the JEWISH VOICE

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HAPPY SPRING



PHOTO | BARBARA GOLDSTEIN

Elizabeth and M. Charles Bakst at the Hadassah Medical Center, Jerusalem.

TIME TRAVEL IN ISRAEL

A story 56 years in the making

BY M. CHARLES BAKST

On a recent trip to Israel, I knew where I wanted to go first: 56 years into my past.

At age 16, on a Young Judaea summer tour, I attended the Aug. 3, 1960, dedication of the Hadassah Medical Center in the Ein Kerem area of southwest Jerusalem. I was in distinguished company. The speakers included Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and U.S. Ambassador Ogden Reid, and the scene was awash in color. Did I mention that Golda Meir and Abba Eban also were there?

I wanted to revisit the hospital because I wanted to see how large the campus had grown. I wanted to see the famous Chagall windows, which were planned then, but not installed until 1962. I wanted to see the names of two of my mother's friends inscribed on a wall of recognition. And most of all, I wanted to get a more complete understanding of exactly how that 1960 ceremony unfolded. I needed to read more about it and go back and let it wash over me.

The dedication took place on a clear, hot day, a landmark day in the history of Israel, which the clunky language of my teenage journal only began to capture:

"At first, while people were congregating, it looked as though it was one giant national

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PHOTO | FRAN OSTENDORF

Rabbi Jonah Pesner speaks to the crowd at the Interfaith Poverty Conference.

Repairing Rhode Island

BY FRAN OSTENDORF

This year, the eighth annual Interfaith Poverty Conference on May 11 focused on inspiring *tikkun olam*. Sponsored by the Rhode Island Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty, the conference opened with an inspirational call to action by Rabbi Jonah Pesner, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism in Washington, D.C. Pesner, a powerful speaker, directed the more than 250 attendees from religious communities and advocacy groups, to focus on coming together to build a powerful alliance in the fight against poverty.

"The only people who can really do this," he told the crowd at Rhode Island College's Donovan Dining Center, "is the organized faith community. That is our job."

Following his speech, each table of attendees had an opportunity to talk and reflect on several question facilitated by Rabbi Alan Flam of the Helen Hudson Foundation for Homeless America. Workshops followed the table talk.

FRAN OSTENDORF is editor of The Jewish Voice.

6 ways Israel counts its blessings

BY BEN SALES

TEL AVIV (JTA) – When Israel entered its 1948 War of Independence, the coastal city of Rishon Lezion was a hardscrabble farming settlement with fewer than 20,000 inhabitants.

As waves of immigrants inundated Israel in its founding years, many were settled in temporary camps on Rishon Lezion's sandy outskirts. The arrivals braved rainy winters in tents and subsisted on the national food rationing program, which limited Israeli consumption of eggs and meat.

Not seven decades later, Rishon Lezion is Israel's fourth largest city, a bustling hub of nearly 250,000 freckled with malls.

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THIS ISSUE'S QUOTABLE QUOTE

"The Torah teaches us that one of our imperatives is to feed those who are hungry."

New aquatics staff at JCC getting their feet wet

BY ARIEL BROTHMAN



Come on in – the water's great – say Victoria Breda and Doug Immel, new staff members to the aquatics department at the Dwares JCC.

The Aquatics department of the Dwares Jewish Community Center, in Providence, welcomed two new staff members earlier this year.

Doug Immel became the new aquatics director at the JCC's Lenny Krayzelburg Swim Academy in mid-April, while Victoria Breda became the new coordinator in late February.

In addition to diverse professional backgrounds, Immel and Breda bring irrepressible enthusiasm to their new positions.

"This [position] matches my energy level and needs, [and] it allows me to give back," said Immel, who adds that his values regarding community service are in line with those of the Jewish Alliance.

"I was born into a family all about service. If a job didn't involve service, it wasn't interesting to me, but I also like my work to be fun," he said, while pausing to joke with youngsters who were passing by his office.

Both Immel and Breda have wide experience in community development and giving back to the community. Immel spent a year of his undergraduate studies working in Ghana, has taught at a school for adjudicated boys, and has even constructed his own eco-friendly house on wheels.

Breda, who was in the JCC's J-Fitness department before moving into Aquatics, has a background in general health and wellness. She has also worked in development for nonprofits, including one whose mission was children's advocacy and another that provided free fitness and nutrition classes to low-income women.

Breda sees the JCC as a place where everyone can feel safe and included.

"It's the most welcoming place I've ever worked out!" she said. "I want people to think of the pool as a safe space to come and a safe place to go swimming … it's a community space."

Breda's and Immel's jobs often overlap: Breda teaches children to swim, and Immel prepares them for the JCC's swim team; Breda manages the instructors, and Immel manages the lifeguards. They described themselves as a team.

When asked about their typical duties or a typical day, they both laughed and said that a typical day doesn't exist in their positions. Breda did mention that some days she teaches swimming to young children. Immel, who has only been employed at the JCC for a few weeks, said one of his top priorities was learning everybody's name.

"I now know 44 kids and 20 staff members!" he exclaimed.

While they are still learning the inner workings of the aquatics department, both staffers expressed a desire to reach out and become more connected to other parts of the community. Immel discussed a potential swim meet with another JCC, and Breda is interested in expanding beyond the local community and in teaching adults.

"I feel like we have a really strong East Side community, and I want to reach out beyond the East Side," she said. "We're in the Ocean State, so all of our kids should know how to swim."

ARIEL BROTHMAN is a freelance writer who lives in Wrentham, Massachusetts.



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Giving a human face to the IDF uniform

BY BRACHA STUART

The StandWithUs Israeli Soldiers Tour came to Rhode Island on April 15. This innovative program features reserve-duty Israeli college students who talk about their lives as ordinary Israeli citizens, as well as the Arab-Israeli conflict, while building bridges with people of all ages.

During their April 15–17 stay in Rhode Island, the soldiers spoke to residents of Laurelmead Cooperative, in Providence; to teens at a joint NCSY/BBYO Shabbaton held at the Providence Hebrew Day School; at a luncheon sponsored by the Providence Kollel and Project Shoresh; and at a Men's Club breakfast at Temple Torat Yisrael, in East Greenwich, reaching more than 220 people in total.

Ilana and Itai, whose last names are being withheld for security reasons, are a married couple. Itai proposed to Ilana during their wartime reserve duty in Gaza in 2014. They were both wearing uniforms. Not the most romantic setting, but "it felt right to be thinking about life at the very moment that enemies of Israel were encouraging death," Itai said. The photograph of their engagement on Facebook went viral on the Internet, reaching over 1.4 million people.

Itai is 28 and the fourth generation of his family to be born in Jerusalem. He was a first lieutenant in active duty, and is now a captain in the reserves. He currently studies PPE – political science, philosophy and economics – at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His ancestors made *aliyah* from Iran (then called Persia), on a donkey. It took them several weeks, because, as Itai said, "a donkey is no Ferrari."

The other side of his family came from Czechoslovakia as Holocaust survivors just after the war. His family is a coming together of Jews from different corners of the world, the east and the west. That is Israeli society – a mixture of cultures and traditions from all around the world.

While serving in an elite unit, Itai was summoned suddenly one night to find the terrorists who murdered the Fogel family in Itamar.

After receiving intelligence that they might be hiding in a particular home, his soldiers knocked firmly on the door, and two young Palestinian parents opened it. The mother was holding a crying baby in her arms. Itai remembered standing there and thinking that despite all the anger and frustration that they felt about the horrible murders, hearing that baby cry made him realize that the whole situation was forced upon all of them: none of them wanted to be there. Not Itai, who was 23 years old and hadn't had time for himself for four years. Not his young soldiers, who would much rather be out with their family and friends. And not the Palestinian baby, who had no idea what was going on around her. In fact, the only ones thriving in these situations are terrorists and those who support or legitimize them.

Ilana is 26 years old and studying for a master's degree in diplomacy and conflict resolution. She is a born-and-bred Israeli with an English accent due to learning English from her British parents, who made *aliyah* before she was born. Her grandfather grew up in Baghdad and survived the Farhoud in Iraq, a massacre of Jews during the Holocaust that was conducted by the Iraqi government with the Nazis.

The other side of her family originates from Poland, and went to England during the Holocaust. All of those who stayed behind were murdered in Nazi concentration camps.

Ilana was an officer and served for 3-1/2 years, volunteering for longer than required. She was in charge of identifying the difficulties of the combat soldiers and providing a framework of support.

During the summer of 2014, Ilana served in the operation against Hamas in Gaza. She was called up for emergency reserve duty as a first responder.

When she arrived in Gaza, it was the first time she had experienced how the residents of southern Israel have been living since 2005. When Israel disengaged from the Gaza strip, Hamas took over and began shooting rockets over the border, indiscriminately targeting Israeli civilians.

The rockets can reach very far across Israel, affecting even the center of the nation, where Ilana's parents live.

"There, people have about a minute and a half to get to a bomb shelter [after] a rocket alert sounds over the Iron Dome protective system. A minute and a half is not a long time, but it's enough. Down near Gaza, you have only 15 seconds, regardless of where you are – sleeping, eating, in the shower – to save your life.

"You hear the call over a loudspeaker system, as the Iron Dome does not even have time to be activated so close to Gaza, and you run. You run to a concrete circle and cram in there with all the other soldiers, waiting for it to be safe. This is an absurd reality – and it has been the reality in the south ever since Hamas took over."



Itai and Ilana visited Touro Synagogue while in Rhode Island. Itai found it amazing that the Sefer Torah was opened at his Bar Mitzvah parsha.



StandWithUs RI Board President Jeff Gladstone, Executive Director Bracha Stuart, Ilana and Itai.

One point that both soldiers emphasized is that terror hurts everyone, including the innocent Palestinians who want to live peaceful lives. Terror introduces suspicion and fear, instead of encouraging cooperation and understanding, they said.

Both Ilana and Itai offered a message of peace and they long for a time when their military service will no longer be needed.

BRACHA STUART is executive director of the Rhode Island chapter of StandWithUs, an international, nonprofit Israeli organization that supports people around the world who want to educate their campuses and communities about Israel.



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My Fitness Journey: Full speed ahead

Part seven of a series

Keeping a diary throughout this fitness journey has kept me accountable. It has also chronicled my daily activities, experiences, thoughts, conclusions, evaluations … and, yes, even my complaints!



KARA MARZIALI

Day 47

Last week's lack of motivation was just a hiccup. Today I had a great deal of energy and enthusiasm. Amazing how our bodies repair and rejuvenate. I will be ready for Eddie to increase the frequency, intensity, time and type of a few exercises this week.

Day 49

After my session today, it dawned on me that while my fitness journey with Eddie will surely continue into the foreseeable future, my articles for The Jewish Voice are quickly coming to an end. My last commentary (Part 8) will be May 27. I've already been asked to write a "check-in" column every so often.

According to both Eddie and Lisa, the weekly empirical data show that I have lost some weight, inches and body fat; I have gained strength, endurance and flexibility. I still don't want to know exactly what I weigh or specifically how many inches have fallen off my hips – those numbers hardly seem important. What is critical is that I have gained more confidence, which cannot be measured by scales and charts. The three of us agree that feelings are equally significant and confirm other people's observations: my skin is glowing, my clothes fit better, I am standing taller and I am setting a good example for my family.

Day 50

Becoming the best version of myself: Strong. Confident. Secure. Powerful. Hopeful. Satisfied. Blessed.

Day 51

I took a yoga class today with a colleague and loved how "in tune" I felt with my body. Roughly translated, "Namaste" means "I bow to you" and represents peace, honor and reverence. For me, the word evoked a spiritual connection; it reminded me to respect and appreciate my body.

Day 53

Henry David Thoreau once wrote, "An early-morning walk is a blessing for the whole day." I would have to agree with him!

Day 57

The awkward person who accepted this challenge weeks ago is not the same woman who exists today.

Eddie introduced me to some new exercises today. Not only did I pick them up right away, but I was able to add a good amount of weight to each of them!

I know very little about anatomy, physiology, kinesiology, biomechanics, sports conditioning, exercise science or physical education. What I do know is that it feels good when I move my body. God designed us to be active. I have established a greater appreciation and awareness of my mobility, flexibility and agility through this process – something I did not expect to obtain.

"Movement is medicine," Eddie said. "I really believe that."

"Me too!" I chimed enthusiastically.

But if you're thinking it's too late for you to get fit, I want to share two stories and encourage you to take heart.

Let me tell you about a man I have always admired – my dad. Call it good genes or just good luck, he lives an exceptional life. At 75, he works out regularly and opts to walk 18 holes instead of taking a cart when he golfs every Sunday nine months out of the year. Dad still works full time at an educational collaborative. This is not a job for the faint of heart. Each day my father encounters students between the ages of 15 and 22 years with cognitive delays, communication deficits, neuromotor disabilities, psychiatric issues and/or behavioral challenges. His role is to help these youngsters develop vocational, educational and life skills that will enable them to become productive citizens in their communities. My father acknowledges that his healthy standard of living gives him the upper edge whether he's in the classroom or on the green.

If you're like my father, God has blessed you. You are hale and hearty. It's likely you've been active physically and mentally for a good number of years. Many would credit your health, resilience and happiness to an active lifestyle.

Then there's a woman I'll call Darlene. Darlene was a chubby child, developed an eating disorder in her early teens and spent the next 30 plus years as a chronic dieter – gaining, losing and regaining weight. She topped off at nearly 300 pounds. That's a lot of body mass on a 5'1" frame. She lived a sedentary lifestyle and ate poorly, suffered from depression, was pre-diabetic, endured swelling and joint pain in her ankles and had difficulty breathing. For her, a stroke or a heart attack was waiting to happen. Darlene wasn't fully living, and she was certain that in a few years she'd meet the same fate as her mother – an early death due to an unhealthy lifestyle.

Unexpectedly, Darlene stumbled across a quote attributed to Edward Stanley, a British statesman and the Earl of Derby, in his address "The Conduct of Life" at Liverpool College in December of 1873. He claimed "Those who think they have not time for bodily exercise will sooner or later have to find time for illness."

Darlene realized that she needed to make significant modifications to her lifestyle. Subsequently, the changes that occurred were nothing short of miraculous. With the help of a Twelve-Step program, a registered dietician, a routine fitness program and personal trainer, as well as the loving support of friends and family, Darlene has altered her eating habits, maintained a 160-pound weight loss, lowered her risk for heart disease, improved her mood, increased social interactions, developed muscle mass and developed what I would consider a "darling figure." Moreover, she has acquired a new lease on life. She has a sense of purpose today.

Numerous studies have shown that even older people respond very positively to both strength training and aerobic exercise. There can be a huge difference between biological age and chronological age. While you may be 65, you don't have to feel 65. I read that most doctors and fitness experts agree that simple lifestyle changes, such as those I have described over the past few months, can add years to one's life.

If that doesn't give you hope, I can't imagine what else could. Do you want to be well? Quit making excuses, and do something to take back your life.

Day 58

It only took eight weeks, but today I realized what was missing from my wellness routine – rest. I'm not talking about an occasional catnap or relaxing on the couch at the end of the day. I'm referring to pure slumber, the natural suspension of voluntary bodily functions and of consciousness.

I have a habit of forcing myself to stay awake to watch nighttime television long past the point of exhaustion. (Gotta see how the show will end, right?) The next day I undoubtedly regret it. Even marginal sleep loss takes a toll on my attitude, energy and mental sharpness. Without adequate hours of restorative sleep, I have been unable to work, learn, create and communicate at a level even close to my true potential.

When I have failed to get consistent and sufficient sleep, I deny my body the opportunity to repair and regrow tissues, build bone and muscle and strengthen my immune system. The idea of getting my beauty sleep isn't a myth. Skimping on sleep can also increase fine lines and wrinkles, produce sagging eyelids, create dark circles under one's eyes and cause a paler complexion. Why, sleep may be the closest I'll ever come to the fountain of youth! Signing off so I can catch some ZZZs.



The tree pose is just one of many yoga positions that improve balance, build muscle strength, increase flexibility and quiet the mind.

KARA MARZIALI is the director of Communications for the Jewish Alliance.

the JEWISH VOICE

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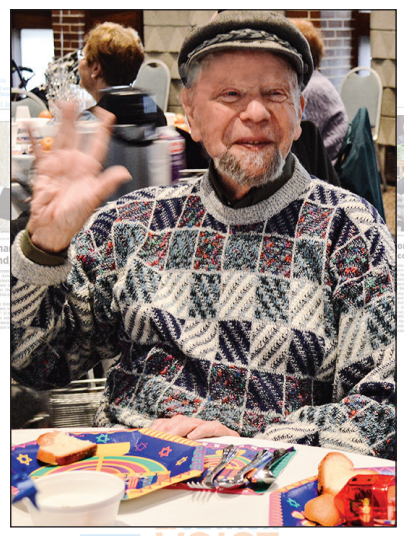


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Living a life of holiness

Parashat Kedoshim



RABBI ANDREW KLEIN

My high school students and I were having a vigorous conversation about ways that we can help people here in Rhode Island who wake up every day facing hunger, poverty or homelessness. This led us to a discussion about what they do when they are approached at a street corner by a fellow human being who is holding a cardboard sign asking for money.

Each student explained how he or she decides to do "the right thing" in this situation. They also shared their fears about this kind of encounter, such as: What does this person want from me? Will he hurt me? What will he do with the money if I give it to him?

We were still left with the question, what is the best way to really help people in need?

One student explained that rather than giving money to a stranger on the street, their family's practice is to carry various types of granola bars in the car. When stopped, they offer food, a smile and best wishes to the person; they know they are doing something to feed someone who is hungry without having to wonder about how the person might spend the money he might have given instead.

This student explained that the family receives a variety of responses from the people who receive the food rather than money. Most often the recipients are immensely thankful and offer gratitude and blessings in return. For this family, it is a win-win solution to the question of how to best help. I later learned that other students in this class brought the idea home to their families and they, too, have now taken on this practice.

As we approach Shabbat *Kedoshim* and we focus on the ancient teachings of the Holiness Code, I wonder about what it means for us as a community to live a holy life and incorporate our ancient values into our modern lives. The Torah teaches us that one of our imperatives is to feed those who are hungry.

"When you reap the harvest of your land, ... you shall not ... gather the fallen fruit; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger; I am *Adonai*, your God."

"When you reap the harvest of your land, … you shall not … gather the fallen fruit of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger; I am *Adonai*, your God." *Leviticus 19:9-10*

This week the Rhode Island Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty held its annual Poverty Conference to raise awareness and consciousness about the issues of poverty in Rhode Island. The guest speaker was Rabbi Jonah Pesner, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. His focus was on various ways that we can all fulfill the mitzvah of *tikkun olam*, repairing the world.

The several hundred attendees at the conference were reminded of many sobering statistics, including that one in five Rhode Island children lives in poverty and one in six Rhode Islanders is food insecure.

Let me say that again. One in six of our children here in Rhode Island lives in poverty. And one in seven Rhode Islanders is food insecure.

This reality is unacceptable to people of good conscience. Each and every one of us who has more than enough food to eat should be ashamed by these facts – and not just feel ashamed, but feel called upon to transform those feelings into action – today. As Americans living in one of the wealthiest countries in the world, we must live the values of holiness by being sure that our fellow community members have enough food to eat. As Jews we are commanded to do our part to make the world more whole and complete. Some of us will choose to act by actually feeding the hungry. Others will be called upon to change legislation to address the issue at the societal level. The imperative is to do something now. Concrete action will lead us on the path to living a life of holiness.

For even more sobering facts about poverty in Rhode Island and for information about what you can do to help, go to endpovertyri.org

Shabbat Shalom.

ANDREW KLEIN is rabbi of Temple Habonim in Barrington and treasurer/secretary of the Board of Rabbis of Greater Rhode Island.

The power of *chesed*



PATRICIA RASKIN

I have been blessed with many kind friends with whom I can share and enjoy. I recently had a friend over for dinner and noted how attentive she was to what I was saying. She stayed with my explanations and visibly showed her care and love. As she was leaving, I thanked her more than once for her kindness, for being there for me, listening, caring and truly sharing in my joy.

This kind of connection with others is so important – something most of us need and want. When we get derailed in our relationships, it's often through miscommunications, not expressing our needs, wants and feelings, not reaching out, and fear of getting too close.

Kindness and positive connections are both a gift and vital sustenance. And when we seek rich, full and kind relationships, we set an example for those around us.

Many stories, articles and books have been written about good deeds, *mitzvot* and connection with others. In his article "Day to Day Judaism: Kindness," Rabbi Maurice Lamm, on aish.com, discusses the meaning of *chesed*.

"What is quite clearly the most consistent and all-embracing act of faith is called *chesed*, which means kindness and implies the giving of oneself to helping another without regard to compensation.

"In a sense, the goal of the whole enterprise of Judaism is to develop human beings whose principal trait is *chesed*. The rabbis of the Talmud (*Yevamot* 79a) considered kindness to be one of the three distinguishing marks of the Jew."

In my book "Pathfinding," my father, *alav ha-shalom*, told the following story about *chesed* from a stranger, which stayed in his memory throughout his life.

"In the mid-30s, when I was in college, jobs were hard to find. One summer I was lucky to get a Saturday morning job from 6:00 a.m. to noon unloading banana boats in Boston. My first assignment involved carrying what they called a stalk of bananas from the hold of the ship up vertical steps to the processing area offshore.

"The stalks were trimmed … for the bananas to be packaged for shipping. The weight of each stalk varied from forty to eighty pounds. They hung from the ceiling of the ship's hold in rows. Each of us would wear a rubber shoulder apron and stand beneath the next stalk. The man standing there would cut the string holding the stalk and it would drop onto your shoulder. Then burdened with the heavy stalk, you'd walk up the stairs to the processing areas.

"It was backbreaking work. But I'll never forget the time it was my luck, or misfortune, to stand under an oversized stalk. I had difficulty carrying that load up the steps. I didn't think I would make it. Suddenly, out of nowhere, a hand took me by the seat of my pants and pushed me up the ladder until I could gain my balance and carry the load to the processing room.

"When I turned around to see who had given me that wonderful helpful hand, I looked directly into the face of a huge African-American man. At the time he had pushed me up the ladder, he was carrying his own load. I'll never forget the kind look on his face.

"It taught me to appreciate kindness wherever and from whomever I find it."

PATRICIA RASKIN hosts "The Patricia Raskin Show" on Saturdays at 4 p.m. on WPRO, 630 AM/99.7 FM. Raskin is a board member of Providence's Temple Emanu-El.

Candle Lighting Times

Greater Rhode Island

May 13	**7:37**
May 20	**7:44**
May 24 Shavu'ot after	**8:59**
May 27	**7:50**





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The many faces of a community newspaper editor



EDITOR

FRAN OSTENDORF

The editor of this small newspaper finds herself in the position of doing many jobs she never dreamed of as a young, inexperienced and naïve journalism school student.

When you start out at J-school, you learn about reporting and writing a news story. Then you graduate to the longer-format feature story. You get a lot of practice and criticism. You try your virtual pen on opinion pieces, editorials, obituaries. You learn about ethics, law and plagiarism. You might take a photography course. And journalism students today, of course, also get a healthy dose of new media, learning about social media, the Web, video.

You graduate ready to conquer the world. Or so you think.

Most of us didn't learn much in J-school about the world of small community newspapers. At least I didn't. But at a small paper, you discover that it's not all about writing and reporting. There's fact-checking. And editing. And rewriting. And proofreading. And snapping photos and editing photos.

And phone calls. And emails – lots of emails.

Advertising wasn't even on my radar in J-school. But we don't have the luxury of ignoring any part of the industry at a small paper. What happens on the ad side of The Voice directly impacts the editorial side. We try to remain separate. But sometimes, at a community newspaper, the separation is thin. That advertiser just might be the best source for your news story. And when the bills aren't paid, the editor is the first one to be asked why the advertiser hasn't paid.

Or, the editor might just be writing a column about the community and remind all the faithful readers to look at our advertising and give our advertisers a try first when the reader needs something that the advertiser can supply. After all, most newspapers wouldn't exist without advertisers.

The very last thing I ever thought I'd be doing, as a journalist, is asking for readers' financial support for the publication I work for. But that was then and, as you've been reading for several hundred words, this is now. So here I am ending this column with a reminder that we are in the midst of our annual patron campaign. Every spring, The Voice asks its readers to contribute toward the health of the newspaper.

Funds raised during the patron campaign go directly toward the operation of The Voice, assuring that you continue to see the articles, columns, features, photos and community news you enjoy in each paper.

Patron donations are an important part of our budget. Your contribution could help us upgrade equipment or fund a summer intern. And they allow you, the reader, to show your support for the work done by The Voice to cover the Jewish community of Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts. Our small, hard-working staff is dedicated to giving a voice to our community.

There are several ways to donate. It's easier than ever to donate online at thejewishvoice.org. Click on the donate button at the top of the home page. If you want to donate by check, send to The Jewish Voice, Patron Campaign, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906.

To those who have already donated, we say thank you! To those who are thinking about a donation, we appreciate your consideration. Our patrons and our readers are important to the community and the paper - and we hope you think we are important enough to donate generously.

Remember graduation?

We want to include you in the newspaper for our graduation issue. Share your memories of graduation with us. Funny. Sweet. Old. New. Pictures are always welcomed, too. We look forward to hearing from you. Email editor@jewishallianceri.org. If a computer doesn't suit you, send your information to Editor, The Jewish Voice, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906.

A Nothing that is Something



IT SEEMS TO ME

RABBI JIM ROSENBERG

Rabbi Eugene B. Borowitz died at his home in Stamford, Connecticut, this past Jan. 20, a month shy of his 92nd birthday.

Dr. Borowitz, the holder of two earned and three honorary doctorates, was, in the best sense of the term, a public intellectual. While he turned his attention to many aspects of Jewish life, perhaps his most enduring contribution is his helping us skeptical liberal Jews find new approaches to grappling with our tenuous relationship with God.

Borowitz was one of my teachers during each of the five years that I attended the New York School of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, where I was ordained in June 1971. While he taught a number of subjects, he was most compelling when encouraging students to develop language that would enable us to articulate our evolving relationship with God.

By the end of our five years at HUC-JIR, Borowitz had introduced us to such luminaries of 20th-century Jewish religious thought as Martin Buber, Franz Rosenzweig, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Mordecai Kaplan, Leo Baeck, Emil Fackenheim, and others. Although Borowitz was most influenced by Buber, he prodded us to discover for ourselves the strengths and weaknesses of each of these thinkers. He wanted us to know why we believed what we believed.

As a teacher, Borowitz was both inspiring and demanding. A brilliant and often entertaining lecturer – with a deep, sonorous voice accompanied by fluid and expressive gestures – he was able to analyze complex theological positions with clarity and grace. And despite his gifts as a speaker, he was eager to hear what we students had to say; he was constantly eliciting our often confused and conflicting views, pushing us to dive ever deeper into our own intellectual, emotional and spiritual depths.

No teacher has ever pressed me to work harder; in my fifth year, our class was required to hand in a 10- to 15-page paper on modern Jewish religious thought every two weeks throughout both semesters. To his credit, Borowitz was diligent about promptly returning them, with his incisive comments written in distinctive green ink.

Though 45 years have passed since I took my final formal class with Borowitz, he has continued to serve as my teacher. Over the years, I have learned from him at a number of public lectures, some directed to his rabbinical colleagues, others directed to a lay audience. In addition, I have learned from his abundant writings; he is



Rabbi Eugene B. Borowitz

the author of 17 books and innumerable articles. Whenever I find myself engaged in one of his books or articles, I am transported through time and space back to his classroom in New York, where he once again stands before me as my esteemed teacher.

In addition to his own nonstop writing, Borowitz encouraged others to join in dialogue by contributing to what he began in 1970 as an eight-page biweekly publication and edited for 23 years: Sh'ma: a Journal of Jewish Responsibility.

Throughout the decades, "Sh'ma" has explored a wide variety of communal issues, including both interfaith and intrafaith relations, our relationship with Israel, and our role in promoting social and economic justice. As an aside, Borowitz could not resist revealing his wry sense of humor in every issue by including this notice to readers: "We print typos that do not obscrue (sic.) the meaning."

The year 1987 was my 13th as rabbi of Temple Habonim, in Barrington, my Bar Mitzvah year with my congregation. To mark this milestone, I invited Borowitz to speak at a Friday evening service. On the chosen Shabbat, several of the local Christian clergy were attending our worship service, so Borowitz adapted his talk to fit the interfaith context.

Though his address was almost 30 years ago, I remember his opening words as if it were yesterday: "We liberal religionists want to believe in nothing ... BUT (long pause) ... a Nothing that is Something."

As a result of that opening gambit, Borowitz held us all in the palm of his hand for the duration of his remarks. He first elaborated on the reasons for our skepticism and doubts leading us to believe in nothing: the darkness, the evil, the corruption in our world. But he then urged us to search for some form of affirmation – that Something that transforms the Nothing from negative into positive. He urged us not to give up in our struggle to identify the goodness that lies at the core of our relationships with each other and with God – however we might experience God.

Borowitz's religious outlook, the very outlook he outlined in his address at Temple Habonim back in 1987, was shaped by the writings of religious existentialists. It is no accident, then, that his first book was "A Layman's Introduction to Religious Existentialism" (Dell, 1966).

In this book, which examines the work of eight Christian and two Jewish religious existentialists, Borowitz stresses that the thinkers share a common approach but do not necessarily arrive at common conclusions. At the center of this approach stands not the disembodied intellect but the whole person, body and soul, "the self, the concrete individual facing the problems of existence in a very specific here and now."

Nowhere is Borowitz's existential religious perspective more poignantly expressed than in his first book's dedication to his wife, the mother of his three daughters:

"To my beloved Estelle, who has taught me the meaning of existence in covenant."

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

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).

LETTERS

Re: Theater collaboration (April 29)

A young student of my acquaintance at JCDS was recently involved in the Promoting Peace and Understanding program at the school.

Apparently JCDS maintains a number of partnerships in the community, although only one is a school, and that school is the Islamic School of RI. That partnership is generously funded by the Rhode Island Foundation. Wouldn't you think that JCDS's partnerships with schools should (at a minimum) also embrace schools that reflect Judeo-Christian values, e.g., Roman Catholic schools, Christian schools, Latino schools, etc.?

Dr. Stephen M. Kirby, noted author of three books about Islam, raises in FrontPageMag.com, April 26, 2016, the question of what values Muslim "school friends" carry. He notes that a popular curriculum of private Islam schools, "I Love Islam," provided by the Islamic Services Foundation, has troubling content. Israel, for one thing, does not appear on many of the maps contained in teaching material, and is barely visible on others. The series also teaches that Jerusalem is located in Palestine, and that Christians are inferior to Muslims. Further, it holds Muhammad out as a role model, as in the Sira or Seerah of Muhammad, even though the Sira teaches that Muhammad ordered adulterers to be stoned, owned and gave away slaves, beheaded Jews and approved of wife-beating.

The values listed above should be troubling to the Jewish community and to all Americans. But has the JCDS done due diligence as to the teaching curriculum of its partner, Islamic School of RI? Needless to say, friendships made at elementary-school age can be influential in shaping attitudes later in life.

As a concerned member of the community, I would encourage JCDS to explain the thinking behind their participation in this program and partnerships.

Howard Brown
North Kingstown

Re: Theater collaboration (April 29)

I am confused by Mr. Brown's letter. He writes, "Needless to say, friendships made at the elementary-school age can be influential in shaping attitudes later in life." We couldn't agree more!

Because our children have built long-term, meaningful relationships with each other, they have been given an inoculation against racism and xenophobia. While politicians, militants and fear-mongering websites fan the flames of violence and hatred, our students will continue to see one another as real, nuanced and kind people.

From a Jewish perspective, we want our children to embrace the Jewish value of seeing all people "*b'tzelem elohim*" (created in God's image) and to live the commandment "*V'ahavta L'reyecha C'mocha*" (to love your neighbor as you love yourself). These aren't just platitudes to be read and forgotten. They are our mission statement as a religion and a people.

Mr. Brown should remember that there are 1.6 billion Muslims in the world. If, as the saying goes, "Two Jews have three opinions," how many opinions do so many Muslims have? Some people will tell you, "One: and they all hate us." But we have learned from our experiences and relationships, not from websites.

When 150 Muslim and Jewish children and adults came together at Brown RISD Hillel to celebrate friendship and unity, we learned that we have partners in our dream of creating peace between our people.

I hope that members of our communities will share their experiences with The Jewish Voice as well.

What to say to close this letter? Oh yes…

Shalom,
Adam Tilove
Head of School
Jewish Community Day School of RI

Re: Glory Days (April 29)

As President of Hadassah Rhode Island, I would like to comment on the article by Geraldine Foster. Ms. Foster correctly notes that "only one chapter of Hadassah remains in Rhode Island." I am proud to say that Hadassah Rhode Island is one statewide chapter with over 1,100 members and associates. We encompass all of the previously existing, smaller chapters.

Hadassah was founded in 1912; its earliest mission was undertaken to help solve some of the medical issues of the Jews of Palestine. Even before Israel became a state, Hadassah established an infrastructure for the standard of excellence which is maintained today. Today our researchers are developing breakthroughs in the fields of ALS, Parkinson's, age-related macular degeneration, as well as other diseases.

We all had different reasons for joining the various Zionist organizations. "Our extended Jewish family needed our support." They still need the support of the women of Rhode Island; we encourage those women who have not already connected their names to Hadassah to join with us.

We make time for Hadassah in our busy lives – time for meetings, for fundraisers, for book groups. In fact some of our most interesting events are coming up soon. Cause for Applause (May 15) raises scholarship funds for Hadassah Academic College; Books on the Beach (August 9), our annual book and author luncheon supports Hadassah Medical Organization, and our Chai Luncheon focuses on our personal health, highlighting the ongoing medical research at Hadassah.

The Jewish state is no longer a dream but a reality in our lives. Hadassah remains both relevant and crucial to the State of Israel, and to the growth in our personal lives as Jewish women in the United States. We are still very much part of "the glory days." Hadassah still thrives; our time and our energy are well invested.

Sue Mayes
hadassah.org/rhodeisland

FROM PAGE 1

| ISRAEL

Its rise mirrors the meteoric growth experienced by Israeli society in the 68 years since the nation's founding. Though Israel faces social, cultural, religious and military challenges, it has burgeoned economically, technologically and militarily. Here are six statistics that show how.

Israel's population has grown tenfold since 1948.

Israel was founded with a population of 806,000. Today there are 8.5 million Israelis, about 75 percent of them Jews.

In 1948, just over a third of Israelis were native born, or "sabras." The rest were immigrants either from war-torn Europe or the Middle East and North Africa. Today, three-quarters of Israelis are native born.

But immigration, or *aliyah*, continues to swell the numbers: 30,000 immigrants arrived in Israel in 2015, including almost 8,000 from France, 7,000 from Ukraine and about 3,800 from the United States and Canada. In total, some 2.5 percent of Israel's population – approximately 200,000 people – are from the U.S.

Israel's cities have grown apace. West Jerusalem, in 1948, had less than 100,000 residents. Now the city's eastern and western halves include more than 800,000 residents. Sixteen Israeli cities boast more than 100,000 residents, and eight have more than 200,000.

A higher percentage of Israelis than Americans own cellphones.

In Israel's first decades, phone access was a luxury. Through the 1970s, new immigrants sometimes waited years to get a landline in their apartment. In the meantime, they lined up at the local pay phone with a handful of tokens.

Now, 96 percent of Israelis own cellphones, more than the 90 percent in the U.S. A swarm of Israeli phone companies compete for customers' shekels, while Israeli technological innovation has made cellphones more powerful.

Since 1948, Israel's economy has grown even faster than its population. The country's GDP in its founding year was $6.6 billion in today's dollars. Now Israel produces about 44 times as much – nearly $300 billion a year. In 2010, the country joined the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a group of the world's most affluent countries.

Standards of living have also risen. Israel's GDP per capita today is approximately $35,000 – 6.7 times what it was in 1948, adjusted for inflation. Nine years after the state's founding, just one-tenth of Israelis had an air conditioner for the country's sweltering summer. Now, thankfully, almost nine in 10 Israelis have the machines at home. The country boasts nearly 3 million cars, compared with 34,000 in 1948.

Israel's Air Force grew from nothing to be the region's most powerful.

When Israel's provisional government declared independence, a militia, the Haganah, was in place to defend it. But the new state had a total of zero combat aircraft. The first shipment of 25 planes came a few weeks after Independence Day from Czechoslovakia.

The Israel Air Force has since established itself as the best in the Middle East. At 680 combat aircraft, it isn't the region's largest fleet, but technological prowess, training and Israel's stability make it the most formidable.

Helpfully, Israel receives more than $3 billion of U.S. military aid every year, allowing it to maintain its advantage. The countries are now negotiating a new defense assistance package reportedly shaping up to be the largest ever.

Israel's yeshiva student population is 300 times bigger than in 1948.

When Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, exempted full-time yeshiva students from Israel's military draft, the pass applied to just 400 haredi Orthodox young men studying Torah all day. But Israel's yeshivas have been fruitful and multiplied. Today, more than 120,000 yeshiva students skip the army, according to the religious pluralism advocacy group Hiddush.

Haredi Jews make up 9 percent of Jewish-Israeli society, and their numbers are growing. According to a March study by the Pew Research Center, 91 percent of them have more than three children, while half of secular Jews have two or fewer.

The draft exemption has been a heated political issue in Israel for years, with many Israelis calling on the government to "equalize the burden" of military service. The centrist Yesh Atid party became Israel's second largest in 2013 by promising draft reform. Its legislation passed in 2014, but was defanged last year after Israel's most recent election, which swept haredi parties back into power and sent Yesh Atid into the opposition.

The number of women in the Knesset has tripled.

Women fought alongside men in Israel's prestate battles and the War of Independence. But when the first Knesset convened in 1949, just 11 of the body's 120 members were women – less than 10 percent. One of them was Golda Meyerson, who would leave her mark on the world as Golda Meir, Israel's first female prime minister.

While no woman has followed Meir to Israel's top post, more women than ever are members of Knesset. Women, who make up a majority of Israel's population, are still underrepresented. But the body now includes a record 32 women, more than a quarter of Israeli lawmakers. That's compared with the 19 percent of the U.S. Congress that's female.

Ben Gurion Airport welcomes 16 million travelers a year

As the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has festered, Israeli fears of international boycott have risen. But you wouldn't know it from Israel's main link to the outside world, Ben Gurion Airport. Fifteen million travelers passed through the hub in 2015, up from 10 million in 2010.

Tourism did drop 3 percent from 2014 to 2015, which Israel's Tourism Ministry attributed to the 2014 Gaza War. But the war also showed the importance to Israelis of international travel. Some of the war's tensest days came in late July, when many flights to Israel were canceled due to missile threats, severing some links between Israel and the world.

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 June 30

Three Inspiring Artists. Gallery at Temple Habonim. Award-winning artist Richard Harrington is a juried member of several art organizations as well as a skilled teacher. Barbara Rhian is a signature member of the Rhode Island Water Color Society, and brings new meaning to the medium, using light and color with great experience. Accomplished author and photographer, Shai Afsai has traveled far and wide bringing images and faces of worlds seldom seen. Hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and by appointment. 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington. For information, call 401-245-6536. gallery@templehabonim.org.

Friday | May 13

(401)j Shabbat Dinner. 7:30 p.m. Temple Beth-El. 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Enjoy a relaxing evening of fun with friends. Bring your favorite game, and hang out after dinner for Shabbat-friendly activities. Come early for a 7 p.m. Shabbat service. $10 per person | bring someone new and he/she pays only $5. (A new (401)j-er is anyone age 21-45 who has attended two or fewer (401)j events.) Dietary laws observed. For more information or to RSVP, contact Erin Moseley at 401-421-4111, ext. 108 or emoseley@jewishallianceri.org.

Saturday | May 14

The Indelible Stain: Jew-Washing, Anti-Semitism and Zionophobia on the College Campus and Beyond. Noon. Beth Sholom. 275 Camp St., Providence. Prof. Andrew Pessin will speak. Luncheon. Donation, $10 per person, $36 family maximum.

Taste of Shabbat. Temple Torat Yisrael. 1251 Middle Road. East Greenwich. Torah discussion from 9-9:45 a.m. Abbreviated service from 9:45- 11 a.m. followed by light Kiddush. Information, 401-885-6600.

Sunday | May 15

Breakfast and Lecture. 10 a.m.Temple Beth El. 385 High St., Fall River. Service begins at 9 a.m. Featured speaker is Matan Zamir, Israel's Deputy Consul General to New England, who will discuss current events in Israel. Zamir has led a decorated career in the Israeli Defense Forces. In 2003, Zamir was honored for his service and received the President's medal of excellence for Israel's 55th Independence Day. A question-and-answer period will follow. Reservations are required. Call Temple Beth El at 508-674-3529.

Israeli Cooking. 9:15-10:30 a.m. Temple Torat Yisrael. 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. With Valerie Philmus. All are welcome! For more information, call 401-885-6600.

West Bay Chavurah Visit to the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial. 11 a.m.-noon. Providence. Adjacent to the World War I and World War II memorials in Memorial Park. The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial is designed to honor those who survived the Holocaust as well as those who lost their lives. Join with the West Bay Chavurah's Alice Goldstein as she guides us into the quiet symbolism found in the memorial's design and helps connect visitors with ways to learn more and further the message of "never forget." By providing a place for meaningful reflection and by sharing the lessons of the Holocaust, it is hoped that the memorial will help create a kinder world. For more information, contact Mark Sweberg at mark.sweberg@gmail.com or 401-248-5010.

Artists' Reception for May/June Gallery Exhibit. 1-3 p.m. Temple Habonim. 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington. Three accomplished artists and over 30 inspiring works. Artists Richard Harrington, Barbara Rhian and Shai Afsai. For more information, contact Jodi Sullivan at office@templehabonim.org or 401-245-6536.

Hadassah Rhode Island Cause for Applause. 2-5 p.m. Ocean State Theater. 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick. Hadassah Rhode Island honors the memory of Dr. Meredith Drench at the production of "Anything Goes" at the Ocean State Theater Company. $65 per person. For more information, contact Sue Mayes at sue_mayes@cox.net or 401-849-2980.

Sunday Film Series. 3-5 p.m. Temple Habonim. 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington. Poet Maya Angelou narrates the 2008 film "As Seen Through These Eyes." The film incorporates archival film and photographs along with more recent interviews and images of the artwork that was rendered by a brave group of people who fought Hitler with the only weapons they had: charcoal, pencil stubs, shreds of paper and memories etched in their minds. These artists took their fate into their own hands to make a compelling statement about the human spirit enduring against unimaginable odds. For more information, contact Jodi Sullivan at office@templehabonim.org or 401-245-6536.

Friday | May 20

PJ Library Story and Play Time with "Bubbie Sara." 10-11 a.m. Dwares JCC. Spend some time with us twice a month to hear stories, play games and make new friends! We will read various PJ Library books and sing songs about different Jewish holidays throughout the year. Children will also be able to make a craft. All children ages 5 and under are welcome. For more information, contact Sara Foster at 401-421-4111, ext. 130, or sfoster@jewishallianceri.org.

Saturday | May 21

Kids' Night Out: Harry Potter. 5-10 p.m. Dwares JCC. Kids' Night Out is 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 "kids free"! Kids' Night Out runs once a month on Saturday evenings. Each month children will be entertained with a variety of themed activities, including sports, crafts, swimming and more. A pizza dinner and snacks are served, and the evening ends with a movie. Ages: 5-12. Price: $35 | Members: $25 | Siblings: $15. For more information or to register, contact Shannon Kochanek at 401-421-4111, ext. 147, or skochanek@jewishallianceri.org.

Sunday | May 22

Sunday Film Series at Temple Habonim. 3-5 p.m. Temple Habonim. 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington. "Rabin in His Own Words" is the dramatic life story of Yitzhak Rabin 20 years after his assassination, told entirely in Rabin's own voice. Through a rare combination of archival footage, home movies and private letters, his personal and professional dramas unfold before the viewers' eyes. This is the premier showing of the film in New England. For more information, contact Jodi Sullivan at office@templehabonim.org or 401-245-6536.

Temple Emanu-El Celebration for Rabbi Babchuck. 4-7 p.m. Temple Emanu-El. 99 Taft Ave., Providence. A community celebration for Rabbi Elan Babchuck. For more information, contact Gershon Levine at glevine@teprov.org or 401-331-1616.

Tuesday | May 24

Novel Conversations with Nomi Eve. 7 p.m. Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Event Co-Chairs Cara Mitnick and Jeanie Charness invite you to join the women of Rhode Island's Jewish community for an evening with the acclaimed author of "Henna House" and "The Family Orchard." The evening will include a Henna artist, Middle Eastern spice tasting and desserts. Admission: $10 plus a gift to the 2016 Jewish Alliance Annual Campaign. The admission charge will be used to assist the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee's continuing efforts to ensure the rescue and safe passage of Jews living in Arab countries. For more information or to RSVP, contact Danielle Germanowski at 401-421-4111, ext. 109, or dgermanowski@jewishallianceri.org. RSVP by May 13.

Tuesday | May 31

PJ Library Story and Play Time with "Bubbie Sara." 3-4 p.m. Dwares JCC. Spend time with us twice a month to hear stories, play games and make new friends! We will read various PJ Library books and sing songs about different Jewish holidays throughout the year. Children will also be able to make a craft. All children ages 5 and under are welcome. For more information, contact Sara Foster at 401-421-4111, ext. 130, or sfoster@jewishallianceri.org.

Sunday | June 5

West Bay Chavurah Bus Trip to the Lower East Side of NYC. 7 a.m.-11 p.m. The Lower East Side of New York is a thriving neighborhood full of sites of Jewish interest, shops and restaurants! Enjoy a private, three-hour tour and KOSHER Greek lunch at Kehila Kedosha Janina Synagogue, unchanged since being built in 1927 by Romaniote Jews from Janina, Greece! Hear the story of these Jews, from their entry into Greece in the first century to their current life in America. These are Jews who, after the destruction of the Second Temple, were sent on a slave ship to Rome. A storm forced them to land in Greece instead, where over the next 2,000 years, they developed uniquely different ethnic and religious customs! Afterward, explore the neighborhood on your own; delis are nearby! A walking tour itinerary and map will be provided. Restroom-equipped bus boards at Tamarisk, 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick at 6:30 a.m; DEPARTS PROMPTLY at 7 a.m. Restroom stop and light snacks provided along the way! Bus boards NYC at 6:30 p.m. with PROMPT DEPARTURE at 7 p.m. Total Cost: $93 per person, first-come, first-served. For more information, contact Mark Sweberg at mark.sweberg@gmail.com or 401-248-5010.

AIPAC New England Leadership Dinner. 5-9 p.m. Seaport World Trade Center. 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston. Join community leaders, members of Congress, state officials and students for AIPAC's largest gathering of pro-Israel activists in New England. $250 per person. For more information, contact AIPAC New England at nedinner2016@aipac.org.

PHDS Amudim Dinner. 5-9 p.m. Providence Hebrew Day School. 450 Elmgrove Ave., Providence. PHDS Amudim dinner pays tribute to outstanding honorees who have made a lasting impression on the school or the Providence community. $65 per person. For more information, contact Peretz Scheinerman at pscheinerman@phdschool.org or 401-331-5327.

Monday | June 6

31st Annual Dwares JCC Golf Classic. 11 a.m. Alpine Country Club. 251 Pippin Orchard Road, Cranston. Participation in and support of the annual Golf Classic allows continuation of vital programs and services that benefit the entire community, including those who find themselves in difficult economic situations. 11 a.m. Registration, 11:30 a.m. Lunch, 12:45 p.m. Shotgun Start, 5:30 p.m. Cocktails, dinner and awards. Register by May 20. For more information, contact Hillary Schulman at 401-421-4111, ext. 127, or hschulman@jewishallianceri.org or visit jewishallianceri.org.

Wednesday | June 15

Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island Fifth Annual Meeting. 7-9 p.m. Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Board Installations: Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, Jewish Federation Foundation and Alliance Realty, Inc. For more information, contact Gail Putnam at 401-421-4111, ext. 158, or gputnam@jewishallianceri.org.

You can post your community calendar information to **The Voice calendar** online, accessible at jvhri.org or jewishallianceri.org.
It only takes a few minutes to register and fill in the form. Your listing will appear both on the Jewish Voice website and the Alliance website and selected items will also be published in the Voice.
Contact editor@jewishallianceri.org with any questions.



Celebrate Lag B'Omer with Chabad

Chabad R.I. invites the greater Rhode Island Jewish community to a grand Lag B'Omer picnic and parade May 26 at 5:30 p.m. at the Sessions Street Park in Providence (behind the Dwares JCC).

This year's program highlights an exciting show by Davey the Clown – a five-star performer who entertains folks of all ages with music and audience participation. Food will be available for purchase.

Lag B'Omer, a day of great blessings and joy, is celebrated throughout the world. This year's Lag B'Omer celebration takes on added significance, as it is a "Hakhel year" – when the Jewish community unites to strengthen its commitment to Torah and *mitzvot*.

For more information, or rain date, call 401-273-7238 or email BelieveinProvidence@gmail.com.

Sensational spring flavors

(Family Features) – Between blossoming flowers and warmer temperatures, there are plenty of reasons to spend more time outside. Brighten up your spring family gatherings with the sweet flavors of the season. You can prepare a delicious brunch for your family or bring a fun dessert to your next gathering without having to take away any of your time enjoying the outdoors.

Spring is also the perfect time to introduce new twists on classic desserts that will impress your loved ones. Dessert combinations, like a classic cheesecake laced with sweet cherries on a buttery chocolate chip cookie crust or a brunch-perfect cinnamon French toast with your favorite features of an apple fritter, are sure to be the talk of your family's table.





Overnight Apple Fritter French Toast Casserole

Recipe courtesy of Kate of "I Heart Eating"

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 45-55 minutes
Servings: 12

Ingredients

1 package (24 ounces) thick-sliced cinnamon bread, divided
1 can (21 ounces) apple fruit pie filling and topping
9 large eggs
1 cup fat-free half-and-half
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 cup powdered sugar
1-2 tablespoons milk

Method

Grease 9-by-9-inch baking dish.

Cube cinnamon bread and add half to prepared baking dish.

Add fruit filling over bread. Cover fruit filling with rest of bread cubes.

In bowl, whisk together eggs, half-and-half and cinnamon. Pour evenly over bread.

Cover and chill overnight.

When ready to serve, heat oven to 325 degrees F.

Uncover and bake for 45-55 minutes.

If casserole starts to brown too much, tent aluminum foil over casserole.

Let cool in pan for about 10 minutes.

Glaze

Whisk together powdered sugar and 1 tablespoon milk, adding more as needed to make pourable glaze. Drizzle glaze over casserole just before serving.

Chocolate Chip Cookie Cherry Cheesecake Pie

Ingredients

Cook time: 67-82 minutes

1 roll (16.5 ounces) refrigerated chocolate chip cookie dough
2 packages (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
2/3 cup sugar
1 egg
2 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 cans (21 ounces each) cherry fruit pie filling, divided.

Method

Heat oven to 350 degrees F.

Press cookie dough evenly into bottom and sides of deep dish (2-inches deep) 9-inch pie plate.

Bake 12 minutes. Cool completely. While crust is cooling, prepare filling.

Filling

In large bowl, beat cream cheese, sugar, egg and vanilla until smooth. Stir in 1 can of cherry fruit filling. Pour filling into cooled crust.

Bake 55-70 minutes, or until filling is set and golden brown.

Cool. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Top with remaining can of cherry fruit filling.

RECIPES AND PHOTOS from Lucky Leaf.





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'Rabin in His Own Words' at Temple Habonim

The Sunday Film Series at Temple Habonim concludes with "Rabin in His Own Words" on May 22. This is the dramatic life story of Yitzhak Rabin 20 years after his assassination, told entirely in Rabin's own voice.

"Rabin In His Own Words" brings the man back to life, if only momentarily. Through a rare combination of archival footage, home movies and private letters, Rabin's personal and professional dramas unfold before the viewers' eyes. The film follows Rabin's life from early childhood until the horrific moment when his political career and life were suddenly brought to an end.

Directed by Erez Laufer, "Rabin In His Own Words" was the winner of the Best Documentary at the Haifa International Film Festival in 2015 and was released nationally in the United States on May 6. This is its first showing in New England.

The screening, which begins at 3 p.m., is free and open to the public Popcorn is included. Temple Habonim at 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington.

Stock market history focus of Dor L'Dor Society event

"Should we take our money and run? Putting today's market volatility into context," featuring Jeff Croteau of Prime Buchholz & Associates, Inc., was held at the home of Michael Nulman on May 3. The event recognized Dor L'Dor Society members for their commitment to Jewish life for generations to come. The Dor L'Dor Society celebrates the generosity of donors who have created planned gifts, bequests or permanent endowment funds to sustain the Jewish community in perpetuity. The program was open to Dor L'Dor Society members, current endowment and donor advised fund holders, and donors to the 2016 Alliance annual campaign. Croteau's presentation examined the history of the stock market to illustrate that while there may be volatility in the short-term, investors need to remember that the focus of a portfolio is long-term growth. He also addressed the Jewish Federation Foundation's endowment fund, explaining that in spite of the recession and recent losses the fund has grown about 5 percent in the last 10 years.



Jeff Croteau, CFA, managing principal with Prime, Buchholz & Associates, Inc.; Jay Rosenstein, Jewish Federation Foundation chairperson; Mitzi Berkelhammer, vice chair, Philanthropy; and Sharon Gaines, Jewish Alliance Board president.



PHOTOS | HILLARY SCHULMAN

Rob Sherwin, chair of the Investment Committee and Michael Nulman, event host.



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For more information on ways to create your Jewish legacy, contact Trine Lustig, Vice President of Philanthropy, at 401.421.4111 ext. 223 or tlustig@jewishallianceri.org.

Jewish Federation Foundation
OF GREATER RHODE ISLAND

J Street leader outlines long and short prospects for peace

BY ARIEL BROTHMAN

"If you kill the two-state solution, you kill the prospect of ever having peace."

This was the overarching perspective voiced by Alan Elsner, J Street's vice president of communications and senior adviser to J Street's president, during a presentation on April 26 at Providence's Temple Emanu-El.

J Street is a political group that, according to its website, "advocate[s] policies that advance shared U.S. and Israeli interests as well as Jewish and democratic values, leading to a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict."

Emanu-El and the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island jointly sponsored the event, which was attended by about 60 people. It was the second in a series of community-wide programs dealing with aspects of the Middle East conflict.

Prior to Elsner's address, Emanu-El's rabbi, Wayne Franklin, briefly introduced the context, acknowledging that there are many theories about how to solve the conflict, and "we must be open-minded and willing to discuss them."

Following Franklin was Sam Hainbach, secretary of J Street U's Brown University chapter. He outlined his personal struggles with his Jewish identity in Israel, and his ultimate conclusion that he wasn't going to make everyone happy whether he expressed his Judaism proudly or obscured it. Upon his return to Rhode Island, he said, he decided to further develop his Jewish identity, pursuing a deeper relationship with J Street U Brown.



Alan Elsner speaks to one of the participants at Temple Emanu-El.

Elsner began his talk by recalling some of his experiences in developing his views about Judaism and Israel. Elsner lived in Israel collectively for nine years; he saw the wars of '67, '72 and '82, and served in the Israel Defense Forces during the last. He spent part of his youth working on a *kibbutz*, and started a 35-year career in journalism at the Jerusalem Post.

"There's no question that both sides are disillusioned and fearful of each other. They've both been through a lot."

Over the years, Elsner has seen a lot of changes in policy, administration and popular opinion in Israel. Right now, he says, is not a viable time for a solution because of who is in power in both Israel and Palestine.

"We're in an ebb right now, no doubt about it," he said. He highlighted crucial communication flaws in both administrations, saying that neither side is enthusiastic about reinitiating negotiations.

"There's no question that both sides are disillusioned and fearful of each other. They've both been through a lot," he said.

Elsner concluded that both Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Mahmoud Abbas, president of the State of Palestine, have essentially given up on working with each other. He predicted that negotiations probably won't resume until new administrations are in place. However, he also noted that this does not mean that Israel and Palestine are at an impasse.

"There are many shorter steps that Israel could take without taking unnecessary security risks," he said.

His suggestions included freezing settlement construction, compensating settlers in far-flung settlements who agree to leave, allowing and encouraging economic development for Palestinians in Area C of the West Bank, and giving Palestinians in Jerusalem a voice in municipal affairs.

"We need to think in terms of short-, medium- and long-term actions that can be taken," he asserted, adding that humans tend to put an overly heavy focus on addressing short-term problems.

Once Elsner had finished speaking, he took questions, including one about a poll that showed that 60 percent of Palestinians want a one-state solution. Elsner's response highlighted the difficulty of advocating for a two-state solution: "I'm surprised that only 60 percent feel that way," he said.

ARIEL BROTHMAN is a freelance writer who lives in Wrentham, Massachusetts.

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FROM PAGE 1

TRAVEL

or international donor lunceon (sic) *of Hadassah ladies – especially with the rich ones from the U.S.*

However, when the ceremonies began among much color – two bands and flags of all U.S. states, Canada, & Israel – & the dignitaries began to arrive, the program became more serious and meaningful.

The U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Ogden Reid, arrived among bursts of applause and the band played the American National Anthym (sic) *which was sung by all the patriotically proud Americans.*

Later Ben Gurion & (President Itzhak) Ben-Zvi came & then the speech-making started. Mr. Reid gave a beautiful address in Hebrew & then English & other speakers included the Minister of Health, and David Ben-Gurion.

(At an indoor snack buffet) I managed to get several good Polaroid shots of the VIPS and most Israelis seemed carried away."

Approaching the medical center on a cool, drizzly day in April, I could see even at a distance that the campus had grown exponentially since 1960, its original core now surrounded by a maze of other structures, a virtual city with a world-class reputation.

Indeed, the Ein Kerem facility now also has a sister campus on Jerusalem's Mt. Scopus. A Hadassah hospital opened there in 1939, but in the aftermath of the 1948 War of Independence, it became an insolated enclave in Jordanian-held territory and Hadassah's operations relocated to scattered temporary facilities. Israel regained control of the territory in 1967's Six Day War and the Mt. Scopus hospital was modernized and reopened in the 1970s.



M. Charles Bakst in Israel in 1960.

The Ein Kerem campus was built before anyone could be sure that the Mt. Scopus facility would ever be accessible again. The first patients at Ein Kerem did not arrive until 1961, so you might say the hospital I saw in 1960 lacked a pulse. Today you see a blur of patients, doctors and visitors moving through the lobbies, a marvelous ballet punctuated now and then by Orthodox men in black coats and hats talking on their cell phones.

A grim reminder of Israel's realities is that the Hadassah hospital has operating rooms well below ground level so work can go on even during a bomb raid.

The hospital is Jewish, but its clientele is eclectic, including Christians and Arabs. A red and white ambulance parked outside on this day was from the Palestine Red Crescent Society, which serves patients from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

At the dedication in 1960, a foundation stone was laid in what would become the hospital synagogue, graced since 1962 by 12 brilliantly conceived stained-glass windows designed by the gifted Jewish artist Marc Chagall. Daylight filters through. They are ablaze with color and rich detail, inspired by biblical images and blessings, showcasing the sons of Jacob and tribes of Israel. They are breathtaking.

The stone floor of the Hadassah hospital synagogue is below ground. When you look up at the windows – high inside the synagogue, but actually at ground level outdoors – you might catch the shadow of a person striding by. It is an odd sensation, similar to sitting in a skyscraper and being startled to glimpse a window washer outside.



PHOTOS | SUSAN GOLDBERG WAX

Flags were flying at the 1960 dedication ceremony.

In the synagogue, at the bimah, our host, Barbara Goldstein, of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization, blessed my wife Elizabeth and me, and together we said a Shehecheyanu prayer of gratitude for living to see this day. Elizabeth was moved to tears.

Becky Peretz, the hospital's development coordinator, accompanied us to the outdoor Wall of Healing, where contributors can pay to have names inscribed. Admirers of Fall River's Ida Kavolsky and Sarah Jacobson saw to it that they would be so honored. The devotion of these two women to Hadassah was shared by their friend, my mother, Anna Horvitz Bakst, who, shortly after college, joined in 1932.

The courtyard where the 1960 hospital dedication was held was far quieter on my recent visit. I didn't see any state flags this time, and I doubt many people are even aware there'd been a ceremony there. But it certainly was big news at the time. I knew back then that this was a place worth celebrating because our Young Judaea group – YJ was sponsored by Hadassah – had toured the facility on July 14. My diary reported, "This morning we visited Hadassah's fantastic 25 million-dollar medical center, which is as yet uncompleted, in the Judean hills. The hospital will be the largest and best equipped of all Asia."

Although I have seen other references to this price tag, I've also seen different figures. For example, the New York Times said, "Hadassah is contributing $22 million to the hospital and the [Hebrew] university is raising $7,400,000 for the medical school."

In any case, the Aug. 4, 1960, Jerusalem Post nicely captured the splendor of the occasion:

"A complex of buildings rising in the Judean Hills – the massive, $30 million Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Centre above (the village of) Ein Kerem – was dedicated yesterday with a grandiose ceremony, resembling a devotional service. It was the Hadassah Women Zionist Organization's great day.

The two-and-a-half hour ceremony, which began at 4:30, as the sun set the surrounding hills aglow, was attended by practically all the leaders of the State of Israel, distinguished visitors, and an audience of over 2,000, half of whom had journeyed from the U.S. for the event."

The Americans included 400 Hadassah "pilgrims." A travel agency ad in the Hadassah Newsletter months earlier urged women to join in as it offered a flight and two weeks in Israel for $770, or they could sail on the S.S. Independence, from $1,112. "BRING YOUR HUSBANDS," the ad said.

The newsletter's September issue, reporting on the dedication, noted that the ceremony began with an announcer saying: "Three times each year did our ancestors go up in pilgrimage to the Temple of the Lord in the place that He had chosen – Jerusalem, the Holy City, with mountains round about it…It is a pilgrimage procession that winds its way now up this hill

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FROM PAGE 14

TRAVEL

towards this Temple of Healing."

The procession included Hadassah women and friends of Hebrew University. Participants marched past the many flags.

The newsletter reported:

"As they took their seats, a cooler breeze sprang up as if to welcome them … Israel's flag seemed to rise to meet the sky.

The shadows grew longer, the hills seemed to melt into one another and the blocks of stone in the walls of the building began to glow that rosy-golden hue that one sees only here at twilight.

A narrator declared, 'This mighty center of healing, research and teaching is the flowering, the peak of years of labor and love.' "

Various dignitaries arrived and spoke, Ben-Gurion foremost among them. He praised Hadassah founder Henrietta Szold as the greatest American Jewish woman ever.

According to the Jerusalem Post, the prime minister said he hoped the hospital would induce the finest Jewish doctors and scientists from everywhere, especially the United States, to settle in Israel. He declared, "The Jewish genius, which in ancient times was revealed primarily in the spheres of religious faith and supreme human morality, is in our time broadening its scope and demonstrating its capacity in the field of science and research."

The festivities included the sounds of *Hatikvah* and prayers and the ringing of a bell modeled on the Liberty Bell, inscribed, "Proclaim ye healing throughout the land."

My 16-year-old self may not have absorbed all this. But now, as I reflect, I can see that it all fit together and that the ceremony was, in fact, a kind of fulfillment of *Hatikvah* itself:

"So long as within the inmost heart a Jewish spirit sings, so long as the eye looks eastward, gazing toward Zion, our hope is not lost - the hope of two thousand years: to be a free people in our land, the land of Zion and Jerusalem."

The psalmist would say this was, indeed, a day the Lord had made, a day to rejoice and be glad in it. My recent visit there was such a day, too.



The famous Chagall windows today.

PHOTO | ELIZABETH BAKST

M. CHARLES BAKST of Providence is the retired political columnist of the Providence Journal. Two former Journal colleagues, Dave Reid and Lu Cribari, provided additional research.

Just the facts

According to Becky Peretz, development coordinator at Hadassah Hospital, the latest statistics show that the hospital has 1,159 physicians, 1,706 nurses, 990 paramedical and additional support staff working on both campuses combined. The hospital has more than 1,000 beds, 31 operating rooms, 9 specially oriented intensive care units.

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Jewish Alliance OF GREATER RHODE ISLAND

Yom ha-Shoah speaker tells of hiding from Nazis in Greece

BY ARIEL BROTHMAN

In recognition of Yom ha-Shoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Congregation Agudas Achim, in Attleboro, invited Andrew Algava to speak about the 600 days he and his family spent hiding from the Nazis in Salonika, Greece.

Algava, of Providence, said that when Jews first arrived in Salonika, in 1492, a long period of peace and intercultural understanding began between non-Jewish Greeks and Jewish Greeks.

For centuries, he said, the two peoples lived harmoniously side by side under Turkish/Muslim rule. But when the Ottoman Empire collapsed, ethnic Greeks living in what became Turkey had to return to their Greek roots. The arrival of the "new Greeks," as Algava called them, was a turning point.

"The new Greeks didn't have the experience of knowing us. They came with attitudes. They came with biases. And so that … changed the situation," he said in an interview after the presentation. "In fact, at one time … there was a riot in one of the Jewish areas in Salonika where they burned some buildings. And that was very unusual in Greece."

The 1931 Campbell riots were an arson attack on the predominantly Jewish Campbell neighborhood that was led by a fascist organization, the National Union of Greece.



Andrew Algava at home. PHOTO | ARIEL BROTHMAN

And then the Nazis arrived in Salonika and began placing restrictions on Jews, including denying them the right to own businesses. But it was when they started putting people on trains, Algava says, that his family decided they weren't going to partake of whatever the Nazis had planned for them. Algava, who also showed videotaped testimony of his parents' experiences, says he was 3 or 4 years old when his family went into hiding.

Algava was too young to remember much about this period of his life – although he suffered from the emotional trauma. He says it was through interviews he conducted with his parents that he learned that for roughly the next two years, they relied on non-Jewish Greek friends to hide them.

"There's a key point," he said: that good people helped them.

Algava's family took on the surname Toufexides and pretended that they weren't Jews. On rare occasions, armed with official ID cards from the police to support their new identities, they would venture out. But even with these precautions, it was still dangerous to emerge from hiding.

"When we were in hiding, we would go to cafes [that] the old Greeks frequented; and they knew us from before, but no one said anything. It's very important to credit the Greek people who saved us, who risked their lives. So we have the heroes who did that, and then there were the collaborators."

Nazi collaborators included a barber from the barbershop where Algava's father used to go, who spotted Algava's father as he took young Andy into a candy shop. Neighbors of the people who were hiding Algava's in-laws were also collaborators. Algava's father escaped harm; the in-laws did not.

Still, the family had several close calls, including a police interrogation of young Algava about his father's identity. Thankfully, Algava lied successfully.

Algava says he didn't have a Ladino accent when he spoke Greek, since his father made a rule at the start of the war that no one in the family was to speak Ladino (the language Greek Jews spoke). He says that helped his family blend in.

But, ultimately, he credits Greece's non-Jews with saving many of the Sephardic Jews who lived in Salonika.

"We had friends who risked their lives to do this. At the police station, they testified that my father was a member of the electricians union," he said. "Looking back on it, the sense of it for me was trauma. To be under that pressure. At least energetically being aware of it was scary."

Algava said he has since learned that the trauma of being in hiding from roughly age 4 through 6 had a great impact on his personality: He describes himself as someone who roots for the underdog, tries to keep a low profile, and has great compassion for others' suffering.

"My experience of life is as my father said in the interview: we made it and we're grateful," he said.

Algava is writing a book about his life in Greece, to be called "600 Days in Hiding."

ARIEL BROTHMAN is a freelance writer who lives in Wrentham, Massachusetts.







Irving Schild addresses the middle school students at the Providence Hebrew Day School on May 5 – Yom ha-Shoah.



PHOTO | PHDS

Schild uses a map to show his travels as he and his family fled the Nazis.

Survivor helps PHDS students understand Holocaust

BY PROVIDENCE HEBREW DAY SCHOOL

On May 5, students in grades 6 through 8 at the Providence Hebrew Day School had the privilege of hearing Irving Schild, of Pawtucket, speak about his experiences during the Holocaust to commemorate *Yom Ha-Shoah*.

Schild spoke about the miracles he, his parents, and his sister experienced as they journeyed from Brussels to France to Italy to Oswego, New York. The students learned about the Holocaust from the perspective of a survivor who, from age 9 to 13, lived a life on the run, including living with Italian partisans in the Alps and residing with other Jewish children in a Catholic seminary.

Schild used a map of Europe and other visual aids to clarify his remarks for the students. All the students left the assembly with a deeper appreciation for their current quality of life and a better understanding of the atrocities of the Holocaust.



PHOTOS | FRAN OSTENDORF

JCDS fifth graders.



Community members listen to speakers.

NEVER FORGET

On a blustery May 6, approximately 50 people gathered at the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial in Providence for the first annual *Yom ha-Shoah* commemoration. Jeffrey Savit, president and CEO of the Jewish Alliance of Greater R.I., welcomed the group. Rabbi Wayne Franklin, of Temple Emanu-El, and Rabbi Howard Voss-Altman, of Temple Beth-El, offered remarks as did Sen. Jack Reed and Rep. David Cicilline. Cantor Jodi Blankstein chanted "*L'Dor V'D'or*" and "*El Maleh Rachamim*." Fifth-graders from the Jewish Community Day School of R.I. read "The Butterfly," by Pavel Friedman, and "First They Came for the Jews," by Martin Niemoller.

Herb Stern, chair of the Holocaust Memorial Committee, closed the program, offering thanks to all who participated.





Herb Stern, left, and Jeffrey Savit.

URI Birthright Fellow looks behind the scenes of these popular trips



PHOTO | YANIV HAVUSHA

Hillel professionals who were Birthright Fellows this round. The author is in the back row with a bag on his shoulders.

BY YANIV HAVUSHA

Birthright Israel – mention this to anyone who has participated and you'll instantly hear. "OMG, I loved my trip." Or, "My so and so went on Birthright and loved it." Or, "I wish I could go." So we all know what a positive experience a Birthright trip to Israel is for the thousands who have attended – but few of us know about the behind-the-scenes planning that makes these trips so successful.

Birthright Israel takes pride in the design of the trips, which have as their mission strengthening Jewish identity, Jewish communities and solidarity with Israel. It is essential that each of the 12 accredited trip providers knows and understands the educational goals of Birthright so that staff and tour educators can carry out that mission over the course of the 10-day trips. Toward this mission, there are overarching, daily themes embedded into each activity on a Birthright trip. The trip is so much more than just showing Jewish young adults Israel's many tourist sites!

Birthright Israel Fellows are an essential part of the mission. A collaborative program between Birthright Israel, the iCenter for Israel Education and the Maimonides Fund, the Fellows provide knowledge and training to the Jewish professionals who staff Birthright trips, with the goal of enriching participants' experience in Israel.

I am privileged to be a participant in Cohort #4 of the Birthright Israel Fellows. At the end of March, I joined 93 like-minded Jewish individuals in San Diego for four days of experiential education.

We learned the art of expressing our own Jewish journey in a way that will help participants integrate and verbalize what they may experience on a trip. We also learned from master Israel educators, including Zohar Raviv, international vice president of education for Birthright Israel, how to best tie sessions together and facilitate meaningful dialogue among our participants.

One of my favorite activities from the training took us through a typical Birthright day to help us develop learning goals and themes from seemingly dissimilar sites, historic figures and events in Israel's history.

Thanks to the Birthright Israel Fellows training, I gained a wealth of information about experiential Israel education, met a great group of people, and had a chance to practice new skills. I'm excited about applying what I learned in San Diego to my work leading future Birthright trips. I can't wait to take off with students from the University of Rhode Island on their Jewish journey on May 30!

YANIV HAVUSHA is the Jewish Student Life Associate at the University of Rhode Island Hillel.

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Working on the event are (left to right) David Bazar, Golf Committee; Jamie Manville, Oversight Committee; Brock Manville, Golf Committee; Rick Granoff, Golf Chair; Jonathan Salinger, Carolyn Goldstein, Golf Committee; Betty Kotlen, Rose Gergel, Card Room Chairs; Lisa Brosofsky, Tennis Chair; Stuart Feldman, Oversight Committee; John Catania, Golf Committee and Rob Stolzman, Oversight Committee. (not pictured: Fred Franklin, Layne Mayer, Jill Tobak, Oversight Committee; Alex Finkelman, Richard Glick, Harold Horwitz, Ryan Lax, Jamie Pious, Rob Sherwin, Golf Committee)

Providence congregation schedules annual summer celebration

Temple Beth-El's Summer Celebration will take place at Ledgemont Country Club on Monday, July 18. In addition to the temple's seventh annual golf tournament, the day includes tennis tournaments and doubles play; card room games including bridge, mahjong, canasta and poker; kid's pool and a lawn games party.

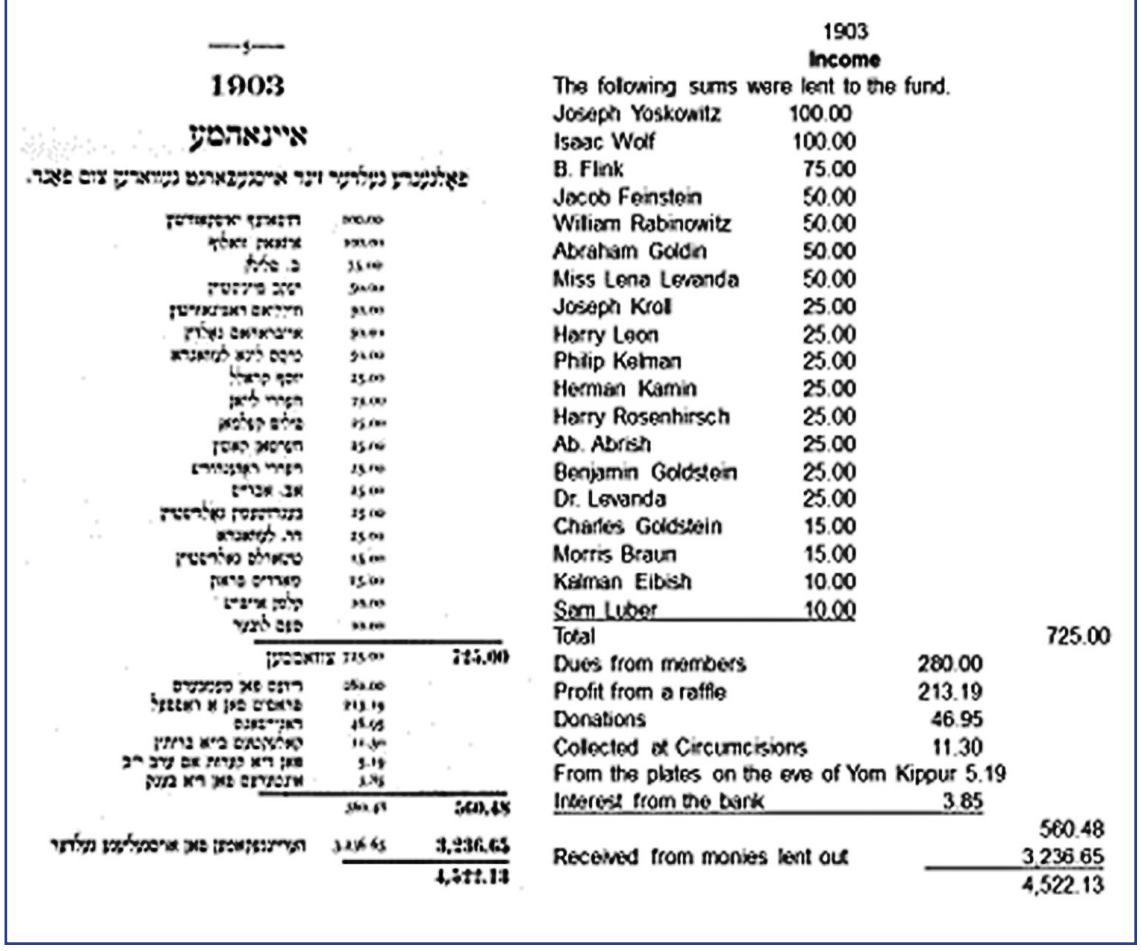
After a fun-filled day, all participants come together for cocktails, dinner and auctions. The children will have their own special dinner and video. For more information about the Temple Beth-El Summer Celebration, contact Ruby Shalansky, development director, rshalansky@temple-beth-el.org, or 401-331-6070.

FUN AND FACTS FOR KIDS

Sponsored by the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association | info@rijha.com | Written by Ruth L. Breindel

DID YOU KNOW: THE JEWISH COMMUNITY HAD A BANK THAT LENT MONEY FOR FREE

When families first came to America from abroad, they often did not have any money. The men would go to work in factories, and sometimes their wives and children would join them. The pay was very low, and many families didn't have enough money to buy a special chicken for Friday night, or to purchase a cart and supplies to use as peddlers. Banks would not lend small amounts and demanded references and proof that people could pay back the money they borrowed. In 1903, the Jews who had been in Providence the longest got together and organized the Hebrew Free Loan Association; there were branches throughout Providence. The first organization was run by men, then the women started their own group during the Depression in 1931. These societies would loan small amounts (even 25 cents) or larger amounts (up to a few hundred dollars) for food, clothing, education and business. The names of those who borrowed money was kept secret so as not to embarrass people. It was called a Free Loan because no interest was charged to those borrowing, and they could pay it back as they were able. While the women's group has since disbanded, the men's group is still in existence today.



1903

Income

The following sums were lent to the fund.		
Joseph Yoskowitz	100.00	
Isaac Wolf	100.00	
B. Flink	75.00	
Jacob Feinstein	50.00	
William Rabinowitz	50.00	
Abraham Goldin	50.00	
Miss Lena Levanda	50.00	
Joseph Kroll	25.00	
Harry Leon	25.00	
Philip Kelman	25.00	
Herman Kamin	25.00	
Harry Rosenhirsch	25.00	
Ab. Abrish	25.00	
Benjamin Goldstein	25.00	
Dr. Levanda	25.00	
Charles Goldstein	15.00	
Morris Braun	15.00	
Kalman Elbish	10.00	
Sam Luber	10.00	
Total		725.00
Dues from members	280.00	
Profit from a raffle	213.19	
Donations	46.95	
Collected at Circumcisions	11.30	
From the plates on the eve of Yom Kippur	5.19	
Interest from the bank	3.85	
		560.48
Received from monies lent out		3,236.65
		4,522.13

EARLY RECORDS

This copy of a page from the 1903 records shows the money people donated to the fund (at the top) and additional monies that came in.

"Collected at circumcision" – people would donate money since it is proper to give charity at a joyous occasion.

"From the plates on the eve of Yom Kippur" – nowadays many temples ask people to bring bags of food for the food pantry, or toiletries for the homeless; at that time, money was donated before Kol Nidre, as one of a series of charities looking for donations.

The page is written in Yiddish on the left and English on the right, so that everyone would be able to understand.

MATH QUESTION

If you borrowed $1 from the bank and had to pay 5% interest by the end of the loan, how much would you have to pay back? (Answer: $1.05).

If you paid back the bank 5 cents a week, how many weeks would it take to pay off the loan and interest? (Answer: 21 weeks)

If you borrowed $1 from the Hebrew Free Loan Association, and paid back 5 cents a week, how many weeks would it take to pay off the loan? (20 weeks)

Would you rather borrow from the bank or the Free Loan Association?

the JEWISH VOICE

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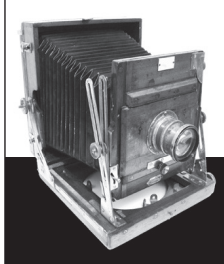
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Holocaust-Genocide Education bill passes House

BY MARTY COOPER
mcooper@jewishallianceri.org

On Holocaust Remembrance Day, *Yom ha-Shoah*, the Rhode Island House of Representatives unanimously passed HR 7488, An Act Relating to Education – Holocaust-Genocide Education. The bill "requires the inclusion of instruction on Holocaust and genocide studies in the curriculum for all middle and high school students." When Rep. Katherine Kazarian, the prime sponsor of the bill, asked for support, virtually all members of the House stood to second the bill.

Also sponsoring the bill were Reps. Mia Ackerman, Arthur Corvese, Jared Nunes and Aaron Regunberg.

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration. Senate bill S 2396 is similar to the House bill. The prime sponsor is Sen. Gayle Golden. Other sponsors of the bill are Sens. Hanna Gallo, Josh Miller and Leonidas Raptakis.

A coalition of groups has been working diligently on this legislation. This includes members of the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Alliance of Greater R.I. and the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center, as well as members of the Armenian community and the R.I. State Council of Churches.

A resolution honoring Holocaust Remembrance Day was unanimously approved as well. The prime sponsor was Rep. Ackerman. Rep. Regunberg was also a sponsor. The Senate also passed a similar resolution with Sens. Goldin and Miller as sponsors.

MARTY COOPER is the community relations director for the Jewish Alliance.

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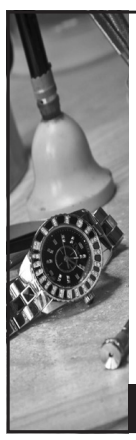
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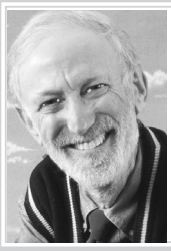
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If only Itai and Ilana were here ...

The young newlywed soldiers from the StandWithUs Israeli Soldiers Tour (see page 3) appeared at Laurelmead Cooperative, in Providence, in April and were warmly received by the mostly elderly audience.



SKETCHBOOK

MIKE FINK



Laurelmead residents listen to the soldiers' stories.

They told us how their families had made their way to the promised land.

"My grandparents arrived on a donkey" from Iran, Itai said.

He added, "There were terrible mass murders not only in Russian pogroms or German concentration camps, but among the neighbors surrounding our Holy Land."

His story centered on the clear difference between American warfare and IDF border skirmishes.

"Your draftees are sent by plane or ship to far-off places. We protect our parents, who live a half-hour away. We carry our rifles on a hike to our mission, and then, after a battle, we go home to dinner served by mother." (Itai is both Sephardi and Ashkenazi. His families came from east and west, like the population of the new nation.)

Ilana spoke about the democratic conditions in the military. "We are all 18, but from differing backgrounds. Maybe Israeli-Arabs or Bedouins. We had an Ethiopian recruit, who was hiding portions of food. We found out he had nine siblings and no income. The whole troop contributed to his family. We bond in the army. We have one another's backs."

The ironic contrast between the age of the appreciative and attentive audience and the age of the couple just starting their lives – under often-difficult conditions – was deeply moving and inspiring.

I teach a class at the Rhode Island School of Design, loosely titled "The Jewish Narrative," through movies and literature, music and sculpture, and even with recipes for the springtime holidays and their symbols. We close with discussions of Israel, Zionism and the shapes of anti-Semitism, and we publish our projects through Brown RISD Hillel's annual notebook, "Machberet," which should be out soon.

I used to put Alan Dershowitz's "The Case for Israel" on the syllabus as a required reading, but I have changed my course book list to instead include "Walking Israel," by Martin Fletcher, the English television journalist married to a sabra. Fletcher took a fortnight-long stroll around the borders of the little nation surrounded by vast enemy territories. He interviewed a wide range of personalities and tells it like it is, but with loyalty and deep affection.

I have an unusual student in this elective during this spring semester. Her grandmother is a Ukrainian who feared the Russians but welcomed the Germans. She absorbed the profound anti-Jewish prejudices of the region, but her daughter married an American Jew! My student signed up for the class to learn something that I tried, perhaps in vain, to convey.

In a recent class, she announced, "All my friends are pro-Palestinian! What am I to think, to say?"

I answered, "First of all, read the books!"

Of course, I welcome questions, and even arguments, but this question demanded more than a rant from me, and I thought, if only Itai and Ilana were here, or if only my student had been with me at Laurelmead to listen to the power, passion, poetry and sense of purpose of this truly remarkable pair.

What can you take away from an afternoon lecture? Before we had to vacate the classroom, I think I said something like this: "There are facets and sides to most issues. But there is also a deep loyalty, your own commitment to your mother, your love of your home, the intensity of the chapter of your life and its needs. ...

"In Jewish culture, there is such a tie to Jerusalem, to the figurative as well as literal meaning of Passover, with its drive and determination. ..."

And then I ran out of time, found a hidden staircase and escaped back into my cluttered office of books, DVDs, mementos, regrets and hopes.

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

Cranston Seniors install officers at luncheon

The annual installation of officers will be held June 1 at noon at Mesa Café & Grill, 100 Rolfe St., Cranston. Mayor Allan Fung will install the new officers. A luncheon will be served, including choice of chicken Marsala or baked fish, and rolls, chicken escarole soup, salad, pasta, green beans, carrots, choice of tiramisu or fresh fruit cup and coffee or tea. The cost is $21. Entertainment and a raffle will follow the meal. Men and women 55 or older are welcome to join the Cranston Senior Guild. You do not have to live in Cranston. For information call Lois at 401-944-2761.

A bus trip to Foxwoods is planned for June 29. The cost of the trip is $23 per person. The price includes roundtrip motor coach bus, free buffet or $10 food coupon to any restaurant at the casino, and $10 of bonus slot play.

The bus makes two pick-ups: 9 a.m. at the Dwares JCC, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, and 9:15 a.m. at the Rhode Island Mall near Sears Auto Center. The bus will depart Foxwoods at 3:15 p.m. Payment must be received by June 15.

For more information call Sunny at 401-785-0748.

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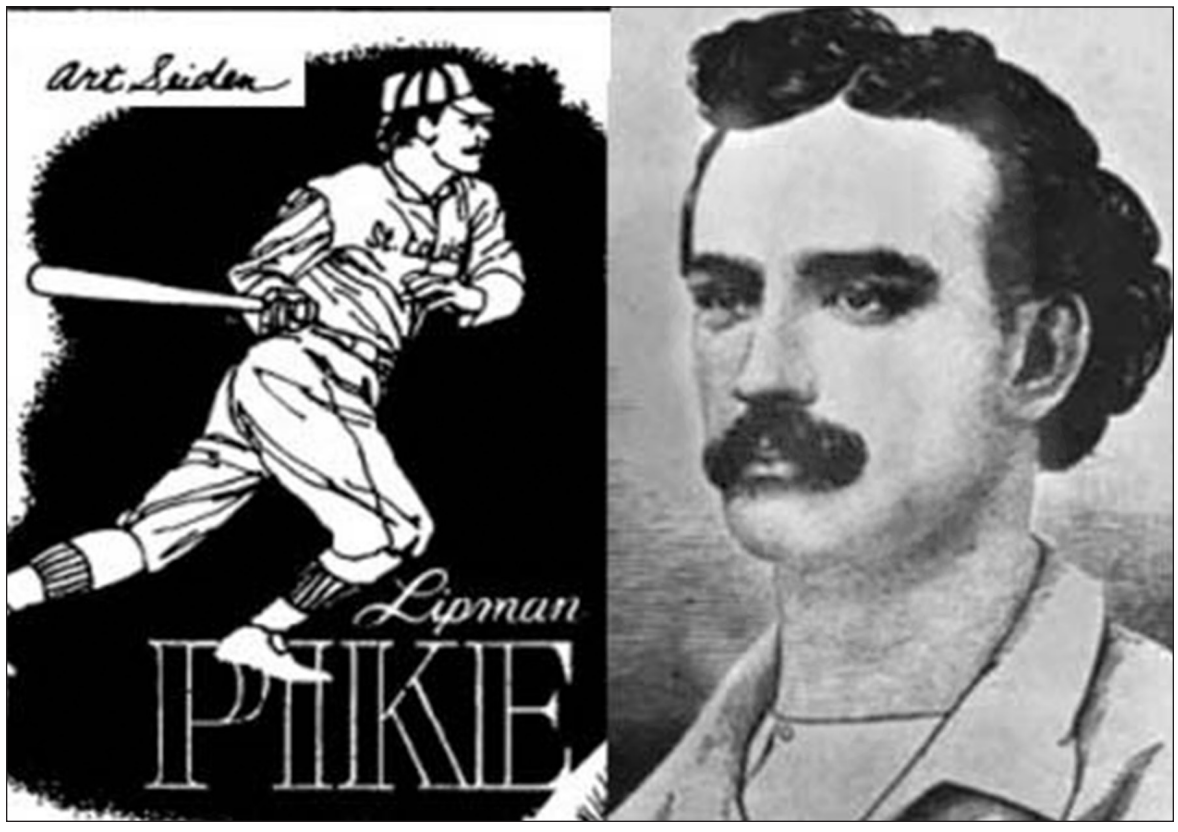
*This offer extends to current Dwares JCC members and excludes Personal Training, Specialty Group Training and Lenny Krayzelburg Swim Academy.
Offer valid May 1 - 31, 2016. Any "friend" who signs up for a one-year membership by June 30, 2016 will have the $75 registration fee waived. Any member who refers a "friend" that signs up for a one-year membership will receive their 13th month free.

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Lipman Pike: Jewish baseball pioneer and power hitter

BY MARTY COOPER
mcooper@jewishallianceri.org



He was one of the game's greatest power hitters, and he actually beat a horse in a race. Considered by many to be the first professional baseball player, he was also the first Jewish professional baseball player.

Lipman "Lip" Pike, born in New York City in 1845, was the son of a haberdasher. As a youngster, he, and his older brother Boaz, played amateur baseball. Lipman appeared in his first amateur game one week after his Bar Mitzvah.

Pike played in two baseball eras. In the era of the amateur baseball league, during the 1860s, home runs and high scores were the norm. On July 16, 1866, for example, Pike, who was nicknamed "The Iron Batter," hit six home runs in one game for the Philadelphia Athletics. The final score was 65-25. He played outfield, second and third base.

According to the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR), the "amateur" Athletics paid him $20 a week to play. It was rumored that two other players were also receiving a stipend from the Athletics. This was really not allowed and Pike was asked to appear before a commission to discuss the situation which could have resulted in a ban from the league. At the time of the inquest, no one from the judiciary committee of the National Association of Base Ball Players appeared at the hearing. By not appearing at their own disciplinary hearing or inquest, the judicial committee all but acknowledged paying ballplayers was going to be an accepted practice Thus the issue was dropped and Pike became one of the first – if not the first – professional baseball players.

At the conclusion of the 1866 season, Pike was let go by the Philadelphia team because he was not from the Philadelphia area. So Pike went to play for the Irvingtons of New Jersey and the New York Mutuals.

In 1869, the league allowed professionals to play. Lipman moved on to play for the Brooklyn Atlantics. In 48 games, Pike had a .610 batting average and a slugging percentage of .883. This seems rather high compared with today's standard. However, at that time, the batter told the pitcher where to toss the ball over home plate. And, the pitcher threw the ball in an underhand motion without snapping the wrist. No fast balls or curves to contend with.

In 1871, the second era of baseball was ushered in with an all-professional league. With the formation of the National Association of Professional Base Ball Players, everyone playing was a paid professional ballplayer. Home runs would be hard to come by as the rules changed as did the manufacture of the baseball itself. The size and the weight of the baseball was stabilized, becoming similar to the one used today. The ball was no longer made for hitting long distances at almost every at bat.

Pike joined the Troy Haymakers. At the time, Troy, New York, was considered a major city. Pike was elected captain of the team. This meant that he was the manager of the team. He not only filled out the lineup card for the game, he filled the role of general manager as well as team manager while also playing the game. During his first year with the Haymakers, Pike hit four home runs to tie for the league lead.

During his professional baseball career, Pike played for a number of teams including the Hartford Dark Blues, St. Louis Brown Stockings, Cincinnati Red Stockings and the Providence Grays.

Considered one of the few baseball stars of the 19th century, Pike led the league in home runs four times. He was the first player to lead a professional baseball league in home runs. He was also among the leaders in stolen bases during the years he played.

An outfielder and second baseman for most of his career, Pike had a lifetime batting average of .321, had 20 home runs and 332 RBI in a career that went from 1871 to 1887. It is rumored that his home run power was so great that in 1877, while playing for the Cincinnati Red Stockings, he hit a ball 360 feet at 40 feet high and hit a metal rod so hard he bent it.

Pike went on to manage a few teams before retiring to the family business as a haberdasher in New York. According to Baseball Reference, Lipman Pike died in 1893 at the age of 48 from heart disease

During the inaugural election to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, Lipman Pike received one vote from the Baseball Writers of America in 1936, according to SABR. According to a number of baseball enthusiasts and writers about the baseball pioneer, Lipman Pike should be in the Major League Hall of Fame. Some people believe he was not elected because he was Jewish. In 1985, the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, in Netanya, Israel, elected him as a member.

The horse Lipman Pike beat in a race was a famous trotting horse named "Clarence." Pike beat the mare in a 100-yard sprint in 10 seconds flat, according to the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame. For winning, Pike received $250 prize.

MARTY COOPER is a baseball fanatic and the community relations director for The Jewish Alliance.





Elaine Chaika, 81

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Elaine Chaika passed away on May 1. Born in 1934 in Milford, Mass., she was a remarkable woman who obtained a Ph.D. in Linguistics from Brown University in 1972 while raising three children. From there she became a professor at Providence College, raising a daughter during her tenure, and retiring in 2008.

Elaine was a distinguished teacher and researcher, known especially for her pioneering work on schizophrenic speech. She accomplished many of her other ambitions, including writing many articles, scholarly books, a novel and recently a book on the evolution of dogs. She loved traveling, cooking, gardening and animals. She is survived by her husband Bill; children Eric and Dan; and grandchildren Ben, Jon, Rebecca, Alan and Sarah.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the Providence Animal Rescue League, 34 Elbow St., Providence, R.I. 02903.

Claire "Klari" Goodman, 93

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. – Claire "Klari" (Bosler) Goodman died on April 21 in Charlottesville. She was the wife of the late Charles Goodman and Armand S. Waldman. Born in Providence on May 16, 1922, a daughter of the late Lewis and Helen (Cohn) Bosler, she lived in Providence and Warwick before moving to West Palm Beach, Fla., in 1991 and then to Charlottesville in 2012. She was the sister of the late Marjorie Lachman of Silver Spring, Md., and Erwin M. Bosler of Cranston. She was a retired teacher, earning a B.A. from the University of Rhode Island and an M.Ed. from Rhode Island College.

She was a member of the former Temple Beth Israel and organized and ran the temple nursery school for five years. She later conducted the pilot study preschool class for the former Parents Council for mentally challenged Children, now know as ARC, for six years. She then worked as a special education preschool teacher for 20 years for the Warwick School Department. She was named Warwick Teacher of the Year in 1984.

After retiring from the Warwick School Department in 1986, she became Director of the Eunice Zaidman preschool at Temple Am David, in Warwick.

She was a member of the East Greenwich and Wickford Art Associations as well as the R.I. Watercolor Society. She displayed her original watercolor paintings throughout Rhode Island. She was also a life member of the Touro Association.

In Florida she was a member of the Artists' Guild of the Norton Art Gallery and taught an art class at the Club House in the community where she lived.

She is survived by her son, Milton Goodman and her daughter-in law Andrea of Estero, Fla.; her daughter, Susan Jones of Wellsboro, Pa.; her son, Howard Goodman of Charlottesville; her step-son, George Goodman of Orlando; her stepdaughter, Judith Goodman and her son-in-law Carmine Nobile, of Virginia Beach; 13 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

For more information on her life and her art, visit her website at www.klarigoodman.com.

Donations in her memory may be made to your favorite charity.

Greta Labush, 86

DELRAY BEACH, FLA. – Greta Labush of Delray Beach died May 6 at home. She was the wife of Bernard "Buzzy" Labush for 64 years.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Joseph and Lillian (Landesberg) Gold, she had lived in Delray Beach for 23 years, previously residing in Warwick. Greta was a graduate of Hope High School, class of 1947. She was a member of Temple Anshei Shalom, former member of Temple Am David and its Sisterhood, and the former Temple Beth Israel. Greta was a life member of Hadassah and Na'Amat and past president of Sackin-Shocket Post of the Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary.

She was an avid bowler and enjoyed traveling. She was the devoted mother of Stevan Labush and his wife, Rhonda, of Warwick; Sheryl Barlow and her husband, William, of West Warwick; Tamara Labush of Warwick; and Iris Labush of Delray Beach. Dear sister of Sanford Gold and Enid Ross, both of Delray Beach; Trude Peake of Henderson, Nev., and the late Victor Gold. Loving grandmother of Melinda, Marci, Heather, Eric and Jenna. Cherished great-grandmother of Kailee, Raider, Christopher, Cameron, Cody, and Gavin.

Contributions in her memory may be made to your favorite charity.

Irwin Moscovitz, 82

WARWICK, R.I. – Irwin Moscovitz died April 24 at Kent Hospital. He was the beloved husband of the late Gloria (Wolff) Moscovitz.

Born in New York City, a son of the late Louis and Nettie (Naddler) Moscovitz, he had lived in Warwick, previously living in Queens, N.Y. He worked at UMASS Dorchester in the computer center, retiring in 1988. Irwin was a Korean Conflict Army veteran. He graduated from UMASS Dorchester with a bachelor's degree.

He was the devoted father of Terry Moscovitz and his wife, Wendy, of West Greenwich; Jeffrey Moscovitz of Philadelphia, Pa.; and Bonnie Gaines and her husband, Jonathan, of Cohasset, Mass. The brother of Ethel Cooper and the late Blanche Epstein. Loving grandfather of Jennifer, Jamie, Justin, Jaclyn, Paige and Jacob.

Contributions in his memory may be made to Hope Hospice & Palliative Care, 1085 N. Main St., Providence, R.I. 02904.

Evelyn Rose Nussenfeld, 98

CRANSTON, R.I. – Evelyn Rose Nussenfeld passed away on April 28. Born in Bayonne, N.J. in 1918, she was the only child of the late Sam and Ruth Gregerman. The family moved back to Rhode Island in 1923, and in 1951, Evelyn became a resident of Cranston where she spent most of her life, until moving to Pawtucket a few years ago.

She was a graduate of Classical High School and Sweeny Business School, Evelyn worked as a medical secretary and nurse's assistant for Drs. Abraham Horvitz and David Friedman. A lifelong member of the Temple Torat Yisrael sisterhood, she was the corresponding secretary of the synagogue for 50 years until her retirement at age 94 when she became an honorary corresponding secretary and the office was dedicated in her name.

She was a life member of the Cranston chapter of Hadassah and a member of the Cranston Senior Guild and Society of Life. Twice widowed, Evelyn was married in 1936 to the late Earl I. Zitkin and in 1966 to the late Leo Nussenfeld. She is survived by her niece, Lois Kudish, and her cousins David Penn, Jess Dubin, Elise Pansey, Michael and Lisa Penn, Lisa Grasso and Ellen Hyman. She was the cousin of the late Rose Penn, William Gregerman, Paul Gregerman and Belle Hyman.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Temple Torat Yisrael building fund.

Rabbi Morton Leifman, longtime dean of JTS cantors' school, dies at 89

JTA – Rabbi Morton Leifman, who oversaw the training of Conservative movement cantors for decades, has died.

Leifman, a former vice president of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and longtime dean of its Cantors Institute, now called the H.L. Miller Cantorial School, died May 5 in Rockville, Maryland.

A Minneapolis native, Leifman began his five decade career at JTS in 1959, becoming dean of students of the Teachers Institute and director of the Joint Bet Din. He became the dean of the Cantors Institute-Seminary College of Jewish Music in 1973, and while serving as dean was named senior vice president under Chancellor Gerson Cohen. In the 1980s he was named a vice-chancellor at JTS, the title he held at the time of his retirement.

The chancellor and board chair of JTS, Arnold Eisen and Alan Levine, respectively, called Leifman "a gifted teacher, a valued colleague, and a wise leader."

In recognition of his years of service, the seminary awarded Leifman an honorary doctorate in 1977.

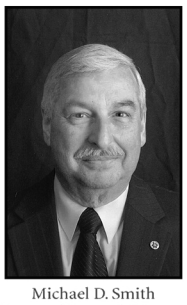
Leifman was an established baal tefillah, prayer leader, by age 15. He graduated from New York University in 1950 and was ordained by JTS in 1951, working for Heschel and Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan, a co-founder of Reconstructionist Judaism, during his student years.

Leifman is survived by his wife of 54 years, Vera; four children; eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

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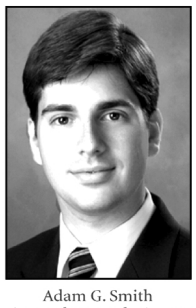
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WE ARE READ – Participants in the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island mission to Budapest and Berlin gather in Budapest May 9 for a photo with The Jewish Voice. The group learned about Jewish life in Budapest and went on to Berlin the evening of May 10.

L.A. Web Series Festival Awards



Seth Chitwood

Seth Chitwood, of Barrington, is the winner of three L.A. Web Series Festival Awards for his series "Family Problems" and "Lungs." "Family Problems" (Season 4) won Best Drama Series and Best Ensemble and "Lungs" (Season 4) won Best Supporting Actress (Kimberley Miller).

The event was held on the Warner Bros Studio lot April 22-24. This is the fifth year that Chitwood's projects have been a part of the festival. His production company, Angelwood Pictures, has won a total of 29 awards for five different projects. Chitwood has personally received 10 awards for his work.

The L.A. Web Series Festival is an international festival showcasing the talent of new media narratives through comedic, dramatic and documentary Web series.

Chitwood, who teaches at The Met School, also writes for The Jewish Voice.

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Miller, Regunberg receive award from MHARI

During the May 4 Mental Health Association of Rhode Island (MHARI) annual kickoff event for Mental Health Month, "Bell of Hope" awards were presented to Sen. Josh Miller and Rep. Aaron Regunberg to recognize each as a "Mental Health Hero" for contributions to improving the lives of people with mental illness and to promoting mental health.

Ruth Feder, executive director of MHARI, presented the Mental Health Hero Award to Miller (District 28) and Regunberg (District 4).

Miller, first elected in 2006, is the chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services. A long-time champion of mental health, he is the first legislator to have been presented twice with this award.

Regunberg was elected in November 2014. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, he has emerged as a strong voice for mental health. He is a member of the House Health, Education and Welfare Committee and the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

The event attracted a capacity crowd to the Governor's State Room at the Rhode Island State House. "Life with a Mental Illness" is this year's theme for Mental Health Month.

MHARI is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

Miriam women schedule annual meeting

The Miriam Hospital Women's Association has scheduled its 119th Annual Meeting for Wednesday, June 1, at 11:30 a.m. This will also be the 32nd annual recognition award, which will honor Dr. Ruth Triedman. The event takes place at Ledgemont Country Club in Seekonk. The officers and board will be installed.

To RSVP or for more information, call 401-793-2520.



WE ARE READ – Kara Marziali, director of communications for the Jewish Alliance, donned a Native American headdress recently at Skip Maisel's, a well-known store in downtown Albuquerque that sells the largest selection of Indian jewelry and crafts in the Southwest.

Thank you! to our ADVERTISERS!



Suzanne and Barry Glucksman

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY – Fifty years ago, on May 21, 1966, at Zalkin's Birchwood Lodge in Woodridge, New York, Suzanne Schwartz and Barry Glucksman were married. This was a Catskill Mountain weekend event that included ice and chopped liver sculptures and the many courses of food that were typical of the time. Mortman's Bakery was the family business so the cake baker went all out and created a six-tiered cake that had to be transported in layers and assembled onsite. A 13-foot-long challah was baked by Suzanne's proud grandfather. The Glucksmans reside in Warwick, have three wonderful sons, three beautiful daughters-in-law and six precious grandchildren.



WE ARE READ – Rob and Lisa Schwartz of East Providence, along with their son Benjamin, made it a point to bring The Jewish Voice with them during their recent trip to Seville, Cordoba and Marbella, Spain. "The weather was delightful and the people of Spain were extremely welcoming."



Liane Pauline Barnett and Rodger Edward Lincoln

WEDDING – Liane Pauline Barnett and Rodger Edward Lincoln exchanged wedding vows in an afternoon ceremony at New Hope Christian Church in Swansea, Mass., on March 19. The bride's father, Pastor Ronald Barnett Jr., officiated. A reception was held at the Venus de Milo.

The bride is the daughter of Ronald and Lise Barnett of Lincoln. The groom is the son of Dr. Rodger and Denise Lincoln of East Providence.

Ruth Joseph was the maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Rachel Lincoln, sister of the groom; Katelyn Aubin and Millison DiNitto, cousins of the bride; Adria Spivey and Kady Piloto.

The best man was David Therrien Jr. Ushers were Ronald Barnett III, brother of the bride; Robert Lincoln, brother of the groom; Scott Lincoln, cousin of the groom; Alex Therrien and Vincent Gillum.

The bride graduated from Cumberland High School. She is a co-teacher at the David C. Isenberg Early Childhood Center at the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island in Providence and a gymnastics coach at YWCA Rhode Island in Woonsocket.

The groom graduated from East Providence High School and Community College of Rhode Island. He is employed by the United States Postal Service.





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