EWISH VCICE

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21 Nisan 5776 | April 29, 2016

MOTHER'S DAY



Jaclyn Rubin and Amy Olson participating in Project Unity."

URI students react to anti-Semitic fliers with calls for peace and unity

BY ARIEL BROTHMAN

A printer hack during spring break at U.S. universities caught the eye of national media in March. The neo-Nazi group Daily Stormer claimed responsibility for the hack, which resulted in hundreds of campus printers across the country printing anti-Semitic and anti-LGBTQ fliers.

The University of Rhode Island was among the schools that were hacked, and URI Hillel's executive director, Amy Olson, said there was also a second incident involving printed hate

messages. The group or person responsible for the second incident was unknown as The Voice went to press.

After the first set of fliers was found on university printers, URI took immediate measures to publicize that it would not tolerate hatred and bigotry.

The fliers also inspired students from The Gender and Sexuality Center to collaborate with URI Hillel to start #printforpeaceURI, a social media campaign wherein students take pictures of themselves

URI HILLEL | 3



PHOTO | MARTY COOPER

Beth David explores interfaith relations

Harris Chorney, president of Congregation Beth David, Narragansett, introduces the panel of guests during a discussion on interfaith relations in Rhode Island held at Congregation Beth David on April

Left to right, above, moderator Rabbi Ethan Adler, rabbi of Congregation Beth David; Rabbi Sarah Mack, president of the Board of Rabbis of Greater R.I. and rabbi at Temple Beth-El, in Providence; Inman Farid Ansari, recent president

of the Rhode Island Council for Muslim Advancement; and Rev. Dr. Donald Anderson, executive minister of the R.I. State Council of Churches. More than 75 people attended.

Rabbi Pesner brings his social justice message to R.I.

BY FRAN OSTENDORF fostendorf@jewishallianceri.org

Rabbi Jonah Pesner has a cause and a message that

cause and a message that should resonate with Jews everywhere.

As Jews finish the Pesach season, and the refugee crisis in Europe continues, Pesner, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, in Washington, D.C., reminds us that we were once refugees from Egypt, among other places. That's the story we read at Passover. And were it not for our refugee parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, we might not be in the United States at all.

"We are admonished to watch out for the widow, the

PESNER | 10



Rabbi Jonah Pesner





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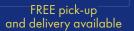
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COMMUNITY 2 April 29, 2016 **The Jewish Voice**

INSIDE

Business 21-23

Calendar 10

Classified 20

Community 2-3, 5, 7, 10, 14-18,

D'Var Torah 7

Food 11

Health & Wellness 4

Mother's Day 12-13

Obituaries 24

Opinion 8-9

Passover 17

Seniors 20, 23

Simchas 25-26

THIS ISSUE'S **QUOTABLE QUOTE**

"We pass our strength, courage, and vulnerabilities to our children whether by choice or automatically."

Yom ha-Shoah program features unique 'Phoenix from the Ashes'

BY JUDITH JAMIESON AND MIRIAM ROSS

All are welcome at the 32nd annual interfaith commemoration of the Shoah, which will be presented at Temple Emanu-El, in Providence, on May 4, at 7 p.m. The free community-wide, interfaith Holocaust commemoration honors the memory of the 6 million Jewish victims and millions of others who perished in the darkness of the Shoah.

This year's Yom ha-Shoah program, "Phoenix from the Ashes: Terezin in Words and Music," celebrates the triumph of the human spirit over adversity through a unique multimedia presentation and original song cycle composed, directed and performed by internationally renowned pianist and composer Judith Lynn Stillman.

Stillman, artist in residence and a professor of music at Rhode Island College, will be joined by mezzo-soprano Krista River, of Emmanuel Music, and tenor Adam Klein, of the Metropolitan Opera.

"Phoenix from the Ashes: Terezin in Words and Music" brings to life poetry written by boys, ages 12 to 15, who were housed in Room One in the Terezin Concentration Camp. The



Judith Lynn Stillman

work was discovered in their secret weekly magazine, Vedem ("In the Lead"), which documented their lives in artwork, essays and poetry. Miraculously, the magazines were never discovered by the Nazis.

Of the scores of boys who knowingly put their lives in deeper danger to create Vedem, one had the insight and courage to save the nearly 800 pages of manuscripts. After the camp's liberation, Sidney Taussig retrieved the magazines and made sure, in the years that followed, that Vedem was published.

Taussig has been living in recent years, in Florida. His compelling story is told in video interviews with Stillman, which are interspersed with the songs in "Phoenix from the Ashes."

Stillman said that once she learned of the Vedem texts, "I felt instantly drawn to give a rebirth to those tragically muted

"Phoenix from the Ashes: Terezin in Words and Music" debuted at the Czech Republic's embassy in Washington in 2014; it was filmed and later shown

A member of Temple Emanu-El, Stillman has created a special version of "Phoenix from the Ashes" for this year's Yom ha-Shoah program, an artistically more complex presentation, tailored to reflect the Rhode Island audience and its specific relationship to Yom ha-Shoah.

While we now hear those boys' voices, other voices were lost. Stillman's composition reminds us of the music that was never heard-melodies that died with their composers, who died in the camps. But several examples of their artistry, especially the music that was found at Terezin, will be performed and honored in this spe-

"Offering my employees an opportunity to invest in their future has made us a more

cial version.

Stillman's other compositions include a similar, serious musical response to the Armenian Genocide, "Armenia 100: When the Music Stopped," which was first performed last year at that community's centenary remembrance.

In a purely entertainment vein, Stillman created a comic micro-opera, "Dueling Double Divas," which she calls "a Gilbert and Sullivan meet Monty Python-esque frenzy."

Each year brings a specific theme to the Yom ha-Shoah service, but many features of the program are timeless. These include the procession of survivors and their families, the lighting of candles, and both the "El Malei Rachamim" and the mourners' Kaddish.

The program is free and open to the public. A reception fol-

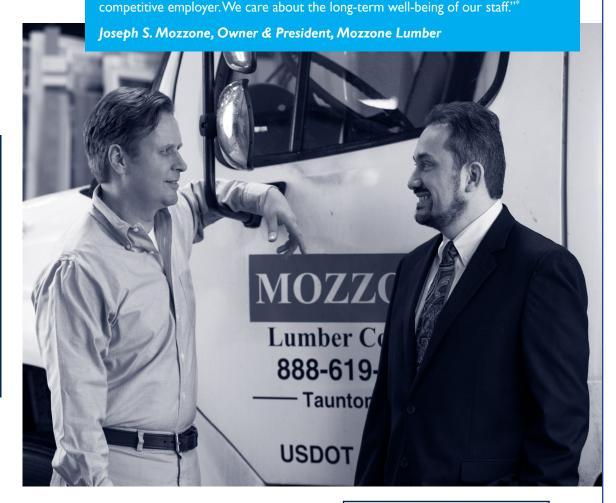
JUDITH JAMIESON is president of the Bornstein Holocaust **Education Center and Professor** Emeritus, Providence College.

MIRIAM ROSS, Esq., is a corporate attorney in Providence and an adjunct professor of law at Roger Williams School of



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thejewishvoice.org COMMUNITY April 29, 2016 | 3

Israeli educator, fighter to speak at Yom ha-Zikaron ceremony

BY SHAI AFSAI

"In my personal life, there are two days that are holiest in the year: Yom Kippur and *Yom ha-Zikaron* [Day of Remembrance for the Fallen Soldiers of Israel and Victims of Terrorism]," says Amichai Chikli, head of Israel's Tavor Pre-Military Academy.

"Until the Third Temple is rebuilt," he continues, "Mount Herzl in Jerusalem – where Israel's National Cemetery is located – is for me the Holy of Holies. The sacrifices of the men and women buried there have built our state."

Chikli will speak at the Dwares Jewish Community Center, in Providence, on May 10 at 7 p.m., as part of its Yom ha-Zikaron ceremony. Part of his talk will focus on the 2006 Battle of Bint Jbeil, one of the main clashes between Israel and Hezbollah during the Second Lebanon War. Eight Israeli soldiers and officers lost their lives in the Battle of Bint Jbeil and two dozen others were wounded. A close friend of Chikli's, Lt. Alexander Shwartzman, was killed in the fighting.

"The Second Lebanon War showcased Israeli Jews' strong unity in moments of crisis," Chikli says. "However, Israel faces ideological and spiritual challenges too. Military fortitude alone is insufficient. We must strengthen Judaism and Zionism."

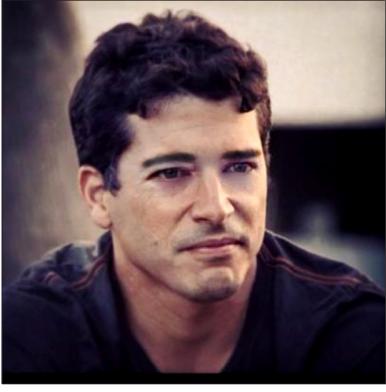
This is a message Chikli hopes to convey in his upcoming talk at the JCC, as well as during a special meeting he will have with the recently formed Zionist Reading Circle of Rhode Island (ZRCRI).

"In addition to its security challenges, the State of Israel is facing a challenge that is harder to see and confront: the challenge of spirituality and identity," Chikli says. "In 2016, the problem facing the Jewish people is very severe in both the U.S. and Israel. The challenge of assimilation appears to be only a diasporic problem, but in reality, beneath the surface, it is also a problem in Israel.

"The Hebrew language and character of the country hold Jewishness together in Israel, but barely. More and more, Israeli Jews don't see Jewishness as a substantive component of their Israeli identity."

The need to confront this problem is what motivated Chikli to found the Tavor Pre-Military Academy, a gap-year program for young men and women in Nazareth Illit, in 2010. The academy's fundamental value is love of Israel: a commitment to the Zionist vision and to ensuring the prosperity of the land and the people of Israel

"Do we say that Judaism is about tikkun olam [repairing the world], and it doesn't matter where or with whom? Or do we say we have a very specific responsibility to ourselves as Jews, and that through doing good for ourselves we repair the world?" Chikli asks. "Underlying almost every substantial societal disagreement among Jews in Israel is the question of Israeliness or Jewishness: Are you more Israeli or Jewish? I see it as the mission of my life to ensure that the Jewish component will be substantive and not



Maj. Amichai Chikli

neglected in Israeli identity."

For Chikli, an understanding of Jewish texts and history is crucial to that strengthening.

"Our Jewish identity cannot be based on the Holocaust, which befell us a short time ago," he says. "Our history goes back much further. Zionism, the national movement of the Jewish people, started on the day we left Egypt. The definitive nationalistic text of Judaism is the *siddur* [prayer book], which is replete with hopes of returning to our land. Someone who says that Judaism can be detached from the land of Israel is lying to himself."

Chikli, whose parents made *aliyah* from France, was born in

Israel. His mother moved there at age 14 and his father at age 19. His father's family fled from Tunisia to France after the Yom Kippur War. That personal history, as well as Jewish national history, is of paramount importance for Chikli.

"When people are called to the Torah, they are not called only by their personal names, but by their names and the names of their parents," Chikli points out. "In Judaism, you do not exist in this world through your own strength alone. You are the child of your mother and father. You are part of a line that stretches from way back in the past ... to far in the future. I am part of a line going back

3,500 years."

Gilor Meshulam, Israeli emissary (shaliach) for the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, met Chikli 10 years ago, while Meshulam was in high school and preparing for military service. He found Chikli to be an inspiring leader who raised challenging questions about Jewish identity. The two men have kept in touch over the years, and Meshulam has now arranged for Chikli to come to Rhode Island in May.

"Yom ha-Zikaron is a singularly meaningful day for me, during which I remember my fallen comrades. Because of their sacrifices, I am able to celebrate the Jewish nation's life in Israel after 2,000 years of exile," Meshulam says. "I invite the entire community to join us for a significant Yom ha-Zikaron ceremony – to have our identities and self-perceptions challenged, and to learn from an Israeli educator and fighter."

MAJ. AMICHAI CHIKLI will be the featured speaker at the *Yom ha-Zikaron* [Day of Remembrance for the Fallen Soldiers of Israel and Victims of Terrorism], ceremony that will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, at the Dwares JCC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact Gilor Meshulam, community *shaliach*, at 401-421-4111, ext. 121, or gmeshulam@jewishallianceri.org.

SHAI AFSAI (ggbi@juno.com) lives in Providence. His article "Nigeria's Igbo Jews: Jewish Identity and Practice in Abuja" appears in the April 2016 issue of Anthropology Today.

FROM PAGE 1 URI HILLEL

with messages of peace.

According to Olson, while many students were unaware of the fliers, since the hack occurred during spring break, in just a few weeks dozens of students participated in #printforpeaceURI.

Additionally, open forums to discuss the events were added

to the agendas for a planned LGBTQ+ symposium and the campus's Holocaust Remembrance Week.

"[The forums were] really to make the pronouncement that this is not URI. This is not what URI stands for," explained Olson. "I think everyone was relieved that this had not originated with someone at URI, but it did offend the campus and we wanted to bring some healing to the campus."

Jaclyn Rubin, a URI student who is involved in Hillel and in the Student Non-Violence Committee, also created a one-day campaign called Project Unity in response to the hateful messages.

Photos were snapped of participants standing silently, holding signs stating their identity, and posted on social media, including Twitter and Facebook, with the hashtag #togetherunitedaturi.

Olson said URI strives to create an inclusive community at all times, not just when pushed by bigotry and hate messages. On a campus where there's a group to build bridges between different student populations that might not otherwise interact, such as Greek life and multicultural organizations, religious groups and athletes, Olson is optimistic that the flier incidents and resulting countermeasures will further bring

URI's students together.

"I hope it gets more people talking to each other and getting more people to hear each other's stories, and learn about each other," says Olson.

"It's more than just an attack on the Jews," she says. "What hurts one hurts us all."

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

It's not manna from heaven, but this Passover, provide something just as crucial to the survival of the Israeli people.

In a country where knifings and other terrorist attacks are an all-too-frequent occurrence, your gift to Magen David Adom ensures Israel's national paramedic organization has the medical supplies and blood it needs to save lives. So this year, while you recount the story of the Jews' redemption from slavery, your gift will help modern-day Israelis survive the threats they face today.

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SAVING LIVES IN ISRAEL



HEALTH & WELLNESS 4 | April 29, 2016 **The Jewish Voice**

My Fitness Journey: Finding inspiration to stay motivated

Part six of a series

Keeping a diary throughout this fitness journey has kept me



KARA **MARZIALI**

accountable. It also has chronicled my daily activities, experiences, thoughts, conclusions, evaluations ... and, yes, even my complaints!

Day 36

After every session with Eddie, I've

hopped on the scale and stood with my back away from the digital display. Each week I've reminded him not to disclose the number because I have not wanted to know the results. Today I got curious.

"Do you want to know the number on the scale?"

"Nooooo," I said before he could complete his sentence.

"Are you sure?"

I hesitated. "Just tell me if the number is changing."

"Yes," he said smiling, "Changing in a healthy direc-

Day 40

UGH! Been sluggish for the past few days. Last night I attempted to do my core exercises at home and felt distracted and disinterested. Even the glute bridges, an exercise I like a lot, held no appeal. I knew my husband and son would not be home for another 20 minutes, so I opted to turn on the radio and dance. However, every song was slow-moving and, again, I got preoccupied with other things.

Day 41

What's up with me? I felt like I was doing so well on this journey, yet this week I have been unfocused, lazy and unwilling to move. I had to force myself to get on the treadmill today. As I was walking my usual (dare I say boring?) steps, I thought: "Do I have to do this the rest of my life?"

Suddenly, like a lightning bolt, I had a revelation. I, like so many who begin a path to



PHOTOS | RACHEL KOCH

Some days I didn't want to work out, but willingness was the key. Even a little bit of daily movement is better than nothing at all.

wellness, mistakenly assumed that the journey would stop after eight weeks when I'd "arrived." I'd get to some magical place emotionally, see the ideal number on the scale, reach a significant level of endurance or be able to lift a particular amount of weight. I believed that I would "graduate" and be able to coast the rest of my days.

Then I recalled the words of a family friend who had been sober in AA for more than 30 years: "You don't stay clean on yesterday's shower." By the same token, I won't stay fit today on the workouts I did last week or last month unless I am doing today what I did on day 35. (Or whatever day. Pick a number.)

So what's the point of all this? The point is I don't know if I can do this the rest of my life. All I have is today. And today I did the best I could. I got on the treadmill for 18 minutes.

This morning I began the day with another reluctant visit to the fitness center. For the second time this week, I skipped my core exercises at home and

got on the treadmill for less

Today marked the start of week six of my journey, and as you know now, dear Reader, I thusiastic the past few days.

ness and defeatism, I received an email at work that changed my attitude and brightened my spirits.

this morning. I just wanted to incredible step into a healthier

Many people are stuck in their same routine thinking they need to work out doing the same mundane exercise over and over, when in reality mixing up your workout and stepping out of your comfort zone will make you a happier AND healthier human. I love that you're doing this and I think many people will be inspired!

"GO YOUUUUU!!!!!!

I immediately responded, "I

than 20 minutes.

had been feeling less than en-

Then amid my downhearted-

"Good Morning,

"I just read both of your articles on your fitness journey say that I think you're doing an AMAZING job with your journey so far and that it's such an

"Keep up the awesome work."



Reminding me to keep my core tight and inspiring me to do one more lift, Eddie always encourages and supports my efforts.

can only hope to inspire people in the way YOU inspired me today!"

Day 43

I admitted to Eddie how apathetic, lazy and dispirited I've been. Wanting to atone for my lackluster fitness routine this week, I almost asked him to be especially merciless with me during today's session. (As if punishment by overexercising was going to help build my morale or ambition.) He gently reminded me that every week will be different and that I can learn

to trust my body. (What a concept!) He told me that I've been working hard, and I may have needed to "take it easy." After all, muscles need to repair, rest and rejuvenate lest I injure myself or lose interest altogether.

I felt much better after acknowledging the lapse in my workout routine. What I perceived as failure and frustration was really a blessing and a

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

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COMMUNITY April 29, 2016 | 5 thejewishvoice.org

Theater collaboration connects Jewish and Muslim students

BY LEAH BOURAMIA

It's 3:30 p.m. on a Sunday in Providence. Most fifth-graders are enjoying bike rides with friends, walking in the parks or playing in backyards. But today, at Brown RISD Hillel, a handful of boys and girls are reshaping the relationship between Jews and Muslims in Rhode Island.

The children are preparing to present their theatrical production, called Community Through Time, the culmination of a collaboration between the Islamic School of Rhode Island (ISRI) and the Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island (JCDSRI), in partnership with the Center for Dynamic Learn-

In the wake of last year's hateful graffiti at the ISRI, and the subsequent letters of support by Day School students, Adam Tilove, JCDSRI Head of School, and ISRI Head of School Abdelnasser Hussein came together to create an opportunity to foster understanding. In addition, both schools sponsored whole school events, such as a community-building event on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The Center for Dynamic Learning, based in South Providence, became the site for months of rehearsals of the theatrical collaboration, and provided the instructional foundation.

Community Through Time, we see kids being kids together, and how natural it all seems when we approach what seems unlikely to an adult through the eyes of a child. When asked a question about the "takeaways" from the production, the answers reflected the simple joy of making friends:

"I learned so much about how

halal and kosher are similar."

"I made so many new friends, it's been great."

'We learned how we all had similar talismans; stuffed animals we had had for a long time."

Tilove says, "We are inoculating [students] against racism and xenophobia. We have to get to them early."

In an interview, Tilove explained more about the project.

"We are manifesting who we are meant to be by engaging the other. By being who we are and by being proud of who others are and by honoring both ourselves and other people," he

In his address to the parents and friends who pack the Hillel Chapel for the student production, Hussein introduces Community Through Time with some background information on Islam.

"It is my religion to get to know and form relationships with every person on this earth," he says. "God made us into man and woman, then made us into nations - Christians, Muslims, Jews – not so we would be in conflict with each other, but so we could work together."

During the production, students in *hijabs* and *kippot* run around backstage, suppressing giggles as they prepare for each new scene. After a few microphone challenges, it becomes clear that the script isn't important; the students are having a blast and clearly enjoying one another's company and performing.

Nursing mothers, large families, parents smiling and snapping photos, the room is all family, standing room only. Muslim men give up seats to bubbes, and more than one Jewish adult of-



Scenes from the fifth grade production, above and below.



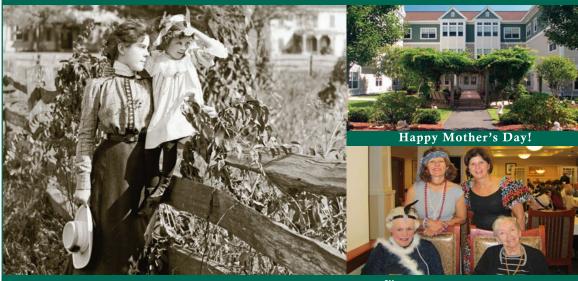
fered a seat to a Muslim child who wanted to sit next to his parents.

The mood is warm as U.S. Rep. David Cicilline says a few words.

"We see so many examples today of adults behaving, well, badly. Sometimes it takes the young people to inspire adults,' he says.

LEAH BOURAMIA is an educator who lives in Warwick.





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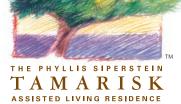
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6 | April 29, 2016 The Jewish Voice

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Time for us to remember how to work it out

My parents, and grandparents, of blessed memory, taught me well. They handed down lessons



RABBI RICHARD PERLMAN from their parents and grandparents and beyond. Among my favorite lessons: "You want to keep a friend? Never talk about politics and religion with them."

So here is my dilemma. As a rabbi, it's my obligation to

talk about religion. But, I do so only when asked – at least I try to do that. I have also made it my practice to never, ever, talk politics because I am not a politician, and what I believe is my business and what you believe is yours. I respect your perspective, and, in turn, I hope you will respect mine. Unfortunately, politics has brought out the worst in many of us, especially this year.

Perhaps we have to *Yizkor* to remember the lessons of the generations before us.

A couple of stories on perspective might illustrate this.

Little Moishe was sitting between his parents watching his first wedding. He sat in awe from the very beginning to the very end of the ceremony. When it was over, Moishe asked his mother, "Mommy, why did the lady in the Cinderella gown change her mind?"

"Moishela! What do you mean?" she asked.

"Well," Moishe responded, "when she came in, she walked down the aisle with one man, but she left him for another one."

Rachel noticed her husband,

Shmuel, was standing on the bathroom scale, sucking in his stomach. Thinking he was trying to weigh less with this maneuver, she laughingly said, "I don't think that's going to help."

"Sure it will," Shmuel responded. "When I do that, I can clearly see the numbers on the scale."

Perspective can bring us together or drive us apart. Each of us perceives what is going on around us very differently, based on our learnings, experiences, culture and values. The way you or I see the world is, very often, not the way others see it. A lot of our problems are due to our narrow perspectives. Most of us are comfortable with what we know and quite uncomfortable with things we do not understand. By living our lives this way, we are sure to come to the same conclusions as Moishe and Rachel.

Perspective is amazing and powerful. Imagine that I am holding a coffee mug that has a handle. While I am not hiding the handle, those who are sitting directly in front of me cannot see it. Those sitting on either side of me see it clearly. If those who are in front of me did not know there was a handle on the mug and I asked, "By observation, is there a handle on this mug?" the only correct answer would be no - but those on either side of me would insist it was there. Soon, an argument would break out.

How do I know an argument would break out? We are Jews, after all. Arguing is in our DNA; it's been going on for a long, long, time.

The only way everyone could possibly understand each other's perspective is if I turned the mug or if everyone changed seats.

Religion is like that. Some of us clearly see how fulfilling the traditional teachings can be. Just as in the example of the mug, Torah, Talmud and Jewish history form the "handle" that helps us understand our Jewish heritage. I find it extremely unfortunate that many Jews chose not to learn, or even try to understand, those most beautiful and timeless lessons that have been passed down *l'dor v'dor* (from generation to generation).

As it turns out, not all Jews feel this way. Throughout the years, different communities have developed diverse customs to help them understand a Jewish way of life. The one thing we must all understand is that our most meaningful and beautiful traditions did not come from Sinai. Not only that, I'd be willing to bet that there is not one movement of Judaism, nor any synagogue in the world, that can honestly say that they are the only one that does everything exactly as was directed at Sinai.

Our Rhode Island community is a melting pot, just like most communities in America. I have seen people come and go, lay leaders and professional teachers, rabbis, and cantors among them. Many of our community members came here after spending years in one or more other community or place.

Most of us have learned to work hard together to open our minds to understand each other's and our community's true needs and perspectives. Every day, we learn that we all have a different set of experiences and views that can make us a better and stronger people. It means that some of us are in a position to see the handle on the mug and others are not. We just have

Around the seder table in Newport

to accept that. This reality of acceptance has been going on *l'dor v'dor*. That is something that ties us to those we remember at *Yizkor*.

This year during Passover and as this D'var is published in the Voice, we will be reciting the *Yizkor*, or memorial service, prayers. We *Yizkor* at Passover, again on *Shavuot*, then on Yom Kippur and finally once again during *Sukkot*. We gather together to remember our loved ones, just as our loved ones did.

My fear is, in this new world of the Internet, blogs, smartphones, Facebook, and I-got-tohave-it-now, with little study or investment in fact-finding, the question we face that generations before us did not is: "How far am I willing to go to try and understand things from the other person's perspective and respect our differences?" Some will always sit front-row center, never allowing them to ever see the handle; others won't even attend the service to see what is truly going on around us. We must Yizkor and we must Yizkor together to see life from all corners and perspectives and respect our different opinions and learn from each other.

Because of lessons I have learned, I know that even if I were looking directly at you, there is no doubt that I could never see what you see because I am standing where I cannot see the handle. On the other hand, I can see the mug because I have spent my adult life in this community listening intently as many of you have shared some of your most private moments and feelings with me.

Think of the mug. Is it more important for us to think there is a handle on it, or is it more important to go out of our way to

make sure that there is a handle on it? If we simply stand up from where we sit and move a few feet one way or the other, we will understand things so much better.

For now, let us look back at those who have gone on to a better place. The most important thing we should learn from them, regardless of how they lived their lives, is to understand that there is nothing more important in the world than *shalom bayit*, peace in the home. I extend that to *klal Yisrael*, to all of us in our beloved community. That, after all, is the most important lesson we can learn from generations that lived before us.

The mug has a handle; the mug has no handle. Stop arguing, learn to respect each other, it's time.

How long are we willing to let that debate go on? *Shalom bayit*, peace in the homes, in our community, in our political and religious differences, is the most important thing of all.

When the children of Israel walked the path to change, from slavery to freedom, that walk took 40 years. Forty years to remove the lessons of a land filled with slavery and customs that did not unite us. Since then, we have walked many more years together. Nu? Can we respect each other, love each other, if not for me, for them, our children and our grandchildren? Let's do it for the loved ones we remember this year at Yizkor, on Passover and again on Shavuot, Yom Kippur and Sukkot. Let's remember the good we have been taught everyday!

Hag Pesach Sameach.

Richard Perlman is rabbi of the West Bay Community Jewish Center.

BY AARON GINSBURG

On Friday [April 22], I attended a community seder at Touro Synagogue's Levi Gale house opposite Touro Synagogue. I will always think of it as the Jewish Community Center. About 60 attended. Many were visitors, most from New York with one from Fairhaven. There was also a table of people from the Navy Base. Jackie Mandel organized and did the cooking ably assisted by her husband, Rabbi Marc Mandel. There was plenty of food to go around, and although we had the bread of affliction, in no way were we afflicted. The rabbi led us in a spirited seder with lots of singing. He said rasha should not be translated as the evil son. Children are all different and the story needs to be tailored to the recipient. The rasha sets himself apart. We were as diverse as the four sons, and Rabbi Mandel was careful to tailor the seder to the attend-

When the rabbi went into the

kitchen to assist his wife, he asked two of the attendees to speak. An OCS (Officer Candidate School) student described the early strict part of training as slavery. Freedom came when the cell phones were returned, and it was permitted to relax at the dining table. But is it really freedom? Or is it slavery to our devices, especially our cell phones with the ever-present need to keep people apprised of our whereabouts and wellness. The paradoxical conclusion: the strict training phase was itself a kind of freedom.

kind of freedom.

We also heard from a South African student at the Naval War College. He started by saying in his culture, it's disrespectful to wear a hat indoors. He was saddened that his children, although urged to choose, are not speaking either one of their parents' native languages, Zulu or Xhosa. They speak mostly English at home. He joined the Navy at 20 and is now 44. He went from a patrol boat to a frigate,

the SAS Mendi. It is named after a Brifish ship SS Mendi that was sunk after a larger ship traveling at high speed and without proper warning signals collided with it in the fog 10 miles from the English coast on the way from Cape Town, South Africa on Feb. 21, 1917 during WWI. Dead were 626 mostly black soldiers, most of whom had never been to sea before and could not swim. They went down heroically as a chaplain declaimed, "Be quiet and calm, my countrymen, for what is taking place is exactly what you came to do. You are going to die, but that is what you came to do. Brothers, we are drilling the death drill. I, a Xhosa, say you are my brothers. Zulus, Swazis, Pondos, Basothos and all others, let us die like warriors. We are the sons of Africa. Raise your war cries my brothers, for though they made us leave our assegais back in the kraals, our voices are left with our bodies..." There were approximately 200 survivors.

The SAS Mendi dropped a memorial wreath at the site on its maiden voyage. Feb. 21 is now observed as Armed Forces Day in South Africa.

When Rabbi Mandel reappeared (we were about to send out a search party) he led Achad Mi Yodea? (Who Knows One?) as a revival song. It was lots of fun and perfectly appropriate.

At shul the next day, the rabbi used audience participation to deliver his message. It was a clever way to avoid interruptions. He asked, "What are the themes of Passover?" The replies included matzah, the exo-

dus, slavery, the transition from slavery to freedom and more. Two major themes took some prompting. One was mishpacha – family – that we should tell the story to our children; another was zachor – memory – that we should remember who we were and what happened to us. In context it was our history from Abraham to Moses. After consideration, I think it means the entirety of the experiences of Am Yisrael, even to today.

AARON GINSBURG a Newport native attends Shabbat services at Touro Synagogue.

Candle Lighting Times

Greater Rhode Island

April 29 7:22
April 30 Passover ends 8:29
May 6 7:30
May 13 7:37
May 20 7:44



OPINION 8 April 29, 2016 **The Jewish Voice**

Our new website is up and running - have a look

I am surrounded by smart people who are never at a loss for words. Friends, family members, colleagues are all capable speak-

ers with lots of valuable things to say.



EDITOR But this week I'm happy to tell you (in writing at least) about **OSTENDORF** the new Jewish Voice website

(www.thejewishvoice.org).

FRAN

We've been online for years. But every few years, it's time for a freshening, an upgrade. Our new website looks fresher and more up-to-date. It's easier to use, easier to find your way around. It's also mobile: Call it up on a smartphone or tablet, and you get all the content you see on your computer.

More of the newspaper is online now. We plan to post all our stories, not just a sampling. And the features will be easier to find. Take a look at the drop-downs – those buttons in the upper right side of the page - we've renamed some areas so they make more sense to today's readers.

And we have some new features. Looking for news from other publications, like Israeli newspapers? Head for the Jewish Reader (under both our News and Jewish Life drop-downs), where you'll find links to such publications as Haaretz and the Jerusalem Post. Want to see more photos from our articles? Look at the photo galleries (under News), where we will now post the pictures that don't fit into the newspaper.

We've also added a new way for you to connect with our advertisers, turning our print ads into a Marketplace, which can be found under Jewish Life and on our landing pages. Soon, you will be able to click on an ad to find out more about the advertiser. And we'll now accept both print and web-only classifieds.

Our calendar has undergone an upgrade, too. Now, you can go online and post your organization's events right into the calendar. You'll also be able to see all the other events posted from our community. Many of these events will appear in the print edition, but the online calendar will have much more extensive listings. You can also view calendar items in a variety of formats, such as a Pinterest-like wall view, and daily, weekly and monthly views.

You can submit your news to us through the website, too. Check out the links at the bottom of each page under "Adding your Voice" to send us your news, photos, Simchas and We Are Read photos. But please note that you do have to register to submit content to the site (this keeps the spammers away).

You can also donate to The Voice on the website.

One of the advantages of updating anything on the web is the limitless possibilities. Technology only gets better. Not only will this site allow us to post enhanced content, it will allow us to post news stories and photos as we work on them. No longer will we have to wait two weeks to bring you the news you look for in our community.

As staffing permits, we'll bring you snippets of the stories we are working on. We'll also bring you photos of the events we cover as we finish working on them, as well as video and sound clips.

Stay tuned, visit us often and watch us grow on the web. The website will keep evolving. You'll notice changes each time you check it out - which we hope will be often!

And please, if you have comments, feel free to message us. You can do this via the website now. And you can always contact us in the traditional way: 401-421-4111, ext. 168, or by mail: The Jewish Voice, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906.

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 ish Voice, 401 Elmgrove Ave.,

The price of silence

Bontshe Shvayg, Bontshe the Silent One, "was born in silence. He lived in silence. He

died in silence.

And he was

buried in a si-

lence greater

The great

Polish Yiddish

author I. L.

Peretz (1852-

1915) wrote

the short story

"Bontshe Sh-

vayg" in 1894.

I read it for the

first time 50

years ago as

a college un-

Bontshe passed

dergraduate. Ever since I have

carried the story within me as

a darkly ironic warning of the

through the world "like a shad-

ow, though [n]o one noticed

when the wind whirled him off

and carried him to a far shore,"

in "the other world" the angels

waited for him in ecstatic ex-

"Not once in his whole life

... did he complain to God or

to man. Not once did he feel a

drop of anger or cast an accus-

ing glance at heaven." Even

when "[s]pattered with the mud

of city streets, spat on by un-

known strangers, driven from

the sidewalk to stagger in the

When Bontshe came before

the Heavenly Tribunal, the

counsel for his defense knew

that the prosecutor had no case.

Indeed, when the time came for

the prosecutor to speak, all he

could manage to say was: "He

With that the judge of the

Heavenly Tribunal instructed

Bontshe: "All heaven belongs

to you. Ask for anything you

wish; you can choose what you

"Well, then, what I'd like most

of all is a warm roll with fresh

kept silent. I will do the same."

gutter ... he kept silent!"

pectation. Bontshe! Bontshe!

yet."



IT SEEMS TO ME

RABBI JIM ROSENBERG

price of silence.

Though

butter every morning."

The story's last words: "The judges and angels hung their heads in shame. The prosecutor laughed." (All quotations are from the English translation by Hillel Halkin.)

Three weeks ago I attended a weekend program at the Yiddish Book Center, in Amherst, Massachusetts, devoted to the life and work of Peretz. Under the guidance of the two featured lecturers, Dr. Ruth Wisse from Harvard University and Dr. Justin Cammy from Smith College, along with the insights of my fellow students, I was able to place "Bontshe Shvayg" within the broad context of Peretz's extensive and varied writings.

"Bontshe Shvayg" is representative of that portion of Peretz's work that expresses his barely suppressed rage at Jewish passivity in the face of Tsarist and Christian persecution. a fateful and sometimes fatal misdirection of Jewish ethical values under the increasing pressure of a physically, emotionally and intellectually aggressive modernism.

While on one level Peretz applauds Jewish menschlikhkeit. a certain gentle and fair-minded decency, on another level he warns - 40 years before Auschwitz - that when this sense of decency leads to an extreme passivity, the results can be catastrophically self-destructive. Through his refusal to complain, his refusal to fight back, his refusal to demand his rightful due, Bontshe has reduced his world to "a warm roll with fresh butter every morning."

Like many other Yiddish and Hebrew writers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Peretz saw himself as a bridge between a premodern tradition-bound Jewish community and the challenges and opportunities of the modern world. "Bontshe Shvayg" shows Peretz at his most bitterly ironic. Some

commentators read the story as an illustration of Peretz's "creative betrayal" of long-held Jewish values. I prefer the rabbinical term yesurin shel ahavah, or chastisements of love; out of love for his fellow Jews, Peretz goads them to forsake a counterproductive passivism and to take charge of their destiny within a rapidly changing world.

In other stories, Peretz abandons his critical ironic approach and bears witness to our age-old virtues of piety, self-sacrificing devotion and demonstrable concern for the needy. In "If Not Higher," for example, the rabbi of Nemirov 'vanishes" every Friday morning in order to chop the wood, stoke the oven and light the fire for a poor bedridden old woman. In "Devotion without End," Miriam is quite literally willing to die for her husband, Chananiah. Peretz's program for connecting our Jewish past with our Jewish future, then, rests upon both hard-headed criticism and a tender-hearted affirmation of our best qualities - the ingredients of his mature love for our people.

Despite the efforts of Peretz and his contemporaries more than 100 years ago, today's Jewish community is still in need of a solid bridge that can span the chasm between tradition and change, between past and future. More than ever, we need to fashion new forms of identity that can withstand the onslaught of the confusing, complex, dangerous, yet hopefilled world of the 21st century. We need to develop Jewish identities that can stand the test of

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

doesn't suit vou, send vour information to Editor, The Jew-Providence, R.I. 02906.

Romania expected to pass Holocaust restitution bill

JTA — Legislation that will make it easier for Holocaust survivors to press restitution claims is expected to pass in Romania's parliament next week.

Lawmakers said on April 26 that they expect the bill, which removes barriers to claiming property, to succeed, Reuters reported.

Much of the Jewish property confiscated in Romania during would be given to "requests by

the Holocaust was later taken over by the Communist government. Despite laws passed after the collapse of Communist rule, few people have been able to claim government-owned prop-

A draft law published on the parliament website said that in processing applications for the return of property, priority

people certified as Holocaust survivors by entities designated by the Romanian state or other European Union states."

The draft passed the upper house of parliament last week and will go to a final vote on May 4 in the lower house, where it is expected to win overwhelming support, legislators told Reuters.

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, 02906 or editor@ jewishallianceri.org. Include name, city of residence and a contact phone number or email (not for publication).

thejewishvoice.org OPINION April 29, 2016 | 9

National pride a key takeaway from Israel mission

BY JAMES SANZI

Imagine for a moment that you had served in the military, and that your mother and father served before you, and that your sister and brother and son and daughter are now serving. Further imagine that all of you didn't just serve in a time of peace, but that you served during a time of great national conflict with battles waged, not overseas, but in the backyard of your own country.

Consider your friends and fellow service members who have been injured in those battles and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. How would that reality affect you? For many, I think it would have a profound effect, especially since many Americans currently do not have direct ties to those in our

active military forces. What an interesting dinner table conversation it would make to hear the family stories of service to, and sacrifice for, the country.

I think a reality like this would heighten one's interest in the national conflict and the prospects for peace. Coupled with that interest may be one's deep passion for the cause for which so much sacrifice has been required. Above all, with such a tradition of close personal connection to military service, I think that many would have and exhibit great national pride. These observations represented my own reality during our weeklong Jewish Alliance mission trip to Israel in Novem-

From a religious, cultural and historical perspective, this

trip was thoroughly rewarding and life-changing. It offered so many positive and thought-provoking experiences; interacting with the diverse people of Israel was no exception. Not since the days following 9-11, when I recall seeing so many American flags draped from homes and car windows, have I perceived a level of national pride that is present in the people of Israel.

I recall an Ethiopian Jew working at the Yemin Orde village for at-risk and immigrant youth, who told our group that she did not truly feel like an Israeli until she served in the country's military. This remarkable woman made an incredibly long and courageous trek from Ethiopia to Israel years ago, but it was not until she put on the uniform of her

nation that she felt truly at home. I recall the steady presence of Israeli Defense Forces Reserve Col. Kobi Merom – no doubt courageous and hardened by his years of service to his country – as he delivered his presentation to our group in the Golan Heights despite the sound of al-Qaida gunfire in the Syrian distance over his shoulder

People in Israel are not just geographically close to the ongoing Middle East conflict; they are noticeably emotionally close to it. Regardless of their military service, they live through that conflict with great national pride. With required national military service for most though, they don't just live through the conflict, they train, fight and sacrifice against it, as

do many of their beloved friends and family. Although in no way have I endured the sacrifices of the Israeli Defense Forces, I did serve as a Naval officer. The Navy's core values of honor, courage and commitment, although always important to me, may have been just a little more vivid when I was on active duty. Similarly, in Israel, I truly sensed national pride as a key part of that country's fabric. It was vivid and very real, and a lasting and positive impression from our amazing mission trip to that great country.

JAMES SANZI is vice president of development at the Rhode Island Foundation. The Alliance-sponsored Interfaith Leadership Mission to Israel took place in November 2015.

After weeks of brickbats, Bernie Sanders offers Hillary Clinton a bouquet

BY RON KAMPEAS

WASHINGTON (JTA) – The combative tone in Bernie Sanders' campaign statements faded on the evening of April 26 to a softer pitch of persuasion.

"I congratulate Secretary Clinton on her victories tonight, and I look forward to issue-oriented campaigns in the 14 contests to come," Sanders' statement began after his rival for the Democratic presidential nod, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, rolled to victories in four of the five states in play that day. Only Rhode Island went to Sanders.

Prior to the statement, Clinton had "applauded" Sanders and his causes, signifying a party ready to rally toward the general election and a likely contest between Clinton and Donald Trump, the Republican front-runner who swept the five primaries.

Aides to Sanders, the Independent senator from Vermont, in recent days had presaged a "reassessment" of the campaign should Clinton perform well in the April 26 contests. Sanders' statement encapsulated what "reassessment" looks like going forward, in effect acknowledging that Clinton is the likely candidate while remaining in the race to influence the shape of the Democratic Party in years to come.

"This campaign is going to the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia with as many delegates as possible to fight for a progressive party platform that calls for a \$15 an hour minimum wage, an end to our disastrous trade policies, a Medicare-for-all health care system, breaking up Wall Street financial institutions, ending fracking in our country, making public colleges and universities tuition free, and passing a carbon tax so we can effectively address the planetary crisis of climate change," Sanders said.

Absent from that "fight for" locution is the prize Sanders has insisted until now should be his: the nomination.

Sanders already appeared to be shifting his tone in a Philadelphia town hall broadcast the evening of April 25 by MS-NBC, where he quashed any notion that he would not enthusiastically back a Clinton candidacy.

"I will do everything in my power to

make sure that no Republican gets into the White House in this election cycle,"

On April 26, Clinton won Pennsylvania, Maryland, Connecticut and Delaware. Sanders, the first Jewish candidate to win major party nominating contests, picked up Rhode Island, his 18th state.

Clinton for her part appeared ready to embrace Sanders' call for unity, echoing many of his platform planks in her victory speech in Philadelphia.

"I applaud Senator Sanders and his millions of supporters for challenging us to get unaccountable money out of our politics and giving greater emphasis to closing the gap of inequality," said Clinton, a nod to his sharp criticisms of how she has raised money for her campaign.

The former New York senator and first lady also said she would "keep our troops out of another costly ground war in the Middle East," another nod to a weakness of Clinton's that Sanders has exploited – her 2002 vote for the Iraq War, which he opposed.

"Whether you support Senator Sanders or you support me, there's much more that unites us than divides us," she said.

Clinton pivoted to attacking Trump, whose bid to win the Republican nomination seemed more certain than ever following his sweep, widening his already substantial margins over his rivals, Ohio Gov. John Kasich and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

"Now, the other day, Mr. Trump accused me of playing the, quote, 'woman card,' " she said. "Well, if fighting for women's health care and paid family leave and equal pay is playing the 'woman card,' then deal me in!" The crowd roared.

The real estate magnate and reality TV star, delivering his victory speech from his corporate headquarters in Manhattan after Clinton had spoken, took the bait – wittingly or not, it was not clear.

"If Hillary Clinton were a man, I don't think she'd get 5 percent of the vote," he said. "The only thing she's got going is the woman's card."

Literally within minutes, the Clinton campaign had mashed the speeches together and posted an ad on social media.

Trump called himself the "presumptive nominee" and said Cruz and Kasich

should leave the race. The senator and governor have teamed up, divvying up states, in an effort to deny Trump the nomination and force a sequence of votes at the convention in Cleveland.

Clinton's wins reflected a resurgent Democratic establishment: Party-favored candidates beat back progressives in Senate nominating contests in Pennsylvania and Maryland. In both states, the defeated progressives – former Rep. Joe Sestak in Pennsylvania and Rep. Donna Edwards in Maryland – in the past had tangled not only with their party bosses, but with the mainstream pro-Israel community.

The winners in those states were Rep. Chris Van Hollen in Maryland, a popular chairman of the Democrats' congressional reelection campaign from 2007 to 2011 who has close ties to the pro-Israel community, and Katie McGinty, a chief of staff to Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf who was handpicked by Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., a contender for the leadership of the Senate Democratic caucus next year.

One bright light for progressives was Maryland state Sen. Jamie Raskin, who won the nomination to replace Van Hollen in the 8th District, comprising the heavily liberal Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C. Raskin is a likely shooin in November.

Raskin, like 10 percent of Montgomery County, which is part of the district, is Jewish. During his campaign he has talked up visits to Israel to hang out with family. A professor of constitutional law at American University in Washington, he also was backed by an array of progressive groups, including J Street, the liberal Jewish Middle East policy group. (J Street also backed two other candidates in the nine-candidate race for the Democratic nod.)

Also endorsing Raskin was the Freethought Equality Fund, a political action committee that advocates on behalf of atheists and humanists. In its statement, the PAC said Raskin is on the board of the American Humanist Association.

According to the Washington Jewish Week, Raskin and his family are members of the Reform Temple Sinai in Washington.

NYU president: Grad students' BDS resolution 'contrary to our core principles'

NEW YORK (JTA) – The president of New York University said the school will not acquiesce to its graduate student union's recent demand that the university cut its

"A boycott of Israeli academics and institutions is contrary to our core principles of academic freedom, antithetical to the free exchange of ideas and at odds with the university's position on this matter, as well as the position of [the student group]'s parent union," Andrew Hamilton said April 25 in a statement.

"NYU will not be closing its academic program in Tel Aviv, and divestment from Israeli-related investments is not under consideration," the statement continued. "And to be clear: whatever 'pledges' union members may or may not have taken does not free them from their responsibilities as employees of NYU, which rejects this boycott."

The graduate student union approved a resolution April 22 calling on NYU to close

its program at Tel Aviv University, which it alleges violates the NYU anti-discrimination policy. The resolution also calls on the union's parent union, the United Auto Workers, to divest from Israeli companies. Fifty-seven percent of the 600 union members voting also took a personal pledge to boycott Israeli government and academic institutions.

The union represents more than 2,000 graduate students and research assistants at the private university.

In a statement April 26, the Anti-Defamation League praised the university.

"Other universities in N.Y. facing similar resolutions should follow NYU's condemnation by sending a strong message that BDS [Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions] campaigns on campus hinder any productive dialogue regarding the highly complex Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and create unnecessary divisions among students," the ADL statement said.

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 May 5

Spring Mixed Show. Gallery at Temple Habonim. Encaustics and oils by Nancy Whitcomb; underwater photography by Neil Greenspan; and a mural by Religious School students. 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 | April 29

Friday Night Services. 7:30 p.m. Temple Sinai. 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. Shireinu, the community chorus of the temple, will participate. The chorus will include several Israeli-themed songs for this special Israel Shabbat service.

Sunday | May 1

Torah Sprouts. 9 a.m. Temple Torat Yisrael. 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Introduction to Judaism for pre-school children. Singing, dancing, arts and crafts, and Jewish stories. For more information, call 401-885-6600.

Membership Brunch. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael. 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Complimentary membership brunch for members and non-members, including fun, food and sports for adults and children. Information, call 401-885-6600.

West Bay Havurah. At the RISD Museum of Art & Gregg's, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 20 N. Main St., Providence. Have you seen the recently renovated RISD Museum of Art? The West Bay Havurah will tour the galleries and exhibits of this awardwinning museum at no cost. Afterward, an optional lunch will be enjoyed at Gregg's Restaurant in Providence. Bring your friends and family, and enjoy the company of a friendly group of people, as we explore yet another Providence jewel. Contact Mark Sweberg at 401-248-5010 to register, and for more information.

Tuesday | May 3

Should We Take Our Money and Run?

Putting Today's Market Volatility into Context. Noon-2 p.m. Home of Michael

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

Feel free to contact editor@jewishal-

lianceri.org with any questions.

Nulman. Jewish Federation Foundation of Greater Rhode Island special presentation featuring Jeffrey R. Croteau, managing principal of Prime Buchholz & Associates, Inc. Open to Dor L'Dor Society members, donor advised fund holders and donors to the 2016 Alliance Annual Campaign. Lunch will be served. Space is limited. Please RSVP to Danielle Germanowski at 401-421-4111, ext. 109, or dgermanowski@ jewishallianceri.org.

Yoga. 6-7 p.m. Temple Torat Yisrael. 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich. Led by Jeannine Margolis. All are welcome. Cost \$12 for drop-ins or \$30 for three classes paid in advance. For more information, call 401-885-6600.

Wednesday | May 4

Phoenix from the Ashes: Terezín in Words and Music. 7 p.m. Temple Emanu-El. 99 Taft Ave., Providence. Communitywide interfaith Holocaust commemoration, composed by Judith Lynn Stillman, honors the memory of the 6 million Jewish victims and millions of others who perished in the darkness of the Shoah. Based on poems by teenage boys in Terezín Concentration Camp, "Phoenix from the Ashes: Terezin in

Holocaust Remembrance Day Memorial Service and Lecture/Discussion.

Words and Music" celebrates the tri-

umph of the human spirit over adversity.

5:30 to 8 p.m. Congregation Agudas Achim, 901 N. Main St., Attleboro, Mass. Hebrew School students created and organized the memorial service. Following, Andy Algava, whose family went into hiding in Greece, will speak about his experiences during the war. A potluck dinner follows. For more information, office@agudasma.org or 508-222-

Friday | May 6

Yom HaShoah Program. 10 a.m. Holocaust Memorial. Memorial Park, South Main Street, Providence. Sponsored by the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. For information, contact Hillary Schulman, 401-421-4111, ext. 127 or hschulman@jewishallianceri.org.

Tuesday | May 10

Yom Ha'Zikaron (Israel's Day of Remembrance) Ceremony. 7-8:30 p.m. Dwares JCC. Keynote speaker: Maj. Amichai Chikli, general manager at Tavor Academy for Leadership in Israel. Special ceremony honoring the memories of the soldiers who have died in defense of the State of Israel. For more information or to RSVP, contact Gilor Meshulam at 401-421-4111, ext. 121, or gmeshulam@jewishallianceri. org. RSVP by May 5.

Lunch and Learn. Noon. Torat Yisrael's Rabbi Aaron Philmus will lead a discussion about "The Future of Israel and Palestine" at T's Restaurant in East Greenwich. Participants order from the menu. All are welcome. For more information, call 401-885-6600.

Wednesday | May 11

The Real Truth About VA Benefits. 6:30 p.m. Tamarisk Assisted Living, 3 Shalom Drive, Warwick. Presented by Kevin Hackman, Elder Care Attorney. Please RSVP to 401-732-0037 or dianneg@ tamariskri.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 Shabbatfriendly 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.

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. Among the many difficulties confronting Jews who are comfortable calling themselves Zionists is the phenomenon of "Jew-Washing." The idea is that if someone can count Jews among those endorsing his beliefs or behavior, then his beliefs or behaviors cannot be deemed anti-Semitic. Pessin will explain why Jew-washing doesn't work and why "Zionophobia" is just as pernicious as any other form of racism. Luncheon. Donation, \$10 per person, \$36 family maximum. RSVP by May 11 at 5 p.m.

Taste of Shabbat. On the second and fourth Shabbat of each month, come and celebrate a Taste of Shabbat at Temple Torat Yisrael, 1251 Middle Road, East Greenwich, Torah discussion from 9 to 9:45 a.m. and an abbreviated Shabbat service from 9:45 to 11 a.m. followed by a light Kiddush. All are welcome! For more information, call 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.

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.

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 "kid 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 will be served, and the evening will end 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.

Tuesday | May 24

Novel Conversations with Nomi Eve. 7p.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

Tuesday | May 31

PJ Library Story and Play Time with

"Bubbie Sara." 3-4 p.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.

FROM PAGE 1 | PESNER

orphan, the stranger. This is rooted deeply in our religious tradition," he said. "I tell people we have been marching for 5.000 years. [We] came out of Egypt because we were slaves in Egypt."

As Pesner points out, the moral injunction to welcome all has its roots in the exodus from Egypt. But he says he understands people's fears about the newest wave of refugees.

"Let's put the safeguards in place and welcome the stranger because we were strangers in Egypt," he said about allowing refugees into the United States.

Pesner is coming to Rhode Island May 11 as the keynote speaker for the Rhode Island Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty's annual Interfaith Poverty Conference. This year's conference, to be held at Rhode Island College, will focus on "Tikkun Olam/ Repairing Rhode Island."

While this is no easy subject, it's a topic with tremendous possibilities, according to Pesner, whose Religious Action Center has been at the forefront of Jewish social justice activity for more than 50 years.

We need to find shared solutions to the problems of discrimination and racism, he said. Interfaith communities like the R.I. Interfaith Coalition are trying to find a shared religious imperative that would lead to a more just Rhode Island.

"They are on the cusp," he said. "Faith and a moral voice have the power to create a political voice." And that political voice, he said, can create powerful systemic change.

Pesner, who also serves as senior vice president of the Union for Reform Judaism, has a history of working across lines of race, faith

and class for social justice. He has worked in community organizing in the Northeast and nationally. A longtime Boston area resident, he was a congregational rabbi at Temple Israel and spent 10 years organizing within the interfaith community in Massachusetts. One of his most important projects, he said, was his work on the universal health-care act in Massachusetts, which became a model for national health-care re-

'When people of faith come together across lines and really reflect on Jewish tradition, we can make enormous change happen," he says.

"Real tikkun olam is more than just feeding and housing," he said, it's fixing the "systemic brokenness." To repair that brokenness, he says, we must first repair the state.

On May 11, after hearing Pesner's call to action, conference attendees will have a chance to attend workshops toward that end: Repairing the Race Gap: Racial/Ethnic Economic Disparities among R.I. Children and Youth; Repairing Senior Supports: How Congregations Can Support Aging Community Members; Repairing Community: Working with Mayors to Address Poverty; and Repairing Our Policies: Diving Deeper into Our 2016 Legislative Agenda.

The conference runs from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Breakfast begins at 8 and Pesner will speak at 8:30, with the workshops to follow. To register, go to http://tinyurl.com/ fightpoverty2016.

For information, endpovertyri.org or contact Emily Jones at riinterfaithcoalition@gmail.

FRAN OSTENDORF is the editor of The Jewish Voice.

thejewishvoice.org FOOD April 29, 2016 11

Cook up a Mother's Day to remember

(Family Features) – Mother's Day is a time for wining, dining and celebrating moms everywhere. Make this Mother's Day one to remember by hosting a special brunch get-together for the special ladies in your life.

Although quality time together is the true purpose of the day, you can add some special touches to help create a one-of-a-kind brunch to share old memories while you make new ones.

Plan your tablescape. Colorful, fragrant flowers and luxurious linens make your everyday table shine. Use plates in complementing shades and sparkling glassware for an elegant touch. If you have room, add personal touches to the centerpiece, such as mementos from shared trips or small picture frames with pictures of the two of you through the years.

Prepare a sophisticated menu. Give a nod to the importance of the day with dishes that are a step above standard brunch fare. A richly flavored entree such as this Spring Vegetable and Chèvre Tart looks elegant but is surprisingly easy to make. For a cohesive spread, remember to give the basics a boost, too, such as a homemade flavored whipped butter.

Offer a gift with meaning. To truly elevate the occasion, serve (or gift) your mom with a deliciously meaningful wine, such as Cambria Benchbreak



Chardonnay or Pinot Noir from the famed Santa Maria bench in Santa Barbara County. Cambria is a family-owned winery

year, the winery gives \$100,000 to women making a difference

that honors women across the

United States and globally. Each

in their communities through their Seeds of Empowerment program.

Spring Vegetable and Chèvre Tart

Recipe courtesy of Courtney O'Dell of Sweet C's Designs

Ingredients

- 1 package (2 sheets) puff pastry
 - 1 cup chèvre, divided
- 1 large beefsteak tomato, thinly sliced
- 8 ounces thin green beans
- 2 beets, thinly sliced
- 4 mini zucchinis, thinly sliced 1 egg white, beaten until slightly foamy

Directions

Heat oven to 350 degrees. On well-greased baking sheet, arrange one puff pastry sheet.

Crumble half of chèvre across pastry. Lay tomato slices then green beans, zucchini and beets over chevre, leaving a 1-inch border around all edges. Crumble second half of chèvre on top.

Lightly wet edges of pastry. Slice four 1-inch strips of second sheet of pastry and lay over edges of bottom sheet. (Optional: create basket-weave pattern with remaining pastry dough.)

Brush pastry with egg white and bake until pastry is deep golden brown, about 35 minutes. Serve immediately.

Pinot Noir Rosemary Butter

Recipe courtesy of Erin Kennedy of My Thirty Spot Blog

Ingredients

1 cup salted homemade whipped butter (recipe below) 3/4 cup Pinot Noir

1 tablespoon fresh rosemary

Directions

Fill shallow saucepan with wine and simmer until consistency becomes syrupy (reducing to about 1/8 cup).

Let syrup cool completely.

Add syrup and rosemary to whipped butter and mix. Serve chilled.

Homemade Whipped Butter

Ingredients

1/2 quart heavy cream 1/2 teaspoon salt (up to 3/4 teaspoon, to taste)

Directions

In food processor, mix butter until cream turns to consistency of cottage cheese and starts to separate from buttermilk, about 3-5 minutes of constant mixing. Strain butter from buttermilk.

Use wooden spoon to knead butter in water (just like dough) to remove all remaining buttermilk. Drain and repeat until water is clear.

Remaining whipped butter is ready to serve or for adding flavoring ingredients.

Seasonal soup a spring treat

BY LIZ RUEVEN

(The Nosher via JTA) – Trying to eat seasonally? One of the earliest spring crops is asparagus, a perennial plant that yields for up to 20 years after the plants are established. Asparagus can be picked when they reach a height of 6 to 8 inches, which syncs with the soil temperature reaching 50 degrees. This is why asparagus so often find their way onto early spring menus.

This velvety, bright green asparagus soup is a perfect starter. It comes together in one pot, making it easy to assemble, puree and reheat without adding extra dishes to your load.

It owes its creamy texture to cauliflower, but don't tell anyone. The only flavor it lends is a sweet nuttiness to the distinctive, slightly grassy flavor of these early spring stalks. The soup is dairy free, gluten free and vegan, so you won't get any pushback from the crowd gathering to celebrate the start of the new season.

Notes: This soup may be made in advance and refrigerated for 2-3 days. It may also be frozen for up to 2-3 weeks. You may use a food processor to puree, but an immersion blender is infinitely less messy and well worth the purchase. Place the pot in the sink to puree so



any splatters are contained. Adding herbs at the very end maintains their bright and distinctive flavors.

Creamy Non-Dairy Asparagus Soup

Yield: 6 to 8 servings

Ingredients

- 2 bunches asparagus, chopped (woody ends snapped off and discarded)
- 1 small head cauliflower, rinsed and separated into florets
- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large red onion, peeled and chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped
- 6 cups vegetable broth 4 tablespoons fresh dill,

chopped (reserve some for garnish)

1 teaspoon fresh thyme 2 tablespoons fresh parsley,

chopped Salt and pepper to taste

1 tablespoon lemon juice (or more to taste)

1/4 cup chopped pistachios (optional)

Directions

In a large soup pot, heat olive oil until shimmering. Saute onions until soft. Add garlic and toss for 2 to 3 minutes.

Add asparagus and cauliflower to same pot. Stir and cook, covered, for 10 minutes.

Add vegetable broth, bring to a boil and immediately reduce to a simmer. Cook for 20 minutes or until cauliflower is tender

Remove from heat and stir in fresh herbs.

Cool soup and puree to velvety texture with an immersion blender.

Add lemon juice and taste, adding salt and pepper to your liking.

Serve garnished with additional fresh herbs and pistachio halves if desired. This soup is lovely sipped from small cups or spooned from traditional soup bowls.

LIZ RUEVEN is kosher on the inside, veg on the go and always on the lookout for the most scrumptious, organic, seasonal eats wherever she lands. Check out her blog, Kosher Like Me. The Nosher food blog offers a dazzling array of new and classic Jewish recipes and food news, from Europe to Yemen, from challah to shakshuka and beyond. Check it out at The-Nosher.com.

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12 April 29, 2016 MOTHER'S DAY The Jewish Voice

Celebrating Jewish mothers past, present and future

When I think about Mother's Day, I think about my mother, my grandmothers and my daughter.



PATRICIA RASKIN

VISA

My grandmothers were
both strong
women, but so
different – actually opposite.
One was a businesswoman,
creative and
ahead of her
time, and the
other was a
gentle, loving,

true "Yiddishe Momme."

My mother was an energetic,

who loved music and the arts. My daughter is a smart, independent woman who is making a difference in the world in the area of social justice.

This is a varied bunch of women, yet there is a part of each of them in me. They handed down their traits to me, and I have passed some along to my own daughter.

We pass our strength, courage and vulnerabilities to our children whether by choice, or automatically, because it's in our genes. And we have a lot to learn from the "original" Jewish mothers.

Lazer Gurkow, rabbi of the Beth Tefilah Congregation

in London, Ontario, Canada, wrote an article called "Wisdom of the Heart: Jewish Mother," which you can read at http://bit.ly/1YIGaWo. He writes about the courage of the women in the Bible, stating, "Sarah didn't worry about standing up to the violent Ishmael; her son's safety was at stake. Had Ishmael accomplished then what his descendants have tried to accomplish since, we would not be here today.

"Rebecca didn't fear Esau's wrath, the future of her children was at stake. Had Jacob not received those blessings, there may not have been a Jewish people today.

"Rachel's children were in need, and she never hesitated. Her concern was not for herself, but for her children."

I admire these women, who not only stood up for their children and families, but also changed our history. I often wonder if I have been the best mother, and then I think, maybe not, but I did the best with what I had and knew at the time. I think that's what we do with our actions and the "wisdom of our hearts."

Rabbi Gurkow continues in the article, "This is why the Torah identifies the women who helped to build the tabernacle as 'wise of heart.' Wisdom of heart pertains to immutable faith and insurmountable strength. Indeed, these were the builders of our tabernacle. These were the true founders of our nation

"Moses did his part. Aaron did his. The rabbis, judges, teachers and priests all did their parts. Master builders constructed the tabernacle and gifted architects sketched its plans. But it would all have come to naught if not for the contribution of 'wise of heart,' the Jewish mothers. These wise women planted the seeds that blossomed into a nation. These wise women sowed kernels of faith and reaped generations of

fortitude."

Let us celebrate our wisdom and the wisdom of our daughters, mothers, grandmothers and those before them who were models of courage, fortitude and faith.

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.

This Mother's Day reach out

BY LORI FOGARTY

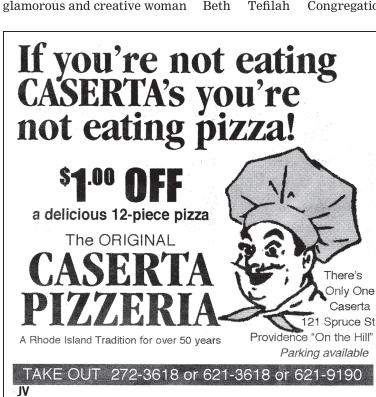
With all of the diverse and different roles that women play in today's world, none is more timeless than that of "mother." It is not only a single word, but a globally understood concept. This one simple word undoubtedly evokes powerful feelings in each and every one of us.

At her best, a mother is a role model, teacher, mentor, protector and coach. She is someone who helps us feel secure as we grow and learn about the world around us. She is there to wipe our tears and help us clean up our messes, both big and small. She has many demands on her time and yet still makes sure that we know we are loved and valued.

It is my hope that this is the mother who you had, and that you have grown to appreciate her for all of her gifts – and even all of her flaws. If this is true, then she has given you a greater

gift than you may understand, since she has set the stage for all your future relationships. For those who did not have this type of mother, think about another woman in your life who may have taken on this role. Perhaps she is an aunt, a grandmother, a family friend or someone whom you claimed for this role in your life. Remember all of the things she has done for you and all the ways she helped you feel special. In this hectic and fast-paced world we live in, take a moment to remember this person and the joy she has brought into your life. And, if you are fortunate enough to have her in your life now, take a minute to reach out and let her know how important she is. It will mean more to her than you could begin to imagine.

LORI FOGARTY, LICSW, is a clinical social worker at Jewish Family Service of Rhode Island.





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April 29, 2016 | 13 thejewishvoice.org **MOTHER'S DAY**



Mother's Day five ways

BY ARIEL BROTHMAN

A video circulated on social media a few years ago that showed candidates interviewing for "the world's toughest job." Candidates had to exert physical labor for "135 hours up to unlimited hours per week," with no breaks or holidays, and the ideal candidate would hold multiple degrees, in areas such as medicine and finance, and be able to "wear many hats." Also, the position was unpaid.

After filming the shocked responses of candidates, and confirming with them that this was indeed a real job, the interviewer told the candidates the name of this very important position: mother.

Mother's Day is a time to honor the fantastic females who have raised us, and who worked their tuchuses off to do a good job. Here are a few ways to celebrate mamas that go beyond the traditional breakfast in bed (although that is still a fabulous way to show you care!).

- · Plant some Mother's Day flowers. Gathering the family to plant flowers in honor of Mother's Day is both useful and fun. You can plant as many flowers and varieties as you want, and if you plant perennials, they will be a beautiful, long-lasting gift she will enjoy every year.
- Draw a family comic strip. Remember when Mom tried to make heart-shaped pancakes, and you all laughed because they were really just shapeless blobs but still tasted delicious? That might be a good

one to illustrate. Parents.com suggests taking a long strip of paper, breaking it down into three or four boxes, and then drawing a funny family memory together. If Mom is really funny, a comic book may be in the works!

- · Create a custom picture puzzle. Many photo labs now create customized photo gifts, including puzzles from your photographs. Relevant Magazine suggests picking out a favorite photo of you and Mom and having it turned into a puzzle – then you'll have both a Mother's Day gift and an activ-
- Help Mom relax. There are so many ways to accomplish this: A nature walk, a spa day, a picnic in the park ... all things that you can do easily and that will give Mom a break from errands and chores - and a chance to smile, relax, and enjoy the small pleasures of life.
- Prepare a sentimental Mother's Day meal. Relevant Magazine also suggests taking breakfast in bed to the next level by planning a meal that reflects special things in your mother's life. For example, you could re-create a favorite childhood meal, prepare a popular family recipe, or duplicate the meal served at her wedding. This has the added benefit of showing your mother that her stories and good cooking have not gone unnoticed!

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



Patrick C. Lynch Attorney General: 2003-2011

Jeffrey B. Pine Attorney General: 1993-1999

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Personalizing your Mother's Day gifts

(StatePoint) – Mother's Day is all about making Mom feel amazingly special. And what better way than with a thoughtful gift created with her unique style and personality in mind?

"Whether you opt for something extravagant something she'll use all the time, when you personalize a gift, you know you're getting something no one else selected for their Mom," says Christopher Warnack, director of marketing Things Remembered.

More than a quarter of all Day Mother's

shopping takes place at specialty stores, according to recent National Retail Federation statistics. With 50 years of experience helping people create gifts and accessories, the experts at Things Remembered are sharing some ideas for creating unforgettable personalized Mother's Day gifts.

Practical

Sometimes the best gifts are the ones the recipient will use most. But practical doesn't have to mean plain.

Whether Mom loves to cook or it's Dad's duty, there's probably a great recipe she loves.

A cutting board personalized

with a favorite family recipe makes a beautiful addition to any kitchen. And if she can't get going without her morning coffee, a travel mug personalized with a fun mes-



sage written for her will put a smile on her face, even on Mondays.

Fashionable

For fashion-forward mothers, complement her sophisticated or quirky fashion sense with a one-of-a-kind handbag. A leather tote bag personalized with a monogram in shiny gold foil will upgrade her daytime style. And to help her stand out from the crowd at night, accessorize her eveningwear with a leather and gold medallion purse with her engraved monogram.

Want to add a detail that makes it just from you? Engrave a secret message card

with a special note and add it to her purse.

Sentimental

From keepsake and shadowboxes to memorable pieces of jewelry, Mother's Day is the perfect time to get senti-

mental. Daughters can consider gifting Mom a matching bracelet, inscribed with nicknames or lines from a shared favorite song. For firsttime moms, dads can help keep the new baby close to mom's heart with an engraved sterling silver locket.

Or, give Mom a home for her second most valuable possessions.

A jewelry box, whether mirrored, lacquered, leather or wood, can be personalized with a special note to add more meaning.

Fun

For moms who know how to have fun, consider something unique and cool. A colorful, personalized tote bag, complete with a fun, quirky message or "Momism" will assist on her trips to the farmer's market, the spa or the gym.

This Mother's Day, think beyond the usual gifts to show Mom you truly understand her personality and interests.



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14 April 29, 2016 COMMUNITY The Jewish Voice



Nina Insler shares a wonderful visit to New Orleans with sons Gabriel (right) and Ethan, who nominated her for The Jewish Voice Mother's Day Contest with the following entry:

"Our mom deserves to win this contest because she is not just a regular mom. She always wants to help us. Even when she was sick, she took care of us. She always wants to take us to interesting places like Hong Kong or New Orleans, expose us to new things and make us better people. She embraces her Judaism as a form of community and made my (Gabe's) Bar Mitzvah the most fun time I've ever had."

Mazel Tov to Nina who will be the envy of the town with a FREE, 3-month Gift Membership at

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PHOTOS | PHDS

And the PHDS band played on...

The Providence Hebrew Day School band, above, ably directed by Norman Rosenfield, performs the National Anthem at McCoy Stadium on April 12. The band did a much better job than the PawSox who lost 9-1.

Shmuel Yehuda Schochet, right, plays the drums and Meir Mordechai Peromsik the clarinet as the PHDS Band performs the National Anthem at McCoy Stadium on April 12.



Yom Ha'Zikaron – Israel's Day of Remembrance A Decade Since the Second Lebanon War

Tuesday, May 10, 2016 | 7:00pm Dwares JCC Board Room* | 401 Elmgrove Avenue, Providence

Please join us for a special ceremony as we honor the memories of the soldiers who have died in defense of the State of Israel





Keynote speaker: Major Amichai Shikli General Manager at Tavor Academy for Leadership in Israel

RSVP: before May 5 to Gilor Meshulam at 401.421.4111 ext. 121 or gmeshulam@jewishallianceri.org

*Please use the Sessions Street entrance



thejewishvoice.org COMMUNITY April 29, 2016 | 15

Three artists at Temple Habonim

The Gallery at Temple Habonim features three outstanding artists for the May/June 2016 exhibit.

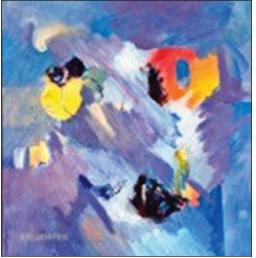
Richard Harrington, an award-winning artist, is a juried member of several art organizations and a skilled teacher. Using strong composition and saturated color, his work ranges from the realistic to the abstract. Included in this exhibit are several monotypes of Barrington's Brickyard Pond.

Barbara Rhian is a signature member of the Rhode Island Water Color Society. She brings new meaning to the medium, using light and color with great expertise. In her portraits, her still lifes and her landscapes, the viewer sees much more than the obvious.

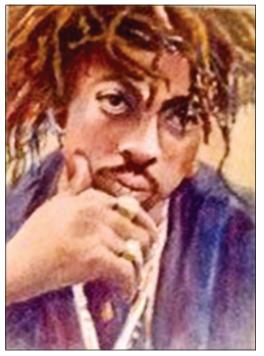
Shai Afsai is an accomplished author and photographer who has traveled far and wide bringing images and faces of worlds seldom seen. He captures the "humanness" of all people. On May 19 at 7:30 p.m. he will speak in the gallery on the "Judaism of Beta Israel." Isolated from other Jewish communities until the 19th century, Ethiopia's Jews preserved and developed a unique Judaism without Hebrew, rabbis or the Talmud.

The exhibit is on view from May 8 through June 30, with an artists' reception May 15 from 1 to 3 p.m.

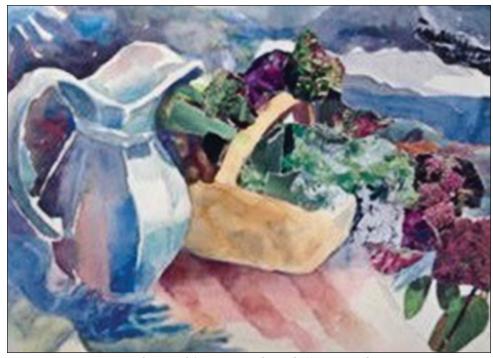
The Gallery at Temple Habonim is at 165 New Meadow Road in Barrington. Gallery hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m, Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and by appointment. For information, call 401-245-6536 or email gallery@templehabonim.org.



Richard Harrington, "Into the Air," acrylic



Barbara Rhian, "Beanie Man," watercolor



Barbara Rhian, "Purple Kale," watercolor



Shai Afsai, "Qessotch: Ethiopian Jewry's Priests"





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16 April 29, 2016 COMMUNITY The Jewish Voice

Historical association's annual meeting features talk on 2 Providence families

BY RUTH L. BREINDEL

The Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association held its 62nd Annual Meeting on April 17 at Temple Beth-El, in Providence. The keynote speaker was Rachael Rosner, Ph.D., who presented part 2 of her talk on the Beck and Temkin families of Providence, "Illuminating the Golden Ghetto."

Rosner began with a brief summary of part 1, delivered April 1 as part of the Friday night salon series at the Providence Athenaeum. She then went on to discuss three influences on Dr. Aaron Temkin Beck, the founder of cognitive psychotherapy: family, leadership and scholarship.

Beck was born in Providence into the Temkin/Beck family, which moved to the East Side as part of the vanguard of Jewish families that settled around Temple Emanu-El in the mid-1920s. They brought with them the *shtetl* mentality that connections between Jewish families gives meaning to a community.

Leadership was also part of the family culture. Temkin/ Beck family members were among the first to join Temple Emanu-El, were on the board of The Miriam Hospital, worked



The Temkin and Beck family seder in 1945.

with the Hebrew Free Loan Association, and were involved with the Home for the Aged and many groups such as Hadassah.

Finally, the Temkin/Beck family embodied a mixture of upward mobility, socialism and scholarship. Many in the family attended Brown University and

achieved advanced degrees: Irving, the oldest brother, was chief of medical services at the Providence Lying-In Hospital, Maurice was a social worker and Aaron a psychiatrist. The same upward mobility that allowed the family to move to the East Side also allowed members

to help others, including those in Zionist worker movements.

About 150 people attended the Historical Association meeting, during which the following officers were installed: Ruth Breindel, president; Mel Topf, first vice president; Harold Foster, second vice president;

Maxine Goldin, secretary; and David Bazar, treasurer. Members of the board are: Michael Fink, Myrna Levine, Lowell Lisker, Ruby Shalansky, Bailey Siletchnik, Marlene Wolpert, Shai Afsai, Mel Blake, Rabbi Barry Dolinger, Marilyn Myrow, Esta Yavner and presidential appointees Susan Brown and Larry Parness.

The meeting was in memory of David Charak Adelman, the founder of the association, and the lecture was sponsored by the Arline Ruth Weinberg Me-

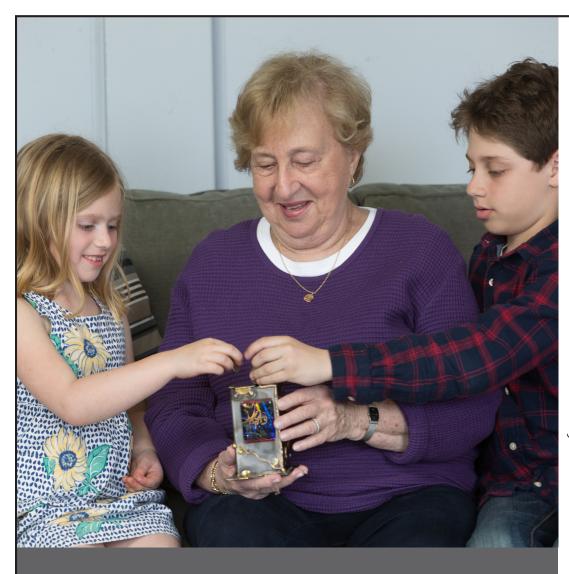


OTO | RIJHA

morial Fund.

For more information about the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, contact us at info@rijha.com.

RUTH L. BREINDEL is the president of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association and can be reached at info@rijha.org or 401-331-1360.



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.

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thejewishvoice.org PASSOVER | COMMUNITY April 29, 2016 | 17

JERI: Rekindling Passover memories for Jewish seniors

BY SUSIE ADLER

For the past 23 years, the staff of Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island has conducted Passover seders at nursing homes and assisted-living residences across the state. For many of the residents, this is their only seder, but it is likely to remind them of ones from their past.

JERI's goal is to ensure that Rhode Island's Jewish seniors feel connected to Judaism and Jewish traditions.

In some cases at these facilities, there is only one Jewish resident. We are still committed to making a special seder, even for that one resident. And if there are non-Jews in the facility who are interested in Jewish culture, they are invited to attend as well.

When I returned from conducting seders recently, I related the following stories:

"A gentleman attended my seder today. When he came in, he said he did not want a book, and he did not want to eat or drink. I replied, "That's fine." He listened to the story and all of my explanations. When I sang, he hummed along. When we got to "Dayenu," he sang

with all his heart and asked if we could sing it again. He was so excited. When the seder was over, I thanked him for coming and singing with me. He said 'You're welcome. Thank you for coming!'

"I conducted a seder at a nursing home and a gentleman seemed to sleep the whole time. I explained, I sang, we ate, and then it was time to leave. I felt badly that he didn't participate but I had been told that he rarely speaks. I went over to him and said 'Happy Passover!' Tears came to my eyes when he responded, 'Happy Passover to you too. Thank you!' "

We never know what will trigger a memory and it is our job to create that spark. It is important to the JERI staff that we reach out and connect with Jewish seniors statewide. If you know someone in need, and are not sure if they are "on our radar," please call me at 621-5374, ext. 107.

SUSIE ADLER is activity programmer for Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island. Visit jsari.org, for more information about JERI's services and programs.





PHOTOS | JER

Susie Adler, left, holds a seder plate for one of the seders conducted at area nursing homes.

URI hosts Israeli TV star

BY AMY OLSON

KINGSTON – Before Assi Azar came out of the closet 12 years ago, at age 24, he was contemplating suicide. Keeping his sexuality a secret, especially from his family, was taking a great personal toll.

Now one of Israel's most popular television personalities, it's hard to believe that this charismatic celebrity was once so tormented. But, as he described to a packed room of students and community members at URI's Gender and Sexuality Center on March 31, he did not have any gay role models growing up in Israel. When he came out, he knew of only one other celebrity in Israel who was openly gay.

A lot has changed. Tel Aviv is now considered one of the world's most gay-friendly cities. Much of Israel's religious community, however, still denounces homosexuality and many teens still struggle with coming out to parents who grew up in households where such things were not discussed.

Azar, who in 2009 was listed among the most 100 influential gay people in the world by OUT Magazine, has used his celebrity to speak out for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) community. At his URI appearance, sponsored by URI Hillel, the Gender and Sexuality Center and the Harrington School of Communication and Media, he introduced and showed his film "Mom and Dad: I have Something to Tell You." The film, which aired nationally on Israeli television,

tells the story of his and others' coming out to their Israeli parents and the journey the parents undergo as a result.

"The minute I came out of the closet, I put my parents in the closet," Azar said. "What took me 24 years to admit, I unfairly expected my parents to embrace immediately." Through the making of the film and with the passage of time, Azar and his parents have strengthened their relationship.

Under the laws which govern marriage in Israel, samesex marriage cannot legally be performed. However, Israel recognizes same-sex marriages performed elsewhere, making it the first and only country in Asia to do so

Azar estimates that 90 percent of gay celebrities are "out" in Israel and two Knesset members are openly gay.

At appearances on some other college campuses in the United States, Azar has been accused of "pinkwashing" – using Israel's excellent record on LGBTQ rights as a way of diverting attention from the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. When no one at URI raised that issue. Azar. who is known in Israel for his willingness to publicly criticize Israeli politics and society, brought it up himself. "I am not here to pinkwash. I just want people to know that there is more to Israel than the conflict and what people see on TV."

AMY OLSON is executive director of University of Rhode Island Hillel.



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18 April 29, 2016 COMMUNITY The Jewish Voice

Providence native to take the stage in Trinity Rep's 'Oklahoma!'

BY MELANIE COON

So what does it feel like to be appearing on stage at a theater where you have been in the audience since you were a child? For 24-year-old Providence native Hannah Spacone, daughter of Carla and Andrew Spacone, landing a role in the ensemble of Trinity Repertory Company's production of "Oklahoma!" is a dream come true.

Spacone is particularly thrilled to be working with Sharon and Richard Jenkins, who are co-directing and choreographing the show. Fellow Wheeler alum Jon Cooper is also part of the ensemble. In addition, Spacone worked with company member Rebecca Gibel at Trinity's YASI summer program. And Rachael Warren, who plays Laurey, is one of Spacone's idols.

"It feels like coming home," says Spacone, who received a B.F.A. from the Hartt School of Music, Dance and Theatre at the University of Hartford in 2013.

Spacone was bitten early by the musical theater bug. At gatherings of family and friends, she was famous for wrangling the other kids into putting on a show. Spacone was director, choreographer, producer and performer.

"I always wanted to share the joy and bring music and dancing into other people's



Hannah Spacone

lives," she says.

As an 8 year old, she played Gretl in "The Sound of Music" at City Nights Dinner Theatre, in Pawtucket, and that began a string of community theater performances. According to her parents, Spacone never complained about lack of sleep, having to do her homework during rehearsals, or missing out on other activities.

On the contrary, as she became more serious about singing and dancing, Spacone joined jUMP!, a local dance company whose artistic director, Mary Paula Hunter, recognized and nurtured Spacone's talent.

Spacone pursued theater and dance programs every summer, including at Trinity and Camp Broadway. She was beyond thrilled to play Hodel in a Barker Playhouse produc-



tion of "Fiddler on the Roof," her first starring role, and a character she identified with. As possibly the only Jew in the cast, she found the other actors' attempts at a Yiddish accent endearing.

There was not a dry eye in the house at Spacone's rendition of "Far From the Home I Love." But it was when she spent two summers at the Walnut Hill School for the Arts, in Natick, Massachusetts, that she clearly saw her future and became determined to study theater in college.

At Hartt, "Oklahoma!" was Spacone's first show – she played a featured dancer – and she also appeared in "A Christmas Carol" with the Hartford Stage Company.

Spacone, who lives in New York City, spends almost every moment in the pursuit of her dream, studying voice (with Doug Jabara, who will appear in Temple Beth-El's Cabaret on Saturday, May 7), taking dance and exercise classes, and auditioning.

Auditions are tough, she says. "The hardest thing is not to get discouraged. You wake up at 3 a.m., you wait in line from 5 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. with hundreds of girls who look exactly like you, and by 10 a.m.

"It's amazing how many great theaters there are right in my own backyard that I have been blessed to work at."

you are cut. Almost every audition is like that," Spacone says.

So how do you keep from giving up? Spacone says she treasures the advice her late teacher, Kevin Gray, offered: "Success is when opportunity meets preparedness," he told her.

She adds, "Every audition can turn out to be your big break."

Like most aspiring actors, Spacone has had a series of interesting jobs to help pay the rent. Hostess, server, greeter at a gym hospitality desk, Zumba instructor, to name just a few. But one of her steadiest gigs is playing Disney princesses with New York Princess Party.

Spacone has always enjoyed working with young children, and the princesses entertain crowds of kids with singalongs and other activities. She has even performed in "A Night of Disney and Dining," at Watch Hill's Ocean House.

And while Spacone regards this as a "survival" job, she also recognizes that "every experience you have helps you become a better actor. Every job and every experience makes you better at your craft. And you never know who you will meet!"

With her outgoing personality, Spacone has never had trouble making fast friends, her mother notes.

"The circle of friends grows constantly. With every new show comes a new layer of friends, and they attend each other's shows whenever they can," she says. "Not to mention all of her extended Rhode

Island family, who have attended every performance and will continue the practice this Mother's Day at 'Oklahoma!'."

Another very special guest at the Mother's Day performance will be Vivian Levitt, Carla Spacone's mother and Hannah's grandmother. Carla Spacone explains, "Talent skips a generation" – she vividly recalls her mother and her late father, Mel Levitt, performing together.

Viv Levitt played Bloody Mary in a synagogue production of "South Pacific" when Carla was 5 years old. At a late-night cabaret following a performance of "42nd Street" at Ocean State Theatre, Spacone surprised her grandmother by singing "Bali-Ha'i" – a memory the whole family treasures.

Spacone hopes to one day play Nellie Forbush in "South Pacific."

"It's the most beautiful music in the world," she says.

Another dream role: Bebe Benzenheimer in "A Chorus Line." Despite her poise and confidence, Spacone feels a deep connection to the awkward little Jewish girl who did not feel beautiful unless she was dancing.

In addition to the Barker Playhouse, in Providence, and Ocean State Theatre, Spacone has acted on a number of other stages in the area, including at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and the Stadium Theatre, in Woonsocket.

"It's amazing how many great theaters there are right in my own backyard that I have been blessed to work at," she says.

She also reflects on being able to follow her heart.

"I am one of the luckiest people in the entire world [because] my parents support this life. It's not steady work. They are both artistic and creative, always willing to see a show with me. And they have never once asked, 'What's your backup plan?' "Spacone says.

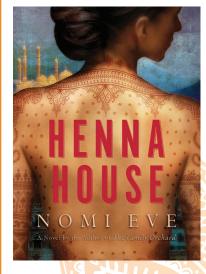
"OKLAHOMA" is at Trinity Repertory Company's Chace Theater from May 5 through June 5

Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island presents

Jewish Book Council authors and their stories

Event Co-Chairs Cara Mitnick & Jeanie Charness invite you to join the women of Rhode Island's Jewish community for an evening with Nomi Eve, author of *Henna House*.





Tuesday, May 24, 2016 7:00pm Temple Beth-El | 70 Orchard Avenue, Providence

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.

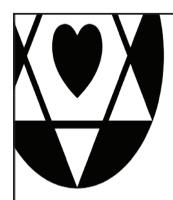
This special evening will include a Henna artist, Middle Eastern spice tasting, and desserts.

For more information or to RSVP, visit jewishallianceri.org or contact Danielle Germanowski at 401.421.4111 ext. 109 or dgermanowski@jewishallianceri.org. Kindly RSVP by May 13.



w layer of attend each providence and has known Hannah Spacone for nearly 25 years.

thejewishvoice.org April 29, 2016 | 19



Putting Life Into Living

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Annual Meeting

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Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 7:00 PM

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Installation of Officers

Presentation of Maurice Glicksman Leadership Award

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For more information about this offer, or to learn about membership at the Dwares JCC, contact Member Services at 401.421.4111.

*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.



401 Elmgrove Avenue | Providence, RI 02906 | jewishallianceri.org



Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island

5th Annual Meeting

Wednesday, June 15, 2016 | 7:00pm Temple Beth-El 70 Orchard Avenue, Providence

Installation of Mitzi Berkelhammer, Incoming Chair of the Board Tribute to Sharon Gaines, Outgoing Chair of the Board Presentation of Leadership Awards

Board Installations:

Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island Jewish Federation Foundation Alliance Realty, Inc.

Installing Officer: Rabbi Sarah Mack

Reception to follow



20 | April 29, 2016 SENIORS | COMMUNITY The Jewish Voice

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Cranston Seniors schedule activities

Cranston Senior Guild activities continue with the monthly meeting May 4, at 1 p.m. at Tamarisk Assisted Living, 3 Shalom Drive, Warwick. The meeting will be followed by bingo, refreshments and a raffle.

The annual installation of officers will be held June 1 at noon at Mesa Café & Grill, 100 Rolf 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 esca-

role soup, salad, pasta, green beans, carrots, choice of tiramisu or fresh fruit cup and coffee or tea. The cost of the lunch is \$21.

There will be entertainment and a raffle after the meal. Reservation deadline is May 11. 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 pickups: 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.

Woonsocket native scores with new album

Jazz musician Daryl Sherman's new album, "My Blue Heaven" received a thumbs-up review by Matthias Kirsch on the website ginalovesjazz. com on April 12. Sherman, a Woonsocket native and former member of Congregation B'nai Israel, in Woonsocket, is best-known for her longtime gig at

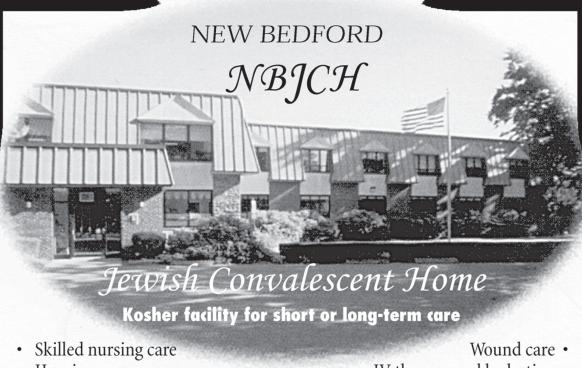
the Waldorf Astoria, in New York City, but in recent years has often played at the Tableaux Lounge in Tokyo.

The title track on the album, which was released by the Japanese label Muzak, Inc., features lyrics in Japanese.

Of other cuts on the 12-song album, Kirsch writes, "The

pure joy in the arrangement for "Wouldn't It Be Loverly" is one of the highlights, and Sherman's "cute and very coherent arrangement" of "Feel Like Makin' Love" is "simply beautiful."

Kirsch also lauds Sherman's "smoky diction" and chops on the piano.]



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REMEMBER THE PAST

From the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association

The glory days of women's Zionist organizations

BY GERALDINE S. FOSTER

Moving day is fast approaching. No time to sift through the photos and invitations and letters, "stuff" accumulated over the years. The best thing to do, then, is just stash them all in boxes and start the winnowing process later, after all the unpacking has been completed.

What to keep, what to give to the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, what to discard – all these decisions require thought and the leisure to consider the items. Each is a memento of an event, happy or sad, a moment recalled or faded from memory.

Just recently, after a downsizing move, my friend Alice Eichenbaum decided the time had come to open one of her boxes of "stuff." Among the memorabilia, she found some photos

and a sheet of paper, folded in half, on one side of which she had written the recipe for "Easy Fruit Cake." Had she ever made the cake? Perhaps - maybe for a meeting or one of the many gatherings of friends at the Eichenbaum home on Savoy Street, in Providence.

The inner side of the folded sheet told another story. It invited the recipient to a fashion show, a fundraising event sponsored by the Dvorah Dayan Club of Pioneer Women, a club to which Alice and I both belonged.

The invitation was a relic of a bygone era when women's Zionist organizations flourished – Pioneer Women, Hadassah, Mizrachi, WIZO – groups born in the first half of the 20th century, when the possibility of a Jewish state was still a dream.

From the outset, each organization undertook the mission of weaving a strong social net for the builders of the Jewish homeland: nurseries, day-care centers, hospitals and clinics, schools and vocational training centers for women

After the State of Israel was declared, the main Zionist women's organizations thrived, with growing numbers and additional chapters. We knew our *mishpachahh*, our extended Jewish family in Israel, needed our support. For them, we invested our time and energy.

Many of us worked full time and had families. Others were full-time homemakers. It made no difference. We found time for meetings and study groups and fundraising. A bonus was the enduring friendships that developed.

Along with the usual fundraising tools – donor luncheons, bridge parties, raffles - we called on our creativity for smaller events, like the fashion show. Dorothy Levy designed the clever invitation. It was photocopied on lime-green paper, lime green being the color du jour in the 1980s. The Sydneys offered their home. The committee donated and prepared the food. Estelle Schwartz at Act II provided the vintage fashions, modeled by our slimmer members and daughters.

With no expenditures, we were able to send every nickel of the proceeds to support our sister organization in Israel, and, in addition, a great time was had



by all.

This was an event sponsored by the Dvorah Dayan Club, but each of the other women's Zionist organizations also found creative ways, to engage with their agencies in Israel. We supported the Women's Division and the Career Womens Affiliate of the Jewish Federation of R.I. (now the Jewish Alliance).

Our Zionist organizations gave us a personal connection to our *mishpachah* in Israel. The groups were an important part of our history in Rhode Island, which even simple artifacts, like the invitation, recall.

Only one chapter of Hadassah remains in Rhode Island. The other organizations, like most of the women's colleges, including my alma mater, are part of a bygone era. Gone, but not forgotten – and still appreciated.

GERALDINE S. FOSTER is a past president of the R.I. Jewish Historical Association. To comment about this or any RIJHA article, contact the RIJHA office at info@rijha.org or 401-331-1360. The library and archives are open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

BUSINESS April 29, 2016 | 21 thejewishvoice.org

You don't need a lot of money to invest in stocks, bonds, funds

Many people think they need a lot of cash before they can consider investing in stocks, bonds



KENERSON

or funds, but this is not necessarily true. There are several methods of purchasing investments, some of which allow you to make purchases with smaller dollar amounts

or even by using someone else's money. Here are some ways you can invest:

Buying on margin: borrow to make investments. Buying on margin lets you borrow money from a broker to make investments, and sometimes for other purposes. You borrow the funds, buy the investment, sell the investment when it increases in value, pay the broker the amount you borrowed, plus interest, and keep the profit. This strategy works if your investments increase in value. However, if you guess wrong and the value of the investment declines, you risk financial loss. Buying on margin is for sophisticated investors with high-risk

Dollar cost averaging: accumulation through steady investing. Dollar cost averaging is a plan that allots a set amount to buy investments at predetermined intervals, such as monthly, quarterly, or annually. Dollar cost averaging operates on the law of averages: Over time, your costs may be lower because you invest a constant amount regardless of price fluctuations. When you use this strategy, there is no need to try to buy only when the price seems low.

The amount you invest at each interval doesn't have to be large. It might be \$100 or even less. Your periodic investments could be paid by payroll deduction or bank authorization (see below). That way, you at least begin an investment plan, probably won't miss the money, and won't be tempted to spend the money elsewhere.

Lump-sum investing vs. periodic investing: Lump-sum investing is just what its name implies: investing a sum of money at one time. The sooner you get your money working for you, the longer your opportunity for potential gain from having committed all your funds right away. However, you need cash up front.

By comparison, periodic investing, such as dollar cost averaging (see above), lets you

invest in smaller increments more frequently. The use of periodic investing can allow you to begin sooner than if you had to wait to accumulate a large sum of money.

Short sale: sell stock you don't yet own. A short sale is a sophisticated investing method used by those with a high tolerance for risk. It involves selling stock you don't own, hopefully for more than you will pay for it when you buy it back. You borrow the stock from your broker, sell it, then buy it back when the price decreases. You return the borrowed stock and pocket the difference between the selling and the buying prices. Although this method of investment-buying offers the potential for significant returns with little initial investment, you must also be aware that you could face unlimited losses.

Other methods of purchasing investments: There are a variety of other methods of purchasing investments. The best process for you depends on your particular circumstances and objectives. For instance:

- · You can share the duty of researching a potential investment by buying investments with other members of an investment club.
- · You may be able to buy stock directly from the issuing company or have dividends reinvested automatically.
- · If you are risk averse, you can use earnings from the investments in your current portfolio to buy other investments.

BARBARA KENERSON is first vice president/Investments at Janney Montgomery Scott LLC and can be reached at BarbaraKenerson.com

Donor-advised funds easy to set up, good for you and the community

BY HILLARY SCHULMAN hschulman@jewishallianceri.org

Everyone has a passion. Some people are passionate about education, others about animal rights. No matter what it is, everyone's got at least one cause that they feel strongly about.

Have you ever wished that you could allot an amount of money, and add to it whenever you wish to help support your passion? That wish can become a reality with a Donor Advised Fund established with the Jewish Federation Foundation of Greater Rhode Island (JFF), as part of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.

What is a donor-advised fund? Imagine you have a checkbook in which all the money is reserved for philanthropic purposes. You can write checks or make grants from that fund to contribute to any cause as part of your philanthropic giving. This makes budgeting easier as money is not coming directly out of your daily accounts, and the money is liquid so you can add to or take out whatever, whenever.

Why would you set up a donor-advised fund with the JFF? If the focus of your philanthropy is Jewish causes and giving Jewishly, the JFF is the right place for you. The JFF also offers a low initial contribution, which adds to the ease of establishing a donor-advised fund. Many foundations insist on an initial donation of \$5,000, but with the JFF, the minimum is \$2,500. The JFF provides a safe place to put philanthropic dollars, especially in these uncertain times.

In 2006, Jeffrey and Pamela Vogel, of Providence, established their donor-advised fund with the former Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. Jeff Vogel, a JCCRI past president, was involved in fundraising for the first renovations made to the Dwares Jewish Community Center in Providence, and believes strongly in the Jewish Alliance's mission and guiding principles.

"If the Jewish identity of your children is important to you, it's pretty important that we all invest."

"The [Jewish Alliance] is representative of our community, and brings everyone together. People have met their best friends for life here, and that's really motivated us to put our time and dollars towards that," he said.

The Vogel family could have selected any charity for their philanthropic dollars, but they chose the JFF. "Donor-advised funds are great for those with lumpy income. You can tuck away money from good years to help cover gifts during lightincome years. The JFF has had decent investment performance, the rules for setting one up were simple, and most of our giving is Jewish."

Donor-advised funds are flexible. Fund-holders can even use the money in their donor-advised account to pay synagogue dues or contribute to the Jewish Alliance's Annual Campaign.

When the Vogels set up their fund, they quickly realized that they were able to give money and direct grants precisely as they wished.

"We try to use our fund strictly for Jewish giving, but you can use it for anything that is a Jewish cause or value, like education," Vogel said.

The Vogels' daughter, Amy, now a senior at the Wheeler School, attended the Early Childhood Center at the JCC, was a J-Camp counselor, and now uses space at the Jewish Alliance for BBYO meetings.

"She's definitely an up-andcoming Jewish leader," said Vogel.

And that is exactly why giving Jewishly, be it through a donor-advised fund or another planned giving approach, is so important. As Jeff Vogel put it, "if the Jewish identity of your children is important to you, it's pretty important that we all invest."

HILLARY SCHULMAN is a development associate for the Jewish Alliance.

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

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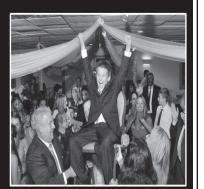
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Strategies to increase appetite and healthy eating for seniors

BY PATRICIA HARWOOD

We have all heard that good nutrition leads to good health. As we age, good nutrition is essential if we want to reduce the risk of chronic health issues and have the energy to remain active.

Many seniors report a loss of appetite and associated weight loss as they age. What causes this? And how can we help promote appetite and healthy eating as we age?

Sudden loss of appetite is a red flag that there might be a new health concern that needs investigation by a medical professional. Thyroid disorders, cancer, mouth and throat infections, gum disease, Parkinson's disease, and Alzheimer's disease are some of the serious illnesses that can cause changes to taste and appetite. In addition, many medications cause dry mouth

or leave a metallic taste in the mouth, causing loss of appetite.

Being dehydrated can also lead to loss of appetite. Dehydration is common in seniors because they are less aware of the sensation of thirst and may also be taking medications - such as diuretics that can be dehydrating.

In addition to illnesses and medications that contribute to loss of appetite, there are many behavioral and environmental reasons that people do not eat well as they age. Lack of regular exercise and activity will dampen a healthy appetite. Also, a lack of routine, especially around meal times, makes it harder for the body to send hunger signals.

Planning and preparing meals can be difficult or even overwhelming for frail seniors: It is easier to eat unhealthy processed foods than to make a meal using "whole foods." Additionally, seniors may have a harder time chewing or even swallowing crunchy or chewy foods; raw vegetables and meat can be particularly difficult to eat if you have dental problems.

Loneliness and depression also can contribute greatly to loss of appetite. Eating alone is rarely as enjoyable as eating with family or friends, but the reality for many of us is that there are fewer friends and family members to dine with as we age.

What are some of the best ways to help boost appetite and encourage eating healthy foods? Ruling out or identifying health concerns with your doctor is the first step. Discussing side effects of your medications and possible alternatives with your doctor is also recommended.

If loss of appetite stems from environmental or behavioral causes, there are several things to try. Make a plan for meals, rather than grabbing something because it is quick and easy. If you are able to prepare your own meals, try to cook enough so you can freeze leftovers for future meals. If you are unable to prepare your own meals but are still able to get around safely, attend a senior café on weekdays. Jewish Family Service manages two Kosher senior cafes in Rhode Island, one at Temple Sinai, in Cranston, and the other temporarily located at Temple Emanu-El, in Providence. Enjoy the delicious meals prepared by Accounting for Taste, our local Kosher caterer, chat with friends from the community, and participate in one of the daily activities offered at the sites – this is sure to stimulate both appetites and

Seniors who can't leave home due to medical issues or prob-

lems walking can get Kosher Meals on Wheels delivered to their door by friendly volunteers. These meals are delicious and well-balanced nutritionally.

To sum up:

- Don't ignore loss of appetite and weight loss as it could be a symptom of a serious health problem.
- Try to promote appetite by staying hydrated, getting regular exercise, and planning to eat with others when possible.

Bon appetit!

FOR MORE INFORMATION about the Kosher Nutrition program offered by JFS, contact program coordinator Neal Drobnis at 401-338-3189.

PATRICIA HARWOOD, LIC-SW, is director of Older Adult Resources and Community Services at Jewish Family Service of R I

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24 | April 29, 2016 OBITUARIES The Jewish Voice

Charlotte Feldman, 89

RANDOLPH, N.J. – Charlotte Feldman died April 18 at Sunrise Assisted Living. She was the beloved wife of the late Morris Feldman. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Nathan and Eva (Polofsky) Mazo, she had lived in Cranston for more than 50 years before moving to Randolph.

She was a former member of B'nai B'rith. Devoted mother of David Feldman and his wife, Mary, of Sparta, N.J., and Joanne Feldman of Clarksburg, W.Va. Sister of Gerald Mazo of Santa Fe, N.M., and the late Jeanine Weinberg and Bessie Kaplan. Grandmother of Jessica and great-grandmother of Max and August.

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

Linda Carol Glieberman, 67

After a long and brave battle with cancer, Linda Glieberman died on April 9. She was



married to Dr. Oscar Glieberman, for 32 years. They raised their twin children, Eva and Aaron Glieberman, in Providence.

Linda grew up in Larchmont, N.Y., and graduated from the Bentley School in Manhattan. She received an undergraduate degree in psychology from Harvard University in 1983. In her undergraduate years, she was an accomplished artist, displaying her work in gallery showings. She completed her doctoral training at the Union Institute in 1990, exploring the intersection of clinical psychology, developmental psychology and neuropsychology. She served as a contributing author for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and also played a critical role at the R.I. Institute of Mental Health, where she helped with the state's movement to deinstitutionalize patients. For more than 26 years, Linda had practiced as a clinical psychologist, enabling patients to overcome both psychological challenges and learning difficulties.

In all aspects of her life, Linda had a unique ability to not only identify, but also to draw out the innermost strengths of those with whom she worked. Because of this, she had a true gift for connecting to those around her. She devoted her life to raising a strong, giving family and to helping those in a number of communities realize their potential.

Contributions can be made in her name to the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation.

Susannah Hogan, 48

CUMBERLAND, R.I. – Susannah Marie Hogan died on April 21. She was born in Providence, a daughter of the late James and Lea (LeTellier) Hogan.

She graduated from Rhode Island College with a nursing degree. She was a nurse for 20 years. She was a member of Temple Emanu-El.

She is survived by her sister Cheryl Chase; brother-in-law Michael; her nephew Zachary Chase, who she adored and was very proud of; and many friends.

Contributions in her memory may be made to Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence, R.I.

Roberta Loebenberg, 98

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Roberta (Barron) Loebenberg passed away on April 13 at the Philip Hulitar Hospice Center. She was born in Boston to Ann (Sheppy) Barron and Hiram Barron. Roberta was an avid and celebrated knitter, knitting



a good portion of her wardrobe over the years. She was a long-time member of both Temple Beth-El and Ledgemont

Country Club. She was an active volunteer for The Miriam Hospital Women's Association, where she served as secretary, Temple Beth-El's Sisterhood, and the National Council of Jewish Women. Roberta was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Stanley T. Loebenberg, and her son, Stuart J. Aaronson. Roberta is survived by her sister, Janet (Barron) Winer, of Waban, Mass.; her niece and nephews, Fred, Mark and Barbara Winer; her granddaughter, Rachel (Aaronson) Auslander and her husband, James, of Arlington, Va.; and her adored great-grandson, Joshua.

Contributions in Roberta's memory can be made to The Miriam Hospital Women's Association, 164 Summit Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906.

Stella Pollock, 95

WARWICK, R.I. – Stella Pollock died April 13 at Steere House. She was the beloved wife of the late Reuben Pollock. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a daughter of the late Jacob and Anna (Kleid) Reitman, she had lived in Warwick for more than 25 years, and previously lived in Cranston before moving to Providence six years ago. Stella was a life member of Hadassah, past member of Temple Torat Yisrael, and member of the National Council of Jewish Women.

She was the mother of Debra Miller and her husband, Robert, of Warwick, and the late Bruce Pollock. She was the mother-in-law of Sheri Pollock of West Warwick, sister of the late Charles Reitman, Pauline Weinstein, Rose Salus and Faye Rosenwald. The grandmother of Marissa, Marc, Meah, Dawn and Carson Jones. The greatgrandmother of Braden.

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

Charlotte Rakatansky Primack, 98

SANTA CRUZ, CALIF. – Charlotte Rakatansky Primack died peacefully in her home in Santa



Cruz, with her three children by her side on April 20. Born and raised in Rhode Island, she graduated Cranston High

East (1936) and Bryant College (1938). Charlotte went on to work at the Providence School Department as a director of federal programs and retired after winning a landmark Equal Pay for Equal Work case.

Her love of Providence and deep connection to the Jewish community brought her much joy and was reflected in her affiliation with Hadassah and in Temple Emanu-El's Leisure Club. Along with her husband Sam, she shared a lifelong interest in progressive politics and issues of social justice. She came to California at 90 years old and left this life at 98 with no regrets, no fear, feeling loved and so pleased that her children and grandchildren are all thriving. She was predeceased by her husband, Sam Primack and her siblings: Ira Rakatansky, Shirley Halsband and Eleanor O'Brien. She is survived by her children and their spouses: Sara and Cliff Friedlander, Mark Primack and Janet Pollock, Ellen Primack and Eric Schmidt, and by her grandchildren: Eva Primack, Luka Primack and Sasha Friedlander.

Robert Louis Roiff, 82

CRANSTON, R.I. – Robert Louis Roiff died April 17 at Roger Williams Hospital in Providence, surrounded by his loving family. He was the husband of Leah (Young) Roiff for 54 years. Born in Providence, a son of the late Samuel and Freda (Groberman) Roiff, he had lived in Cranston for 54 years.

Bob was a sales representative for several shoe companies for 50 years. He was a Ko-



rean conflict veteran, serving in Korea and Japan. He was a

graduate of Hope High School, class of '52 and Bryant College, class of '54. He was a member of Redwood Lodge of the Masons and a former member of Touro Fraternal Association, Temple Emanu-El and Temple Sinai.

He was the father of Susan Bergen and her husband Stuart of Cherry Hill, N.J., and Laura Adelman and her husband Harlin of Beachwood, Ohio. Brother of Herbert Roiff and his wife Miriam of Florida and loving grandfather of Maddie, Annie, Olivia, Alex, Adam and Max.

Contributions in his memory may be made to MAKE-A-WISH, 20 Hemingway Drive, East Providence, R.I. 02915.

Sara Silverman, 93

BOYNTON BEACH, FLA. – Sara (Korchin) Silverman, formerly of Sharon, Mass., died April 12. Born in Malden, Mass., she was a daughter of the late Israel and Bella (Aronoff) Korchin. She is survived by her children: Ronna Savage and her husband Richard of Boynton Beach and Susan Bromberg and her husband Howard of Providence, four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the charity of your choice.

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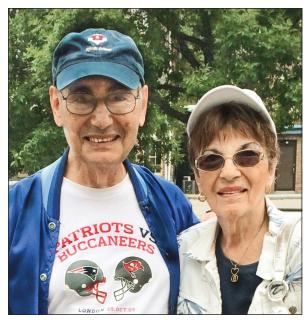


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Herbert and Ruth Gold

Iris and Jack Minkin

ANNIVERSARY WISHES – Sixty years ago, on April 29, 1956, Ruth Mermelstein married Herbert Gold at Congregation Shaare Zedek on Broad Street in Providence. On the same day, just a few miles away, Iris Miller married Jack Minkin at Temple Emanu-El on Taft Avenue. Twenty-seven years later, Ruth and Herb's son Jerry Gold married Iris and Jack's daughter, Bonnie Minkin. Mazal tov!



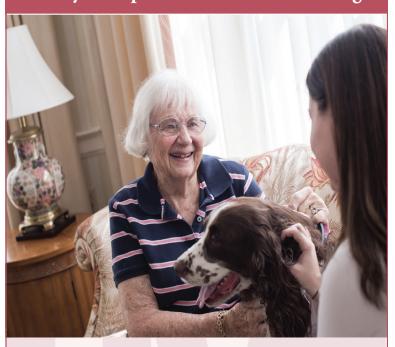
Jessica Kaela Zeltzer

Barrington High sophomore wins music video award

Jessica Kaela Zeltzer, a sophomore at Barrington High School, completed her first music video for her original song, "Come Back," which was nominated and awarded Best International Romance Music Video in the Texas Ultimate Shorts Film Festival. Jessica, 16, who

just completed her fifth original song, wrote "Come Back" before she turned 15. She is the daughter of Karen and Barry Zeltzer and the sister of Zachary Zeltzer of Barrington. All of Jessica's songs can be heard on her YouTube channel.

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26 April 29, 2016 SIMCHAS The Jewish Voice

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JCDS teacher wins Jewish education award

BY LARRY KATZ

lkatz@jewishallianceri.org

Andrea Katzman of the Jewish Community Day School (JCDS) has earned this year's Lea Eliash/Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. Normally awarded every other year by the Jewish Alliance, this award was named in honor of Lea Eliash, a survivor of the Holocaust, who was a widely respected teacher in Rhode Island. This award serves as the local recognition for the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education, which is supported by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Recipients demonstrate creative curriculum design, effective planning skills and inspirational teaching.

In nominating Katzman, Adam Tilove, head of school at JCDS, wrote, "I have worked in education for many years, and Andrea is simply the best teacher I have ever met." Katzman teaches the Pre-Kindergarten class at JCDS. Since arriving in Providence in 1999, Andrea has taught in the education department of Rhode Island College and volunteered in the Providence Public School system. Currently an instructor in the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education at Hebrew College in Newton, Massachusetts, Katzman is co-author of "Purple Leaves, Red Cherries: Short Stories on Motherhood."



Andrea Katzman

Katzman describes her educational approach: "Influenced by educators that speak to the values of progressive education (including John Dewey, Alfie Kohn, Ron Berger, Abraham Joshua Heschel and Parker Palmer), I strive to treat each of my students as unique, capable and worthy of kindness and respect. My co-teachers and I honor each child's experiences and understandings and recognize that s/he is as responsible for her/his learning as we are." She believes "that the process of reflection is a 'best practice' that bridges theory and practice, provides opportunities for meaning-making, and effectively integrates the personal and the professional."

One of Katzman's most outstanding initiatives has been copied in a number of class-

rooms at JCDS. Ten years ago. she introduced to JCDS "the Peace Table (and its corresponding curriculum and tools - including a Quiet House, meditation, yoga, Feelings Journals and a Friendship Loft!)." This initiative "was driven by the belief that if we want our students to nurture themselves. sustain healthy relationships with others, and participate in meaningful ways in their communities, our vision should include the creation of a just and peaceful classroom in which teaching social and emotional skills informs all aspects of the core curriculum."

Lea Eliash, in serving for more than 50 years as a teacher, taught the love of Hebrew language and Judaism to generations, often of the same family. Eliash forged deep connections and personal attachments to many of these students. Even at more than 80 years old, she was still exhilarated by her teaching and learning. For her, it was not "what I teach" but "who I teach."

A survivor of the Kovno ghetto, Eliash generously shared her own highly personal, intimate story with school and church groups throughout Rhode Island.

The Lea Eliash Award was established in partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, which brings national recognition to the local recipient.

Harold Grinspoon created this award as an expression of his commitment to quality Jewish education and his belief that teachers are at the heart of the educational process. Grinspoon is active in funding Jewish initiatives in Western Massachusetts and in the national and international Jewish philanthropic community. The Grinspoon Awards (formerly Grinspoon-Steinhardt Awards) have recognized more than 700 outstanding educators in the U.S. and Canada in the past 15 years, including several from Rhode Island. Today the award celebrates successful innovation in Jewish education through a partnership between the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the participating community. For additional information, visit hgf.org/teacher-awards.

The Awards Committee was impressed by all of this year's nominees. They were: Nitza Attali of Temple Beth-El, Susannah Carter of Temple Sinai, Rivkie Gerber of Temple Emanu-El, Alan Rosenberg of Temple Beth-El, Rabbi Yaakov Zimmerman of Providence Hebrew Day School

LARRY KATZ is director of Jewish life and learning at the Jewish Alliance. For more information about the Eliash/Grinspoon Award, please contact Lawrence Katz at lkatz@jewishalianceri.org.



Cheli Schochet wins national contest

PHDS eighth grader Cheli Schochet has won first place for grades 7 and 8 in the Kleinman Holocaust Education Center's national "The Holocaust Diaries Student Competition." This year's contest included excerpts from three different Holocaust diaries, and the writings students read were gradelevel specific. After students reflected upon the text, they could choose to write a letter to the diarist sharing their connections, observations and questions; or create a promotional poster about the diary excerpt encouraging others to read the fully published work.

Students in grades 7 and 8 read the diary of Rywka Lipszyc (pronounced Rivka Lipschitz). a 14-vear old Jewish girl, orphaned and living in the Lodz ghetto in Poland. The diary spans the period from October 1943 to April 1944. Rywka was sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau in August 1944, and a Red Army doctor reportedly discovered pages from the diary outside the Auschwitz crematorium during liberation in 1945. The diary remained in the doctor's possession for more than

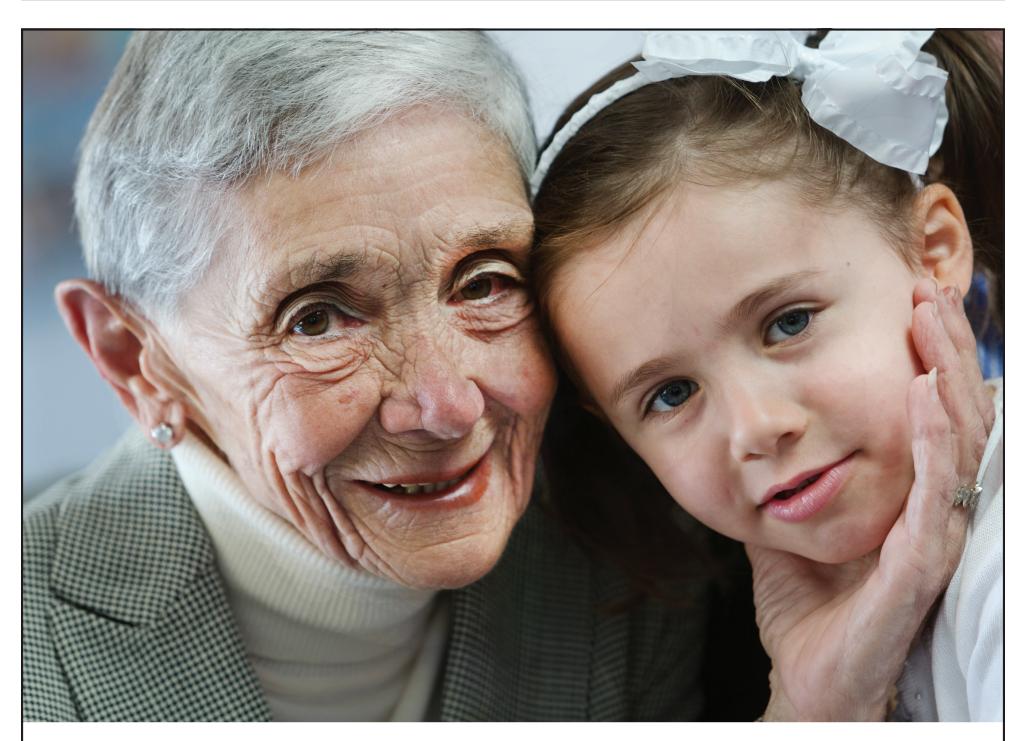


Cheli Schochet

a half-century, until after her death, when her granddaughter brought it to be published in San Francisco.

Cheli's work, and that of the other winners, will be on display at the Kleinman Holocaust Education Center in New York and on their website, kfhec.org.

A special thank you to Rabbi Zimmerman, English teacher, for having his students participate in this contest. thejewishvoice.org April 29, 2016 | 27





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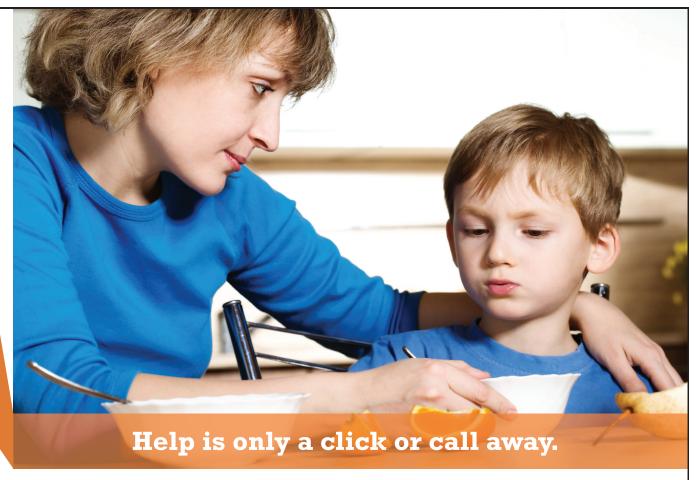
28 | April 29, 2016 The Jewish Voice





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