carol and Dr. Jeffrey Stanger of Florida, and Josh and Cindy Teverow of Narragansett.



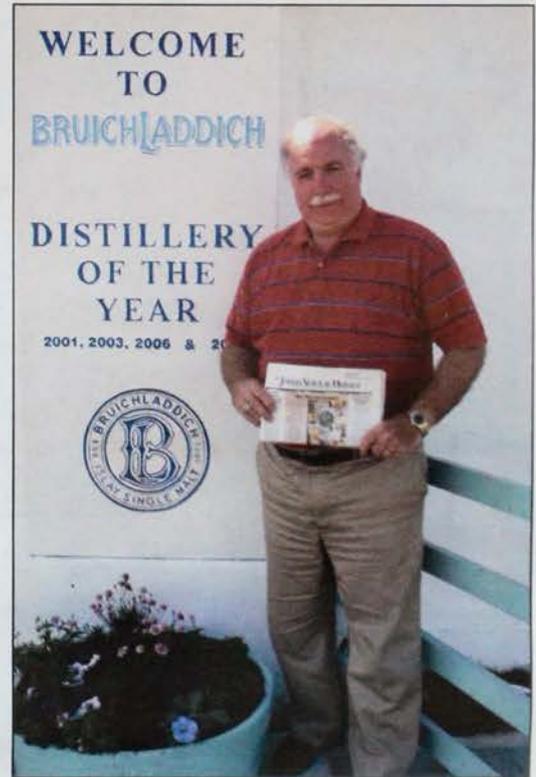
London

HAIM SHAMOON, left, with his brother, Sam Shamoan, of Providence, outside the Bevis Marks Synagogue in London, England.



Scotland

ELLIOT FISHBEIN with *The Voice & Herald* in front of the Bruichladdich Distillery in Scotland, where he completed a master class this summer.



We have now been to:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Antarctica
 Africa: Tanzania, South Africa
 Azores: Ponta Del Gada
 Canada: Quebec City, British Columbia
 Caribbean: Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Cruises, Bonaire, St. Thomas, Caymen Islands, Ocho Rios
 England: London
 Russia: Moscow
 Turkey: Istanbul
 Austria: Vienna
 Croatia: Dubrovnik
 Czech Republic: Prague
 England: London
 France: Paris
 Germany
 Greece
 Hungary: Budapest
 Iceland: Reykjavik
 Italy: Rome, Tuscany, Venice
 Poland: Warsaw
 Ukraine: Kharkov
 Cambodia: Angkor Wat
 China: Beijing, The Great Wall</p> | <p>India: Taj Mahal, Mumbai
 Japan: Okinawa
 Laos
 Mongolia
 Nepal
 Taiwan
 Scotland:
 Singapore
 Spain: Barcelona
 Thailand: Bangkok, Sukothai
 Vietnam: Ho Chi Minh City
 Egypt: Luxor
 Israel: Tiberias, Jerusalem, Masada, Golan Heights
 Jordan
 Argentina: Buenos Aires
 Brazil
 Colombia: Bogota
 Peru: Chiclayo
 Uzbekistan
 United States:
 Alaska, Arizona, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Washington</p> |
|---|---|

The Voice & Herald invites readers to take a copy of the paper on their next trip and send us a photo. Photos can be e-mailed to voiceherald@jfri.org, with "We are read everywhere" in the subject line. Or, send to JV&H at 130 Sessions St., Providence, R.I., 02906.

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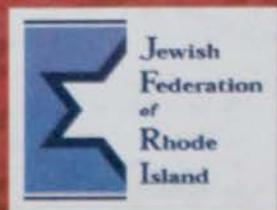
הנני *Hineni*



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Here I am.



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