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HANUKKAH PLANNING



Kirk Douglas

Kirk Douglas, on his 100th birthday, looks back – and ahead

BY TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES (JTA) – Kirk Douglas – actor, director, producer, author, philanthropist and Torah student – is celebrating his 100th birthday on Dec. 9, and there's a special treat in store for the centenarian.

Douglas has been under strict medical orders to abstain from alcohol, but his cardiologist, Dr. P.K. Shah, promised the actor that if he made it to 100, he could have a glass of vodka. So at an afternoon tea party at an event space in Beverly Hills, Shah will be in attendance to personally administer the medication.

Some 150 other guests will fete Douglas, ranging from his extended family, including three sons and seven grandchildren, to old friends and Hollywood luminaries.

Also on hand will be Rabbi David Wolpe of Sinai Temple in West Los Angeles, who has directed Douglas' weekly Torah studies for many years. Wolpe also officiated at the actor's second bar mitzvah, when Douglas – then only 83 – declared, "Today, I am a man."

Hosting the event will be Kirk Douglas' son, Oscar-winner Michael Douglas, and his wife, actress Catherine Zeta-Jones, who will also welcome leaders of numerous charities and institutions in the United States and Israel that have received approximately $118 million over the years from Douglas and his wife, Anne.

"You have to give back," Douglas once explained. "I came from abject poverty. I didn't dream of becoming a millionaire. So you have to pay back."

On Dec. 9, 1916, Kirk Douglas was born in the upstate New York town of Amsterdam as Issur Danielovitch, the son of an illiterate Russian-Jewish immigrant who supported his

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PHOTO | VOICE FILE

9 things you didn't know about Hanukkah

BY JULIE WIENER

(MyJewishLearning via JTA) – Hanukkah, which starts at sundown on Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve – is among the most widely celebrated Jewish holidays in the United States. But that doesn't mean there is nothing new to learn about this eight-day festival.

From the mysterious origins of *gelt* to an apocryphal beheading to Marilyn Monroe, we've compiled an item for each candle (don't forget the *shamash*!) on the Hanukkah menorah.

1. *Gelt* as we know it is a relatively new tradition — and no one knows who invented it.

While coins – "*gelt*" is Yiddish for coins, or money – have been part of Hanukkah observance for centuries, chocolate *gelt* is considerably younger. In her book "On the Chocolate Trail," Rabbi Deborah Prinz writes that "opinions differ" concerning the origins of chocolate *gelt*: Some credit America's Loft candy company with creating it in the 1920s while others suggest there were earlier European versions that inspired Israel's Elite candy company. Prinz notes, as well, that chocolate *gelt* resembles a European Christmas tradition of exchanging gold-covered chocolate coins "commemorating the miracles of St. Nicholas."

2. The first Hanukkah celebration was actually a delayed *Sukkot* observance.

The second book of Maccabees quotes from a letter sent circa 125 BCE from the Hasmoneans, the Maccabees' descendants, to the leaders of Egyptian Jewry describing the holiday as "the festival of *Sukkot* celebrated in the month of *Kislev* rather than *Tishrei*." Since the Jews were still in caves fighting as guerrillas during *Tishrei*, 164 BCE, they had been unable to honor the eight-day holiday of *Sukkot*, which required visiting the Jerusalem Temple. Hence it was postponed until after the recapture of Jerusalem and the rededication of the Temple.

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THIS ISSUE'S QUOTABLE QUOTE

"We light candles each night in order to increase holiness in the world."

New Hanukkah stamp features a *hanukkiah*

BY LARRY KATZ
lkatz@jewishallianceri.org

The U.S. Postal Service has issued a new Hanukkah stamp for 2016. It depicts a *hanukkiah* (a menorah for Hanukkah) in a window through which one can see snow-covered branches.

In 1996, 34 years after the first Christmas stamp was issued in the United States, the Postal Service issued its first Hanukkah stamp jointly with Israel, sharing the same design. Since then, the stamp has been redesigned twice: in 2004, when it showed a dreidel, and in October 2009, when it was a *hanukkiah*.

The Postal Service now issues many holiday stamps, such as for the Eid festivals of Islam, the African-American Kwanzaa and the Hindu holiday of Diwali.

Only a few other countries issue Hanukkah stamps. Grenada's stamp features Disney characters playing with a dreidel.

Hanukkah stamps were not the first "Jewish" stamps issued by the United States, but we cannot compete with some countries, such as Hungary and Ukraine, which issue many stamps depicting Jewish ritual objects and synagogues. However, many Rhode Islanders remember the Touro Synagogue stamp from 1982, showing the only synagogue ever depicted on an American stamp.

For the bicentennial, the Postal Service issued stamps



2016 Hanukkah stamp.



2001 Hanukkah stamp.

depicting Haym Salomon and Bernard Revel, who was shown wearing a *kippah*.

Alan Shawn Feinstein even got his children on a postage stamp, though not an American stamp.

There are also stamps that honor Jews indirectly, such as by using their photographs, paintings or sculptures to depict other people. Joe Rosenthal's photograph of the raising



1945 stamp.

of the American flag over Iwo Jima is an example.

The Jewish connections of other stamps are not always as easy to figure out. When the Postal Service issued a stamp honoring Los Angeles class submarines, only the scarcely



2004 Hanukkah stamp.

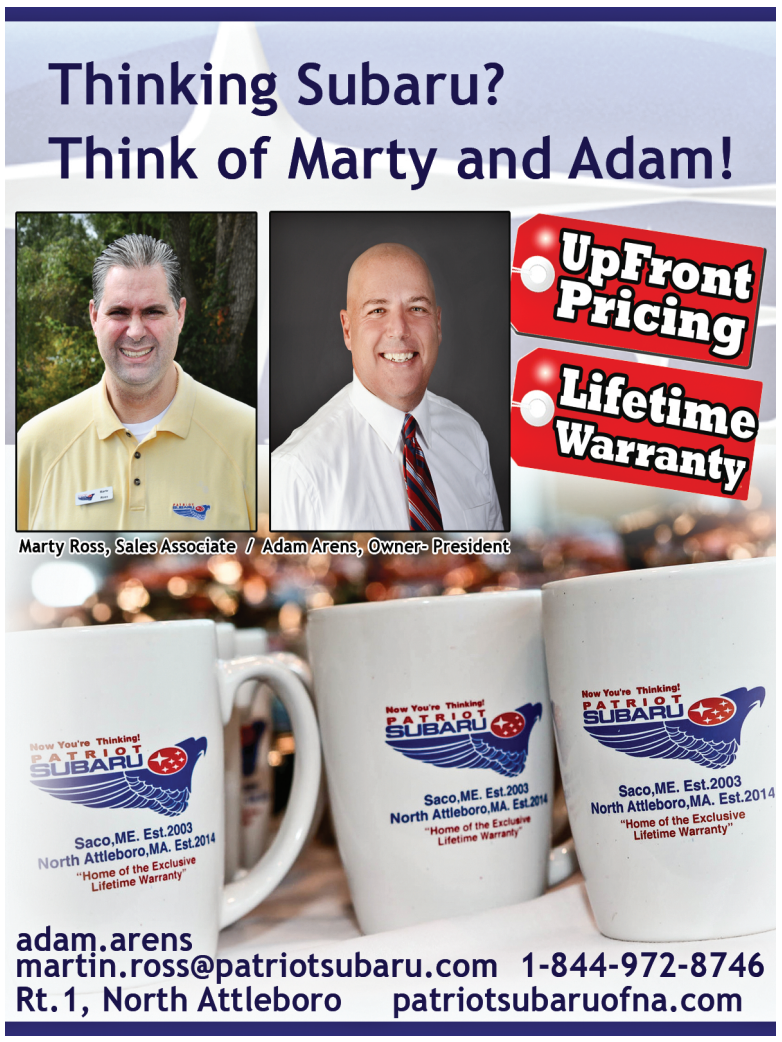
noticeable hull number of the pictured sub gave any indication that the submarine was named for a Jew, Adm. Hyman G. Rickover.

Similarly, the U.S. recently issued stamps to honor "Star Trek." One featured the Vulcan salute, which the late Leonard Nimoy made famous. Nimoy was very open about how he decided on that greeting: He copied it from the way *kohanim* (members of the Jewish priestly class) hold their hands when asking God to bestow blessings on the congregation in Orthodox and some Conservative synagogues.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Gary Goodman (garygoodman@talktalk.net) publishes a monthly e-letter on the subject of Jewish stamps. It is distributed free to those who contact him.

LARRY KATZ is director of Jewish life and learning at the Jewish Alliance. You can contact him to learn more about stamps with Jewish themes (lkatz@jewishallianceri.org).





Introducing the Voice's 'Q&A column' and Rabbi Jablow

BY SAM SERBY

With this issue, The Jewish Voice is inaugurating a column designed to give insight into our community leaders. Rabbi Steven Jablow is the first Jewish leader featured in our "Q&A column."

Rabbi Jablow has been Hillel's executive director and Jewish chaplain for seven years, and has recently become a full-time faculty member at the university.

Born and raised in Belmont, Massachusetts, Jablow has been a Jewish educator, including for 20 years at the Jewish Community Day School in Providence, as well as a curriculum writer, program director and administrator.

After three decades in education, Jablow achieved his lifelong goal to become a rabbi, entering the rabbinate after completing his studies at the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College, in Newton, Massachusetts.

Recently, Bryant's president, Ronald K. Machtley, and Jablow announced an initiative to grow Jewish life and culture on campus, increase Jewish enrollment and offer more Jewish-focused classes (see accompanying story on this page). Jablow teaches Bryant's first Jewish studies course, Philosophy of Religion: Judaism.

Rabbi Jablow, 57, lives on the East Side of Providence. He is married with three adult children.

SAM SERBY of East Greenwich, attended Temple Sinai. He is a recent graduate of Johnson & Wales University.

Twelve Questions with Rabbi Steven Jablow

Q: Favorite Jewish food?
A: Matzah for Pesach.

Q: Favorite Jewish holiday?
A: Pesach. Why? It is just so much work, which makes you appreciate it.

Q: Favorite Jewish song?
A: *Sheva Brachot* at a wedding.

Q: Favorite Jewish movies?
A: "Crossing Delancey" and "The Frisco Kid."

Q: Favorite Jewish celebrities?
A: David Broza (musician), Gene Wilder, Stephen Spielberg.

Q: Favorite Israeli city to visit?
A: Jerusalem.

Q: Favorite Israeli city to live?
A: Galilee

Q: Favorite Hebrew word and why?
A: Shalom – the word for peace – much of the work we try to do here at Bryant is for peace, and the word is so similar in Arabic (Salaam). So, when I meet an Arabic-speaking student, I can greet him, which sometimes opens doors for conversation.

Q: Favorite Yiddish word?
A: *Chutzpah*.

Q: Best part of keeping Kosher, worst part of keeping Kosher?
A: Best part – I would say brisket because I have a great old family recipe. But, more seriously, it makes you think about your identity all the time.

Worst part – We don't have enough Kosher opportunities to eat in Rhode Island.



Rabbi Steven Jablow

Q: Favorite part of being Jewish?
A: That's way too hard to answer. It's everything. I see the world through Jewish lenses; I hear the world through Jewish ears. I can't see it differently. So, my favorite part is sharing it with people wherever they are along their Jewish journey.

Q: Favorite part of being a rabbi?
A: Talking with people. People are very open and honest in conversation, and it's a privilege to be in conversation with them.

Q: Favorite Jewish memory from your life/childhood?
A: From my childhood, I would say that I used to have this group of friends and we would get together after Sunday school and do something social. Sometimes we'd go bowling, sometimes we'd hang out at somebody's house. Those were pretty good memories.

Q: Greatest piece of advice someone has given you, and who gave it to you?
A: Life is complicated enough; don't screw it up by lying. (From Jablow's teacher, Rabbi Daniel Judson.)

Q: If you could have three dinner guests, living or from history, who would they be and why?
A: I think it would be quite an interesting dinner table discussion to have Abraham, Moses and Jesus there.

Bryant University announces plans to increase Jewish presence on campus

BY SAM SERBY

SMITHFIELD, R.I. – Bryant University officials on Nov. 9 announced plans to expand Jewish educational and cultural opportunities for its current student body and prospective Jewish students.

The initiative, which began without fanfare well over a year ago, includes increased Jewish-focused course offerings and programming, and a strategic plan that will focus on attracting more Jewish students to Bryant.

Rabbi Steven Jablow, a full-time faculty member and campus Hillel leader, is a key part of the plan. Jablow's appointment marks the first time a rabbi has been given such a pivotal role at Bryant, a testament to the university's desire to promote a diverse and accepting community.

Speakers at the announcement ceremony included Bryant's president, Ronald K. Machtley, Jablow, and four students, including a Hillel alumnus, a current Hillel participant, and a Catholic student and Muslim student who recently took Bryant's Jewish studies class.

The course, "Philosophy of Religion: Judaism," has proven extremely popular. According to Jablow, there is a long waiting list for next semester's class, which is currently at its 30-student capacity.

Bryant is also working to create opportunities for all students, Jewish and non-Jewish alike, in Israel. Jablow is leading this effort by traveling to Israel on behalf of the university to make face-to-face connections with learning institutions and places where Bryant students might have opportunities to study abroad or intern.

"This initiative is important to me because of my vision of what Jewish life here at Bryant could be," Jablow said. "Bryant has had Hillel since 1948, but it has always been small. I have been at Bryant for seven years and I love this place, and I see tremendous potential to make Bryant a destination school for Jewish students."



Rabbi Jablow with Hillel students and the student speakers.

SAM SERBY of East Greenwich, attended Temple Sinai. He is a recent graduate of Johnson & Wales University.



One of the best ways to fight terrorism in Israel is to help save its victims.

With Israelis grappling with nearly daily acts of terrorism, you can help ensure that those injured don't join the list of those killed. Your support of Magen David Adom, Israel's national EMS service, provides the equipment, supplies, and on-going training to keep MDA the preeminent mass-casualty medical response organization in the world. **Your donation saves lives.**

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Rosh Hashanah pilgrimage to Uman, Ukraine

BY SHAI AFSAI

I was hoping for a significant religious encounter in Uman, the central Ukrainian city that on Rosh Hashanah is inundated by thousands of Jewish men who journey to the *tziyun hakadosh* (holy grave site) of the Hassidic master Rebbe Nachman of Breslov (1772-1810).

I was also interested in the potential social and spiritual benefits of pilgrimage for members of my synagogue, Providence's Congregation Beth Sholom (CBS). Under the leadership of Rabbi Barry Dolinger, they have been pursuing old and new ways to promote meaningful religious and communal spaces.

In the months leading up to my trip, Dolinger began a weekly Shabbat afternoon class at CBS on Rebbe Nachman's teachings about prayer and meditation, which remain relevant 200 years after his passing. "On a personal level, my practice has become heavily influenced by Rebbe Nachman," Dolinger explains. "His core teachings focus on the holistic spirituality of the body, emotional states and happiness, the vitality (*chiyut*) of life and sensing the divine presence in our experiences."

The emphasis on intentional prayer, conversation with God and spending time in meditation are practices that have proven powerful, empirically, in Dolinger's life. "These are in line with the shared spiritual experience of so many (including the Hassidim), and are extremely important in our current world, in my opinion," Dolinger says. "This is intimately connected with our efforts at CBS to make intentional prayer a reality on Shabbat (through our *MeSHuGA* – Making Shabbat Great Again campaign – and also the start of Thrive (which emphasizes direct spiritual practice)."

On the eve of the last Rosh Hashanah before he passed away, Rebbe Nachman told those assembled with him in Uman, "What can I tell you? There is nothing greater than this – to be with him on Rosh Hashanah." His leading disciple, Rabbi Nathan (1780-1844), records that he and the other disciples understood this directive to be with their teacher in Uman on Rosh Hashanah as applying even after Rebbe Nachman passed away.

As the flight I took from Munich landed in Kiev, the Hassidic passengers around me burst into applause and Hebrew song: "We are joyous! How fortunate is our lot that we have merited to be close to our rabbi! Uman! Uman! Rosh Hashanah!" I would hear, and sing, these words often over the next week. They formed a sort of unofficial anthem for the pilgrimage.

Rebbe Nachman's followers' longing to be near the *tziyun hakadosh* has not been limited to Rosh Hashanah. Responding to a letter from his son urging him to return home from his travels, Rabbi Nathan explained that he planned to go to Uman and did not know how long he would remain there: "For my entire aim, and all my desire and hope, is only to be by the holy grave site many times. Perhaps I will merit communicating my prayer and pouring out my heart before God, for me and my offspring …" Rosh Hashanah sees the greatest number of pilgrims.



PHOTOS | SHAI AFSAI

In Uman, Hebrew letters cover store fronts and the sides of buildings so that from a photograph it looks more like Bnei Brak than Eastern Europe.



Pilgrims make their way to and from a central mikveh.

This year Ukrainian media reported that there were at least 30,000 Rosh Hashanah pilgrims to Uman. After reaching the city and wandering about in circles on foot for a while, I located the place where I would be staying. Hebrew letters covered store fronts and the sides of buildings in the vicinity of the *tziyun hakadosh*. From a photograph, one might not be able to tell that this was Eastern Europe and not Bnei Brak.

I had what could be considered luxury accommodations: a room containing three standard bunk beds, a refrigerator and a sink, with an adjoining bathroom. I shared the room with five other guys. It was not spacious, but aside from sleeping, there was little time to spend in the room.



Free haircuts being given to pilgrims in Uman.

Throughout the day and night, there were classes in Hebrew, English and Yiddish on topics ranging from meditation to marital harmony. There were also concerts. On Friday afternoon, there was a performance consisting entirely of musical variations on "Lecha Dodi," the mystical Hebrew poem welcoming the Sabbath Queen.

And there was prayer. A lot of prayer. At all hours, the *tziyun hakadosh* was filled with people individually or collectively pouring out their hearts before God.

SHAI AFSAI (ggbi@juno.com) lives in Providence. Afsai's full-length article on pilgrimage and prayer in Uman will appear in the upcoming issue of the journal "Parabola."

the JEWISH VOICE

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Israeli 'soldier for peace' draws a crowd at Brown University

BY MICAH ROSEN

Risking your life, forfeiting your safety, and putting yourself through hell for a higher mission. These are all sacrifices we attribute to soldiers, and they are sacrifices that Yakir Englander makes every day. But Englander does not fight for war: rather, he is a soldier for peace.

Brown University Students for Israel, joined by J Street U Brown, hosted Englander at a campus event on Nov. 16 titled "Enacting Change in the Streets of Jerusalem." The event drew a sizable audience to hear about Englander's powerful experiences working to bridge Israeli and Palestinian communities in Jerusalem and the West Bank. His interfaith youth movement, Kids4Peace, is the embodiment of his earnest belief in peace, in engagement and in mutual empowerment.

Englander grew up in an Ultra-Orthodox community in Israel, and he recounted the violent tension between his community and surrounding Palestinian communities.

Upon entering the Israeli Defense Forces, he came face to face with the trauma that the conflict causes to many innocent victims. But even in the most shocking outbreaks of violence, his first thought was always, "How can I help?" Even more powerful was the lasting impact it had on Englander: it taught him to love even more.



PHOTO | BROWN RISD HILLEL

Yakir Englander speaks at Brown.

When he finished his service in the army, Englander was deeply upset by the way many peace activists stigmatized the Orthodox Jewish religion. Religion was the soul of his life, and he by no means saw his theology as contrary to peace efforts. After earning a Ph.D. from Hebrew University, in Jerusalem, in Jewish philosophy and gender studies, he launched his grassroots peace organization, Kids4Peace.

According to its website, www.k4p.org, Kids4Peace's mission is "Transforming divided societies into communities of lasting peace." This is accomplished by international summer camps, leadership programs and a six-year, year-round program for more than 500 Palestinian, Israeli and North American youths. Englander says the organization strives to be apolitical, and reaches out to families and community members who lack resources that others might have.

But the true power, the real courage of Englander's peace efforts, comes from the risks he encounters almost every day: He has taught Israeli and Jewish history in Palestinian schools in the West Bank that were hostile to such teachings; put himself between violent protesters/army officers and Palestinians, and received countless death threats.

Englander inspires other leaders and community members to put themselves at risk to bridge the deep divides between Israelis and their neighbors. He encourages and empowers his constituents to feel safe in dangerous situations, in the interest of peace and mutual understanding.

Englander recounted the story of an Israeli father who came to him with his child, saying, "I was a bus driver, my bus was bombed [by Palestinians]. I hate them ... but I don't want my kid to hate." Kids4Peace exists precisely for this reason: To turn a heartbreaking present into a hopeful future for all.

It is no surprise that Englander's address drew people from all over the Brown University community. His message of peace, of love, and of embracing religion spoke to everyone: Yakir Englander reminded us that there is room to fight – not to burn bridges, but to build them.

MICAH ROSEN is a board member of Brown Students for Israel and a fellow at the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America.

RUDY STYNE QUADRILOGY

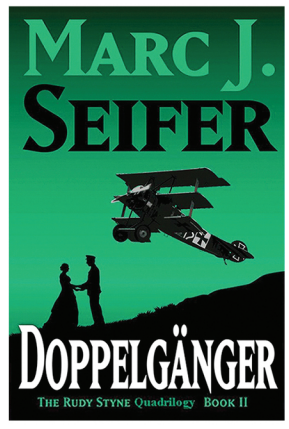
By LOCAL AUTHOR *of acclaimed Tesla biography WIZARD*

In the tradition of *Exodus* and *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* comes the sweeping story of the Maxwell's, a turn of the century Jewish family struggling to build the most prestigious airline in Bavaria.

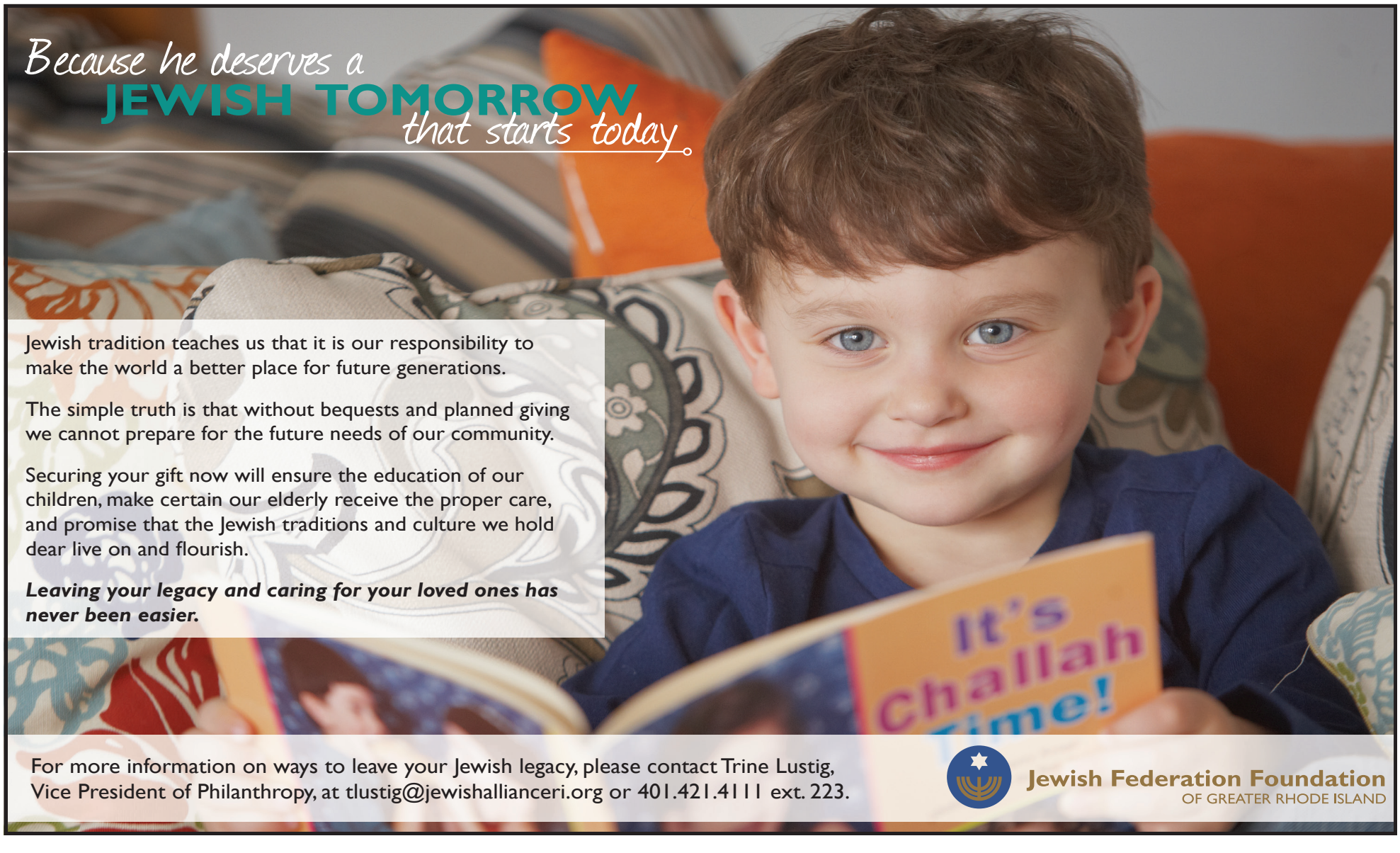
"The author's depiction of the early aviation era is thorough and interesting, and his handling of Simon [Maxwell's] torment is truly wrenching....

An often engaging thriller series installment that's worth a read!"

KIRKUS REVIEWS



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We Need Your Help: Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Survivor Project

We are in the final stages of vetting the names of the many Holocaust survivors who settled here in Rhode Island. Below is a list of names that we have collected from various organizations and individuals in anticipation of inscribing them at the Memorial site. If you know of anyone who is not included on this list, or if you notice any misspellings or incomplete names, please contact Michelle Cicchitelli at mcicchitelli@jewishallianceri.org.

We appreciate your assistance with this very special project.

Abramowitz, Henry & Rose
Adler, Betty
Adler, Edward & Gertrude
Amcis, Morris & Tilly
Bardach, Peter
Berger, Asya Eliash
Berger, Isaac & Ella
Berger, Regina & Henry
Berger, Oscar & Rose
Berger, William & Hella
Berkowitz Family *(first names needed)*
Bojar, Mr. & Mrs. *(first names needed)*
Bornstein, Jeannette
Brandt, David
Bucheister, Eli & Rachel
Cohen, Henoch
Ditman, Chaim & Freida
Donovan, Doris
Dutwin, Marcel
Eichenbaum, Alice & Ray
Elbaum, Eleanor
Eliash, Lea & Solomon
Elsner, Helga
Elsner, Mr. & Mrs. *(first names needed)*
Epstein, Lola
Faust, Jack
Feibelman, H. Jack
Fessel, Max & Chaya
Fine, Nellie & Max
Flatow, Rudy & Lilly
Flescher, Henry & Lillian
Formal, Bennett
Formal, Max & Regina
Formal, Salek
Freudenberger, Rudy & Edith
Garfunkel, Oscar & Bessie
Gastfreund, Kalman & Minna
Gastfreund, Morris & Sally
Gelade, Berek & Mania
Gelbtuch, Oscar & Freda
German, Jacob
German, Schlomo & Bella
Goldstein, Alice
Goldstein, Baruch Rabbi
Goldstein, Ruth & Abraham
Gottfried, Kitty
Grabowski, Jack & Golda
Greenstein, Herman
Hassenfeld, Tess
Hausman, Gerry
Hershkowitz Family *(first names needed)*
Heyman, Tania/Anya
Hirsch, Hellmut & Lotte
Hodes, Ann & ___ *(first name needed)*
Hoffman, Bruno & Herta
Horen, Leib & Clara
Israel, Herman & Rose
Jakubowitz Family *(first names needed)*
Jamnik, Sonia & Samuel
Jozefowicz, Jack & Hanna
Kapp, Rabbi Josif & Edith
Kempler, George
Kessler, Benjamin & Leah
Klapper, Irma & Jacob
Koerner, Abraham
Koerner, Mina
Koerner, Regina
Koerner, Schewa Geisinger
Koerner, Shlomo
Kofman, Shlomo & Pearl
Kogos, Isabel
Kalowski, Leonard & Sonia
Koszerowski, Sala & Henry
Krahn, Deorothee Einstein
Krasa, Edgar
Kraus, Sylvia
LaFazia, Elizabeth
Lansberg, Richard
Levin, Mona J.
Liffman, Dr. Kenneth
Miller, Yetti & Wolf
Mirsky, Gregory
Mittler, Fred & Eve
Mudrick, Esther & Ezra
Nathan, Bernhardt & Edith
Newman, David & Nina
Newman, Gladys Penya
Newman, Senek & Judith
Nograd, Robert
Novogrodski, Aaron & Kay
Odwak, Mordechai
Oelbaum, Maurice & Erna
Oelbaum, Henry & Clara
Oppenheim, Ruth
Pick, Ismar & Erika
Prager, Anna
Reich, Bernard & Esther
Reich, William & Helen
Reider, Robert
Reissner, Harold
Ringer, Yoram
Robak, Godel & Gita
Rose, Lenka K.
Rosedale, Peter
Rothkopf, Rachel & Samuel
Rothschild, Herbert & Leisel
Rothschild, Erich & Ilse
Rozbruch, Marty
Rozenberg, Eli
Sacksenschneider Family *(first names needed)*
Sandelowski, Heinz & Molly
Schneider, Bruno & Martha
Schneider, Rudy
Scheiner, Rose & Morris
Schild, Irving
Schwartz, Elias J.
Schwartz, Joseph & Helen
Shpiller, Fanya
Silverman, Marie
Silverstein, Albert
Singer, Rita
Sonnenschein, Henry
Spencer, Edward C.
Spigelman, Sonja & Izak
Spitzman, Meyer & Rachel
Suchodolski, Srul & Masza
Suraski, Pearl & Josef
Suretsky Family *(first names needed)*
Szynkarski, Henry
Trachtenberg, Janice & Samuel
Vilner, Bertold
Vilner, Vladimir
Wachtenheim, Eugene
Wallach, Hans & Hilda
Wallach, Ruth & Kurt
Weber, Rose
Weber, Kurt & Ann
Wegner, Peter
Weil, Manfred
Weiler, Erna & Kurt
Weinreich, Irving
Weiss, Robert & Rose
Weissman, Marty
Wenkart, Igor & Elsie
Widawski, Hela & Iser
Willner, Joyce
Winsten, Ada
Zander, Mr. & Mrs. *(first names needed)*
Zeigler, Manny
Ziegler, Arthur
Zitkin, Ellen
Zitserman, Boris
Zuller, Abraham

Jewish Alliance
OF GREATER RHODE ISLAND

Image courtesy Steve Ide Photography

Like Jacob, our spiritual challenge is to recognize the awesomeness of each moment



RABBI ALAN FLAM

The Torah portion *Vayetzei* is a *darshan's* (preacher's) dream. It contains several iconic, archetypal, even universal experiences and images. Jacob falls asleep in a strange place, with an odd pillow, and has a powerful dream. The dream contains images of a ladder with angelic figures going up and down. Upon waking from his wild dream, Jacob proclaims: "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I didn't know it. So he was in awe, and said: How awesome is this place!" It is a physical and spiritual awakening when Jacob recognizes that something powerful just happened in this place (*hamakom*), and in this moment (*hazeh*).

Rabbi Shefa Gold teaches: "Jacob's journey is blessed at its outset with a dream and with a moment of awakening. In the dream God shows Jacob the stairway that connects the realms of Heaven and Earth and then gives him a promise.

"Through this blessing we ourselves become that stairway, that connection, with our feet planted in the foundation of Earth and our crowns open to the expanse of Heaven. Through us the Divine flow pours down into the earthly realms. Through us the pleasures and miseries of earthly experience are offered up to The Divine Expanse.

"When I become available to this flow, I am awakened to the most awesome and transformative truth. God was here all along and I didn't know it. THIS is none other than the House of God. THIS is the Gate of Heaven. This very moment and this place here where I stand is at once God's home and the doorway to all relms.

Later in Jacob's story, his name is changed to Yisrael, or the one who wrestles with God and receives a blessing. And we are the People Israel who inherit that blessing given to Jacob/Yisrael of a place, and a future. We constitute that blessing, we embody it, in our tissue, connecting us at once to realms and moments beyond – through our spines, through our memories, our ancestors, our descendants, our cognition, our selves.

Like Jacob, our spiritual challenge is to wake up, to recognize the awesomeness of each moment. It's an awesome place to be, this place, because it's the only "place" we have for our life-breath, the place that is truly our birthright, this right, rock-solid, yet fluid, awesome place where our bodies and souls are housed. *Ma nora*. How awesome. How great. How divine.

RABBI ALAN FLAM is the executive director of the Helen Hudson Foundation for Homeless America and leader of the Soulful Shabbat community.

8 ways to celebrate Hanukkah that aren't about the presents

BY REBECCA ROSENTHAL

(Kveller via JTA) – We love Hanukkah. The message that the rabbis in the Talmud give about the holiday is that we light candles each night in order to increase the holiness in the world.

What a beautiful idea – one that can be completely lost on children.

We don't expect them to be immune to the culture in which we live, but we want to help them understand that the miracle of Hanukkah is about bringing more light into the world, not filling their rooms with more stuff.

So here are some ideas for celebrating Hanukkah with kids that have worked for our families and that aren't just about the presents.



1. Decorate.

The mitzvah of Hanukkah is to publicize the miracle, both that the small Jewish army defeated the large Greek army and that the small jar of oil lasted for eight days. Get the message out by decorating your house. Turn it into a family project by making your own decorations.

2. Do something for others.

The best way to publicize the miracle is to help others see the light in the world. Find a project that you can do as a family that helps others in your community or in the world.

3. Donate your *tzedakah*.

Search your house for those coins that have been hiding in the couch all year. Find a cause that your family is passionate about and donate all that loose change. You'd be surprised how much it can add up to.

Instead of presents every night, ask your family and friends to make a donation in your child's honor.

4. Carve out time together.

Commit to turning off your phones and being present. Sing as many silly Hanukkah songs as you know, play competitive dreidel and eat some *latkes* and jelly doughnuts.

5. Read Hanukkah books.

There are so many children's stories about Hanukkah. Both PJ Library and Amazon are great sources for finding books that will appeal to your child and the whole family. (See suggestions for books on page 17.)

6. Invite friends over.

Bonus points for inviting those friends who have never celebrated Hanukkah. Make sure you brush up on the story before they arrive.

7. Watch lots of Hanukkah parody videos.

This is a personal favorite in my family, where we watch videos from groups like the Maccabeats to Six13 to videos people made in their own homes (or offices, like we did). Feeling brave? Make your own.

8. Make a new family tradition.

Are there things you always wanted to do in your city? Make a Hanukkah bucket list and do one each night. Or have a *latke* contest to see who can add the most creative ingredients to the traditional potato pancakes. Add something fun that you can do together as a family and share it with others.

And since we know that kids (and grown-ups!) still love to get presents, you can participate in a "get one, give one" plan so that each time your child is given a toy, he or she has to choose a gently used one to donate. Make it even more meaningful by taking your child to deliver his/her donation to a shelter or a hospital.

Happy Hanukkah!

RABBI REBECCA ROSENTHAL is the director of youth and family education at Central Synagogue in New York City. This piece was written in conjunction with Erin Bouchard, the family engagement project director at Central Synagogue.

Candle Lighting Times

Greater Rhode Island

December 9	3:56
December 16	3:57
December 23	4:00
December 30	4:05



Temple Habonim Presents
Rabbi Marc Katz
Sunday, December 18, 2016
3:00 pm



"The Heart of Loneliness:
How Jewish Wisdom Can Help You Cope and Find Comfort"

Rabbi Marc Katz, who grew up at Temple Habonim,
will discuss his recently published book, The Heart of Loneliness.
With sensitivity, compassion and insight,
Rabbi Katz provides the stories and tools we need to begin
addressing loneliness in our lives and the lives of those we love.

Rabbi Marc Katz currently serves as Associate Rabbi
At Congregation Beth Elohim in Park Slope, Brooklyn.

The program is free and open to the community.

165 New Meadow Road · Barrington, RI 02806
401-245-6536 · www.templehabonim.org

TEMPLE HABONIM

Our community cares about us



EDITOR

FRAN OSTENDORF

In every community, you'd expect people to jump in to help friends and neighbors in need, but what if they need more help? Luckily, we live in a caring community, with impressive networks of social services.

Do you know someone who is hungry and keeps Kosher? There's a Kosher food pantry ready to help. Seniors in need can also get vouchers for the farmers markets in the summer.

What about someone who can't afford clothes? There's a community *g'mach*. Or seniors who need transportation? Vouchers are available for taxis. The local synagogue may be able to arrange rides.

In fact, the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island started an initiative several years ago called Living on the Edge that helps people who are financially vulnerable or in need of social services or general information about Jewish Rhode Island. This program has had many successes, which we will report on in an upcoming Jewish Voice.

But we are not unique. It's in our DNA: As individuals, we are programmed to be part of a greater community.

Nationally and globally, groups and individuals know that *tzedakah* means stepping up. So it comes as no surprise that wherever and whatever the tragedy – hurricanes, fires, tornadoes, mass shootings, war – there's some kind of caring community response.

This comes to mind each time I hear about a tragedy or disaster – natural or man-made. It seems as if there have been quite a few weather-related catastrophes in the last couple of months. I was reminded about this again while watching the news coverage of the disastrous wildfires in Israel.

There are people who lost everything to the fast-moving fires. But immediately, organizations such as the Jewish Federations of North America and Chabad on Campus International established funds to help families get started again. And despite some controversy about the efficacy of replanting, there is fundraising going on to replant the scorched earth.

I've heard it said that tragedies bring out the best in us. I'd have to agree with that. But contributions to our caring community need not wait for a disaster, and can be large or small.

I see people in our community stepping up every day to help others in need. And, remember, "needs" take many forms. So if you help your neighbor keep the sidewalk clear or your co-worker finish an overwhelming project, you are part of that caring community. It happens year-round; it shouldn't and doesn't just need a crisis or disaster as a trigger point.

After fires, heavy rainfall brings flooding to central Israel

JTA – Heavy rainfall in Israel's north and center ended dry weather conditions that had helped spread fires throughout the country.

The downpour Dec. 1, the first this winter, caused the Yarkon River to overflow, flooding the Mekorot Hayarkon Park near Rosh Hain some 15 miles east of Tel Aviv.

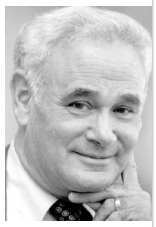
The water level in the Kinneret, or the Sea of Galilee, rose by 1.5 inches in the 24 hours that preceded the morning of Dec. 1. In total, the north saw 2.7 inches of rainfall and the center had 3.1 inches, Army Radio reported.

The rainfall ended a 10-day stretch during which Israel saw at least 100 fires that ravaged the north and the Jerusalem area, leading to the evacuation of 100,000 people and tens of millions of dollars in property damage.

Many countries, including the United States, sent firefighting teams and equipment to help put out the fires.

Mount Hermon, with its ski resort at the northern tip of the Golan Heights, received 5.9 inches of rain and snow.

'Live to the Max'



IT SEEMS TO ME

RABBI JIM ROSENBERG

Many of us who have been living for some time here in the greater Rhode Island Jewish community will remember repeated calls in this newspaper to find a bone marrow donor for Cranston resident Max Gold Dwares. On March 8, 2001, at the age of 17, he was diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML), a cancer of the white blood cells. Doctors told Max and his family that his only chance of survival was to undergo a bone marrow transplant.

Despite widespread publicity, it took until early June to find a suitable match, a 28-year-old white male, at first identified only by the code number 234278184. The transplant took place at Boston's Tufts New England Medical Center on July 27. Regrettably, after two years and seven months of an up-and-down recovery, Max died on Feb. 18, 2004, succumbing to graft versus host disease.

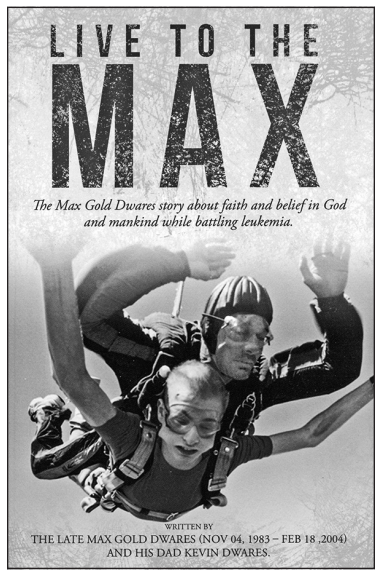
Twelve years after his son's death, Kevin Dwares has published "Live to the Max: The Max Gold Dwares story about faith and belief in God and mankind while battling leukemia" (Christian Faith Publishing, 2016; available at amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com).

The author offers a compelling account of Max's heroic efforts to live with faith in the future despite the ongoing challenges of CML. He also describes with uncommon honesty and dignity his own struggles and those of his wife Barbara and their younger son Jake to provide Max with loving support during the family's journey through his fatal illness: from Max's initial weeks in a hospital isolation unit, then to well over two years of relapse and recovery, in the hospital and out of the hospital.

After the doctor informed Dwares of his son's devastating diagnosis, the father realized that "It was my job as a parent to tell my son, and I was scared stiff ...," he writes.

"One more thing, I needed to call Barbara and tell her, but how? How do you tell your wife, the mother of your children, that your son has cancer and could die?"

Dwares remains in touch with his emotions to the very end of Max's life. Just hours before his son died, Dwares recalls with admirable candidness, "I had been praying the last few days and asked God not to save Max anymore but to take him to a better place. I asked God for the miracle of death, not the miracle of life."



"Live to the Max" is enriched by the abundance of well-observed, unflinching detail. Here is how Dwares educates the reader about the Hickman catheter: "We were also told that the Friday before Max was to be admitted, he would need surgery to have a Hickman catheter inserted, which is an internal IV that is threaded through the main artery and used to administer chemotherapy, food supplements, and any other type of medication that is needed. It would be one of three Hickmans that Max would need over the next three years."

As the moment of the bone marrow transplant approaches, Dwares calls attention to the dramatically short shelf life of the harvested bone marrow: "Little did we know that the donor's life-saving marrow had arrived by helicopter from a hospital in New York as there is a shelf life of four hours from when the marrow is drawn from the donor and when it is inserted via IV (into) the affected person."

Despite the sense of profound sadness that infuses much of "Live to the Max," there are also moments of great uplift. Keeping the promise he made to his son the day before the bone marrow transplant, on Aug. 11, 2002, a little more than a year after the transplant, Dwares and Max go skydiving from a plane based at North Central Airport in Lincoln. R.I., an event captured in the photograph on the sky blue cover of Dwares' book. Having landed first, the father observes, "A few seconds later, out of the sky comes Max like an angel floating down from heaven."

Another promise that Dwares made to his dying son was that he would complete the book that Max was working on in fits and starts as a memoir of his illness. As Dwares states in the introductory pages, "The book was written not to simply memorialize a young man who died but to celebrate his accomplishments and to be able to teach and hopefully guide others going down the same dark journey." The book succeeds on all three counts – as a memorial to Max, as a celebration of his achievements and as a guide to other families negotiating the myriad twists and turns following a cancer diagnosis.

While Kevin Dwares is not an experienced writer in a technical sense, and while his book would have benefited from stronger editing and proofreading, he is nevertheless a powerful storyteller. Our rabbis tell us that "Words which come from the heart enter the heart." Because the words of "Live to the Max" come from Dwares' heart, his words will enter the hearts of all those who are fortunate enough to read his book.

JAMES B. ROSENBERG is rabbi emeritus at Temple Habonim in Barrington. Contact him at rabbiemeritus@templehabonim.org.

A little background

Initially started by Max before he became too sick to write, the book project was finished by his father Kevin. "Live to the Max" is available at amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com for $18. All proceeds go to Hasbro Tomorrow Fund and the National Foundation for Transplants. The book contains photographs by family and friends in black-and-white and color.

OUR MISSION

The mission of The Jewish Voice is to communicate Jewish news, ideas and ideals by connecting and giving voice to the diverse views of the Jewish community in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts, while adhering to Jewish values and the professional standards of journalism.

COLUMNS | LETTERS POLICY

The Jewish Voice publishes thoughtful and informative contributors' columns (op-eds of 500 – 800 words) and letters to the editor (300 words, maximum) on issues of interest to our Jewish community. At our discretion, we may edit pieces for publication or refuse publication. Letters and columns, whether from our regular contributors or from guest columnists, represent the views of the authors; they do not represent the views of The Jewish Voice or the Alliance.

Send letters and op-eds to: The Jewish Voice, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906 or editor@jewishallianceri.org. Include name, city of residence and a contact phone number or email (not for publication).

‘Worst fears, best hopes’ for the Trump presidency

JTA – The upset victory by Donald Trump in the 2016 elections stunned a Jewish activist and leadership class that is at times as divided as the electorate at large. JTA asked some of those leaders to describe their concerns and expectations in a series of brief essays, “Worst fears, best hopes.”

Nancy Kaufman
National Council of Jewish Women


Nancy Kaufman

As progressive Jewish women, our hope is that as President-elect Donald Trump realizes the gravity of his new role in the U.S. and the world, he will move away from the misogynistic, racist, anti-Muslim, homophobic and anti-immigrant tone set by his campaign and many of his supporters.

We hope he will recognize the need to unite the country and reach out to the more than 50 million Americans who did not vote for him.

We hope that he can be president of all the people, as he has promised he will be. We agree with the importance of addressing the economic pain in communities burdened by unemployment and falling incomes, but not at the expense of those least able to make ends meet. We hope his appointments will set a tone of inclusion and respect for all who call our country home. The idea of a Muslim registry is anathema to all of our most basic values as Americans and as Jews.

What we fear most is that President-elect Trump will do what he promised to do – appoint Supreme Court justices pledged to overturn Roe v. Wade, abandon voter rights and protections, and turn his back on women and children in need.

We fear he will deport millions of immigrants, ban Muslims from entering the United States and deny asylum to refugees escaping war and persecution. We dread a reversal of Obamacare that leaves 20 million without health insurance. We are afraid he will threaten freedom of speech and of the press.

NCJW has engaged activist women for over 120 years, and we will continue doing such work to preserve all that we can in the new Trump administration. We are proud, passionate and powerful women, and we will not stand idly by.

We vow to remain true to our Jewish values in the face of these unprecedented challenges. As Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel said during the days of racial segregation: “This is no time for neutrality. We Jews cannot remain aloof or indifferent.”

NANCY K. KAUFMAN is CEO of the National Council of Jewish Women.

Nathan Diament
Orthodox Union


Nathan J. Diament

A majority of Orthodox Jews voted for Donald Trump for president. They did so upon the twin bases of rejecting Hillary Clinton as the candidate of continuity (for a “third Obama term”) as well as policies Trump proposed on key issues.

The reason Trump earned their votes was the belief that he will be best for the security of Israel. Trump criticized President Obama’s policies toward Israel. Indeed, Trump’s election will have a beneficial impact before he even takes the oath of office. It likely makes a rumored lame-duck peace process move by Obama, at the United Nations or via a presidential address, unlikely, if not irrelevant.

Moreover, Trump is making good on his commitment to relocate the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem which may send the most useful message to Israel’s enemies in decades. Trump also spoke out against the U.S.-Iran nuclear deal and promised to abolish it. On the domestic front, Trump committed himself to improving education opportunities for American children through school choice initiatives. The cost of Jewish education is the preeminent domestic issue in many Jewish households. Trump broadly spoke of redirecting $20 billion in federal education funds to school choice programs. Such a reform could spark new educational opportunity in America and dramatically address the challenge of Jewish education affordability.

Last but not least, religious liberty is the bedrock upon which American Jewry has flourished. It didn’t get much discussion in the campaign, yet it motivated traditionalists in many faiths to vote for Trump. America is in the midst of a fractious debate over the interplay between expanding gay rights and religious liberty. A compromise approach that delivers fairness for all will take leadership from the White House and bipartisan leaders in Congress. More broadly, Trump must finds ways to embrace the value of American society’s religious and ethnic diversity and thus make good on his commitment to be the president for all Americans.

NATHAN J. DIAMENT is the executive director for the Orthodox Union Advocacy Center.

Jeremy Ben-Ami
J Street


Jeremy Ben-Ami

The battle lines in the fight for our shared future have never been starker. The Trump administration and its allies have indicated that they may abandon the two-state solution, embrace the settlement project and undermine the Iran agreement. They have threatened to target Muslims, immigrants and other vulnerable groups.

We must now defend our shared fundamental values of tolerance, equality and democracy. My hope is that the Jewish community and our country can rise to this new challenge together, forging a better future for Americans, Israelis and Palestinians alike in the process.

We will not get there tomorrow. As Jews and as the children and grandchildren of immigrants, we remember what it means to be victims of persecution. Worryingly, I’ve seen deep-seated fear etched on the faces of colleagues and allies in the United States as well as in Israel, where I spent the week soon after the election.

But resistance and courage is as integral to our DNA as is our history of oppression.

We at J Street intend to give voice in the days and months ahead to the values of the overwhelming majority of our community. We will fight policies grounded in bigotry, we will stand up when those without power are threatened, and we will speak out against extreme foreign policy prescriptions and attempts to use military force when there are diplomatic options available.

JEREMY BEN-AMI is the president of J Street.

Bornstein Holocaust Education Center calls on nation to confront hate speech

Nov. 28, 2016 – The Bornstein Holocaust Education Center joins with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in being profoundly disturbed by the hateful rhetoric that occurred at a conference of white nationalists held on Nov. 19 in Washington, D.C.

According to press reports, Richard Spencer, the leader of the National Policy Institute – a white nationalist think tank – that sponsored the conference, made several direct and indirect references to Jews and other minorities, often alluding to Nazism. He spoke in German to quote Nazi propaganda and refer to the mainstream media. He implied that the media was protecting Jewish interests and said, “One wonders if these people are people at all?” He also stated that America belongs to white people.

The Holocaust – the rise of Nazism, its incremental destruction of human rights, its culmination in mass murder – teaches us about the fragility of democracy. Words matter. The Holocaust did not begin with killing; it began with words. We join with the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in calling on the President-elect, his appointees, all elected officials of whichever party, all American citizens, religious and civic leaders, and the leadership of all branches of the government to condemn the hateful acts and groups that seek to undermine our country’s values, and to acknowledge and affirm their own sacred responsibility to protect our democratic institutions.

LETTERS

Re: CRC statement and letter (Nov. 25)

I have looked in The Voice for a voice that expresses what anyone with a knowledge of recent history would rail against. Instead I find the solicitous voice of the Community Relation chair and others congratulating President-elect Trump and a letter to the editor supporting the appointment of Bannon as White House chief strategist and expressing surprise at Rep. Cicilline’s letter condemning that appointment.

This blindness hearkens back to the early days of Nazi Germany when many Jews thought that Hitler was just a passing phenomenon. We are not living in normal times when the president-to-be has selected white nationalists for major positions in his administration. Until this election, I did not believe such a phenomenon could happen here.

A president who has modeled the freedom to lie and still be elected, who has voiced words of disparagement for women, for people of color, for Muslims, for Mexicans, and for people with disabilities has unleashed expressions of hate for Jews as well. Let’s not wait until violence follows.

Perhaps we are not at the top of the list this time, but let’s not wait until “they come for us.” Speak out and recognize the danger. Please print Rep. Cicilline’s letter requesting the withdrawal of the Bannon appointment. It is the least you can do.

Hilary Salk
Narragansett

The writer is the author of “Eavesdropping in Oberammergau”

Re: GA offers Jewish journey (Nov. 25)

In his article “GA offers Jewish journey to participants,” Marty Cooper refers to Steve Bannon as a “controversial ‘alt-Right’ figure.” Journalists and press outlets, including this one, have a responsibility to move beyond euphemism and name white supremacists for who and what they are. As the New York Times has reported, Bannon has spoken about his belief that some groups are genetically superior to others, a claim that clearly echoes Nazi beliefs (www.nytimes.com/2016/11/27/us/politics/steve-bannon-white-house.html). As the Associated Press Stylebook notes, “alt-right” should not be used generically, as it was in this story. The term’s primary purpose is to try to make racism more palatable to the public, and journalists need to take responsibility for avoiding euphemism in the service of hate.

Mikaila Mariel Lemonik Arthur
Providence

The writer is Associate Professor of Sociology at Rhode Island College.

Ongoing

Alliance Kosher Senior Café. Kosher lunch and program every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. Noon lunch; 1 p.m. program. $3 lunch donation from individuals 60+ or under 60 with disabilities. Neal or Elaine, 401-338-3189.

West Bay Kosher Senior Café. Kosher lunch and program every weekday. Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. 11:15 a.m. program; noon lunch. $3 lunch donation from individuals 60+ or under 60 with disabilities. Steve, 401-743-0009.

Through January 5, 2017

Three Artists with Diverse Talent. Temple Habonim Gallery, 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington. Photographer Ron Rosenstock, RIC professor of art John DeMelim and textile and surface designer Elena Obelenus. Gallery is open Wednesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday , 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and by appointment. Information, call 401-245-6536 or email gallery@templehabonim.org.

Friday | December 9

The Early Bird Gets the Worm. 6:15-6:40 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Through 12/16. Explore ethical and spiritual themes in the upcoming week's Torah reading using "Imrei Baruch" by noted RIETS Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Baruch Simon. Attend Shacharit at 6:45 a.m. and go into Shabbat prepared. Held in the Beit Midrash (chapel) with Rabbi Barry Dolinger. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

K'Tantan Shabbat and Dinner. 5:30-6:45 p.m. Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. A 45-minute service designed for families with very young children. Songs, games and crafts to learn about Shabbat. Information, temple-beth-el.org or 401-331-6070.

Friday Night Live Honors New Members. 6 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Musical Shabbat service with dinner. Menu: Soup, Salad, Chicken Marsala, Golden Delicious Potato Latkes and Dessert. Cost: Adults and children over 12 years $20; 12 years and younger free; family max. $60. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Saturday | December 10

Saturday Mornings Junior Kiddush Club. 9:30-11:15 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Shabbat morning activities include prayer, parashah, play time and a special Kiddush just for kids. Age groups: Tots, Pre-K-1st grade, 2nd grade and up. No fee. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

Taste of Shabbat. 9-11 a.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. 9 a.m. Torah discussion; 9:45 a.m. Shabbat service followed by a light Kiddush. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

"How the Bible Became Holy." 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. Prof. Michael Satlow of Brown University discusses themes from his latest book, "How the Bible Became Holy" (Yale University Press, 2015). Satlow will speak during morning services and conduct a text study after lunch. Satlow speaks at Temple Emanu-El as the Annual Romney-Wegner Judaic Studies lecturer. Free and open to the public. Information, Carol Gualtieri at cgualtieri@teprov.org.

Concert/Hanukkah Celebration with Noah Aronson, Artist in Residence. 6 p.m. Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Musical celebration of Hanukkah with Noah Aronson, a soulful, energetic composer and performer, inspiring spiritual communities across the U.S. and beyond. Information, temple-beth-el.org or 401-331-6070.

Sunday | December 11

Sunday Mornings OROT. 8:45-9:45 a.m. following Shacharit at 8 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Study of Rav Kook's revolutionary seminal work, a collection of challenging and moving essays describing the religious significance of Zionism. Through 12/18. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

Men's Club Breakfast with Guest Speaker Dr. Igor Belkin. 9 a.m. Topic: Climate Change – Are the effects of global warming really that bad? Open to the community. Breakfast at 9 a.m.; speaker at 9:45 a.m. Cost for breakfast $10. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Sprouts Pre-School Program. 9:30 a.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Singing. Playing. Rabbi Aaron as the teacher. Understanding basic Jewish values and customs. Snacks provided. $10 per session. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Sundays Serenity. 9:45-10:30 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Meditation instruction for all levels. Open to those who have never meditated or are regular practitioners. Carve out time to engage in mindfulness practice to increase awareness, compassion and inner calm while reducing stress and anxiety. Classes, led by Rabbi Dolinger, will be held in Beit Midrash (chapel). Through 12/18. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

Bagel Brunch. Noon -1 p.m. URI Hillel, 6 Fraternity Circle, Kingston. Bagel brunch featuring eggs, coffee and more. Free for students; $15 for community members. Information, Yaniv Havusha at yaniv_havusha@uri.edu or 401-874-2740.

Project Shoresh Partners in Torah Night. 7:45-8:45 p.m. Center for Jewish Studies, 671 East Ave., Pawtucket. Free, informal, partner-based study group, where you study your choice of texts together, English or Hebrew, ancient or modern, with on-site facilitators available to answer questions. Let us know if you want to be a "study-buddy." There's a lively, positive energy in the room. Information, Noach Karp at rnoachkarp@gmail.com or 401-429-8244.

Tuesday | December 13

Temple Torat Yisrael Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Aaron Philmus. Noon. T's Restaurant, 5600 Post Road, East Greenwich. Join Rabbi Aaron for a discussion of Jews, Music and the American Dream. Each participant orders from the menu. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.



Yoga. 6-7 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Rd., East Greenwich. Led by instructor Jeannine Margolis. Cost: $30 for 3 sessions paid in advance; $12 per session at the door. Beginner and intermediate levels. Open to all. Bring your own mat. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Teen Israel Arts Contest Award Presentation and Exhibition. 7 p.m. Dwares JCC. See the entries in the contest for teens and learn who has won. Those in grades 9-12 were invited to submit an essay, video, piece of art, dance routine, music, etc. responding to the prompt: "I love Israel because...." Top prize: two free airfare tickets from Boston to Tel Aviv courtesy of EL AL Israel Airlines. Information, Jana Brenman at 401-421-4111, ext. 181, or jbrenman@jewishallianceri.org.

Tuesday Night Talmud. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Study entire 5th Chapter of Berachot, which focuses on tefilah with Rabbi Barry Dolinger. Through 12/20. No fee. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

Wednesday | December 14

Mah Jongg. 7 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Every Wednesday evening. All are welcome. Free. Bring your card. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Menorah Lighting. 6 p.m. Pawtuxet Park, Warwick. Music, hot latkes and gelt. Sponsored by Chabad of West Bay.

Thursday | December 15

Mitzvahs & Miracles. 4-6 p.m. Jewish Community Day School of RI, 85 Taft Ave., Providence. Put the miracle back in Hanukkah with a mitzvah-filled party. Eight social action activities for all ages. Volunteer opportunities. $1 glitter tattoos for a cause. Hanukkah foods. Bring a package of disposable diapers to support the diaper drive. Information, Naomi Stein at nstein@jcdsri.org or 401-751-2470.

Hanukkah on Hope Street. 6-9 p.m. Hope Street (near Rochambeau Ave.), Providence. Merchants are opening their stores for Hanukkah specials. Shop at J Marcel, Evolve, LuLi Boutique, Studio Hop, Kreatelier and Stock. Some stores will have discounts, some will have tasty treats, and some will have both. Information, Wendy Joering at wjoering@jewishallianceri.org or 401-421-4111, ext. 169.

Friday | December 16

The Early Bird Gets the Worm. 6:15-6:40 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Last meeting. Explore ethical and spiritual themes in the upcoming week's Torah reading using "Imrei Baruch" by noted RIETS Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Baruch Simon. A great way to study the weekly parashah. Attend Shacharit at 6:45 a.m. and go into Shabbat prepared. Held in the Beit Midrash (chapel) with Rabbi Barry Dolinger. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

PJ Library Story Time: Hanukkah. 10-11 a.m. Dwares JCC. Get ready to celebrate the Festival of Lights with Ruth Horton. Children up to age 5 are welcome to enjoy a special Hanukkah story, make a "latke" craft and enjoy snacks. Free. Information, Ruth Horton at rhorton@jewishallianceri.org or 401-421-4111, ext. 117.

T.G.I.F. Thank G-D It's Friday. 5:45 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Shabbat songs and story with Rabbi Aaron Philmus followed by Kiddush and free kid-friendly Shabbat dinner at 6:15 p.m. (Donations welcome.) Open to all. RSVP to Torat Yisrael office at 401-885-6600.

"Frederick the Field Mouse." 6-9:30 p.m. Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. A musical for children and families composed by Temple Sinai's own keyboard accompanist, Raymond Buttero, and accompanied by a small chamber ensemble. Pizza dinner and Shabbat services follow this performance. Cost: $10/adult; $5/child 10 and under. Information, Dottie, Temple Sinai office, 401-942-8350.

Shabbat Hallelu. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. A service in song featuring the Temple Beth-El musicians. Light refreshments. Free. Information, temple-beth-el.org or 401-331-6070.

Saturday | December 17

Tot Shabbat. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington. Come hear and experience the story of Hanukkah, play dreidel and eat latkes as we teach our youngest children the story of one of our most famous miracles. Free and open to the community. Information, contact Jodi Sullivan at office@templehabonim.org or 401-245-6536.

Saturday Mornings Junior Kiddush Club. 9:30-11:15 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Shabbat morning activities include prayer, parashah, play time and a special Kiddush just for kids. Age groups: Tots, Pre-K-1st grade, 2nd grade and up. No fee. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

"Understanding the Islam in Muslim-Jew Hatred." 12:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Dr. Andrew Bosom, an American author, will speak after Kiddush (about 12:30 p.m., services in main sanctuary begin 9 a.m.). His books include "The Legacy of Jihad" (2005), the anthology "The Legacy of Islamic Anti-Semitism: From Sacred Texts to Solemn History" (2008) and a third compendium (2012) "Sharia Versus Freedom: The Legacy of Islamic Totalitarianism." Lunch will be served. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org for information and to reserve.

First Chrismukkah Celebration. 5-7 p.m. Bay Spring Community Center, 170 Narragansett Ave., Barrington. Come and celebrate the first ever Chrismukkah event bridging Hanukkah and Christmas, under the accordion tunes of the infamous Israeli accordion player Sam Gavish. Dance to traditional folk tunes and seasonal songs while children play dreidel or engage themselves in our Christmas box bean swap. There will be a community potluck, so make a seasonal dish to share. Christmas cookies and Hanukkah latkes will be served along with coffee. Suggested donation $5. Information, Merle Green at merleanngreen6@gmail.com or 401-310-0461.

Kids' Night Out: Flashback to Summer. 5-10 p.m. Dwares JCC. A chance for children to spend the evening with their friends in a fun and safe environment... and a great opportunity for parents to have a night out "kid free." Children are entertained with a variety of themed activities including sports, crafts, swimming and more. A pizza dinner and snacks will be served, and the evening will end with a movie. Price: $35 | Members: $25 | Siblings: $15. Information or to register, Shannon Kochanek at 401-421-4111, ext. 147.

Hanukkah Bash RI for Jewish teens in grades 6-12. 7-9 p.m. Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Hang out with friends and make new ones, grab a bite at the latke bar, enjoy Israel-inspired activities, gamble for gelt and more. Cost: $15 | RSVP by Dec. 14 and pay only $10 | First 10 teens to RSVP pay only $5. Created for and by youth groups in greater Rhode Island: USY | BBYO | NCSY | NFTY | PROVTY | CRAFTY | Camp JORI | Temple Beth-El. Information, Seth Finkle at sfinkle@jewishallianceri.org or 401-421-4111, ext. 146.

Sunday | December 18

Sunday Mornings OROT. 8:45-9:45 a.m. following Shacharit at 8 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Study of Rav Kook's revolutionary seminal work, a collection of challenging and moving essays describing the religious significance of Zionism. Last meeting. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

Sundays Serenity. 9:45-10:30 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Meditation instruction for all levels. Open to those who have never meditated or are regular practitioners. Carve out time to engage in mindfulness practice to increase awareness, compassion and inner calm while reducing stress and anxiety.

FROM PAGE 10

CALENDAR

Classes, led by Rabbi Dolinger, will be held in Beit Midrash (chapel). Last meeting. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

Preschool Hanukkah Hoopla with PJ Library. 10-11 a.m. Jewish Community Day School of RI, 85 Taft Ave., Providence. Hanukkah celebration designed specifically for 3- to 5-year-olds. Includes hands-on activities, music, a story and holiday treats. Activities are facilitated the JCDSRI Preschool staff. All are welcome. Free. Information, Naomi Stein at nstein@jcdsri.org or 401-751-2470.

Tamarisk Open House. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 3 Shalom Drive, Warwick. The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence holds a December open house. Rabbi Ethan Adler will perform songs and stories from 1-2 p.m. The Mitzvah Shop will sell Hanukkah gift items. Information, Susan Adler at susana@tamariskri.org or 401-732-0037.

Project Shoresh and PJ Library Hanukkah Family Funday. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Hanukkah-themed crafts and activities including Story Time with PJ Library, latke toss, dreidel and other games. Make your own menorah, and enjoy gelt and other Hanukkah refreshments. Watch "Rugrats Chanukah Edition." $5 per family. Information, Noach Karp at rnoachkarp@gmail.com or 401-429-8244.

Hanukkah Party. 2-4 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Candle lighting, music, crafts, face painting and dreidel games. Bring your own Menorah and one candle to light in honor of Hanukkah. Potato latkes and a light lunch will be served. $5 per person/$20 per family. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

J-Camp Reunion. 4-6 p.m. Dwares JCC. Join fellow J-Campers, CITs and counselors for an afternoon of fun. Enjoy your favorite camp activities including swimming, dancing and games. Get an exclusive preview of next summer's fun...and every camper will receive a special gift available only at this event. RSVP required. Information, Seth Finkle at sfinkle@jewishallianceri.org or 401-421-4111, ext. 146.

Project Shoresh Partners in Torah Night. 7:45-8:45 p.m. Center for Jewish Studies, 671 East Ave., Pawtucket. Free, lively, informal, partner-based study group, where you study your choice of texts together, English or Hebrew, ancient or modern, with on-site facilitators available to answer questions – and ask them, too. Let us know if you want to be a "study-buddy." There's a lively, positive energy in the room. Information, Noach Karp at rnoachkarp@gmail.com or 401-429-8244.

Tuesday | December 20

Yoga. 6-7 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Rd., East Greenwich. Led by instructor Jeannine Margolis. Cost: $30 for 3 sessions paid in advance; $12 per session at the door. Beginner and intermediate levels. Open to all. Bring your own mat. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Tuesday Night Talmud. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Study entire 5th Chapter of Berachot, which focuses on tefilah with Rabbi Barry Dolinger. Last meeting. No fee. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

Wednesday | December 21

Mah Jongg. 7 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Every Wednesday. Bring your card. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Saturday | December 24

Saturday Mornings Junior Kiddush Club. 9:30-11:15 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Shabbat morning activities include prayer, parashah, play time and a special Kiddush just for kids. Age groups: Tots, Pre-K-1st grade, 2nd grade and up. No fee. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.

Hanukkah Evening for Jewish Teens. 6 p.m. Teens socialize as they enjoy a full Chinese dinner catered by Shoshana and participate in "Latke Wars," a creative and fun way to compete making latkes. Cost: $10. RSVP required to mrslaufer@gmail.com or 401-884-7888.

Sunday | December 25

"More Cheese Please, Part II - Judith as Femme Fatale." 5:30-7:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Jewish and not sure what to do on Dec. 25? We've got you covered. Join CBS for dinner and a lecture by Rabbi Barry Dolinger, who will present an analysis of the apocryphal book of Judith detailing the scandalous heroine's historical evolution and eventual effect on the Hanukkah menu. Food catered by Veggie Fun. Dinner and candle lighting start at 5:30 p.m. Suggested donation: $10-15 per person. $72 to be a sponsor. To reserve, email office@bethsholom-ri.org or call 401-621-9393. Visit us on Facebook or website: www.bethsholom-ri.org.

Project Shoresh Partners in Torah Night. 7:45-8:45 p.m. Center for Jewish Studies, 671 East Ave., Pawtucket. Free, informal, partner-based study group, where you study your choice of texts together, English or Hebrew, ancient or modern, with on-site facilitators to answer questions. Let us know if you want to be a "study-buddy." Information, Noach Karp at rnoachkarp@gmail.com or 401-429-8244.

Monday | December 26

Touro Synagogue Open House. Noon-2 p.m. Enjoy the exhibits, history and architecture and enjoy cookies and cider on the patio. Free and open to the public. Information, 401-847-4794, ext. 207, or tours@tourosynaogogue.org.

Tuesday | December 27

Hanukkah at the Warwick Mall. 4:30 p.m. Warwick Mall, 400 Bald Hill Road, Warwick. Entertainment. Arts and Crafts. Lighting of giant Lego Menorah. Create and take home a Lego dreidel. Hot latkes and gelt. Hanukkah gift shop. Sponsored by Chabad of West Bay and the Warwick Mall.

Yoga. 6-7 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Rd., East Greenwich. Led by instructor Jeannine Margolis. Cost: $30 for 3 sessions paid in advance; $12 per session at the door. Beginner and intermediate levels. Open to all. Bring your own mat. Information, contact Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Wednesday | December 28

Menorah Lighting. 5 p.m. Cranston City Hall, 869 Park Ave., Cranston. Lighting of Menorah by Mayor Fung. Hot latkes and gelt. Arts and crafts. Music.

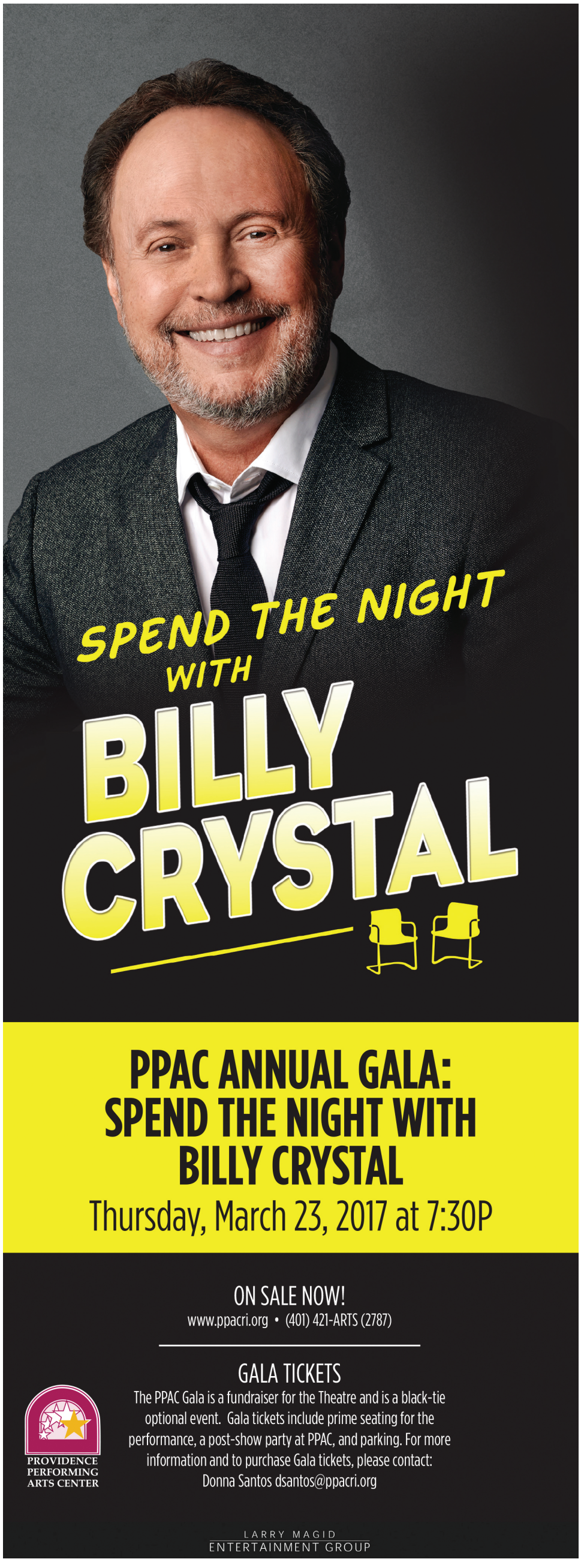
Mah Jongg. 7 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Every Wednesday. Bring your card. Information, Stephanie Reinsant at stephanie@toratyisrael.org or 401-885-6600.

Thursday | December 29

Women's Hanukkah Evening. 7:30 p.m. Socialize with Jewish women while enjoying a buffet of hot latkes and wine. Create and take home chocolate Hanukkah candies. Cost: $10. RSVP to mrslaufer@gmail.com or 401-884-7888.

Saturday | December 31

Saturday Mornings Junior Kiddush Club. 9:30-11:15 a.m. Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St., Providence. Shabbat morning activities include prayer, parashah, play time and a special for kids. Age groups: Tots, Pre-K-1st grade, 2nd grade and up. No fee. Information, office@bethsholom-ri.org, call 401-621-9393 or see Facebook page @BethSholom-RI.



Remember last summer?

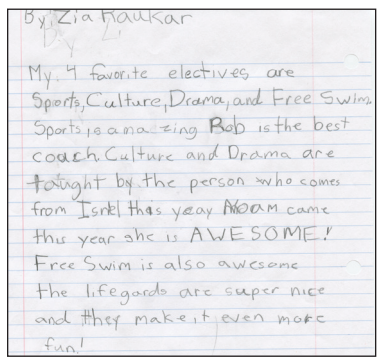
Campers from 2016 J-Camp participated in many electives including the newspaper group, led by Fran Ostendorf, editor of The Voice. Here are some samples of their writing and illustrating to prompts. On Dec. 18, from 4-6 p.m., campers will gather for a reunion at the Dwares JCC. Contact Seth Finkle, sfinkle@jewishallianceri.org or 401-421-4111, ext. 146.



DRAWIMG | AARYIA



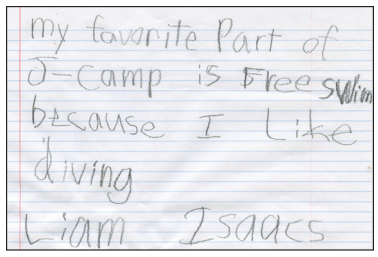
DRAWING | JULIANNA


By: Zia Raukar

My 4 favorite electives are Sports, Culture, Drama, and Free Swim. Sports is amazing Rob is the best coach. Culture and Drama are taught by the person who comes from Isriel this yeay Noam came this year she is AWESOME! Free Swim is also awesome the lifegards are super nice and they make it even more fun!

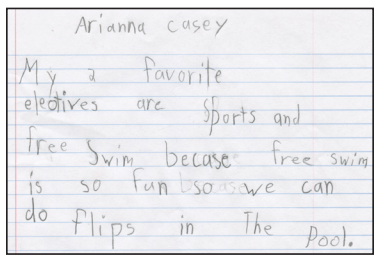
"My 4 favorite electives are Sports, Culture, Drama, and Free Swim. Sports is amazing Rob is the best coach. Culture and Drama are taught by the person who comes from Isriel this year Noam came this year she is AWESOME! Free Swim is also awesome the lifegards are super nice and they make it even more fun!"

– By Zia Raukar



"My favorite Part of J-Camp is Free Swim because I Like diving"

– By Liam Isaacs



"My 2 favorite electives are Sports and free Swim because free swim is so fun so we can do flips in The Pool."

– By Arianna Casey



DRAWING | JORDAN C-H



The Isenberg Family Early Childhood Center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), BrightStars (Rhode Island's tiered quality and rating service), and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF).

Open House
Sunday, January 29
10am - 12:30pm

What makes our Early Childhood Center different?

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For more information, contact Jo-Anne Petrie at 401.421.4111 ext. 180 or jpetrie@jewishallianceri.org.

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5 ways to light up Hanukkah



PATRICIA RASKIN

What I remember most about Hanukkah when I was a child is lighting the candles each night and how excited I was to see the flames flicker in the beautiful menorah. I also loved the potato latkes – and still do. I liked them best with sour cream and applesauce – and still do. They were messy to make, but that was part of the fun, and preparing them with my mother was an extra bonus since we did not often cook together.

I like the explanation at shiva.com, in the article on Hanukkah under Customs and Rituals: "The festival of Hanukkah is both a time of celebration and a time of remembrance of the mighty acts of the Lord and the blessings to his people. It is a time of food and festivity, of candles and celebration. Because it is also a commemoration of the rededication of the Temple, the festival is also a time of worship, reverence and remembrance."

I found inspiration in Rabbi Goldie Milgram's article, "8 Ideas for a Meaningful Hanukkah," at reclaimingjudaism.org, and Lauren Feinstein's "8 Things You Need to Do to Prepare for Hanukkah," at onwardstate.com.

So I decided to adapt these and write my own "5 Ways to Enjoy Hanukkah":

1. Light the way: Enjoy the preparation

The process can be as enjoyable as the event if we prepare ahead of time. This is a great time to celebrate with friends and family. So find the songbooks and recipes, and buy that Hanukkah *gelt*.

2. Light up your life: Celebrate

This could mean singing Hanukkah songs, playing games with the dreidel, and eating latkes and chocolate Hanukkah *gelt*.

3. Light up the memories: Tell stories

Tell the story of Hanukkah to your children and grandchildren and/or read about it together. Be animated and encourage participation.

4. Light the way for others: Giving back

Since Hanukkah is a celebration of light, which is what saved our people, we can use our own deeds to light the way for others. This includes helping neighbors, volunteering your time, and finding ways to bring smiles, laughter and joy to others.

5. Light up inside your heart and soul: Reflect and meditate

This is a great time to watch the lights flicker as a way to calm the mind through meditation and gratitude.

PATRICIA RASKIN hosts "The Patricia Raskin Show" on Saturdays at 3 p.m. on WPRO, 630 AM/99.7 FM and on Mondays at 2 p.m. on voiceamerica.com. Raskin is a board member of Providence's Temple Emanu-El.



PHOTOS | PHDS

PHDS fourth-graders collect food donations from their schoolmates at the PHDS Thanksgiving assembly on Nov. 22.



Susie Adler addresses PHDS students at the PHDS Thanksgiving assembly.

Students collect food for Kosher Pantry to celebrate Thanksgiving

To celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving, students in Grades 1-8 at the Providence Hebrew Day School attended an assembly organized by Jeffrey Stoloff, fourth-grade general studies teacher. Earlier in the month, the students were asked to bring a Kosher food item for the Louis and Goldie Chester Kosher Food Pantry to school the day of the assembly.

Susie Adler, from Jewish Elder Care, was on hand to accept the items that were donated and to talk about the positive impact that the donated food and the Kosher Pantry have on the Jewish community of R.I.. Adler is a PHDS and New England Academy of Torah graduate.

After the presentation, the students had lots of great questions that she was able to answer. The school wants to thank all the parents and students who donated food for the special Thanksgiving assembly, and all the fourth-grade students who helped make the event a success by collecting the donations, handing out stickers and information and *shlepping* the full boxes.

– Submitted by **Providence Hebrew Day School**



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Menorah? *Hanukkiah*? Hanukkah Menorah?

BY RUTH BRIENDEL

What's the difference between these terms? A menorah is a candelabrum with seven or nine branches or holders for light; it is often associated with the seven-branched menorah that was in the First and Second Temples. A *hanukkiah* is the Hebrew term for the nine lights (or eight plus one – the *shamash*) used at Hanukkah. The term "hanukkah menorah" is the older term for the menorah we light at Hanukkah.

A menorah can be shaped in many ways: as a circle or in a straight line. The description of the menorah in the First Temple seems to have been shaped in this way, with several almond blossom flowers on each stem with a cup for oil.

A similar menorah is depicted at the synagogue in Dura Europos (a city on the Euphrates River established around 300 BCE), but with straight branches; this might be where Maimonides got his idea for the straight branch version. You can see one of these outside the Chabad House in Providence.

One of the most famous menorahs is carved into the Arch of Titus in Rome, commemorating the destruction of the Second Temple by the Romans in 70 CE. No one knows what happened to this menorah; the idea that the actual menorah was hidden and the Romans only captured a copy – the story told by Josephus – is the stuff of adventure novels ("The Buried Candelabrum," Stefan Zweig, 1937, "Last Secret of the Temple," Paul Sussman, 2008 and others). It is a very common symbol in Jewish art through all the ages, in illustrations and carvings in synagogues and tombs.



A menorah with straight branches similar to the menorah at the synagogue in Dura Europos outside the Chabad House in Providence.

As time went on, though, Jews decided not to use the seven-branch menorah, so as not to use one that had been in the Temple. In modern times, however, this prohibition has largely ended.

A Hanukkah menorah, or *Hanukkiah*, on the other hand, has the eight lights at one level and the ninth at another, at least for the Ashkenazim. Sephardim also used a circular menorah with eight lights and a separate light next to it to light the other lights. Often, now, the ninth light has been incorporated into the menorah. In the Middle Ages, some had a backplate so that they could be hung on the wall. Both candle and oil versions are used now; the oil came back into fashion in the late 20th century. Motifs of animals (especially lions), stars and scrollwork are common; some even had an illustration of Judith!



Menorah carved into the Arch of Titus in Rome.

Happy Hanukkah!

RUTH BRIENDEL is presidence of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association.



Torah niche, right, from a house synagogue, Dura Europos, Syria

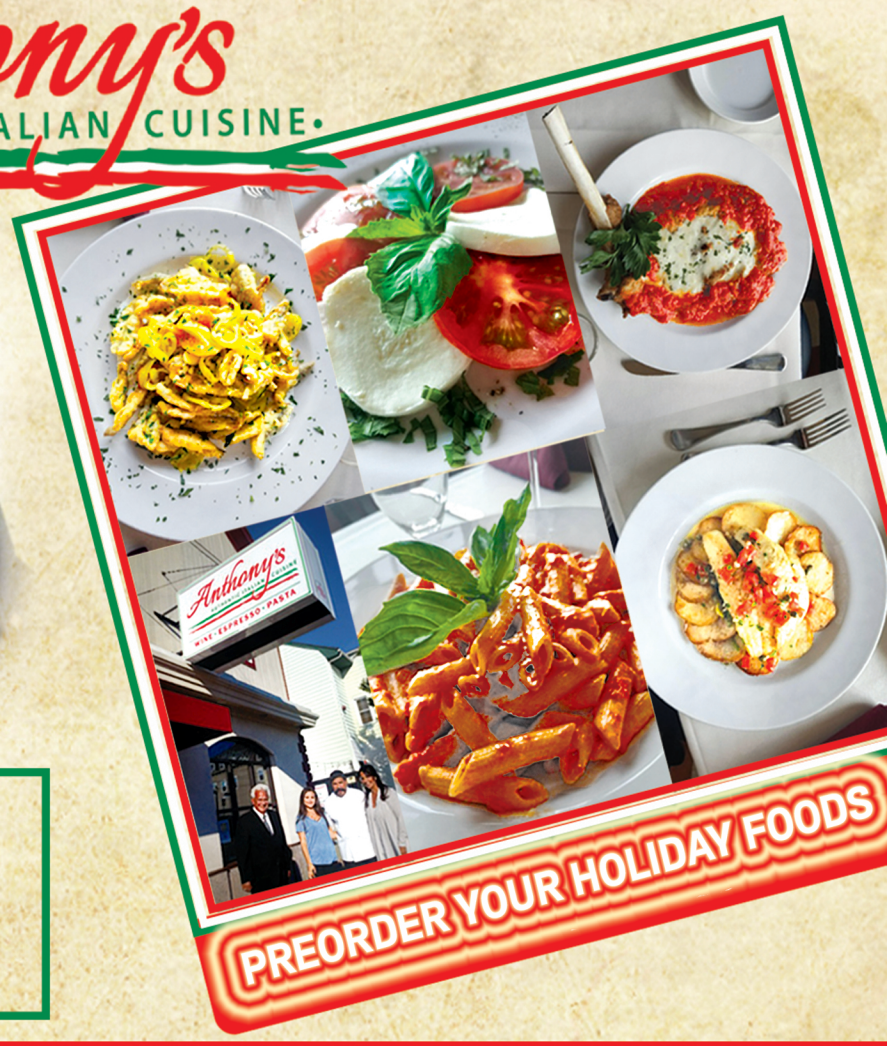
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Artist's stained glass and Judaica shine at Pawtucket art show

BY SAM SERBY

Hundreds of Rhode Islanders are expected to attend the Foundry Artists Association's Holiday Art Show this weekend in their quest to find that perfect gift.

Liza Abelson, a Brandeis University graduate who has made her mark for the past 20 years as a painter and stained glass artist, will be among those showcasing their wares at the show, which continues Dec. 9-11 at the Pawtucket Armory.

Abelson is enthusiastic about the foundry show for many reasons, including that it is run entirely by the association's artists.

"We [artists] as a group do everything from the marketing to the sales. It is the kind of show where you walk in, pick up a basket and shop from everyone's booth," she said.

Abelson added, "I do shows every weekend throughout the year, and this one is unique."

Abelson has to travel to most of the shows where she sells her art, which is another reason the foundry show is special to her: it's in her city.

Abelson both lives and works in Pawtucket. She has been working out of her studio, Dasken Designs, in the Hope Artiste Village, for a little over a year. She also has a storefront at 1005 Main St.



PHOTOS | SAM SERBY

Abelson's hamsa and mezuzah from her Judaica collection.

Abelson says "Dasken" combines the names of her parents, Hadassah and Ken.

"They have always been influential in my life, and I thought this was a nice way to honor them," she said.

From her parents, Abelson says she learned the importance of perseverance and not being afraid to fail.

Abelson will have a wide range of pieces for sale at the show, including Judaica art and stained glass of all sizes and shapes.

She particularly enjoys making hamsas and mezuzot, which she says connect her to her Jewish roots. But she puts her own twist on these traditional symbols, sometimes embedding a peace sign and two doves in her hamsas and crafting the mezuzot from glass so one can view the prayer scroll within.

Abelson describes her stained glass as "whimsical and inspired by nature." She often incorporates vintage glass into her works, as well as ordinary objects like old medicine bottles, dishes and doorknobs.

She said, "The challenge for any artist is to take a medium that is very old, like stained glass, and put his or her own stamp on it."



Liza Abelson solders stained glass to be used in her works at her Pawtucket studio.

Abelson, 46, was raised in Norwell, Massachusetts, the daughter of an Israeli mother and American-Jewish father. Growing up, she was immersed in Jewish culture and very involved in the Jewish community.

According to Abelson, though Norwell had a very small Jewish population, her parents were instrumental in starting a synagogue that they would later attend as a family.

"I think being one of the only Jews in a predominantly non-Jewish area strengthens your cultural identity," Abelson said.

SAM SERBY is a native of East Greenwich and attended Temple Sinai, in Cranston, for many years. He is a recent graduate of Johnson & Wales University.

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Here's a Hanukkah menu with a healthy flair – and *latkes*

BY MEGAN WOLF

JTA – Hanukkah is a celebration, a joyful holiday with delicious food and family memories. I remember lighting our menorah as a little girl with my bubbe. Now, raising my daughter, I hope to create special memories with her.

Food is typically at the center of our celebrations and this Hanukkah, I have created a spinach-focused menu for a delicious and festive meal.

Starting with creamy white bean soup, inspired by my mother's love for soup served in large mugs, this dish sets the tone for a deliciously healthy meal. Warm and satisfying, this dish is topped with jewel-toned sauteed spinach and is pretty enough to serve to company. And it's easy enough to make on a weeknight.

Most people think about traditional potato *latkes* on Hanukkah. My Spinach, Broccoli and Scallion Pancakes with Poached Eggs are just as delicious – you can serve them without the eggs, if you like.

Growing up, we would enjoy sour cream and applesauce with our potato *latkes*. Sour cream (or Greek yogurt) would be a perfect pairing for these light, vegetable-filled pancakes. I like mine with hot sauce.

Spinach Salad with Quinoa, Toasted Pistachios and Cranberries is among my favorite recipes from my cookbook "Great Meals with Greens and Grains," with its interesting textures, bold flavors, and a bright and balanced dressing. It could not be easier to make and is sure to be a hit on your holiday table.

Here are the recipes for these winning dishes.

Creamy White Bean Soup With Sauteed Spinach

Serves 4

Ingredients

1 head garlic, top quarter sliced off and discarded

1/4 cup olive oil, divided, plus more for garnish

1 tablespoon butter

1 medium Vidalia onion, sliced

2 1/2 cups low-sodium vegetable stock, divided

1 dried bay leaf

2 cans (15 ounces each) white beans, rinsed and drained, divided

1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese

Salt to taste

5 ounces baby spinach

Directions

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F.

Place the garlic on a piece of aluminum foil and drizzle with 1 tablespoon of the olive oil. Wrap into a pouch and roast for 30 to 40 minutes, or until the garlic is soft and golden brown.

In a large stockpot, heat 2 tablespoons of the olive oil and the butter over medium heat. Add the onion and cook until soft, stirring occasionally, about 5 minutes. Add 2 1/4 cups of the vegetable stock, the bay leaf and 1 can of the white beans to the onions. Bring the mixture to a boil, then reduce the heat to low and let simmer for about 20 minutes.

Once the garlic is roasted, add it to the soup by popping each clove out of its protective paper. In batches, transfer to a blender or food processor and puree until smooth, then pour the soup back into the stockpot.

Add the remaining can of white beans, remaining 1/4 cup vegetable stock and the Parmesan to the pureed mixture and heat through, about 10 minutes. Season to taste with salt.

In a saute pan, heat the remaining 1 tablespoon olive oil, then add the spinach. Cook until completely wilted, about 4 minutes.

To serve, pour equal amounts of the soup into each of 4 bowls and top with the sauteed spinach and an extra drizzle of olive oil.

Tips: Make sure you are constantly scraping the bottom of the stockpot — that's where so much flavor lives!

Use the best olive oil you can find; it really makes such a difference, especially when used as a garnish.





Spinach, Broccoli and Scallion Pancakes with Poached Eggs

Serves 4

Ingredients

For the pancakes:

1 1/2 cups chopped broccoli

4 cups packed baby spinach

3 tablespoons olive oil, divided

3 eggs

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/4 cup all-purpose flour

1/2 cup panko breadcrumbs

1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese

4 scallions, thinly sliced, divided

For the eggs:

4 cups water

4 large eggs

1 tablespoon white vinegar

Directions

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Place a rimmed baking sheet in the oven to heat.

To make the pancakes: Steam the broccoli until tender but still crisp, about 3 to 5 minutes. While the broccoli cooks, saute the spinach in 1 tablespoon of the olive oil in a skillet until wilted, about 3 minutes, then remove from the heat and roughly chop.

In a large bowl, scramble the eggs, and then add the baking soda, flour, panko and Parmesan cheese; stir to combine. Add the broccoli, spinach and half the scallions. Mix to combine.

Remove the hot baking sheet from the oven and grease with the remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil. With an ice cream scoop, place pancakes evenly on the baking sheet. Gently press the top of each pancake to flatten. Bake for 10 minutes, then flip and bake for another 2 minutes, or until the centers of the pancakes are cooked through.

To make the poached eggs (start with about 8 minutes remaining on the pancakes): Boil the water in a large high-rimmed skillet. Once the water comes to a boil, crack each egg into its own ramekin. Add the white vinegar to the boiling water, reduce the heat to medium-low and drop each egg into the hot water. Cover the skillet and let the eggs cook for 3 minutes.

Remove the pancakes from the oven and serve 2 or 3 to a plate depending on their size. Top each plate with a poached egg and a sprinkle of the remaining scallions. Serve immediately.

Tip: If poaching all four eggs at once feels too daunting, try two at a time. Eggs cook quickly and this won't greatly delay your meal.

Spinach Salad with Quinoa, Toasted Pistachios and Cranberries

Serves 4

Ingredients

For the lemon vinaigrette:

1/4 cup olive oil

Juice of 1 lemon

2 cloves garlic, pushed through a garlic press or very well minced

1/4 teaspoon salt (or more to taste)

For the salad:

1/4 cup quinoa

1 cup water

1/2 cup shelled pistachios

10 ounces baby spinach

1 medium Anjou pear

1/2 cup dried sweetened cranberries

1/2 cup pitted and sliced Cerignola olives

Salt to taste

Directions

To make the lemon vinaigrette: Whisk the ingredients together.

To make the salad: Combine the quinoa and water in a pot and bring to a boil. Once the water is boiling, turn down the heat to low, cover the pot and cook another 10 minutes, or until the quinoa has softened and the water has evaporated; set aside.

Toast the pistachios in a small skillet over low heat until they are just golden brown and fragrant, 3 to 5 minutes; set aside.

Place the spinach in a large bowl. Thinly slice the pear and add it to the bowl along with the cranberries and olives.

Just prior to serving, add the toasted pistachios and cooked quinoa, toss with the lemon vinaigrette and season to taste with salt.

Serve family style or in individual bowls or on plates.

Tip: Getting the garlic really finely minced or crushed will help the flavor dissipate, so that instead of biting into a piece of raw garlic, the salad is nicely seasoned with a garlic essence.

Cranberry *Latkes*

Serves 4-6

From "Joy of Kosher," by Jamie Geller, via Manischewitz.com

Ingredients

4 medium Idaho potatoes

Oil for frying

3 eggs, beaten

2 tablespoons matzo meal

2 teaspoons kosher salt

1/4 teaspoon white pepper

5 ounces fresh or frozen cranberries

Directions

1. Fill a large bowl or pot with cold water.

2. Peel potatoes, and place in cold water to prevent browning.

3. Pour oil about 1/4 way up the side of a large skillet and heat over medium heat.

4. Cut potatoes lengthwise into halves or quarters so they fit into food processor feed tube. Process potatoes using the blade that creates thin, shoestring-like strips and transfer to a large bowl.

5. Add eggs, matzo meal, salt and pepper and mix well.

6. Add cranberries and mix well until combined.

7. Drop heaping tablespoons of mixture into hot oil. Using the back of a spoon, pat down each latke to flatten it. Put as many as you can in the skillet without crowding.

8. Fry 3 to 4 minutes on each side until golden and crisp around the edges; repeat procedure until finished with all the batter.

9. Drain on paper towel lined baking sheets.

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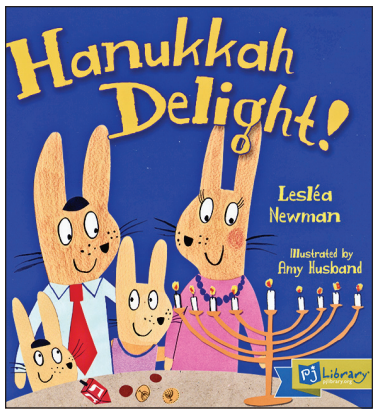
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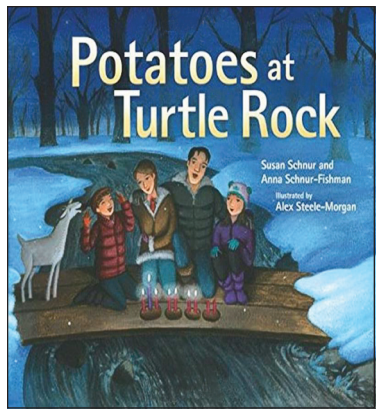
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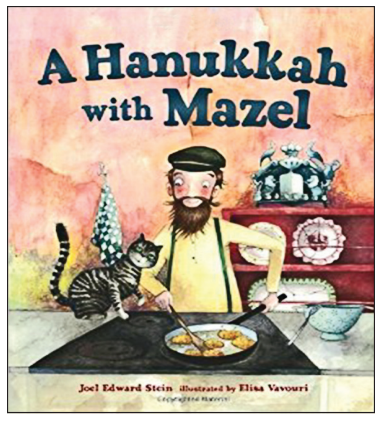
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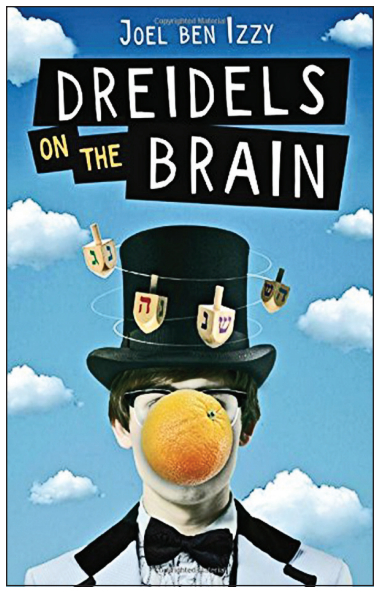
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6 new Hanukkah kids' books to help enlighten the holiday

BY PENNY SCHWARTZ

JTA – From a new audio version of "Hanukkah Bear" – a holiday favorite by National Jewish Book Award winner Eric A. Kimmel – to a novel for young teens set during the Festival of Lights, there is a fresh crop of Hanukkah books that are sure to delight young readers of all stripes.

The first Hanukkah candle is kindled this year on the evening of Dec. 24. So if you're looking to enliven and enlighten your Hanukkah – or simply just send the perfect gift to a loved little one – look no further than these six new books.

Hanukkah Delight

By Leslea Newman, illustrated by Amy Husband
Kar-Ben ($5.99), ages 1-4

Toddlers and preschoolers will have fun celebrating Hanukkah with a family of bunnies, an owl, kitty and even a friendly alligator in this delightful rhyming board book that's perfect for introducing young ones to the rituals and traditions of the holiday. Award-winning writer and poet Leslea Newman ("Heather Has Two Mommies") and artist Amy Husband capture the warmth of Hanukkah's glow with gleaming candles, crispy latkes and "Dreidels spinning through the night, chocolate *gelt* – come take a bite."

Celebrate Hanukkah with Light, Latkes and Dreidels

By Deborah Heiligman
National Geographic ($15.99), ages 6-9

The glow of Hanukkah radiates in this global tour of the Festival of Lights, with stunning photographs from India, Israel, Uganda, Poland and more. The straightforward text traces the ancient roots of the holiday, as well as explains the rituals and blessings said while lighting the menorah. Part of National Geographic's "Holidays Around the World" series, "Celebrate Hanukkah" allows readers to discover the meaning behind holiday traditions, as well as the ways different families celebrate around the world. In this updated version of the 2008 edition, Heiligman explores the themes of religious freedom and the power of light in dark times.

Potatoes at Turtle Rock

Susan Schnur and Anna Schnur-Fishman, illustrated by Alex Steele-Morgan
Kar-Ben ($17.99), ages 5-9

In this enchanting fictional tale, Annie leads her family – along with their goat and chicken — on a Hanukkah adventure. It's a snowy winter night in the woods near their farm, and as they stop at various locations, Annie poses Hanukkah-related riddles: How did their great-grandfather keep warm during the long winter in the *shtetl*? (With hot potatoes.) Why is it so dark? (There is no moon in the sky on the sixth night of Hanukkah.) What do they use for a menorah out in the woods? (Potatoes!) Along the way, the family lights candles, recites the blessings, enjoys some tasty treats and, in the end, shares a prayer of gratitude for the blessings of Hanukkah.

This is the second Jewish holiday book set at Turtle Rock by the mother-daughter team who also co wrote "*Tashlich* at Turtle Rock" – both based on the family's real-life holiday traditions. Aside from being a writer, Susan Schnur is a Reconstructionist rabbi. The book, she told JTA, reflects her conviction as both a parent and rabbi that when children are empowered to create their own rituals, they find meaning in Jewish holidays.

A Hanukkah with Mazel

Joel Edward Stein, illustrated by Elisa Vavouri
Kar-Ben ($17.99), ages 3-8

In this heartwarming tale set in the outskirts of an Old World *shtetl*, a kindhearted but poor artist named Misha adopts a cat who turns up in his barn one cold, snowy night during Hanukkah. Misha names his new black-and-gray-striped feline friend Mazel – "good luck" in Yiddish. Misha has no Hanukkah candles, but he finds a creative way to celebrate the Festival of Lights using his paints and brushes. However, when a peddler arrives at Misha's home on the holiday's last day, he recognizes Mazel as his lost cat, Goldie. In the uplifting ending, the two find hope for the future, with the peddler offering to sell Misha's paintings and Misha taking care of Mazel while the peddler travels. Kids will have fun following the playful Mazel, who turns up in every scene in artist Elisa Vavouri's large, vivid illustrations.

Dreidels on the Brain

Joel Ben Izzy
Dial Books ($17.99), ages 10 and up

Meet Joel, an awkward yet endearing 12-year-old boy who is looking for Hanukkah miracles in Temple City, California, where he lives with his family.

In the opening pages, Joel tries to strike up a conversation with God, looking for some sign of better things to come – his life, so far, has had its share of disappointments and hard times. Author Joel Ben Izzy brings his award-winning storytelling style to this tale that unfolds during eight days of Hanukkah in 1971, as Joel navigates home, friends and school, where he is the only Jewish kid. His Hanukkah takes a downward spin when Joel's family is invited to light a menorah in front of the whole school – he's worried about being embarrassed, but bigger worries follow when Joel's father is hospitalized.

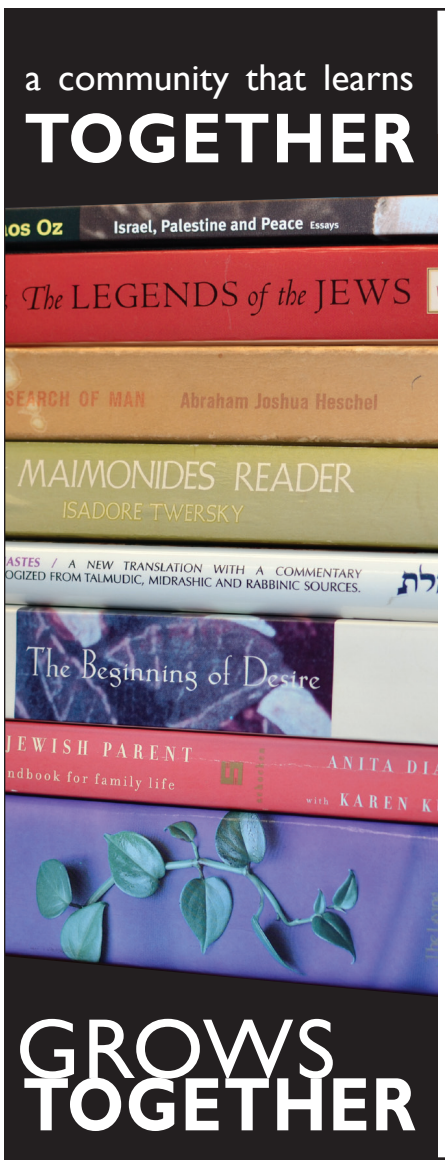
Joel eventually discovers that magic and miracles may come in unexpected ways. Readers will have fun with the dozens of inventive spellings of Hanukkah, including "*Chanyukah*" and "*Kchkanukkah*." The novel is loosely based on the author's childhood – Ben Izzy described himself in an email to JTA as a "nerdy 12-year-old magician" who was the only Jewish kid in his school.

Hanukkah Bear

Audio version
Eric A. Kimmel, author
Narrated by Laural Merlington
LLC Dreamscape Media ($14.99), ages 4-8

On the first night of Hanukkah, one huge, hungry bear smells *Bubbe* Brayna frying her legendary latkes. The bear shows up at her door – at the same moment, it happens, that she's expecting the village rabbi. Thanks to her poor eyesight, a fun-filled case of mistaken identity ensues as *Bubbe* Brayna thinks the bear is the rabbi; she feeds him latkes and insists he play a game of dreidel and light the menorah.

This book won a National Jewish Book Award in 2013 and now young children can snuggle up to this newly recorded audio version.



READ Jewish Rhode Island

Participate in a community read!

Engage by committing to read one non-fiction Jewish book of your choice between the High Holy Days and Hanukkah.

Here's a brief selection of what people are reading:

Donald and Bonnie Dwares are reading
Judaism's Ten Best Ideas by Rabbi Arthur Green
Alice and Sid Goldstein are reading
Not in God's Name by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks
Capt. Gilor Meshulam recommends
1948: A History of the First Arab-Israeli War by Benny Morris
Jeffrey Savit is reading
In The Garden of Beasts by Erik Larsen

For more recommendations, and to register, please visit
jewishallianceri.org/read

Questions? Contact Larry Katz at 401.421.4111 ext. 179 or lkatz@jewishallianceri.org.

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FROM PAGE 1

HANUKKAH

Many scholars believe it is this – not the Talmudic legend of the cruse of oil that lasted eight days – that explains why Hanukkah is eight days long.

3. The books of Maccabees, which tell the story of Hanukkah, were not included in the Hebrew Bible – but they are in the Catholic Bible.

There are different theories explaining why the first-century rabbis who canonized the scriptures omitted the Maccabees, ranging from the text's relative newness at the time to fears of alienating the Roman leadership then in control of Jerusalem.

4. Marilyn Monroe owned a music-playing Hanukkah menorah (the Marilyn Monrorah?).

When the Hollywood star converted to Judaism before marrying the Jewish playwright Arthur Miller, her future mother-in-law gave her a menorah as a conversion gift. The Hanukkah lamp, which the menorah's current owner says Mrs. Miller brought back from Jerusalem, has a wind-up music box in its base that plays "Hatikvah," Israel's national anthem. The Marilyn menorah is featured in the Jewish Museum in New York City's exhibit "Becoming Jewish: Warhol's Liz and Marilyn," but sadly you cannot wind it up.

5. The game of dreidel was inspired by a German game played at Christmastime that itself is an imitation of an English and Irish one.

Our Eastern European game of dreidel (including the Hebrew letters *nun*, *gimmel*, *hey* and *shin*) is directly based on the German equivalent of the British totum game: N = *Nichts* = nothing; G = *Ganz* = all; H = *Halb* = half, and S = *Stell ein* = put in. In German, the spinning top was called a "*torrel*" or "*trundl*."

6. Oily food (think *latkes* and *sufganiyot*) isn't Hanukkah's only culinary tradition.

Traditionally, Hanukkah has included foods with cheese in recognition of Judith, whose liberal use of the salty treat facilitated a victory for the Maccabees.

7. On Hanukkah, we celebrate a grisly murder.

The aforementioned Judith had an ulterior motive for plying the Assyrian general Holofernes with salty cheese: making him thirsty so he would drink lots of wine and pass out, enabling her to chop off his head and bring it home with her. The beheading – particularly the fact that a woman carried it out – was said to have frightened Holofernes' troops into fleeing the Maccabees.

8. The next "Thanksgivukkah" (sort of) is only 55 years away.

In 2013, the convergence of Thanksgiving and Hanukkah on Nov. 28 inspired everything from turkey-shaped menorahs to a giant dreidel float in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade. While experts say a full day of Hanukkah won't coincide with the fourth Thursday in November for thousands of years, the first night of Hanukkah will fall in time for Thanksgiving dinner (assuming you have the meal at dinnertime rather than in the afternoon) on Nov. 27, 2070.

9. The largest menorah in the world, according to the Guinness Book of World Records, is 32 feet high and weighs 4,000 pounds.

The Shulchan Aruch stipulates that a menorah should be no taller than about 31 feet. Incidentally, Guinness lists at least three other Hanukkah-related records: most dreidels spinning simultaneously for at least 10 seconds (734), most people simultaneously lighting menorahs (834) and largest display of lit menorahs (1,000). We'd like to know the most latkes ever eaten in one sitting.

JULIE WIENER is managing editor of MyJewishLearning.

How to Celebrate Chanukah

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

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

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

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

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

1. Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E- lo-hey-nu Me-lech Ha-o-lom A-sher Ki-di-sha-nu Bi- mitz-vo-sov Vi-tzi-va-nu Li-had-lik Ner Cha-nu-kah.
Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by His commandments, and has commanded us to kindle the lights of Chanukah.

2. Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hey-nu Me-lech Ha-o-lam She- a-sa Ni-sim La-a-vo-sey-nu Ba-ya-mim Ha-heim Bi-z'man Ha-zeh.
Blessed are You, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who wrought miracles for our fathers in days of old, at this season.

The following blessing is recited on the first evening or on the first time one kindles the Chanukah lights this year:

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

2016 Menorah Kindling Calendar for Rhode Island

Shabbat Dec. 24 light after 5:08pm
Fri. Dec. 30 light candles before 4:05pm
Shabbat Dec. 31 light after 5:13pm
Nightfal for the rest of Chanukah 4:57pm

Saturday, Dec. 24
After Shabbat ends & Havdalah is recited
Blessings No.1, 2 & 3

Sunday, Dec. 25
After Nightfall
Blessings No. 1 & 2

Monday, Dec. 26
After Nightfall
Blessings No. 1 & 2

Tuesday, Dec. 27
After Nightfall
Blessings No. 1 & 2

Wednesday, Dec. 28
After Nightfall
Blessings No. 1 & 2

Thursday, Dec. 29
After Nightfall
Blessings No. 1 & 2

Friday, Dec. 30
Light *Before* Lighting the Shabbat Candles 4:05pm
Blessings No.1 & 2

Saturday, Dec. 31
After Shabbat ends & Havdalah is recited
Blessings No. 1 & 2

Provided as a public service by The Jewish Voice & Herald. Compiled by Chabad of RI

Shimon Peres' son, granddaughter to light Hanukkah candles at White House

JERUSALEM (JTA) – The son and a granddaughter of the late Israeli President Shimon Peres reportedly will join the first family to mark Hanukkah at the White House.

Nechemia "Chemi" Peres and Mika Almog will join President Barack Obama and wife Michelle for their last traditional Hanukkah candle-lighting ceremony at the White House, Ynet reported Dec. 5. Almog is an Israeli screenwriter and satirist.

Peres and Almog will visit the White House the week of Dec. 12, when the ceremony will be held, according to the report. Christmas and Hanukkah coincide this year.

They will bring with them a menorah passed down through the Peres family since the Holocaust, Ynet reported.

BK Israel introduces doughnut burger

JERUSALEM (JTA) – Burger King restaurants in Israel have introduced a doughnut burger for the Hanukkah season.

The SufganiKing is a Whopper with savory doughnuts in place of buns. Its name is a play on the Hebrew word for doughnuts, *sufganiyot*, which are ubiquitous on every Israeli street corner in the weeks leading up to Hanukkah.

The burger "proves that miracles still happen," Burger King Israel said in a Facebook post, a reference to the miracles at the heart of the holiday story.

The SufganiKing will be sold for about $4. It will be available through Jan. 1, the last day of Hanukkah, according to reports.



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Hanukkah gift ideas for newcomers

BY JULIE WIENER

(MyJewishLearning via JTA) – Do you have friends or family members who are new to Judaism? Maybe they recently converted, married a Jew or became newly interested in their Jewish roots? Or maybe you're the newbie and are wondering what to put on your wish list.

Whatever the particulars, MyJewishLearning has you covered, with Hanukkah gift ideas designed to please the Jewish newbies in your life.

Cookbooks

Amelia Saltsman's "The Seasonal Jewish Kitchen," Leah Koenig's "Modern Jewish Cooking" and chef/restaurateur Michael Solomonov's "Zahav: A World of Israeli Cooking" all offer traditional Jewish and Israeli standbys adapted to contemporary tastes and sensibilities. Each was published recently (reducing the possibility that your recipient already owns it) and garnered positive reviews in both mainstream and Jewish publications.

"Meatballs and Matzah Balls" is not quite as new – it came out in 2013 – but will be of particular interest to Jewish newcomers since its author, Marcia Friedman, is a Jew by choice who combines Italian (she is half Sicilian) and Jewish cuisine in creative and tasty ways.

Other kitchen goodies

Maybe your Jewish newbie wants to make challah but is a bit intimidated by the braiding. A silicone challah mold simplifies the process. Meanwhile, someone making the transition from Christmas cookies to Hanukkah cookies might appreciate a set of Hanukkah-themed cookie cutters.



A glass Menorah.

Hanukkiahs, or Menorahs

What's more fitting for Hanukkah than a menorah? Just make sure you give this one early in the holiday, so the recipient gets to use it this year. A convenient option is a compact travel menorah, perfect for someone who wants to celebrate the holiday outside the home.

Kiddush cups

For something flashy and unique – or for someone who is a bit germ-phobic – try a Kiddush Fountain, which pours the wine or grape juice into individual cups. Amazon and other retailers have a wide variety of styles and price points.

Challah covers

FairTradeJudaica offers an array of Judaica items produced by artisans in developing countries. These certified fair trade items are not just beautiful, you can rest easy knowing the workers received fair pay in safe conditions and that no child labor was used.

Shabbat candlesticks

For something traditional and inexpensive, try some pewter ones (Amazon has them) that come with a plate for catching the wax drippings.

Mezuzot

We like several on Amazon.com: a simple blue metal one and an intricate one decorated with a Jerusalem scene. Bear in mind that the Jerusalem one does not come with a scroll, so you (or your recipient) will need to purchase that separately.



Challah cover.

Jewelry

A silver Star of David is simple and matches everything. And a custom-made Hebrew necklace is a great option for a Jew by choice who wants to show off his or her new Hebrew name (and newfound Hebrew literacy).

Clothing

The "Not in the Tribe, But I Dig the Vibe" T-shirt is perfect (albeit a bit on the pricy side) for someone who is married to a Jew or simply likes hanging out with them, while dreidel-print leggings allow Jews and non-Jews to subtly (and comfortably) demonstrate their Hanukkah spirit separately.

JULIE WIENER is managing editor of MyJewishLearning.



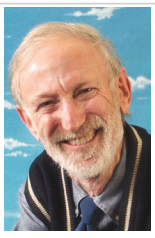
Kiddush cup





A proud memory of the American Dream

Just a story set in 1951, the start of the "Fabulous 50s," after World War II and its aftermath.



SKETCHBOOK

MIKE FINK

We were deeply involved in the "Cold War" against our former most important ally, "Russia," the Soviet Union, separated now from the great alliance, behind the "Iron Curtain." (I use these quotation marks to call attention to the antiquity of the terms and titles.)

In 1951, I left the very familiar landmarks and blocks of my town and the shorelines and riverbanks beyond its borders and boundaries – my friends and I had hiked all its streets and watched the Quonset hut village at the corner of Elmgrove and Sessions go up and come down. It was time for me to leave my habitual routes and routines and head for the Yale campus, and New Haven and its shores and hills outside the moats.

At that time, there existed a now mostly forgotten gesture of the admissions committee, the furthest thing from the current philosophy seeking diversity! Instead, they were searching for brainy boys who could design bombs to scare off the Communists, the reds, the radicals. And so they created a special fund to welcome very young genius lads, ages 14 or 15, under the title Ford Fellowships.

Most of these gifted youngsters, A+ types competitive in classrooms, burned out and never did earn a B.A., but that is another story. This tale is my own version of the life, career and death of one of these brilliant classmates, who lived just above my chambers in Wright Hall.

Wright Hall was the classiest dormitory on the Old Campus, with twin lions guarding the patio and entrances. The powers that ruled were pretty conservative sorts, and, although there was one token person of color, they gave him a small one-room single chamber in the attic – so as not to scare the freshmen from nobler backgrounds.

Next door to this lonely segregated aerie there lived a kid named Jan. Word was that this boy, nicknamed "Johnny" by his neighbors, had survived the Warsaw Ghetto! That's why they Americanized his foreign name and gave him a nice new nickname. At the time, Yale still had a quota limiting Jews, and most of us who had celebrated Bar Mitzvahs hid our origins and had already shortened our immigrant names.

Now, he was a very decent sort, Jan or Johnny, and, in his solitude, he asked the "Negro" next door to wrestle with him in the bleak corridor. And Jim was a friendly fellow, an only child from Springfield, Massachusetts, amiable and sociable. When not wrestling, he liked to wind his way down the steel steps to pop in on my fancier quarters.

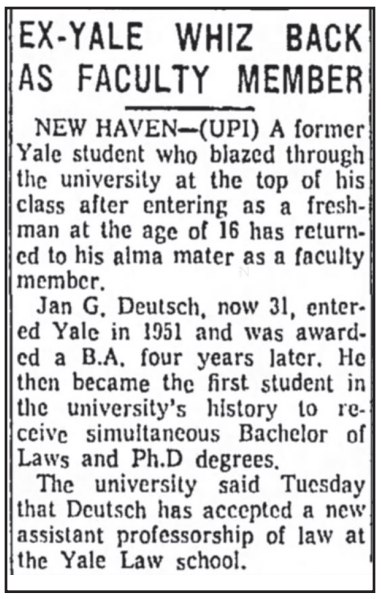
I had a functioning fireplace and a French window seat overlooking Harkness Tower and the elms on the courtyard all through that gorgeous autumn of 1951. I had prep school roommates with parents who stirred martinis for us on football weekends. (Which I spent at George and Harry's bars, skipping the games.)

I never did spend much time with Jan, but Jim and I became a team. We both felt that the Eli "gentleman's C" and conversations by the hearth were the whole point of undergraduate life. Not so with Jan/Johnny.

He rose up the sociological and academic ladder, and on commencement "Tap Day," he received the magical pat on the shoulder that allowed him to enter the windowless world of the Secret Societies. Which guaranteed a lifetime of success and prosperity, at least according to legend.



Jan Deutsch



EX-YALE WHIZ BACK AS FACULTY MEMBER

NEW HAVEN—(UPI) A former Yale student who blazed through the university at the top of his class after entering as a freshman at the age of 16 has returned to his alma mater as a faculty member.

Jan G. Deutsch, now 31, entered Yale in 1951 and was awarded a B.A. four years later. He then became the first student in the university's history to receive simultaneous Bachelor of Laws and Ph.D degrees.

The university said Tuesday that Deutsch has accepted a new assistant professorship of law at the Yale Law school.

Jan Deutsch earned both a Ph.D. and a law degree at Yale, which in those years discouraged alumni from sticking around, hoping they would instead grace the grounds of other institutions. We were a small, Depression-era generation and post-graduate opportunities were there for the asking and the taking, pretty much.

To take this tale into the present, I must say that Bill Clinton in his recent memoir claims that Jan Deutsch was his most influential and brilliant professor at Yale Law School, and the attorney at the Rhode Island School of Design agrees that Deutsch was highly respected and even revered. (Donald Trump, on the other hand, was influenced by Roy Cohn, a much, much less respected figure in the '50s age of anxiety and repression.)

Deutsch had a serious accident a number of semesters ago, and passed away this year. The entire university is mourning, grieving and honoring him throughout this fall.

And what happened to Jim, his mate on the mat, my companion throughout our years at Yale? He joined the Air Force, and at a reunion knocked on the door of Jan's office ... but it was already too late for a personal rendezvous.

Jim was my secret friend. I had a series of such hidden alliances throughout my school experiences; I was always afraid of the disapproval of my family in my choice of chums.

To fit in and do the regular and expected thing, that was the big idea, and I was in a sense written off as an eccentric, but what could I do? I went my own way, but life, kismet, destiny, fate drew me right back to all those alleyways I had known so well in my earliest youth. And, in time, I brought back my friends, roommates, associates, to my home and hearth.

When I learned from the alumni magazine that Jan was no more, just a proud memory of the American Dream, I felt that perhaps I could visit him within these words, and recognize that his contribution was not only to those of wealth and influence but also, metaphorically, to the concept so dear to us locally, that those "troubled in conscience" could find "soul liberty" and "netop" – friendship with others.

The next time I travel, I will head for Chicago to pay a visit to my friend Jim and talk about Jan. That's the whole point of reconnecting with classmates, after all.

MIKE FINK (mfink33@aol.com) teaches at the Rhode Island School of Design.





TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD:
Contact Leah Camara
lcamara@jewishallianceri.org
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Cancer patient finds bone marrow donor following worldwide search

JTA — After a highly publicized search, a Jewish man with a deadly cancer has found a bone marrow donor.

On Dec. 6, Adam Krief, a 31-year-old father of three living in Los Angeles, announced on Facebook that a donor had been found and that he was on his way to receive the transplant.

"This is what cloud 9 looks like ... I'm so grateful to let you all know that a donor has been found," Krief wrote, sharing a video with two of his children.

Krief was diagnosed recently with primary myelofibrosis, a rare form of blood cancer that is likely fatal if a blood transplant match cannot be found. To find a match for Krief, who has an uncommon blood type, drives were held around the world, including in North America, Israel, France and Mexico.

The campaign received wide support and celebrities, including Kim Kardashian, Mayim Bialik and Jason Biggs, helped spread the word on social media.

Krief added in a separate post that a total of seven bone marrow matches had been found through the drives organized for him.

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

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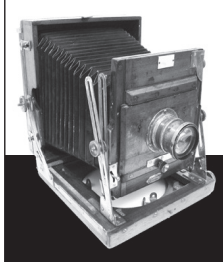
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What makes a book popular?

BY LARRY KATZ
lkatz@jewishallianceri.org

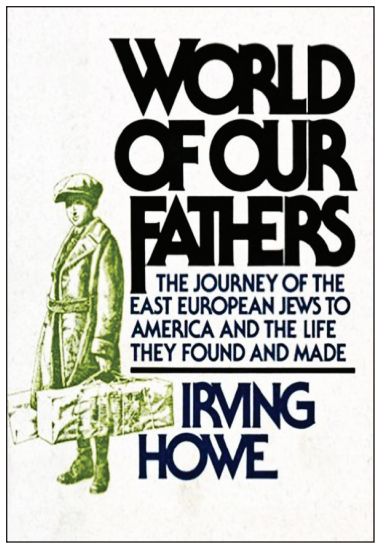
After the death of Leonard Cohen, sales of a rather recent biography of him spiked. However, I don't recommend dying in order to make one's book popular – especially since it doesn't always work.

Another strategy to increase a book's popularity is to have it reviewed, and the Jewish Book Council (JBC) publishes many reviews on its website, jewishbookcouncil.org. It is there that you can find reviews of "A Broken Hallelujah: Rock and Roll, Redemption and the Life of Leonard Cohen," by Liel Leibovitz. JBC is an excellent source not only to identify books with Jewish content, but to find reviews and even reading guides.

Still, I think the best strategy to promote a book is word of mouth, especially if someone is known as a maven on books. Locally, Robin Homonoff, founder of the group Reading with Robin, is probably the best known book maven. The Jewish Alliance of Greater R.I. appreciates that she is participating in the Reading Initiative series and helping to get the word out.

Homonoff's reading series has featured many Jewish authors during the past year. And by the way, Homonoff, who has a fondness for humor, recommends a book that was discussed in our last column: "Let There Be Laughter: A Treasury of Great Jewish Humor and What It All Means," by Michael Krasny.

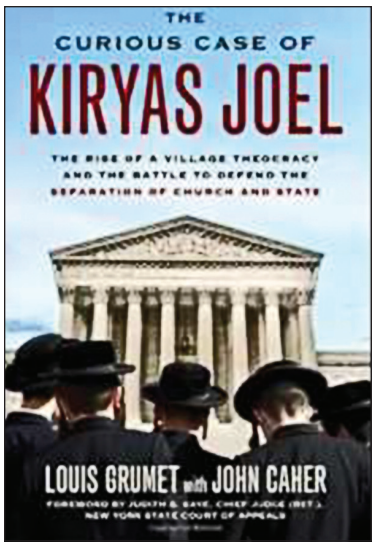
Another strategy to popularize a book is to have it mentioned in a publication. In honor of Jewish Book Month (the month preceeding Hanukkah), the JCC Circle Magazine asked some members of the international JCC Association staff what was on their nightstands.



Marla Cohen, the e-publication's editor, wrote, "I just finished 'The Curious Case of Kiryas Joel,' by Louis Grumet, a fascinating look at separation of church and state following the setup of a special school district in the Satmar village of Kiryas Joel. The Supreme Court ruled the district unconstitutional in a suit the author brought, and yet it still exists today. A fast, informative read."

Yuliya Mazur, the JCC's new resource communications manager, recommends "The Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible," by A.J. Jacobs. "The book may resonate with a contemporary audience who doesn't know that much about the Bible, but may want to take a peek inside it for the first time," Mazur said.

Closer to home, Rep. David Cicilline recommends "World of Our Fathers," by Irving Howe. The book, Cicilline writes, "tells the vital story of how the relatives of millions of American Jews escaped oppression and found freedom and prosperity in the New World. All American Jews should understand where they come from, and this book beautifully captures an important piece of that story."



Speaking to groups about your book is another strategy to popularize it. Last year, before renovations began at Providence's Dwares Jewish Community Center, a number of authors made presentations. Among them were journalists, including Mike Kelly ("The Bus on Jaffa Road") and Dion Nissenbaum ("A Street Divided: Stories From Jerusalem's Alley of God"). Both deal with aspects of life, death and friendship in Israel.

As part of the Reading Initiative, members of the greater Rhode Island Jewish community are encouraged to read a non-fiction Jewish book of their choice over the course of three months.

What to read? For recommendations of books, and to register, check out our website at www.jewishallianceri.org/read, or feel free to call your rabbi or neighbors. Please sign up at this website, as well, so we know how many are participating, and to receive notices related to the reading program. We would like to establish some book conversations for those who are interested. A community that learns together grows together!

The Reading Initiative is sponsored by the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, the Board of Rabbis of Greater Rhode Island, Kollel: Center for Jewish Studies, PJ library, and Project Shoresh.

LARRY KATZ is director of Jewish life and learning at the Jewish Alliance.

They rallied for tolerance despite the rain

BY FRAN OSTENDORF
fostendorf@jewishallianceri.org

On Nov. 30, several dozen members of the Jewish community gathered at the corner of Sessions Street and Elmgrove Avenue to participate in a National Day of Jewish Resistance, sponsored by the organization IfNotNow.

Standing in the pouring rain outside the offices of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, the group of predominately young people listened to speakers including R.I. State Rep. Aaron Regenberg talk about the need for demonstrating against hate. The group lined up, umbrellas in hand, in a show of "drawing the line" against hate.

The trigger for the demonstrations was the announcement of appointments by President-elect Donald Trump, including Steve Bannon as a senior adviser.

"We gathered to demonstrate that Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, racism, transphobia, misogyny and other forms of discrimination have no place in the White House – or anywhere," said Lex Rofes, an organizer of the event. "We are energized by the strong turnout at the event and by the important sentiments voiced by our speakers."

According to Rofes, there were more than 30 events at different venues around the country. Despite its location, the Providence event had no connection to the Alliance.

"Those who gathered at this event plan to continue our work to resist hatred in all its forms over the coming months and years, through our shared Jewish lens, whenever such resistance proves necessary," Rofes said.

FRAN OSTENDORF is the editor of The Jewish Voice.



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Nancy C. Aroche, 69

BARRINGTON, R.I. – Nancy C. (Hillman) Aroche died Nov. 23. She was the widow of Moshe Aroche. Born in Pawtucket, she was the daughter of the late Harold S. and Anne (Chernick) Hillman. She is survived by her brothers Judge William Hillman (and wife, Eleanor Radin Hillman) of Providence and Dr. Richard E. Hillman (and wife, Dr. Laura S. Hillman) of Columbia, Missouri. She was the sister of the late Paula M. (Hillman) Zacks of Barrington. She is survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She received her degrees from R.I. College and Brown University, and taught in the Barrington public schools until her retirement.

Contributions in her memory may be made to Chabad of Barrington, 311 Maple Ave., Barrington, R.I. 02806.

Sidra Eckman, 69

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Sidra Eckman died Nov. 18 at The Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center in Providence after a courageously fought battle with cancer. Born in Chelsea, Massachusetts, to the late Arthur and Annabelle (Bloom) Eckman, she lived for several years in Boca Raton, Florida, after living for many decades in Providence.

Sidra was a former co-owner of Daily Bread Bakery and the owner of Spoons Soup Cafe, both in Providence. Her most cherished role, however, was that of mother to Emma Williams and her husband, James Rochford, of Pawtucket. She was the sister of Bruce, Reisa and her twin, Marla, and proud grand-cat-mother of Lulu.

ASK THE DIRECTOR

BY MICHAEL D. SMITH F.D./R.E.
Shalom Memorial Chapel

Question: Why do we say kaddish for parents for 11 months rather than the full year?

F.G., East Greenwich

Dear F.G.,
The maximum 12 month purifaction process of a soul, which was derived from the Talmud, was only required for individuals who were totally evil. Based on the belief that no child should ever have to acknowledge the possibility of a completely wicked parent, Rabbi Moses ben Israel Isserlis, a great scholar in the 1500s, as well as several other scholars of that time, shortened the required period of saying kaddish for a parent to 11 months.

QUESTIONS ARE WELCOMED AND ENCOURAGED. Please send questions to: ShalomChapel@aol.com or by mail to Ask the Director, c/o Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02920.

Seymour Feldman



BOCA RATON, FLA. - Dr. Seymour Feldman died peacefully on Nov. 7 at Hospice By The Sea, surrounded by his family. He was born in Providence in 1928, the son of Jacob and Lena Feldman. He graduated from Hope High School in 1946 and served in the U.S. Navy until 1948. A graduate of Providence College and Temple University he was a podiatrist for 50 years in Newport.

He was a member of the R.I. Podiatry Association and served on their board and was a past president. He was also a founding member of Temple Shalom, Middletown, served as the treasurer for the United Hebrew School and was a member of the Newport Kiwanis Club.

He leaves his wife of 55 years, Freyda Robrish Feldman and five children: Leah Feldman Koppel, of Plantation, Florida; Louis Feldman of Miami, Florida; Audrey Feldman of Aventura, Florida; Rita Feldman Collins of Bal Harbour, Florida and Richard Feldman of Key Biscayne, Florida. He had 10 adoring grandchildren: Isaac Koppel, Jessica Koppel, Daniel Koppel, Lindsey Collins, Ashley Collins, Nicole Feldman, Jake Feldman, Logan Feldman, Rex Feldman and Kennedy Feldman. Seymour was predeceased by his five brothers; Samuel, Hyman, Sydney, Louis and Morris Feldman of Providence.

Todd Herman, 44

FAIRHAVEN, MASS. – Todd Asher Herman, of Fairhaven, died unexpectedly on Nov. 21. He was the husband of Cheryl (Fawer) Herman and father to Parker Benjamin and Gavin Philip. Born in Brooklyn, New York, he was the son of Karen Weisskirch of Thousand Oaks, California, and Jerry Herman of New York City.



He was a dedicated and passionate father and husband who enjoyed spending time coaching his boys' sports teams, going to the beach and exploring the world around him. His passion for technology and helping people led to Todd starting A Tech For Hire, a local computer and networking company that served the South Coast for over 10 years. He loved listening to live music, watching movies and spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, wife and children, survivors include his brothers Brant and Dylan Herman, stepparents Dale Weintraub and Sergio Weisskirch, in-laws Jay and Lois Horowitz, nephews, a niece and many cousins.

Contributions in memory of Todd can be made to the charity of your choice.

Bruce R. Rotkin, 62

WARWICK, R.I. – Bruce R. Rotkin, of Ethan Place, died Nov. 25 at Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center. Born in Providence, a beloved son of Carol (Leeds) Rotkin of Warwick and the late Charles Rotkin, he was a lifelong resident of Rhode Island.

He was the owner of a vending machine business for many years. He was a graduate of Cranston West High School, class of '73. He was the brother of Shelley Regan of North Scituate and Lawrence Rotkin of Georgia. He was the uncle of Michael and Brian.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the The imPOSSIBLE Dream, 575 Centerville Road, Warwick, RI 02886.

Jenny Spater, 85

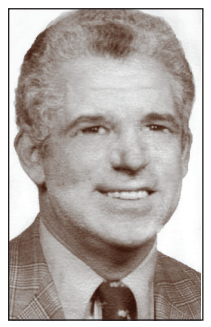
SUN CITY CENTER, FLA. – Jenny Spater, of Sun City Center, formerly of Warwick, died Dec. 1 at home. She was the beloved wife of Albert Spater for 58 years. Born in Manila, Philippines, the daughter of the late Eliyahu Ben Levy Hanna of Izmir, Turkey, and Regina (Gadol) Cohen Hanna of Port Said, Egypt

As husband and wife business partners and interior designer, they owned Trends Decorators and Spater's Department Store for more than 35 years. She graduated from Assumption Convent in the Philippines in 1949 and received a degree in business with high honors. She was the mother of Ed Spater of East Brookfield, Massachusetts, and Shirley Spater Freedman of Providence. She was the dear sister of the late Levy Hanna and aunt to Elliot Hanna. She was the grandmother of Chloe and Isabel Spater.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the Jewish National Fund, www.jnf.org.

Myron Wilner, 90

FALL RIVER, MASS. – Myron Wilner, of Fall River, passed away Dec. 3, at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. He was the husband of Marion (Leonard) Wilner to whom he had been married for 66 years.



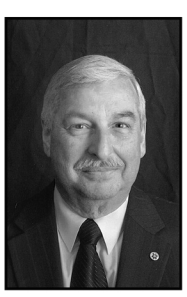
Born in New York City, the son of the late Israel and Fannie (Schiff) Wilner, he was a 1943 graduate of Townsend Harris High School in New

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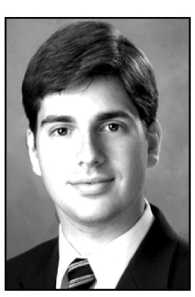
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Many options for year-end charitable giving

BY JENNIFER ZWIRN
jzwirn@jewishallianceri.org

Here are a few interesting tidbits to consider:

• Nearly one-third of all giving occurs in December.

• 12% takes places within the last three days of the year.

• Two-thirds of those making year-end gifts do so without researching where their gifts go.

What kind of giving meets your goals

Around this time each year, so many of us look to combine our desire to do good with our desire to save wherever we can. Surprisingly, it's quite easy because *tzedakah* comes in many forms, and the Jewish Federation Foundation (JFF) offers a range of options allowing you to make informed charitable contributions. From donor-advised funds to bequests and outright gifts, you can find useful information on our new Jewish legacy website: jewishallianceri.giftplans.org to help guide the process. Our philanthropy team is also available to support you as you determine end-of-year gifts and donations. It's really that simple.

2017 ALLIANCE ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Every day is a good day to consider the right types of giving for you

Consider establishing a donor-advised fund.

With charities that have donor-advised fund (DAF) programs, such as the JFF, you can make irrevocable contributions to the charity, which then establishes a DAF on your behalf. Establishing a donor-advised fund can be a particularly useful strategy at the end of the year because it allows you to make a gift and take the tax deduction immediately. You can then take your time when deciding where the dollars will go. This can be a great way to offset a year with unexpectedly high earnings or address the tax implications of year-end bonuses.

Donate complex assets.

Donors may also contribute complex assets such as private company stock, real estate or other personal property directly to a charitable organization.

These types of assets often have a relatively low cost basis. In cases where these assets have been held for at least a year, the outright sale of the asset would result in a large capital gains tax. If, however, the asset is donated directly to a charity and the charity then sells the asset, the original owner is often able to eliminate capital gains taxes while potentially receiving a charitable donation deduction as well.

Give the gift of stock.

While giving in the form of cash or check is the most common way to give charitably, it is not generally the most tax-efficient. Contributing stocks, bonds or mutual funds that have appreciated over time has become increasingly popular in recent years, and for reasons. Why?

Most publicly traded securities with unrealized long-term gains (meaning they were purchased over a year ago and have increased in value) may be donated to a public charity, and the donor may claim the fair market value as an itemized deduction on the federal tax return – up to 30% of the donor's adjusted gross income (should you donate more than you can deduct in one year, there is a 5-year carry-forward available).

Other types of securities such as restricted or privately traded securities and donations to non-public charities may also be deductible though additional requirements and limitations may apply. No capital gains taxes are owed because the securities are donated, not sold. The greater the appreciation, the bigger your tax savings can be.

To explore your Jewish Alliance year-end giving, please contact Trine Lustig, vice president of philanthropy at 401-421-4111, ext. 223 or tlustig@jewishallianceri.org, and visit the JFF new planned giving website for easy ways to give and save: jewishallianceri.giftplans.org. Always be sure to consult your own financial adviser for specific determinations and further guidance.

JENNIFER ZWIRN is a member of the Jewish Alliance philanthropy team.

FROM PAGE 29

OBITUARIES

York City. Upon his graduation from high school, he served in the United States Army during World War II as part of the Army Specialized Training program until his honorable discharge in 1946. After returning from the war, he enrolled in The City College of New York, graduating in 1947. He graduated from the Brooklyn Law School in 1954 with degrees in law and accounting.

A certified public accountant for more than 60 years, he joined the firm of Meyer & Regan in Fall River in 1956 and became a partner in 1958, after which the firm was renamed Meyer, Regan & Wilner LLP.

A civic and community leader in Fall River, he was a former director of the Fall River Chamber of Commerce, the YMCA, the Marine Museum, the Industrial Development Financing Authority and the Rogers Foundation, former board member of Temple Beth-El, the United Way Allocation Committee and a member of the New York State Bar Association.

A caring husband and loving father and grandfather, Mr. Wilner enjoyed current events, daily newspapers, the theater and Baker's Beach.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his three sons, Andrew Wilner and his wife, Irene, of Newport; Matthew Wilner, M.D. and his fiancée, Saundra Steinberg, of Dallas, Texas; and David Wilner, PhD and his wife, Sarah, of Cambridge, Massachusetts; four grandchildren, Jacob, Benjamin and Russell Wilner and Zaida Block. He was the brother of the late Morris and Sol Wilner.

Contributions in his honor may be made to the Boys & Girls Club of Fall River, 803 Bedford St., Fall River, MA 02723 or to Temple Beth-El 385 High St., Fall River, MA 02720.

FROM PAGE 1

DOUGLAS

family of six daughters and one son as a rag picker and junkman. His rise to one of Hollywood's top male stars in the 1950s and '60s is the stuff of American legend.

In most of his 87 movies, the blond, blue-eyed boy who once laid *tefillin* every morning was now cast as just about the toughest, roughest guy around. But this is only part of the story. Douglas is the author of 11 books, including harsh childhood recollections, explaining the Holocaust to children and love verses to his wife.

Douglas is now reading the proofs for his 12th book, co-authored with his wife and titled, "Kirk and Anne: Letters of Love, Laughter and a Lifetime in Hollywood."

With all these accomplishments, ask Douglas about his proudest recollection and he will point to his act of moral courage in breaking the Hollywood blacklist of alleged communists during the McCarthy red-hunting era. He did so by insisting that the name of writer Dalton Trumbo, who had been blacklisted for a decade, be publicly credited for the "Spartacus" screenplay, despite warnings that such a provocation would end Douglas' own Hollywood career.

Most of his old friends who will attend the party are familiar with another of the actor's talents – for pithy observations on life, love and advice to future generations.

On religious observance: "I don't think God wants compliments. God wants you to do something with your life and to help others."

On the appeal of Torah study: "The Torah is the greatest screenplay ever written. It has passion, incest, murder, adultery, really everything."

When Douglas was as famous for his egocentricity and womanizing as his screen roles, he spared little time and interest for his Jewish heritage. However, he observed, "I always fasted on Yom Kippur. I still worked on the movie set, but I fasted. And let me tell you, it's not easy making love to Lana Turner on an empty stomach."

Kirk was upstaged by his second and current wife at the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary in 2004. The former Anne Buydens startled the guests by announcing that she had converted to Judaism.

"Kirk has been married to two *shiksas*," she declared. "It's about time he married a nice Jewish girl."

Douglas has always had a special spot in his heart for Israel. In "The Juggler," he starred in the first Hollywood feature to be shot in the Jewish state, returning for "Remembrance of Love" and "Cast a Giant Shadow."

Shortly before his 100th birthday, Douglas recalled a blessing he first pronounced on his 90th birthday.

"In the Jewish tradition, a birthday gives a person special powers and if he issues a blessing, his blessing will come true," he said.

"I bless all the people in the land of Israel that the current conflicts resolve themselves, that no more people die or are hurt, and that you can continue your lives in peace."





WE ARE READ IN JAPAN – Betsey and George Goodwin visited Naoshima Island on their trip to Japan in November.



WE ARE READ IN ISRAEL – Members of The Miriam Hospital board and staff visited Jerusalem and Emek Medical Center in Afula, Israel recently. From left to right: Jeffrey Brier, Nancy McMahon, Sandra Cheng and Maggie DuPont



PHOTO | JODI GLASS

Storytime with PJ Library was part of the recent festivities at the Hope Street Stroll.

Hanukkah on Hope Street

December is definitely one of the busiest times of the year, which is the best reason to grab a few friends and have a fun night out!

On Dec. 15 from 6–9 p.m., J Marcel, Evolve Apothecary and Spa, Studio Hop, Luli Boutique, Kreatelier and Stock will open their doors for a special shopping night – Hanukkah on Hope Street!

There will be holiday specials, delectable treats and maybe even a door prize or two! Get your Hanukkah shopping done while supporting small businesses that are always looking to be a partner with the greater Jewish community.





MAZAL TOV – Jonathan Cohen of Plainville, Massachusetts, was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Sept. 10 at Congregation Agudas Achim in Attleboro. He is pictured with his proud parents, Jerry Cohen and Deborah Stoloff.



WEDDING – Carly Rose Siperstein and Ralph Ely Harary, right, were married July 30 at Belle Mer, Newport. The bride is the daughter of Mynde and Gary Siperstein of Warwick. The groom is the son of Randy and Ely Harary of Cotuit, Massachusetts. The wedding was co-officiated by Rabbi Harold Robinson, who married the groom's parents, and Rabbi David Freelund of Cape Cod Synagogue.

The bride is a graduate of Wheeler School, George Washington University and Lesley University and is employed by Bedford Public Schools in Bedford, Massachusetts. The groom is a graduate of Brandeis University and is with Intercontinental Exchange in Bedford.



WEDDING – Sally Rebecca Golden and Alan Daniel Safferson were married on April 9. The ceremony and reception were celebrated at Airlie Center in Warrenton, Virginia. The groom is the son of Paul and Rivka Safferson of Oakton, Virginia, and grandson of Sylvia and the late Nathan Safferson of Warwick, The bride is the daughter of David and Harriet Golden of Merrick, New York, and Troutman, North Carolina.

The two were wed by Rabbi Cantor Annie Bornstein under a custom-made *Huppah* adorned with local farm-grown flowers in seasonal colors. Alan and Sally met at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville and reside in Arlington, Virginia. Sally is a nurse and Alan works for the federal government.

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