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August 18, 2006

ANALYSIS Both sides declare victory in Lebanon

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The aftermath of Israel's war with Hezbollah is looking a lot like Oscar night without the envelope: No one knows anything yet, so everyone claims victory.

In the scramble to Monday-morning quarterback the war, the claims were predictable: Israel and the United States said Hezbollah lost the war it launched July 12; Hezbollah, backed by Syria and Iran, said it had won a historic victory and

See VICTORY, page 16

War raises anti-Semitism worldwide

By Jennifer Jacobson

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Since the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah began in mid-July, a form of hate older than the Jewish state increasingly is rearing its ugly head: anti-Semitism.

July saw an attack against the synagogue in Sydney, Australia, vandalism of synagogues and Jewish businesses in Miami and a fatal shooting at Seattle's Jewish federation.

August brought more of the same: Molotov cocktails and rocks were thrown at a synagogue in Brazil, a menorah

See anti-Semitism, page 10

Federation Israel campaign tops \$618,000

Deadline for donations Oct. 1

By Jonathan Rubin
jrubin@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — Ceasefire or no, the aftermath of Hezbollah rockets is still acutely felt in Israel's north; and the Jewish community in the Ocean State is not standing idly by. Just two weeks into a six-week Israel fund raiser, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (JFRI) has already raised \$618,000 for humanitarian needs. The goal is \$1.5 million by Yom Kippur (Oct. 2).

"This campaign is so important for us as Jews," said Judy Mann, who is co-chairing the campaign with her husband Robbie, a former Federation president. "Even though Israel is thousands of miles away, we can stay with her and support her during these painful times. The sooner we get this money, the sooner Israelis can use it."

Barrington father, daughter capture Israel's spirit in photos

By Mary Korr
mkorr@jfri.org

Editor's note: This is a follow-up to the "Returning home with heavy hearts" articles which have appeared in the Jewish Voice & Herald's previous two issues. They can be read online at www.jvhri.org.

BARRINGTON — His photos of blue graffiti on bombed-out walls tell the story: "The people of Israel live."

This declaration is spray painted under a Jewish star on concrete walls all over northern Israel, said Mike Meyerheim, an Israeli Army veteran and former staff photographer in the Prime Minister's office.

He and his daughter, Shelley, 17, have just returned from Israel with hundreds of photos each.

And although Meyerheim

took photos of tanks shelling targets and rocket explosions, it is his photos of everyday life that are the most telling.

In one, taken in a bomb shelter in the northern Israel town of Qiryat Shemona, a 70-year-old Moroccan father of eight sits in a ripped plastic lawn chair in a corner of the concrete room and vows, in Ladino, a Spanish-Jewish dialect, never to leave.

An Englishman who made aliyah 22 years ago says: "He has been sitting and waiting for 50 years, since the U.N. declaration of the State if Israel. And he is still sitting, watching the Katyusha rockets fall."

In another photo, young children play with the puzzles Meyerheim brought in.

They ask him if he could

See LOCAL UPDATE, page 17



KILLING TIME — Israel teens play games while stuck in a bomb shelter in Qiryat Shemona. Photo by Mike Meyerheim

Generous to the end

Two couples leave \$12 M to charities

By Jonathan Rubin
jrubin@jfri.org

PROVIDENCE — Two couples with long histories of leadership in Providence's Jewish community, notably at Temple Beth-El, bequeathed a total of \$12 million from their estates, with special provisions in each for Jewish charities.

Melvin Zurier, a lawyer at Tillinghast Licht LLP, who created the foundations, was a friend of both Dr. Seebert and Gertrude Goldowsky and Helene and Bertram Bernhart for many years. Through two named trusts, their passion for philanthropy continues well into the future, as was their wish.

"It was my privilege, really, to know them," said Zurier, who is a trustee of the Goldowsky foundation and counsel for the trustees of the other foundation — Robert J. Huckins and Rabbi Leslie Guterman of Temple Beth-El.

Benefactors

Helene (Donig) and Bertram Bernhart were not reticent people. Helene, daughter of a buyer for The Outlet Company, was

See GENEROUS, page 11

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Back to school.
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Shabbat in Nicaragua.
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Community Calendar

WED., AUG. 23

Tai Chi class at Tamarisk

9:30 a.m. "Tai chi for Health" a form of Asian slow-movement exercise, with instructor Bob McManus in the Tamarisk Gardens or the sunroom in case of rain. Community is invited. Located at 3 Shalom Dr., Warwick. For more information or to RSVP call Gina at 732-0037.

FRI., AUG. 25

Musical event at Epoch

3 p.m. Music educator Norman Jagoliner will perform and enlighten the audience, at Epoch assisted living, located at One Butler Ave., on the East Side of Providence. Free and open to the public.

Space is limited. Call Kate Johnson at 275-0682 for information or reservations.

SUN., AUG. 27

Agudas Achim open house

4 — 6 p.m. To learn more about the synagogue and religious school. Agudas Achim is located at 901 No. Main St. in Attleboro. For more information call (508) 222-2243 or office@agudasma.org

Lower East Side festival

11 a.m. — 3 p.m. The JCC and the Providence Dept. of Art, Culture and Tourism will be holding a Jewish cultural festival with food, klezmer and fun, based on the Lower East Side of N.Y. more than 100 years ago.

New Bedford open house and Barbecue

5 p.m. The Tifereth Israel Synagogue is holding an Open House filled with games, kosher barbecue, music, raffles, and more. All are invited and welcome. Tifereth Israel is located at 145 Brownell Ave. RSVP to

the Synagogue office at 508-997-3171.

TUES., AUG. 29

Vocalist at Tamarisk

6:30 p.m. Manny Brandao will sing selections from the top 40 hits at Tamarisk Cabaret.

Refreshments. The community is invited. Tamarisk is at 3 Shalom Dr. in Warwick. For more information or to RSVP call Gina at 732-0037.

world music, crafts and entertainment for children, vendors, Jewish foods and cultural displays. Admission is free. For more information, call 1-866-2-SHALOH or go to www.shalohhouse.com.

WEEKENDS SEPT. 2

— OCT. 22

King Richard's Faire Opens its 25th Season

Sept. 2, 3, and 4. For the opening of King Richard's Faire there will be actors, dancers, puppeteers, jugglers, etc, along with Samantha Harris, co-host of ABC's "Dancing with the Stars," signing autographs. Admission is \$24 for adults, \$12 for children aged 5-12, and children under 5 are free. Parking is free. For more information: (508) 866-5391 or www.kingrichardsfaire.net.

TUES., SEPT. 5

JCDS opening celebration

4:45 p.m. Continuation of the annual meeting in the JFRI board room. New logo to be presented and board members will be installed.

5:30 p.m. community kosher picnic and concert on the field behind the building. "Schlock Rock" will perform. For more information, contact Andrea Katzman at 273-3815 or akatzman@jcdsri.org See also Community.

WED., SEPT. 6

Cranston Senior Guild

1 p.m. at Temple Torat Yis-

rael, 330 Park Ave. The first meeting of the fall season will have guest entertainers, Theresa and Lew Eldredge, performing as well as refreshments and a raffle. For more information call Eleanor Ross at 723-8580.

FR., SEPT. 8

Yiddish Shmooz meeting

10:00-11:30 a.m., Jewish Community Center, 401 Elm-grove Ave, Providence. The Yiddish Shmooz group, now five years old, will hold its first meeting of the new year. The program will feature the storytelling of Mara Sokolsky and a large amount of Yiddish humor. All are invited, and refreshments will be served.

Open House at The Friday School

4 — 5 p.m. The Friday School, a cooperative Jewish school which meets every Friday afternoon, will be holding an open house at the JCC. For more information, contact Marci Fischbach at 784-4788, fischri@gmail.com or see website at <http://www.thefriday-school.org>

SUN., SEPT. 17

Ima, Abba and Me

9:30 a.m. Temple Beth-El sisterhood and brotherhood will be holding a High Holiday celebration designed for young children. Activities include climbing in a giant shofar along with stories, music, hands-on activities, and more. Temple Beth-El is located at 70 Orchard Ave. in Providence. For more information, call 331-6070.

TUES. OCT. 17

Beth-El Sisterhood Annual Donor Event

7 p.m., Appetizers and desserts will be served while Reb Moshe Waldoks, well-known Jewish humorist and raconteur, entertains. Donations begin at \$45. Donations of \$100 receive an autographed copy of Reb Moshe Waldoks' book, The Big Book of Jewish Humor. For information, call Temple Beth-El at 331-6070. RSVP by Oct. 6.

Correction:

In our June 9 issue, a picture of a man in a top hat at the dedication of Congregation Beth Shalom was mistakenly labeled as Archie Silverman. His name is Archie Smith.

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MON., SEPT. 4

RI musician to play at greater Boston Jewish festival

11 a.m. — 5 p.m. Shalom House Chabad of the South Area will coordinate the Fourth Semi-Annual Greater Boston Family Day & Jewish Music Festival, presented by 92.9 WBOS-FM, at the Prowse Farm in Canton, Mass. Fishel Bressler of Fishel Bressler's Klezmer Hasidic Trio will be among those at the festival, which will include

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For greater Rhode Island

Aug. 18 7:21

Aug. 25 7:31

Sept. 1 6:59

Sept. 8 6:47



Two couples leave \$12 M to charities

From page 1



Dr. Seebert and Gertrude Goldowsky



Helene (Donig) and Bertram L. Bernhardt

largest department store in Rhode Island at one time, was committed to recycling before it became part of everyday life.

Anne Sherman, office manager at the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association (RIJHA), remembers Helene bringing in shopping bags full of egg crates and packing materials that children could use for art projects. She created a clothing donation program for the National Council of Jewish Women, and even donated her mother's and grandmother's wedding dresses to the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) Museum.

Born in Providence, Helene became attached to Temple Beth-El at a young age; she attended Hebrew school and was confirmed there in 1921.

An avid golfer, she met her husband-to-be, Bertram, on the links.

He was a "master salesman," Zurier said, and was a dapper dresser well into his 90s.

Bertram held various professional positions — as a stockbroker at Rothbom and Co., a vice president at Teknor Apex, a plastics company in Pawtucket; and then again as a stockbroker at G.H. Walker Co., which became Smith Barney Cnigroup, until retiring at age 90.

The couple lived purposeful but practical lives (residing in her parents' home for most than 50 years), but when it came to the Jewish and secular communities, they showed their hearts of gold. Helene was said to have called Hope High School, where she had been a student and asked the principal what the school needed, declining to give her name. "New uniforms" was the response, costing about \$40,000. "You have it," she replied, and it was so.

They were proud to be Jewish, and were involved in a plethora of

organizations. She served as president of the women's division at Federation and Beth-El's sisterhood, as well as being committed to Brandsie, the Red Cross, and the blind (she created a "talking books" program at the temple).

Bertram was totally devoted to the temple and Helene, friends said. He served as president there, helped head the building of the Jewish Community Center at its current location on Elmgrove Avenue, as well as B'nai Brith, Brown Hill, Camp JORI, the Anti-Defamation League, the Miriam Hospital and many others.

Both also loved theater, and Bertram produced amateur plays at the Barker Playhouse to benefit the former Jewish Home for the Aged, while Helene worked as top manager.

They were such synagogue mainstays that they became "almost family" to Beth-El's Rabbi Leslie Gutterman.

Upon their deaths (she in 1998, he in 2005), their assets, totaling about \$10 million, formed the Helene Donig and Bertram L. Bernhardt Charitable Trust.

Detailed devotion

Dr. Seebert and Gertrude Goldowsky were "very smart, no-nonsense type of people, especially about their charities," said Zurier.

Judaism and medicine were the focal points of Seebert's life. He graduated from Classical High School, Brown University and Harvard Medical School in 1932. He served as a combat surgeon in the Pacific during World War II. When he returned home, he practiced



Photo by Jonathan Rubin

ESTATE TRUSTEE MELVIN ZURIER flips through the detailed charity records of Gertrude "Bonnie" Goldowsky.

surgery and ultimately became the chief of surgery at Miriam Hospital, where he was also president for two terms. In 1972, he became the first full-time director of Blue Cross / Blue Shield.

His avocations were writing and history; publishing numerous books and articles on medicine and history, including the history of Temple Beth-El. He also edited the Rhode Island Medical Journal for 27 years and RIJHA's "Notes" publication for 16 years, where he also served as president.

"It was the conscience of the Historical Association" wrote former RIJHA president George Goodwin. He also served on the Rhode Island Jewish Society and the American Jewish Historical Society.

His wife, Gertrude, known to everyone as "Bonnie," was also a giver, and would make "a billion \$10 donations" to many organizations. She supported the capital campaign at the Miriam Hospital, where she was an active vol-

unteer for 40 years. She was also a devoted minutes checker at a historical association. She wrote letters to the Providence Journal pointing out misused commas, or to the networks when a new-caster used the wrong verb, a friend remembers.

Upon their passing, the Dr. Seebert and Providence N. Goldowsky Foundation was created with assets of almost \$2 million.

Neither couple had children.

The Goldowsky and Bernhardt Foundations are currently accepting proposals from the community. Jewish organizations, especially those with whom the couples have had previous connections, are encouraged to apply. Distributions are primarily made in December.

For more information, write to: Melvin L. Zurier, c/o Dr. Seebert and Gertrude Goldowsky Foundation c/o Helene (Donig) and Bertram L. Bernhardt Foundations, Tillinghast Licht LLP, 30 Westport St., 10th floor, Providence RI 02903.

A MAJORITY OF ONE

All a-board! 'Jews for Gibson'

Among the numerous goals I have failed to reach in almost 80 years of downward mobility is being president of a Jewish organization. Consider the advantages: your name atop the stationery, a seat on the dais, dinners in your honor, the respect of the Jewish masses and, on your demise, an obituary in the *New York Times*. There are hundreds of these organizations, each with its president



Yehuda
Lev

and board of directors, officers, staff, by-laws, mission statements and meetings.

So I checked around and wouldn't you know? They all have presidents already. No openings anywhere in the Jewish president profession. Not a one. Undaunted, I have decided to create my own Jewish organization. Gentle reader, you are invited to become a charter member of: Jews for Gibson.

The first thing any Jewish organization requires is a board of directors, each director bringing skills useful to the organization. I therefore nominate the following board members for your approval.

Board of directors

Chairman: **Oren Aviv**, head of the Disney Studios, who is a firm believer in the power of redemption as demonstrated by his statement to *Slate* magazine. "I have worked with Mel Gibson on several films throughout the years

and we have a great relationship. We all make mistakes and I have accepted his apology." Mr. Aviv forgot to mention the fact that Disney is about to release Mr. Gibson's latest film, "Apocalypse" and that \$50 million may go down the tubes if the ticket buyers take umbrage. Mr. Aviv brings to the board a skill in selective reasoning of which Jewish organizations are so much in need.

Board of directors

Morton Klein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, who has suddenly discovered the virtue of silence. A Google search of Mr. Klein and a look at the ZOA website turn up a reference to Mr. Gibson's latest misadventure although Mr. Klein led the charge in denouncing "The Passion." He did make an invaluable contribution to the survival of Jewish organizations everywhere when, asked about the number of members he claims for his ZOA, he explained that its roster includes every member of the family of the dues-payer. Mr. Klein will be a silent partner and our membership chairman.

Rabbi David Baron of the Temple of the Arts in Los Angeles. Rabbi Baron invited Mr. Gibson to speak from his pulpit on Yom Kippur. "It is one thing to issue a statement but coming directly into the presence of the community is more effective. I feel that Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, would be an appropriate time." Rabbi Baron has since had a change of heart, asking Mr. Gibson merely to offer his apology from the *Bimah*, still on Yom Kippur, and explaining to the media that they are to blame for misinterpreting his offer. Rabbi Baron adds a valuable spiritual

dimension to our board.

Rabbi Marvin Hier, Dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. Rabbi Hier first strongly condemned Mr. Gibson's anti-Semitism but then modified his criticism as follows: "When Mr. Gibson embarks on a serious long-term effort to build a Center of Tolerance atop a Muslim cemetery in Jerusalem. He will serve us well as our finance chairman.

Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League: Foxman first called upon all Jews to ostracize Mr. Gibson. "It appears that the combination of liquor and arrest has revealed his true character." By the very next day the liquor had worn off and Mr. Gibson's character had noticeably improved. "We welcome his efforts to repair the damage he has caused, to reach out to the Jewish community, and to seek help," said Mr. Foxman. He and the ADL will be invaluable in detecting indications of further improvement or possible backsliding in Mr. Gibson.

Michael Medved, radio talk show host. Mr. Medved was a last-minute addition when it became apparent that none of the above is adequate to serve as spokesperson for this organization. Mr. Medved has the skills associated with talk show hosts; he has a mellifluous



voice and speaks authoritatively on any number of subjects, with or without information. He was one of the strongest defenders of Mr. Gibson's initial foray into anti-Semitism, "The Passion, etc.," claiming that its critics were "sick, twisted and demagogic." Recently he told Paula Zahn: "We're talking about a movie star, about a film director, not a rabbi, not a politician, someone who makes movies. And if he makes good movies, everything will be fine."

Respectfully submitted, Y. Lev, president, Jews for Gibson.

Providence resident Yehuda Lev is a retired journalist who has worked in Israel, Europe and the United States.

VIEWPOINT

No knockout blow for Israel, but it still was a victory on points

By Uri Dromi

After a month of fighting, a cease-fire under the auspices of the United Nations has left all of us wondering: Is Israel better off than before the war with Hezbollah began?

The answer depends on whether you're an optimist or a pessimist — but I, for one, am a sworn optimist, and believe that recriminations aside, Israel has come out ahead.

It's true that the expectations Israeli leaders raised at the outset were exaggerated. Utterly destroying Hezbollah was an unrealistic goal. This is not a regular army with fixed targets that can be hit easily either from air or through ground operations. Rather, Hezbollah is a unique creature — a terrorist organization that uses guerrilla tactics, with a secure territorial base in southern Lebanon and the backing of two states, Iran

and Syria.

In the six years since Israel evacuated southern Lebanon, Hezbollah managed to build a well-equipped, elusive army that could launch thousands of rockets from the yards of houses and mosques, using Lebanese civilians as human shields.

By amassing rockets that can be launched with simple timers, Hezbollah managed to outwit Israel's military superiority and harass northern Israel pretty effectively.

Of course, there was a way to put an end to the Katyusha threat: All we had to do was declare that every Lebanese village from which a rocket was launched would be turned into a heap of rubble.

But a democracy — even when fighting against an enemy that takes advantage of that democracy's sensitivity to

human life — shouldn't aspire to resemble its enemy. Therefore, the Israel Defense Force had to try to distinguish between Hezbollah militants and simple Lebanese citizens.

Even with these self-imposed restrictions, the results were impressive: Most of Hezbollah's long-range rocket launchers were destroyed, together with the group's operational and logistic infrastructure, built up meticulously over the years; armed drones launched against Israel were shot down; and approximately 500 Hezbollah fighters were killed, perhaps a quarter of Hezbollah's fighting force.

Yet Hezbollah's immediate losses are only part of the picture. With U.N. Security Council Resolution 1701, the situation in Lebanon has changed: Hezbollah was forced to accept the Lebanese army's deployment in

southern Lebanon, augmented by a multi-national force, something the group had resisted for years.

Israeli troops are still deployed in southern Lebanon, ready to act if Hezbollah refuses to disarm — as, indeed, it indicates that it will.

The two Israeli soldiers kidnapped by Hezbollah on July 12, sparking the war, haven't been returned, but Israel took captive enough Hezbollah fighters to make a swap possible.

Voices in Lebanon now openly blame Hezbollah for the destruction it brought on the country, which had been rebuilding and returning to prosperity after 15 years of civil war.

Last but not least, Hezbollah's reckless adventure damaged its patron state, Iran: Not only was Iran's forward outpost

weakened, but the world is now much more aware of Iran's sinister plans in the region.

Israel suffered more than 150 casualties and a lot of physical damage. Yet contrary to Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah's prediction that Israel would prove as weak as a spider web, it didn't collapse. Despite 4,000 rockets launched on their cities and towns, Israelis — both on the home front and the battlefield — turned out to be as resilient as ever.

As for Israeli deterrence, Israel has shown it still has the will to strike back. And if Syria or any other enemy should conclude that Israel has lost its military edge, they're in for a bitter surprise: Chasing little pipes called Katyushas, hidden in garages, is one thing; destroying military formations and infrastruc-

THE OLD OLIVETTI

Will the attending angel please pass the broccoli?

Our dining room table is an elongated circle, an oval of wood, mahogany, I think, maybe walnut. A legacy of my maternal grandparents, it's old by contemporary American standards. I date it to the mid-1920's, though I may be off by a decade. When the children are home or when we have guests, my wife and I sit at opposite ends, but when it's just the two of us we sit closer together, across the short axis.

On Shabbat the candlesticks frame our view of each other between the glow of the shimmering lights. In the winter, when evening comes early, these provide the only source of illumination in the room that we allow to penetrate the darkness. We sing *Shalom Aleichem*, staring into each other's eyes. It's a song based on the Talmudic suggestion that two angels accompany the inauguration of Shabbat, a good angel and a bad. If the

home is well prepared the good angel blesses the household and the bad angel is forced to say "Amen." If the house is not well ordered, the bad angel curses and the good angel is forced to say "Amen."

But the hymn, at least in the form we have it, does not distinguish between good and bad angels, it speaks only of angels, and in my mind all of them are good. What else would God create?

"We wish you peace/Come to us in peace/Bless us with peace, attending angels, angels of the most sublime, the King of kings, the Holy One, praised be He."

When we finish singing I bless the boys if they are home and then kiss my bride of the past 35 years and thank her for being herself and for making us ourselves, for making our home the center of our lives. Then I chant two history lessons interrupted by a blessing. I sing in my off-tuned warble of the creation of Shabbat on the 7th day. I give thanks for the fruit of the vine and then I remind us of the Exodus from Egypt. These two births, of Shabbat, marking the completion of creation and of the Jewish people, chosen, saved, for reasons we do not understand, inaugurate Shabbat in our house each Friday evening as we end one week and begin anew another.

So, when I, the rationalist, the student of Voltaire and Diderot sit at my oval Shabbat table, the gift of my grandparents, and someday our gift to one of our children, when we sing the hypocritically repetitious words of *Shalom Aleichem*, do I really think there are angels in the room, bringing peace? As I look into my wife's eyes, reflecting back at me the flickering light of the candles she has just lit, as I see my children in their chairs, whether they are actually in the room or not, when I know that the week's troubles are over, at least for a few hours in this sacred temple of which we have made our dining room, then yes, I do believe in the angels and I am glad they are there and just a bit sad when I sing the final verse:

"Take your leave in peace, angels of peace, angels of the most sublime, the King of Kings, the Holy One, praised be He."

As I write these words I am just back from our annual pilgrimage to the Tanglewood music festival. On Friday night we were not at our oval table, we were on the great lawn, waiting for the music to commence (Bach, Bach and Handel). To my right there was a family, a father, mother and daughter. The mother quietly, unobtrusively, blessed and lit the Shabbat candles and then together, sotto voce, they sang *Shalom Aleichem*. The father blessed his little girl, aged around ten, and then said *Kiddush* over the wine. After they passed around the cup, the mother said the blessing over the *shabbat* and together they ate their meal, as the glorious music engulfed us all. Should Shabbat be inaugurated any other way?

Joshua Stein is a professor of history at Roger Williams University and a member of the Jewish Voice & Herald editorial board. He lives in Pawtucket.



Josh Stein



Letters to the Editor

Lea Eliash — let her light shine on

As a member of the second generation of Holocaust survivors, I had the privilege of spending time with Lea Eliash. I drove her to area schools so she could share her stories of the Holocaust with Rhode Island students. It's true; her stories told of darker days in Jewish history. But Lea was a beacon of hope. Her face lit up with kindness and a special understanding of life most of us

lack. This woman, who had suffered so much, didn't dwell on man's cruelty to man. Rather, she emphasized the good she saw in people.

At Yom HaShoah meetings at Temple Emanu-El, Lea was an ambassador of good will to all who sat around the table, whether he was a Protestant pastor, a fellow Holocaust survivor or a member of the second generation. To Lea, life was

about blessings. She was proof of how people picked up pieces of their shattered lives to build a new, productive life in a different land.

The best way to honor the memory of this wonderful woman is not to dwell on her death, but to perform acts of kindness for another human being. In that way, Lea's spirit lives on in all of us.

Cindy Halpern
Warwick

Support needed for both Jewish day schools

I read with great interest the article about the funding of the Jewish Federation of R.I. (JFRI) will provide for the Jewish Community Day School. The article also discussed the financial situation at the Providence Hebrew Day School (PHDS).

The concept of a community day school has gained wide support over the past few years because, hopefully, it will attract students to a community day school who would not attend a denominational-associated day school. I hope and pray this school in Providence will be successful.

But what pains and distractions are the financial plight

of the PHDS and whether there will be enough monies in the budget of the Jewish Federation to meet both schools' needs.

PHDS was the community day school of Providence. The Solomon Schechter Day School opened shortly after my arrival in Massachusetts.

My children and many other children from New Bedford are graduates of PHDS. I recall the great cooperation the school provided as we arranged for the young children of the newly arrived Jews from the former Soviet Union to attend PHDS.

This school, founded in 1946, is a mainstay of the

Jewish community. I recall, to name just a few of the people who gave so much of their time, energy and finances to the PHDS, people such as Sheldon and Gladys Sollosy, Arthur Robbins, Tom Pearlman and the late Sam Shevlin, who, until his last breath, worked tirelessly for the school.

I hope that the JFRI will make certain that PHDS gets its required financial help to continue its glorious tradition as a great educational institution along with the community day school.

Rabbi Barry D. Hartman
Congregation Ahavath Achim
New Bedford, Mass.

NCJW mourns member in Seattle tragedy

We of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) are deeply saddened by the shooting at the Jewish Federation in Seattle. NCJW joins the entire Jewish community, and especially our NCJW sisters in Seattle, in mourning the loss of Pam Waechter. In addition to being a member of NCJW, Pam was an integral part of the Seattle Jewish community, having been a past president of one of the local synagogues, a former staff member of Jewish Family Service, and a long time member of the Federation staff.

Danya Klein, who is several months pregnant and by all accounts acted heroically as she

made her way to a phone and called 911, is also an NCJW member. Danya was struck in the arm by a bullet and is recovering, although she will likely need additional surgery.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Pam Waechter, as well as to Danya and the other victims recovering from their wounds.

This incident must serve as a reminder to all of us that security is an important consideration as we conduct our activities. A security alert has been issued to Jewish institutions across the country, suggesting that we be vigilant about monitoring buildings and pedestrian

traffic and establish contact with local law enforcement officials. We strongly encourage NCJW sections with offices and high profile events to review their security procedures and heed this advice.

This is a difficult time for all of us. It underscores the importance of creating a society that values diversity and promotes mutual understanding and respect for all. Our efforts to create meaningful change and make the world a better place are more important than ever.

Carol R. Brooklyn
NCJW, RI section
RI State Public Affairs chair

We love hearing from you.

Submission Guidelines

Submissions must be signed and include city of residence and telephone number. Letters should be limited to 250 words, and Viewpoint pieces to 700 words. Submissions may be edited for length. Send submissions to: Jewish Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906, or E-mail to: voiceherald@jfri.org.

Opinion



Photo by Alison Golub

NEWLY ARRIVED ETHIOPIANS at an absorption center in Jerusalem.

I spent a day last week volunteering at an absorption center in Mevasseret Zion, just outside of Jerusalem, which was that day expecting three busloads of Ethiopian families who had immigrated to Israel within the past two months. They had gone straight from the airport to their absorption center in Tzfat, unpacked, and had just begun to settle in to their new homes when the sirens began wailing. They spent the past two weeks in the center's bomb shelter, venturing out only to see a *Katynka* land in their courtyard. This was when the government decided to move them down to "safer" ground.



Alison Golub

I was there to help them settle into their second new home, and I spent the morning watching them step wearily off their buses, their faces drawn in fear and exhaustion, their gaggles of children clinging tearfully to their mothers' hands and skirts. I cannot imagine what they must have been thinking and feeling, whether they were regretting having traded the traumas they had experienced in Ethiopia for this new, terrifying and seemingly dead land. I can attest to the fact that I saw a few smiles, however, undoubtedly the first that had come across their faces in at least two weeks—and that was worth everything to me.

Alison Golub's full column will return next issue.

Strange logic in media war

As staff at some of the world's most prestigious press organizations effectively take Hezbollah's side in its war with Israel, they inadvertently reveal a profound transformation in the logic of warfare.



Daniel Pipes

Some examples of their actions:

- *Reuters*: Adnan Hajj, a freelance photographer with over a decade's experience at *Reuters*, doctored his pictures to make Israeli attacks on Lebanon look more destructive and Lebanese more vulnerable. His embellishments created thicker and darker plumes of smoke from bombing raids and posed the same woman bewailing the loss of her bombed-out residence in three different locations. *Reuters* fired Hajj and withdrew 920 of his pictures from their archive. Further research by bloggers uncovered four types of fraudulent pictures by *Reuters*, all exaggerating Israeli aggressiveness. The bloggers (littlegreenfootballs.com, zombietime.com) even documented how a *Reuters* picture was staged.

- *The BBC*: Editors actively trolled for personal accounts to demonize Israel, posting this request on its news pages: "Do you live in Gaza? Have you

been affected by violence in the region? Send us your experiences using the form below. If you are happy to speak to us further please include contact details."

- *CNN*: An anchor on its international program, Rosemary Church, implied that Israeli forces could shoot down Hezbollah's rockets but chose not to do so when she asked an Israeli spokesman, "would Israel not be trying to shoot them out of the sky? They have the capability to do that."

- *The Washington Post*: Similarly, military affairs reporter Thomas Ricks announced on national television that unnamed U.S. military analysts believe the Israeli government "purposely has left pockets of Hezbollah rockets in Lebanon, because as long as they're being rocketed, they can continue to have a sort of moral equivalency in their operations in Lebanon." Having one's own people injured, he explained, offers "the moral high ground."

All these media activities stem from a perception that taking casualties and looking victimized helps one's standing in the war. Adnan Hajj's distortions, for example, were calculated to injure Israel's image, thereby manufacturing internal dissent, diminishing the country's international standing, and generating pressure on the government to stop its attacks in Lebanon.

But this phenomenon of

each side parading its pain and loss inverts the historic order, whereby each side wants to intimidate the enemy by appearing ferocious, relentless, and victorious. In World War II, for instance, the U.S. Office of War Information prohibited the publication of films or photographs showing dead American soldiers for the first two years of fighting, and then only slightly relaxed. Meanwhile, its Bureau of Motion Pictures produced movies like "Our Enemy – The Japanese," showing dead bodies of Japanese and scenes of Japanese deprivation.

Practicing one's prowess and denigrating the enemy's has been the norm through millennia of Egyptian wall paintings, Greek vases, Arabic poetry, Chinese drawings, English ballads, and Russian theater. Why have combatants (and their media allies) now reversed this age-old and universal pattern, downplaying their own prowess and promoting the enemy's? Because of the unprecedented power enjoyed by the United States and its allies.

As historian Paul Kennedy explained in 2002, "in military terms there is only one player on the field that counts." Looking back in time, he finds, "Nothing has ever existed like this disparity of power; nothing." And Israel, both as a regional power in its own right and as a close ally of Washington, enjoys a parallel preponderance vis-à-vis Hezbollah.

Such power implies that, when West fights non-West, the outcome on the battlefield is a given. That settled in advance, the fighting is seen more like a police raid than traditional warfare. As in a police raid, modern wars are judged by their legality, the duration of hostilities, the proportionality of force, the severity of casualties, and the extent of economic and environmental damage.

These are all debatable issues, and debated they are, to the point that the Clausewitzian center of gravity has moved from the battlefield to the op-eds and talking heads. How war is perceived has as much importance as how it actually is fought.

This new reality implies that Western governments, whether the United States in Iraq or Israel in Lebanon, need to see public relations as part of their strategy. Hezbollah has adapted to this new fact of life but those governments have not.

Daniel Pipes (www.DanielPipes.org) is director of the Middle East Forum and author of Ministers (Transaction Publishers).

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Presenter Rabbi Andrea Cohen-Kiener is the director of the Interreligious Eco-Justice Network, a faith-based initiative in environmental theology and practice. She is the spiritual leader of Congregation Pnai Or of Central Connecticut. She teaches frequently on issues in congregational worship, Jewish feminism, ecology, communication, and spirituality.

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FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Israel, seamless services and broken boilers

The High Holidays are coming soon and, it is the time of remembrance.

You know about the ceasefire in Israel – which, as you read this, may or may not be so prominent in the news. What we must remember is the damage that has been done on both sides – the loss of life, the wounded and the cities and infrastructure which must be rebuilt.



Harris N. Rosen

An article I sent late last week spoke about Afula, our sister city in Israel's north. It began with: "I wish I was sending good news." And the enclosure from the UJC (United Jewish Communities) talked about the once "bucolic town of Kiryat Shimona in the shadow of Mt. Hermon."

How lovely and peaceful that town was. I remember the tree lined streets and the cafes all probably deserted now as the residents have been moved to a safer part of Israel. I Googled it and got sick.

And all we're asked to do is to give money. Remember - while Israel tries to return to normal, its monthly request to Federations in America is \$50,000,000. That's monthly. Their long range needs are \$250,000,000.

Remember: all we have to do is to give money. Not time. Not blood. Not lives. Just money. We are lucky.

Not receiving my articles? Email me at HRosen@jfri.org and you will.

Other news?

There was a meeting of the leadership of Federation, the Bureau of Jewish Education and the Providence Hebrew Day School to discuss future plans of the school and how we all can work together in an even better fashion. Admittedly, the focus has been on the Community Day School, and we must remember that there are two schools that are educating our children. It was a good meeting, and I'm sure that beneficial results will continue. (Some meetings of course are more productive than others, and this was an especially good one.)

And the "seamless service for seniors" (a subject I'm obviously interested in,) an effort being undertaken by the JCC, JFS and JSA as facilitated by Federation, took a major step forward

this week. There was a meeting of presidents and executives of the four agencies. (And of course there was a meeting of the executives to prepare for the meeting with the presidents). But all four presidents gave their enthusiastic and unconditional blessing to what the professional staff has produced.

To be able to take the next step, there will be a presentation of a proposed "virtual agency" on Thursday, September 7th at 7pm in the JCC Social Hall. An invitation will go out from each of the agencies to their respective boards. That there will be a joint presentation from four agencies to four agencies in a meeting is unprecedented in my memory.

And so is the way the executives of the three agencies - I'm leaving myself out for the moment - have cooperated. In the 52 years that I have been privileged to be associated with this community, I have never, just never, witnessed such a collaborative and cooperative effort. And I am just not talking about the results. There is no ego, no defense of turf and no holding back of information. Yes, Golda, it's a whole new world. It's about time, and I'm sure that will continue, too.

The September 7th meeting will just be a presentation and question and answer period. The proposal will then be considered

by each of the four agencies individually. If you're not on one of the boards, call me, and I'll be happy to extend to you a special invitation.

The Federation's Executive Committee met last week. The more complicated of the many issues brought up that night involved the Jewish Community Center. Suffice it to say that the boilers at the JCC were "red-tagged" (that is, the State came

in and said you may not operate them unless you fix them,) and the JCC just didn't have the money to do it. (Sure, I'm leaving on October 6th and there won't be heat? No way.) And another issue was a request from an Federation Ad Hoc Committee to reinstate cuts in Hebrew Day's budget that were unacceptable to the Bureau - and to Hebrew Day. This too passed.

But money had to be pieced

together from many unspent different funds, and, folks, we've reached the bottom of the barrel.

The rest of my week: raising money for Israel. They need it. And we're here doing it. I hope you are too. If you log onto our website (www.jfri.org) an click the "Israel Emergency Campaign" button, I will stop hocking you.

But, in the meantime, Shabbat Shalom, and say a prayer this weekend for Israel.

ISRAEL CAMPAIGN

From page 1

up to be counted, there may not be an Israel," said Ellie Frank, a long-time Federation supporter who doubled her regular Federation donation for the Israel campaign.

"We are Americans, we are Jews and we have to help those people who need our help. It can't wait."

The stories have been powerful. A single meeting with the state's 40 largest donors held earlier this month raised \$270,000. A \$40,000 anonymous check was penned the first week: Two upcoming meetings are planned: one for medical professionals and one for members of the non-Jewish community.

"We've been getting an overwhelming response," said Judy

Mann. "Everyone is showing their support in a big way."

One-hundred percent of the funds raised will be sent to Israel for immediate distribution. Donations can be made to the JFRI, 130 Sessions St., Providence RI 02906. Write IEC Campaign at the bottom of the check. Or, you can visit www.jfri.org to make a pledge online. Due to urgent needs, donors are asked to pay pledges as quickly as possible.

This is the second campaign undertaken by the Federation in response to an Israeli crisis in recent years; the previous campaign was in 2002 in response to the second intifada. More than \$1 million was raised.

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— Alan & Suzanne Gilstein



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— Dr. Carol Ingall

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World

Mideast conflict ups anti-Semitism worldwide

was smashed at a Jewish chapel near Los Angeles and anti-Israel vandals defaced some 20 Jewish shops in Rome.

It's no coincidence that the number of attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions spikes at a time of violence in the Middle East, as people sympathetic to the Arab cause often take out their anger at Israel on Jews closer to home.

Jews in Europe typically bear the brunt of attacks far more than U.S. Jews. After the Palestinian intifada began in September 2000, anti-Semitic incidents in Europe skyrocketed.

"This country does not have the tradition of political violence and extremism that Europe has," says Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League.

U.S. picture

The United States also has fewer frustrated and angry immigrants from Arab and Muslim countries, he says. More importantly, Foxman contends, the United

States has made sure perpetrators pay the consequences for anti-Semitic acts.

But even if Israel's war in Lebanon resumes, American Jews' security will not be threatened significantly, say Jewish leaders, who already have stepped up security measures at community organizations.

That may not be true for Jews in Europe and elsewhere, however.

Britain in particular has seen a spike in anti-Semitic incidents following the start of the war in Lebanon. The Community Security Trust, which monitors the security of British Jews, has recorded at least 90 such incidents during July, says Mark Gardner, the group's spokesman.

The incidents are primarily nonviolent and tend to involve abusive rhetoric, threats, e-mails and graffiti.

There's "a range of things being said," Gardner says, "most commonly, sympathy for Hezbollah and calling Israel 'Nazis,' and at the same time saying Hitler should

have finished off the Jews."

In an average month, when tensions in the Middle East are not running high, Gardner says the Trust records 20-40 anti-Semitic incidents. During the 1990s, before the intifada, those figures were substantially lower, some 15-25 per month.

In 2004 the Trust saw a record high of 532 incidents. In 2005 that number dropped to 455, still the second-highest total since CST began recording such incidents in 1984.

Gardner calls conflicts in the Middle East "trigger events." When accusations against Israel intensify — some in Britain have accused Israel recently of propagating a massacre in Lebanon — people "take their hatred out on any Jew they can find," Gardner says.

Anti-Semitic incidents also have risen in the United States in the wake of fighting in Lebanon.

According to the ADL's annual audits, anti-Semitic incidents in the

United States had declined slightly before the war began. The ADL's most recent audit recorded 1,757 anti-Semitic incidents in 2005, slightly down from 1,821 incidents in 2004, the highest level of U.S. anti-Semitism in nine years.

Foxman expects that when the group tallies the number of incidents for 2006, the figure will again be higher.

Still, that doesn't mean anti-Semitism here will approach the levels of Europe during the intifada.

In the United States, there's "less tolerance for racism, bigotry and anti-Semitic behavior," Foxman says. And Americans are much quicker than Europeans to condemn such behavior, calling it "un-American, immoral, un-Christian."

While the Seattle shooting was directly related to the Middle East conflict — the shooter, a radical Muslim, said he acted out of anger toward Israel — Chanes emphasizes that it's still a single incident in a country of 280 million people.



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One year after 'the storm,' New Orleans Jews rebuild

By Gail Naron Chalew

NEW ORLEANS (JTA) — One year after "the storm," as New Orleanians refer to Hurricane Katrina, Jewish communal leaders describe the health of the community with certain expected terms — loss, trauma, devastation and challenge.

Unexpected is the word "blessed," used repeatedly in reference to the outpouring from the American Jewish community of financial support, volunteerism and donations of everything from teddy bears to challah covers.

Funds from the United Jewish Communities, the umbrella of the North American federation system, and the national religious movements have kept New Orleans' Jewish agencies and synagogues afloat this past year and are expected to do so through 2007.

To date, the UJC has contributed more than \$17 million to the rebuilding efforts; the Reform movement has contributed some \$800,000 to local Reform congregations, with another \$800,000 available for recovery efforts not covered by insurance. Other movements have sent funds as well, though exact figures were not available.

What will happen in 2008 and beyond is the worry that both drives many planning meetings during the day and keeps communal leaders up at night.

"Fortunately, the Jewish community has not had to depend on the help of government, given its failure at all levels," said Allan Bissinger, president of the New Orleans federation. "UJC has taken the place of what the gov-

ernment should normally have done."

A community-wide task force is in the beginning stages of implementing a recovery plan. The plan focuses on such issues as how to retain current residents while encouraging new ones to resettle here. It also is determining how the organized Jewish community can work smarter to make the best use of limited dollars.

One of the positive outgrowths of the storm has been the burgeoning spirit of cooperation among all the New Orleans Jewish institutions. Beth Israel Congregation, the Orthodox synagogue that took on 10 feet of water, is now holding a Shabbat minyan at the Reform Gates of Prayer Congregation.

The Anti-Defamation League is sharing federation office space. Intergency programs are on the upswing, and a Hebrew free loan program is in the works. The JCC is getting needed revenue by renting out its facilities to community groups.

Tackling the population issue will not be as easy. Current estimates are that the Jewish community will stabilize at about 65 percent its pre-storm strength of about 10,000 individuals.

Although there are no hard and fast data about the population exodus, the increasing number of "For Sale" signs attests to residents' continued impatience with the slow pace of recovery, frustration with the government and concern about the rising crime rate. And it would be difficult to exaggerate the impact another hurricane would have on people's



BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION, an Orthodox synagogue in New Orleans that was damaged by 10 feet of water in Hurricane Katrina.

decisions to move.

Although all age groups have joined this exodus, one particular cohort — those in their 60s and 70s with grown children in other communities — has been leaving in large numbers.

Communal officials count the loss of these individuals particularly troublesome because these are the ones with the money and the time to make significant contributions. Every institution has lost some of its biggest donors and officers.

At the same time, each of the five synagogues surveyed has reported new members, mostly young people drawn by the pioneer spirit of rebuilding and the opportunity to make a difference.

Indeed, despite the loss of members, synagogue attendance seems to have remained stable. As Rabbi Andrew Busch of the Reform congregation, Touro

Synagogue, put it, "In their new lives after the storm, people have a greater need to come together in the synagogue."

Rabbi Ted Lichtenfeld of Shir Chadash Conservative Congregation agreed. "Though I have not had people battering down my door for pastoral counseling, in a sense, the storm underlines everything. Fortunately, very few of my congregants lost family members to the storm, but most are rebuilding their homes and almost everyone's job was affected in one way or the other. They come to synagogue to be in community."

Undaunted by the storm, Chabad-Lubavitch of Louisiana has committed to build a new student center at Tulane University; the cornerstone ceremony is scheduled to be held Aug. 27,

two days before the storm's anniversary.

The New Orleans Jewish Day School, a community school supported by the federation, has been hit hard by the population exodus. From a pre-storm enrollment of nearly 90 children in kindergarten through eighth grade, it will begin the coming school year with 23 children in just two classes: a combined kindergarten-first grade and a second-third grade class. This precipitous decrease comes despite a halving of tuition, made possible by outside contributions.

Because the local Jewish Family Service helps individuals cope with the challenges in their lives by providing counseling and financial support, it has been a lead agency in the post-storm year.

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World

German troops in Lebanon?

By Toby Axelrod

BERLIN (JTA) — With Germany considering offering peacekeeping troops in southern Lebanon, politicians and Jewish leaders are weighing in on what the German army's role should be.

The once-theoretical question of whether Germans in uniforms should help patrol southern Lebanon has taken on a practical urgency since Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert earlier this month asked for German troops to participate, going against years of opposition from Holocaust survivors and others in Israel.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has not taken a firm stand. So far, she has said only that she could imagine providing training to Lebanese police and soldiers.

Meanwhile, some say the debate shows the weakness in the government coalition between Merkel's Christian Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party. In particular, a statement by SDP head Kurt Beck in favor of sending German troops has drawn opposition from some Christian Democratic lawmakers.

As in past international conflicts, some politicians are using the Holocaust as a justification for their positions on sending troops.

Beck was the first leading politician in the government to back the participation of German soldiers in a peace-keeping force.

He told the ARD TV news program that "There will clearly



MICHEL FRIEDMAN, center, head of Keren Hayesod in Germany attends a recent pro-Israel rally in Berlin.

not be a 'No' to such a request, adding that he could "well imagine that one could start with assisting in securing the coast."

But more politicians tend to side with Edmund Stoiber, a Christian Democratic Union's governor of the state of Bavaria, who is strictly opposed to the participation of combat troops.

Because of the Holocaust, "We have to help Israel with other means than military" ones, Stoiber said.

Some prominent members of Germany's Jewish community see willing to back the idea of German soldiers, to an extent.

Solomon Korn, vice president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, told the Saarbruecker Zeitung newspaper that he could imagine "coming to a compromise: German soldiers yes, but not directly on the front."

Michel Friedman, head of Keren Hayesod in Germany, supported Olmert's request. He told the Bild am Sonntag newspaper

"If Germany can send soldiers to Afghanistan and Congo, then this historical moment has arrived when Germany should show the colors of its support for Israel, and take responsibility.

"The countless soapbox speeches about the special responsibility to Israel must be followed by deeds," he added.

Defense expert Hans-Peter Bartels told the Bild am Sonntag newspaper he could imagine the involvement of German transport troops or medics, rather than combat-ready troops — because of "the history," an indirect reference to the Holocaust.

German troops must not be within firing range of Israel, said Wolfgang Huber, head of the Protestant Church in Germany.

"We must not forget about our history," Huber said.

Korn agreed, saying that would be at least uncomfortable for both Germans and Israelis; there is a military confrontation between their troops.

"For all those who survived the National Socialist crimes and also for their children and grandchildren, it could unless feelings that would be better not to have," he said.

A high-level discussion of the matter is due to be held this week in Berlin, and it's possible that the Parliament's summer break may be interrupted if a vote is needed.

Langevin

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**On September 12th,
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Congressman Jim Langevin

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News in brief

Israelis wonder who won

Israelis are divided on whether their side won the Lebanon war, a survey found.

Thirty percent of those polled by Yedioth Aharonot this week said Israel won the more than month-old war, while an equal number said the victory was Hezbollah's. Thirty-six percent said neither side won.

Seventy percent of respondents said they were against the cease-fire declared this week, as it did not guarantee the return of two soldiers whose July 12 abduction by Hezbollah triggered Israel's offensive in Lebanon.

The survey gave Israel's war leaders poor grades for performance. Eighty-four percent of respondents said the government did not function well, while only three percent blamed the military.

Asked if Defense Minister Amir Peretz should step down, 57 percent said yes. Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Dan Halutz scraped by, with 41 percent and 42 percent of the public, respectively, seeking their resignations.

The survey, published Wednesday, had a margin of error of 4.5 percent.

Israeli defense chief talks peace

Israel's defense minister called for peace talks with Lebanon, the Palestinians and eventually Syria.

"I'm certain that our enemies understand they cannot prevail over us. I plan to do whatever I can to restore diplomatic support



FUNDING FROM UNITED JEWISH COMMUNITIES, the umbrella group from the North American Federations, helped make it possible to open this camp in central Israel for kids from northern Israeli cities. More than \$150 million has been raised in the U.S. so far.

for Israel. We need to resume negotiations with the Palestinians. We need to hold negotiations with Lebanon and lay the groundwork for negotiations with Syria," Amir Peretz said Tuesday in a Tel Aviv speech, his most extensive public comments since a cease-fire ended Israel's offensive against Hezbollah this week.

The comments were received coolly by Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's office.

Holocaust cartoon exhibit opens in Iran

An exhibit of cartoons on the Holocaust opened in Iran.

Iran opened a competition for the cartoons in reaction to last year's controversy over the publication of cartoons in a Danish newspaper about the Islamic prophet Muhammad.

One of more than 200 cartoons displayed shows the Statue of Liberty holding a book on the Holocaust in one hand and giving a Nazi-style salute in the other, The Associated Press reported.

Official picked to rescue kidnapped soldiers

JERUSALEM: Ofer Dekel, former deputy chief of Israel's Shin Bet, the equivalent of the CIA, has been named by Prime

Minister Ehud Olmert to take charge of efforts to release three Israeli soldiers who were kidnapped by Hezbollah and Hamas. Both groups have demanded that Israel release Palestinian prisoners in a trade-off for the three men. The issue, which touched off the conflict with Lebanon, was not dealt with in the cease-fire agreement, although there have been reports of quiet negotiations for their return. JTA

Hamas continues rocket fire

ASHKELON: While much of the attention in Israel has been focused on the Lebanese situation, Hamas, in Gaza, has also been active. A rocket fired by Palestinian terrorists in the Gaza strip flew for 15 miles and exploded on the marina in Ashkelon, the farthest any of the

Hamas rockets has traveled. No deaths or injuries occurred and Israel's air force bombed the launch site, killing three Palestinians. JTA

Hezbollah fighter treated in Israeli hospital

HAIFA: One Hezbollah gunman, badly wounded in the fighting for a Lebanese village, awoke to find himself in unexpected surroundings. He had been discovered in the wreckage of a building and was taken to Rambam hospital in Haifa for treatment. His condition is listed as stable. Two Lebanese civilians, also hurt in the war, are receiving medical care in Israeli hospitals. JTA

Author's son casualty of war

JERUSALEM: A son of one of Israel's best-known writers has been killed in action in Lebanon. Sergeant Uri Grossman, son of author David Grossman died in a Hezbollah rocket attack, hours after his father, together with authors Amos Oz and A. B. Yehoshua, issued a joint letter calling on the Olmert government to accept a cease-fire and not to expand the war in Lebanon. All three authors have been active in peace movements for many years. JTA

Laureate served in SS

FRANKFURT: German Nobel Prize Laureate Gunther Grass has written an autobiography in which he admits to having served in the Waffen SS near the end of World War II. Grass, author of the world-wide best-seller "The Tin Drum," told a German newspaper that he never actually saw military action but ended up on the Russian front on reconnaissance patrols, witnessing what he described as gruesome scenes and surviving by pure chance. JTA

Compiled by Yehuda Lev

After beating Lieberman in primary, Lamont turns attention to November

By Claude R. Marx

SALEM, Mass. (JTA) — He has spoken out strongly in support of Israeli, is skeptical about faith-based initiatives and opposes what he sees as unnecessary restrictions on civil liberties.

Those views could help Ned Lamont win more Jewish support in this fall's election for a U.S. Senate seat in Connecticut — even though his major opponent is a leading Jewish politician.

Lamont, a cable television entrepreneur who defeated Democratic incumbent Sen. Joseph Lieberman, 52 percent to 48 percent, used his strong opposition to the Iraq war as the major issue in the Aug. 8 primary.

But David Padlin, a key adviser to Lamont, said that if Jewish voters look at a broad range of issues, they'll like what they learn about the political newcomer.

"On civil rights, civil liberties and war and peace issues, Jews in Connecticut, like those in most places, are more liberal than other voters. Ned shares those views," said Padlin, a former Connecticut House majority leader who is a paid consultant to Lamont's campaign.

Padlin said the primary campaign included very little direct outreach to the Jewish community, which represents about three percent of the state's population and five percent of the electorate. CBS/New York Times exit polls showed Lieberman outpolling Lamont 61 percent to 39 percent among Jewish voters.

Lieberman's pledge to run as an independent in the November general election against Lamont and Republican Alan Schlesinger may create a dilemma for some Jewish voters, who will have to choose between loyalties to the

Democratic Party and to a co-religionist.

Like Lieberman, Lamont strongly supports abortion rights and expanding stem-cell research.

But Lamont gained most traction on the Iraq war, which Lieberman strongly backed. Padlin said differences on the war and related issues had resonated most strongly with primary voters.

"We've moved beyond a point in American politics where Jews will automatically always vote for another Jew. Lieberman's support for the war and for programs that allowed for domestic spying, and his tacit and sometimes direct support for torturing prisoners, is opposed by the vast majority of Connecticut residents and an even higher percentage of Jews," Padlin said.

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Community Agudas Achim Open House August 27

ATTLEBORO — Congregation Agudas Achim will hold its annual Open House Sunday, August 27 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the synagogue at 901 North Main Street, Attleboro. Rabbi Elyse Wechterman, officers, and members of the synagogue professional staff will be present to provide information about the Agudas Achim services, Religious School, and special program. Light refreshments served.

Congregation Agudas Achim is a Reconstructionist synagogue in southeastern Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island. Agudas Achim programs are open to the public and those seeking a connection to the Jewish community.

For more information, call (508) 222-2243 or visit www.agudasma.org.



Photos by Temple Sinai

RABBI PETER STEIN and Cantor Remy Brown lead the congregants of Temple Sinai at the Temple's second annual Get S'More Shabbat. Pictured here saying the Kiddush is also Betsy Shimbarg, event chair, of East Greenwich, along with her mother, Freda Pollack, and her two children, Naomi and Daniel.



TEMPLE SINAI RABBI PETER STEIN and Rabbi Emeritus George Astrachan lead the children in the Hamotzi.

Temple Sinai Gets S'more Shabbat

CRANSTON — More than 100 members and potential members of Temple Sinai in Cranston joined together July 21st, as the Temple hosted its second annual Get S'More Shabbat. Attendees young and old enjoyed an evening Shabbat service outdoors, as well as a picnic dinner with family and friends, s'mores made over an open fire, and songs accompanied by Cantor Remy Brown on the guitar.

Temple Sinai continues its summer events with the second annual Heavenly Havdalah on Saturday, August 12th at 3 pm at Goddard Park. For information, please call Temple Sinai at 942-8350.

Service Under the Stars in South County

NARRAGANSETT — Shabbat, like all Jewish days, begins at sunset. On the evening of Friday, July 14, more than 40 people of all ages enjoyed a spiritual summertime Service Under the Stars in South County. The event was held on the lawn overlooking a pond on the Jewish Collaborative site in Narragansett.

The service was led by Ethan Adler, including a number of prayers for peace, including a prayer for the security of Israel, and the singing of Israel's national anthem, Hatikvah. Several participants read and reflected on their vision of a peaceful world for all people everywhere.

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Moshe Waldoks to speak at Beth-El donor event

Participated in seminal Jewish-Tibetan conference with Dalai Lama

PROVIDENCE — The Sisterhood of Temple Beth-El will hold its donor event this year on October 17. Reb Moshe Waldoks, one of North America's leading teachers of Jewish cultural, spiritual and ritual renewal, will be the evening's speaker. Waldoks is a well-known as a Jewish humorist and raconteur. As co-editor of *The Big Book of Jewish Humor* (now in its 24th printing), he lectures and entertains audiences throughout the Jewish world.

As a consultant and on-air expert for the PBS/BBC, he has appeared in *The World of Jewish Humor*, *Breaking the Silence*, *The Imported Bridegroom*, *Angst*, *Jewish Soul* and *American Beat*.

Dr. Waldoks was ordained as a post-denominational Rabbi in the fall of 1996 by his mentors, Rabbis Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, Arthur Green and Everett Gendler. Since January, 1998 Reb Moshe has been involved in the rejuvenation of Temple Beth Zion, a dying congregation on Beacon Street in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Dedicated to building bridges, Reb Moshe participated in the first Jewish-Tibetan Buddhist encounter with the Dalai Lama and his community in Dharamsala, India (October, 1990). This initiative is the subject of *Rodger Kamenetz's The Jew in the Lotus* (Harper San Francisco, 1994). In the fall of 1999, he co-led a historic Jewish-Catholic Pilgrimage to Israel and Rome with Rabbi Samuel Chiel, Lenny Zakim Z'L, and Cardinal Bernard Law.

Appetizers and desserts will be served.

The event will take place at 7 p.m. at the temple, 70 Orchard Ave., on the East Side of Providence.

Donations begin at \$45. Those donating \$100 or more will receive an autographed copy of Dr. Waldok's book.

Each year Temple Beth-El Sisterhood holds a special event to benefit the temple and its sisterhood. In the past this event has paid for handicapped accessible restrooms, computerization of the temple library, religious school furniture, and other needs. The event is chaired by Leslie Chazan.

For more information, to make reservations, or for those unable to attend, to make donations, please contact Rona at Temple Beth-El, 331-6070 by October 6.

Voice & Herald holds retreat

The editorial board and staff of the *Jewish Voice & Herald* held their annual retreat on June 29 at the Brown Hill House in Providence. Herbert Stern, president of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, also attended.

The paper's editor, Mary Korr, welcomed Alison Rose as incoming chair of the board. The outgoing chair, Eleanor Lewis, who had served in that capacity since 2000, was honored with a farewell "toast" and the gift of a plaque depicting a V&H front page from each of her six years in office.

Charles Bakst, columnist of the *Providence Journal*, was guest speaker. He discussed the issues he covers as a political columnist and the experiences he has faced during his long career on the city paper.

Kevin Olson, Director of the Community Relations Council, also spoke. He described the work and goals of his organization and how the newspaper can relate to them.

The meeting also covered matters pertaining to the present and future progress of the newspaper, and its developing website.

KNOCKOUT

From page 4

structure, shooting down aircraft and hitting tanks is totally different.

We don't have a Six-Day War here, with Arab armies entirely defeated in a matter of hours, or an Entebbe raid, where a problem is swiftly and neatly solved. Israel didn't score a knockout, as its leaders rashly promised at the outset of the war, but it definitely won a victory by points.

Of course, that won't stop Nasrallah from declaring victory himself. But it's noteworthy that he did it from his hiding place, and only time will tell whether he will ever again be able to address his followers in city squares, or whether he'll finish like Saddam Hussein or even meet a different fate altogether.

Col. Uri Drorin, a retired Israeli air force pilot, is director of international outreach at the Israel Democracy Institute in Jerusalem.

Newport helpers



THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS IN NEWPORT have a group of ladies (and men too) to thank for a good meal. The Ladies Auxiliary of Touro Synagogue is part of a network of social service agencies and churches that operate a soup kitchen for the less fortunate at United Baptist Church on Spring Street. Pictured above, front row, are: Joan McCarthy, Selma Klein, Emily Kusnitz, Esther Bernstein, Susan Bernstein McGann. Second row: Bea Ross, Steve Ross, Laura Pedrick, Gail Silechnik, Bernice Schwebel and Renee Talevsky.



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VICTORY

From page 1

dealt a deathblow to perceptions of Israeli invincibility.

"Both sides are trying to convince their own public the leadership has not made a big mistake," said Stephen P. Cohen, a scholar with the Israel Policy Forum. "And it's true that on both sides there's good reason to criticize the leadership, not taking into account how many civilian casualties there would be."

Lebanon lost more than 700 civilians in the conflict, according to its counts, and Israel lost more than 30.

President Bush ridiculed Hezbollah's victory claims.

"Hezbollah, of course, has got a fantastic propaganda machine and they're claiming victories," Bush said after a meeting with top staff to assess the war's outcome Monday, just hours after the guns fell silent. "But how can you claim victory when at one time you were a state within a state, safe within southern Lebanon, and now you're going to be replaced by a Lebanese army and an international force?"

The answer came Tuesday from Syria: Hezbollah, simply by resisting Israel's war machine, had won the war of perceptions, Syrian President Bashar Assad said.

"In this current crisis, Israeli aggression toward Lebanon resulted in more failures for Israel and has allowed the national resistance of Lebanon to capture the hearts and minds of millions of Arab and Muslims," he said.

A numbers game

Bush's version seemed validated by the facts on the ground. Israel controls a chunk of Lebanon stretching 15 miles north of



A dog watches near stalled Israeli tanks.

Photo by JTA

its border, to the Litani River. If Israeli estimates that Hezbollah lost up to 500 fighters are correct, it's a body blow to an organization with a standing force of less than 10,000, and by some accounts as few as 2,000. Hezbollah acknowledges less than 100 combatants dead.

More substantially, Hezbollah's yellow flags no longer flutter triumphantly from villages bordering Israel, as they have since 2000, when Israel withdrew unilaterally after 18 years of occupation, a pullout that Hezbollah also claimed as a victory.

If war is assessed according to territory — the fundamental measure of traditional war-making — then Hezbollah clearly did not win, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert told the Knesset.

"There is no longer a state within a state," he said. "There is no longer sponsorship for a terror organization by a state. And no longer is a terror organization allowed to operate within Lebanon, as the long arm of the axis of evil which reaches out from Tehran to Damascus, uses Lebanon's weakness and transforms it, its citizens and its infrastructure into a tool for its war."

In addition, though Hezbollah is buoyed by Arab support right now, many observers believe its standing in Lebanon will take a blow as anger at Israel recedes and Lebanese begin asking the Shi'ite militia why it brought such destruction upon their country, which was just rebuilding after a devastating 15-year civil war.

Perception

On the other hand, perception is key to assessing 21st-century wars saturated by media coverage, and the perception of Israel's deterrence has taken a battering.

Israel lost 116 soldiers, the biggest blow in a short-term campaign since the Lebanon War in 1982. Its mounted intelligence failed to assess the degree to which Hezbollah and its weap-

ons were encamped in southern Lebanon. Israel's North emptied out, creating an internal refugee crisis unknown since Israel's 1948 War of Independence.

Most significantly, Israel stopped firing before achieving the ambitious goals Olmert set out at the war's launch: routing Hezbollah from southern Lebanon and securing the unconditional return of two soldiers captured by Hezbollah on July 12, the attack that precipitated the conflict.

Assessments of failure may be premature, and Israel's actions in the coming weeks could determine whether it won or not, said Shlomo Aronson, a political scientist at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

"What you need is to get ready for the next round," he said.

That meant studying Hezbollah's military strengths in case the sides return to war, especially the Russian-made anti-tank missiles that wreaked devastation of the Israeli ground forces, as well as the short-range missiles that terrorized civilians in the North.

"Hezbollah's heavier missiles proved to be a failure. They seemed to bombard Tel Aviv nothing like that happened," Aronson said.

More significantly, Israel needs to seize the diplomatic upper hand it derived from a U.N. Security Council resolution that emphatically blamed Hezbollah for the war, Aronson said.

"The main thing is to go into negotiations with Syria to drive a wedge between Syria and Lebanon," Aronson said, arguing that cutting off Hezbollah from its main supplier, Iran could starve the terrorist group.

And Israel does not take bold steps without holding Washington's hand, according to Tza Reshef, a founder of Peace Now.

"The green light from the United States is considered a prerequisite," he said — a green light that hasn't been forthcoming.

Barrington father, daughter capture Israel's spirit in photos

From page 1

tell the Jewish children in Rhode Island to draw pictures and send a little note that says "We are thinking of you."

While there, Shelley spent a month on an Israeli Scout/IDF program. The plan was then for father and daughter to capture the country in pictures and video for Shelley's senior project at Barrington High School.

"They did not think to change their plans because of the war; first of all, the IDF would never put the almost 300 teens in the program in danger, said Meyerheim; and secondly, the family considers Israel their homeland.

They did not think to change their plans because of the war; the IDF would never put the almost 300 teens in the program in danger.

"But all the cell phones were ringing on the bus when the war broke out," said Shelley.

She was one of the few on the trip without a cell phone — but the program issued updates on the whereabouts of the teens on its website every day.

Shelley's photos show teenagers, in the Army uniforms they were issued, setting up pup tents on rocky ground; she captures the spirit of youth on a summer



SHELLEY MEYERHEIM, of Barrington, with 93 yr old store owner in Tel-Aviv. In her hands is a picture book of photos of herself dancing taken by her husband years before.

adventure.

She hopes to obtain an IDF uniform for her presentation at Barrington High School. She will trade it in for the real thing — she is joining the Israel Army after graduation. "I want to serve my country," she says.

And the family expects to

relocate there permanently after their younger daughter graduates from high school.

Meyerheim is considering showing his photos in a gallery in Rhode Island.

Say hi to Hy

JCC interim exec gives his view on Jewish Rhode Island

By Jonathan Rubin

PROVIDENCE — Hy Tabachnick says that we live, as the saying goes, "in interesting times."

"Anytime a community brings in an interim director it usually means there are some big changes in store, and that they're trying to find a new direction. That's hard on staff."

Tabachnick (and no, he's not related to the kosher soup company) was certainly brought on board the Jewish Community Center (JCC) at an important juncture; his agency just completed an impressive \$1.2 million renovation of their fitness center. It was a gutsy move to increase membership, especially in light of more than \$200,000 in cuts from the United Way, and so far it seems to be working — more than 120 new members have signed up in the past 6 months.

Tabachnick is a warm, wise, heimish sort of guy. He loves fishing, and had a great time with some of his tenants — the Providence Community Kollel.

He feels that dynamic and healthy organizations — Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living in Warwick, or Camp JORI in Wakefield ("The best kept secret in New England," he said) can only help to strengthen the community as a whole. Changes appear to be happening — Jewish Family Service and Jewish Seniors Agency have been discussing with the JCC ways to deliver services more efficiently, a major culture change.

"Everybody has to stop being so territorial and take a look together at what we want this community to be," he said.

Following Tabachnick's path through the Jewish communities of America almost requires a map. He's worked as interim exec at JCCs in Buffalo, Hartford and Toledo, was the number two man at the Jewish Federation of New Jersey and led centers in Akron,



Photo by Jonathan Rubin
Hy Tabachnick, interim director at the JCC.

See JCC INTERIM EXEC., page 33

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Party Primaries: Sept. 12



CONGRESSMAN JAMES R. LANGEVIN met with members of the Jewish community and the Jewish Federation's Community Relations Council on July 7 at Tamarisk in July. From left are Carol Brooklyn, CRC government chair David Leach and Sharon Gaines, president of the CRC.

ISRAEL

Israel is at war with Hezbollah and Hamas. What would your strategy be to defuse the current conflict and restore stability in the region? How would you deal with Iran and Syria?

Jim Langevin: The U.S. needs to play an active role in establishing a lasting peace in the area. I support Israel's right to defend its civilian populations from the attacks by Hamas and Hezbollah on Israeli territory. While an immediate abatement of violence is a critical step in reducing casualties, I believe that lasting peace cannot be achieved until Hezbollah is fully disarmed. Similarly, if Hamas intends to exercise political power in Palestinian government, it must act responsibly and end its violent actions; consequently I have supported efforts to restrict U.S. assistance to the Palestinian Authority until it renounces terrorism and recognizes Israel.

Israelis, Palestinians and the Lebanese are united in their hope to live in peaceful coexistence and cooperation, but groups like Hamas and Hezbollah, with the material and ideological support of Syria and Iran have undermined those efforts and instead embraced violence and destruction. I believe a strong international response is needed to condemn acts of terrorism, ensure that Hezbollah is disarmed in accordance with U.N. Security Resolution 1559, and put pressure on Syria and Iran to end their support of Hamas, Hezbollah and other terrorist organizations.

Jennifer Lawless: As a strong supporter of the state of Israel, I believe we must support our allies and work to make sure they are safe and secure. The terrorism in which groups like Hezbollah and Hamas engage is absolutely not acceptable and must be stopped. To stand by Israel, the United States has a responsibility to become the leader we once were in brokering a lasting peace in the Middle East. Our federal government must work with the governments and coalitions in the region to reduce and condemn terrorist attacks while brokering lasting peace.

Instead of encouraging unilateral discourse, the current administration has engaged in a foreign policy dictated by virtually unilateral pre-emption, best exemplified by the war in Iraq. This foreign policy has caused us to lose respect and trust from countries in the Middle East and has undermined our ability to work diplomatically with other nations. We need new leadership in Washington that will restore the relationships and relative stability in the Middle East.

IRAQ

Did you support going into Iraq? Do you think the number of American troops should be increased, as President Bush wants, or decreased — and if so, what would be your specific timetable for withdrawal?

Jim Langevin: While I did not vote for the war in Iraq, I am committed to supporting our troops and bringing them home safely as soon as possible. I have worked closely with my Democratic colleagues in the House and have called for a new

approach to our mission in Iraq. We believe that 2006 should be a year of transition in which the U.S. troops transfer primary responsibility of security to the Iraqi Security Forces. We must recognize that a majority of violence is now sectarian, with Sunni and Shiite groups vying for control. The problem cannot be solved through our continued military presence in Iraq, and our troops risk being caught in the crossfire. We need a strong international diplomatic and economic effort to prevent civil war and to rebuild Iraq, and our troops should transfer control of security to Iraqi forces as soon as possible so that we can begin to draw down our troops.

Jennifer Lawless: I absolutely did not support the President's decision to go to war, and I believe that the war in Iraq is currently the biggest foreign policy challenge facing the United States. Now that we are there, I do believe that we have an obligation to support our troops. We must ensure that they have the equipment and infrastructure they need. I do not, however, support the President's proposal to increase the number of American troops in Iraq. Instead, we must start the process of bringing our troops home, and we owe it to the American people to present them with a firm timetable to accomplish this. I support a timetable that would allow us to bring the bulk of our troops back home by the end of the year.

DIVESTMENT

What is your view on divestment from Israel by universities or organizations as a means of addressing the conflict between Israel and Palestinians?

Jim Langevin: While American organizations are certainly free to make financial decisions that reflect their beliefs, I do not think that divestment from Israel will lead to greater security or promote peace. The root cause of violence in the region lies not with Israel, but with radical organizations such as Hamas and Hezbollah.

Jennifer Lawless: As a strong supporter of Israel, I would not encourage universities or organizations to divest from Israel.

ANTI-SEMITISM

Do you see anti-Semitism as a serious problem in America today? If so, how should the state and federal governments deal with it?

Jim Langevin: The Holocaust stands out as one of history's most tragic examples of humankind's potential for ignorance and cruelty. I have been disturbed by reports of anti-Semitism, both in the U.S. and overseas, and we most strongly condemn such actions. To combat anti-Semitism and other forms of violence, I am an original co-sponsor of Local Law Enforcement Enhancement bill, which would provide federal assistance to state and local law enforcement officials to investigate and prosecute hate crimes.

Jennifer Lawless: Overall, I certainly think the United States has come a long way and has made great strides in reducing anti-Semitism and racism. Events like the

Electio Candidates

STATE WEBSITE ON ELECTIO

By Mary Korr

In collaboration with the Community Federation of R.I., The Jewish Voice for Elections to U.S. Senate and Congressional upcoming primary and general elections.

- Today's issue covers the primary race
- The Sept. 1 edition will cover the State Candidates for the governor's race
- Responses can also be viewed online

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Senate and Congressional District 1 races.
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at www.jvhri.org.

NGRESSONAL DIST. 2:

Jim" Langevin (Dem.)

Jennifer L. Lawless (Dem.)



CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE JENNIFER LAWLESS, right front, speaks to Carol Sugarman at a discussion held at the Jewish Federation on July 12, sponsored by the Community Relations Council (CRC). Cheryl Teterow, at far right, talks over the election.

recent shooting in Seattle, however, demonstrate that anti-Semitism is still alive. State and federal governments must continue to support programs that advance equality.

CHOICE

What is your stand on the abortion issue and a woman's right to choose? Are there any exceptions to your stated position and do you think Roe v. Wade should be overturned by the current Supreme Court?

Jim Langevin: My pro-life stance is shaped by my long-held beliefs and personal experiences. I prefer to focus on common ground between pro-life and pro-choice groups in discussions about this issue, instead of seeking a constitutional amendment banning abortion or overturning Roe v. Wade. I will continue to support access to education, family planning information, birth control, health care and other resources for women and children.

Jennifer Lawless: A strong advocate for a woman's right to choose, I believe that everyone deserves the freedom to make decisions about their reproductive lives. Although abortion should never be a first choice, I believe that we must preserve a woman's right to choose with a full range of reproductive health options. Therefore, I absolutely do not believe the Supreme Court should overturn Roe v. Wade.

ENERGY

What should the U.S. and its citizens be doing to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and the use of fossil fuels?

Jim Langevin: We need a comprehensive national energy policy that guarantees access to affordable power, promotes clean and renewable energy sources and encourages conservation efforts. Just as our nation worked together to put a man on the moon, we must now unite behind an energy policy that enhances national security, creates American jobs and protects our environment. I am an original co-sponsor of H.R. 2828, the New Apollo Energy Act, which would use technology and incentives to drastically reduce our domestic oil consumption, saving as much as 3 million barrels a day by 2020.

Jennifer Lawless: The United States has always led the way in technological innovation, and our approach toward energy should be no different. We must work together to promote an energy policy that allows for job growth, protects our environment, and ensures American energy independence. This means that we must invest in alternative sources of energy such as hydrogen, solar, wind, and geothermal energy. I will fight to ensure that, by 2015, at least 20 percent of our energy comes from renewable sources.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

What is your position on same-sex marriage and/or civil unions? Do you support a U.S. constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriages?

General Election: Nov. 7

Jim Langevin: The government must ensure that all its citizens are treated equally under the law, and same-sex committed couples should receive the same rights and benefits as married couples. I believe that civil unions are preferable to marriage to achieve that goal, but it is ultimately up to the states to decide. I have opposed a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriages.

Jennifer Lawless: I believe that all couples deserve equal rights and protection under the law. I am a strong supporter of marriage equality, and I oppose a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriages.

STEM-CELL RESEARCH

What is your position on embryonic and/or adult stem-cell research using federal dollars?

Jim Langevin: I strongly support the expansion of federal funding of embryonic stem cell research since it has the potential to ease the pain and suffering of millions. I also support the continued funding of adult stem cell research projects. I joined a group of my colleagues in introducing H.R. 810, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act and helped secure its passage in May 2005. In July 2006, I voted to override the President's veto of this bill. I will continue the fight to expand stem cell research and funding.

Jennifer Lawless: I strongly support stem-cell research. Many Americans can benefit from such research, and we should work to pave the way for scientific advancement in this field.

CHURCH-STATE

Do you think religious symbols have a place in public schools or on display on local, state or federally-owned property? What about a "moment of silence" in public schools—is this prayer?

Jim Langevin: The government should never use religious symbols to promote or restrict a particular religion, and I oppose religious displays with that express purpose. The Supreme Court has indicated that the constitutionality of religious displays lies greatly in their context, and I think that government officials must consider all points of view when deliberating on the display of religious symbols. With regard to a moment of silence in schools, I am wary of any legislation or provision that would threaten our established separation between church and state.

Jennifer Lawless: I believe in a strict separation of church and state and, therefore, I do not believe that religious symbols belong on any public property. I also do not believe that a "moment of silence" has a place in public schools, both because it requires students to participate in spiritual exercise and because it is unfair to students whose religions do not allow them to pray in public.



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The possibility of pastrami in Prague

By Dinah A. Spritzer

PRAGUE (JTA) — A beffy tourist approaches the counter and, with a distinctive outer-borough New York accent, brusquely interrogates a modest rabbi's wife.

"Hey, I heard this is the only place in Prague where you can get pastrami. True or false?" he asked, clearly intending to act on an ancient urge known to many as "deli desire."

Dini Barash briefly hesitates, then replies with her big and disarming white-toothed smile, "Pastrami we have. And you can even get corned beef."

Awed at his discovery, the traveler shouts with glee to his companions loitering outside, "Guys, this is the place!"

And in march two more men. "Maybe you got a knish?" queries one of her new patrons, an African American.

This enthusiasm is becoming commonplace at Prague's first kosher deli, opened a month ago by the city's Chabad rabbi, Manis Barash, and his wife, Dini. Shelanu Cafe & Deli, in the heart of the Jewish Quarter, is one of a tiny number of kosher restaurants in the country.

A casual cafe, it has broader appeal than King Solomon's, a kosher place where the food is excellent but higher prices and a more formal setting limit its range of clientele.

So far, Barash says, Shelanu — "Ours" in Hebrew — has been frequented by transplanted and

visiting Israelis and Americans, Japanese groups and French Jews desperate for kosher food. There is almost no place in the country to eat kosher, even though it is estimated that hundreds of thousands of Jewish tourists come to Prague each year to see some of the most beautiful synagogues in Europe.

"We were so happy to find this place," said Eyan Katsav, 32, a tourist from Ashdod, Israel.

Biting into a Rochester, Shelanu's pastrami sandwich, he added, "For three days I didn't really eat anything. It's very weird that nobody thought of having a cheap kosher cafe before," he said.

On Shelanu's business cards, the name of the restaurant is prefaced with "Chabad's," pointing out the cafe's links to the Orthodox movement famous for welcoming strangers.

The 35-year-old rabbi hopes Shelanu will serve as a hub for Jewish activity. He and his wife are considering offering cultural events there.

"Not everyone can meet and socialize in shul. Maybe some tourists can come here, meet other Jews, meet the rabbi, and yes, they might then come to Chabad for a service. Why not?" Barash says.

He noted that his fellow Chabad rabbis had opened up eateries in Venice and Athens. "It's like having an unofficial JCC," said Barash, well aware that no such gathering place exists in Prague.



An earlier attempt by the rabbi to reach out to tourists by leading services at Prague's Old-New Synagogue put him at odds with a large segment of Prague's Jewish community. The community's then-chairman fired the country's chief rabbi, a Czech native, and installed the New York-born Barash, outraging some Czech Jews who feared a Chabad takeover of their community.

But as he tries to put these disputes in the past, Barash is cheerful, teasing a secular customer that she has made a big mistake eating meat with her milkshake, until she realizes that her beverage is made from soy.

Barash said the cafe is the realization of a dream he has had since coming to Prague in the summer of 1996.

Shelanu's chef is a Moroccan Jew who worked for many years at a kosher restaurant in Casa-

blanca.

The cafe menus, sitting next to prayer books, are in English and Hebrew, but have not yet been translated into Czech.

There are about 1,500 to 3,000 Czech Jews in the capital. Very few keep kosher.

Barash says he eventually wants to attract locals, perhaps with lunch specials. "But right

now as we are in the early stages and still getting things to run smoothly.

At least one semi-local Jew frequents Shelanu. Jakov Feldman, a native of what was then Czechoslovakia who survived the Shoah, returns to Prague each year for his brother's Yartzheit. He offers free history lessons in the cafe by telling his life story upon request.

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Labor Day cookout

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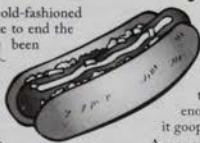
Don't forget to prick the franks with a fork so some fat can run out and they won't pop open on the grill and toast the rolls.

Potato salad

2 lbs. small red potatoes, unpeeled or Yukon golds, peeled after cooking

1 bunch scallions, trimmed and cut into 1/4 inch pieces, green and white

2 or 3 hard-boiled eggs.



2 or 3 ribs celery, sliced thin

Mayonnaise to taste but not enough to make it goopy.

A spoonful or so of Dijon mustard.

Salt and pepper to taste

Cook potatoes in boiling water until you can poke to the center with a fork. Drain. For red potatoes, cut up if needed. If using Yukons, peel them now and cut up bite-size. Add the scallions, as much as you like, cut-up eggs and just enough mayo to coat. Salt and pepper to taste. If you like, you can add sliced radishes or any other family recipe ingredients.

Chill until serving time.

Sweet Corn

I use my big, square old electric frying pan and turn the ears once during cooking, so I don't have to deal with a cauldron of boiling water.

Buy your corn, fresh picked, from a farm stand. For insurance, put a little salt and a

tablespoon or so of sugar in the cooking water. Put the shucked ears into boiling water, turn once after 7 or 8 minutes if in a shallow pan, cook for another 5 minutes or so until a fork pokes the kernels easily.

Dessert

Have cut-up melon, watermelon, berries, peaches, plums, any or all of these, and serve as is, or over sorbet. Or serve big, juicy slices of watermelon.

For a fancier dessert, try this.

Pretend watermelon

You will need a pint of pistachio tofutti, a pint of vanilla tofutti, a quart of raspberry tofutti, and a cup of chocolate chips.

Chill a large metal bowl such as an electric mixer bowl. Soften and spread the pistachio all around the interior. Freeze solid. Soften the vanilla and spread inside the pistachio, freeze again. Soften the raspberry, stir in the chocolate chips and pack into the center. Cover with plastic wrap and freeze hard. To unmold, wrap bowl in a warm, wet towel, turn onto a large round platter. You can lightly brush the outside with green food coloring. Slice into wedges for a fun and tasty dessert.



Aroma cafe offers a taste of Israel in New York City

By Talia S. Coutin

NEW YORK (JTA) - If you're half-intoxicated at 4 a.m. after a night of chibbutz, your food options might look bleak. Same if you're hankering for a meal at 4 p.m., before restaurants start serving dinner.

But the new Aroma Espresso Bar in Manhattan's SoHo neighborhood, abuzz with Hebrew-speaking hipsters, is serving up Israeli cafe culture 24/7, even if its Israeli-ness is a bit muted.

For transplanted Israelis in New York, the cafe's red-, black- and white-toned interior is nostalgic. With 73 branches in Israel serving

100,000 customers a day, according to a company estimate, Aroma is one successful sabra, (native Israeli).

The SoHo outlet, Aroma's first international branch, opened July 11, already attracted a wide swath of the public.

For patron Oren Amber, an attempt by some to boycott Israeli establishments is not only ridiculous but ignores the rich diversity of Israeli society. But life comes at the New York cafe.

"What good is it to be depressed all day?" Amber asked. Better, indeed, to drink some strong coffee.

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Medical Arts

Logic at the kitchen table

Childhood memories tend to be charming but inevitably, in time, they also become distorted, dismaying and confusing



Stanley Aronson MD.

if not totally enigmatic. We remember fragments rather than full scenarios from our childhoods; and, with time, even these isolated fragments become hazy, illusive and are no longer to be trusted. With the inevitable doubts comes the feeling of whether they are, indeed, accurate memories or merely fantasies.

I vaguely remember a scene, back in the 1920s, when I was seated at the kitchen table with little appetite for the meal placed before me. My mother, in an exasperated voice, had exclaimed, "Eat it; there are thousands of children in China who are starving!"

How does a six-year-old, with no formal training in Talmudic dialectics, respond to this commandment? And further, how does this innocent six-year-old, not yet wise in the convolutions of moral reasoning, learn to handle the burden of guilt engendered by the certain knowledge that the nutritional state of thousands of Chinese children depends solely on his idiosyncratic eating habits somewhere in the depths of the Bronxville section of Brooklyn? (And the further impertinent thought, "If Cousin Shmuel can't find our tenement in broad daylight, how will the Chinese know where I eat and what I eat?")

What urgent thoughts must have scurried through this youngster's largely vacant brain as he pondered the global ramifications of his quirky appetite. "How do the Chinese ever find out about my less than enthusiastic appetite?" And, "If I eat only some of my string beans, would it at least help some of the hungry Chinese children?" And belatedly, "If I force myself to eat all of the string beans, will all of the food suddenly come from to feed all of those starving Chinese children?" And finally, "If the Chinese really have all of that food close by, why do they not just feed the children rather than make me complicit in their starvation?"

Responses like this, from the mouth of a six-year-old, would have been more an uncharacteristic act of impertinence than a logical rejoinder. Obedience, at least to the age of adolescence, was taken for granted in those

years. Furthermore, hunger in the 1920s was not something to be discussed frivolously or taken lightly. But, yet, to this six-year-old, just learning the labyrinthine ways of how things work in this world, his mother's statement sounded incomplete. There must have been, he conjectured, something more substantive than the uttered words.

Only years later when both the realities of parenthood and international food shortages finally dawned on me, did I realize that my mother was not bereft



For many Jewish children growing up in the "Golden Land," the kitchen was their source of sustenance and the first of many classrooms where the lessons of life were learned.

of logic, but in her haste, was merely conflating three separate thoughts: a verity about chronic food shortages in East Asia, a concern about her child's periodic anorexia, and a prompting to that child (me) to consider how fortunate I was to have adequate nutrition three times each day. And, if she had the time and patience, she might then have declared, "Please eat your vegetables, and while doing so, you might wish to reflect on those unfortunate children in other parts of the world, who do not have the luxury of adequate food for each meal." Mothers in those days had more to do than parse and reconstruct their sentences.

For many Jewish children growing up in the "Golden Land," the kitchen was their source of sustenance and the first of many classrooms where the lessons of life were learned. In the years before the curse of television anesthetized many households, memories of the kitchen tended to dominate the recollections of childhood, certainly more so than any other room in the home. Family rituals and conversations may be barely recalled but if they took place in the kitchen, they tended to be deeply imprinted in the child's memory, and thus if a rule or a sentence had been said repeatedly in the kitchen, over the years it gradually assumed a canonical status and graduated to become a household aphorism.

No culture or profession is without its aphorisms. Medical school classrooms studies, until the 18th century, were largely exercises in the memorization of these succinct statements, the classical aphorisms of ancient physicians such as Hippocrates, Galen and Maimonides. Every physician learns, somewhere along the way, such aphorisms as: "First, do no

harm," or, "Art is long and life is short," or, "With rain and southerly winds come much hectic fever," or, "In the misery of each patient, I see only the soul of a fellow human being."

Kitchen aphorisms, certainly in Jewish kitchens, tended to be more medical than environmental. There were the better-known ones such as "Starve a fever and feed a cold," (or was it the other way around?) or, "If you don't wear your galoshes you'll have double pneumonia by supper-time," or, "Don't eat ices in the summer because you will get infantile paralysis." They tended to be ominous, prognostic and emphatic, leaving little doubt about the outcome.

In the current age of abundant antibiotics and comprehensive health insurance, these kitchen-generated aphorisms now appear amusing, even quaint. But they were uttered decades ago by anxious souls whose primary concerns were the welfare, indeed the survival, of their immediate families; and they represented their way of helping children to exercise caution in a perilous world and to rid themselves of the curious notion that plagues most youngsters, the feeling of thinking they are immortal.

The kitchen of the dawn-ing years of the 21st century is no longer the primary classroom of life. It is now a palatial space with tile floors, expansive refrigerators, wet bars and granite counters where meals are hastily consumed by children before running off to soccer practice. Somewhere, though, a faint echo may be heard of an anxious grandmother saying, "Don't eat that candy bar; your teeth will rot and fall out."

Dr. Stanley Aronson is dean emeritus of Brown Medical School.

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Book Review**Bristol author Goodman publishes young adult sequel**

By **Laura Berlinsky-Schine**

In May, local Jewish author Hannah R. Goodman published her new young adult novel, "My Summer Vacation," the sequel to her award-winning book, "My Sister's Wedding." "My Summer Vacation" continues the story of Maddie Hickman, 16, a counselor-in-training at a creative arts summer camp.

The novel focuses on Maddie's relationships with her friends and family, who often place her in uncomfortable roles. Maddie's sister, Barbara, is a recovering alcoholic, who forces her younger sister to assume the position of the responsible adult in their relationship. Maddie's new friend at camp reveals that his girlfriend died in a car accident with a drunk driver, and Maddie is confused about how to interact with him. Her other camp friends become involved in a bitter feud, and Maddie becomes involved, despite her wish to avoid "taking sides."

These experiences and Maddie's support from those who love her provide her with the ability to cope when tragedy strikes.



Goodman's novel separates itself from many young adult novels with its more mature themes of complicated relationships, loss and recovery, as well as being one of the few teen novels

with a strong Jewish protagonist. While "My Summer Vacation" is not an overtly Jewish-themed book, Judaism plays a role in the storyline and in the development of Maddie's character. Because the camp is "70 percent Jewish... it just feels safe," according to Maddie, who feels a little out of place at home. "Being Jewish is a town as white and Catholic as a mine can make you notice things about yourself you never knew existed," she explains.

In addition to her work as an author, Goodman, a Bristol resident, is a writing teacher through her workshop "Releasing the writer within," an editor, and a writing consultant. She owns "The Write Touch," a small publishing company, through which she self-publishes her books. Goodman has won numerous writing awards, including first place in the Writer's Digest International Self-Publishing Contest, children's division, for "My Sister's Wedding" in 2004.

Children's books out this month

By **Laura Berlinsky-Schine**

Rebecca's Journey Home
 (Ages 4-9) By **Brynn Olenberg Sugarman**

Rebecca's Journey Home explores the diversity that exists within Judaism. Brynn Olenberg Sugarman tells the story of the Steins, a Jewish family welcoming home an adopted Vietnam-

ese baby. The Steins teach their children that while the baby will look Vietnamese, she will also be American and Jewish, and share both the family's heritage and her own.

The story also tells of Jewish customs, including Shabbat and the baby's mikvah, teaching children about Jewish practices and cultural diversity.

Lilith's Ark: Teenage Tales of Biblical Women (Ages 12 and up) By **Deborah Bodin Cohen**

Lilith's Ark is a feminist view of the bible, telling the stories of nine biblical women in first person narratives. The chapters are based on biblical and midrashic stories, but are created from the author's imagination to personify the women who possess limited roles in the Torah.

Deborah Bodin Cohen depicts the women as the heroines of the Torah and the back-

See CHILDREN'S BOOKS, page 31

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back to school

JCDS plans opening celebration



The proposed new entrance to the Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island.

PROVIDENCE — The Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island (JCDSRI) is having an opening celebration on Tuesday, Sept. 5. The event begins at 4:45 p.m. with a continuation of the annual meeting in the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island Board Room. The new JCDSRI logo will be revealed and board members will be installed.

At 5:30 p.m., the community will then gather for a kosher picnic and concert on the fields behind the Jewish Community Center. "Schlock Rock," a Jewish rock and roll band, will perform.

JCDSRI was established in 2005 as a community school for Jewish children in Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts. The school provides a well-rounded academic education that emphasizes personalized learning.

The curriculum weaves together ancient and modern texts, Jewish and general studies, into an integrated whole.

For more information, contact Andrea Katzman, at 273-3815 or akatzman@jcdsri.org or visit www.jcdsri.org.



Photo by Phoebe Neel

CREATION — Teacher workshops at the Bureau of Jewish Education's Creativity Center will begin with a program built around the theme of Creation for the new school year. Coordinator Diane Cerep holds up one of the posters she made to be used in the classroom.

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JEWISH PARENTING

Talking to Jewish children about the war in Israel

By Sharon Duke Estroff

One of our greatest parenting challenges is getting our kids to listen to us. But what happens when we don't know what to say? This is the dilemma currently facing millions of American Jewish parents as we



Sharon Estroff

As I began to do research for this column, I found bountiful generalized information on talking about war with kids. There were developmental timetables detailing when children can cognitively process the concept of war (around first grade); tips on easing their anxiety over disturbing images in the media (reassure them that the fighting is far away), and hints on discussing evil figures in the news (say the army is going to get the bad guys so everyone can be safe and free).

These guidelines are certainly relevant in relation to the Iraqi War — a concern to every American child. But when it

came to my topic at hand — talking to American Jewish children about Israel's war — the standard parenting protocol seemed to come up painfully short.

After all, our kids were barely out of diapers before they were waving blue and white flags in celebration of Israeli Independence Day. They had yet to lose their first tooth before they were reciting the *motzi* in Israel's native tongue. They could peg the *Tikvah* in five notes on "Name that Tune." Israel is not just a faceless country half a world away to our kids; it is part of their fabric. (Besides, even if Israel is half a world away, the tragedy in Seattle and visibly heightened security at local synagogues, day schools and Jewish community centers, quickly communicate to our kids that the threat is real.)

With my research efforts coming up dry, and this issue lying largely outside my realm of expertise, I consulted with Dr. Sara Boucchechter, an Israeli-turned-Atlanta clinical psychologist and mother of three, who specializes in crisis intervention, and Rabbi Loren Sykes, director of Camp Ramah Darom and winner of the prestigious Covenant Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. The following suggestions are drawn from their

insight.

Let your child guide your conversation. Keeping kids in the loop about the crisis in Israel doesn't entail sharing every detail. To ensure age-appropriate dialogue, start out by asking your child what he/she already knows about the war, and building your discussion from there.

should also stress that the vast majority are kind, caring and accepting.

Reassure them that adults will protect them. All children (even tweens and teens who tend to sum up their parents as embarrassing and uncool) crave the knowledge that the grown-ups in their lives are doing everything in their power to ensure their safety

tell our children never to be afraid or embarrassed of being Jewish," says Boucchechter. "That's how we should live, proud and unified as a Jewish community."

Turn anger into action. We have two choices, says Sykes: "Sit back and think about how terrible the situation is and all the things we can't do. Or do everything we can do in a happy way.

...tell kids that, yes, there is violence in Israel right now. But there are also people swimming, hiking, laughing and playing.

Limit and monitor media exposure. While experts agree that grade-schoolers should have some access to news coverage, sensationalism makes this a slippery slope. Newspapers are a good starting point for exposing kids to media reports since you can monitor the content in advance. And as for TV, stay close and ready to field questions...with your remote control handy.

Give the good with the bad. There's a fine line between letting kids know what's going on in Israel and portraying it as a sad and dangerous place, says Rabbi Sykes. Rather tell kids that, yes, there is violence in Israel right now. But there are also people swimming, hiking, laughing and playing.

A few rotten apples don't ruin the whole barrel. While we should be honest with our kids that there are bad people in the world, says Dr. Boucchechter, we

in these uncertain times. Keep living. "In Israel, bad things happen and then life goes on," says Sykes. "If you don't snap back you'll be living a paralyzed life." Similarly, while we should take reasonable precautions here in the United States, we must show our children that fear will not stop us from living.

Provide historical perspective. By recounting to our children the many times the Jewish people and Israel have overcome powerful enemies, says Boucchechter, we give them hope — and proof — that ultimately good, not evil, prevails.

Pray. Even simple spiritual acts like lighting a candle and reciting a special Shabbat prayer for Israel, renews our family's hope and faith that God will once again pull the Jewish people through.

Build Jewish pride. "We must

Writing letters to the President; sending candy and cards to Israeli soldiers; or raising money for the Israel Emergency Campaign (www.ujc.org) are all ways to get kids involved.

Communicate strength. It seems so simple, but if we consistently tell our children that they are strong, says Boucchechter, they will be strong. "Everywhere in Israel," she adds, "there are billboards and people handing out leaflets with a simple two word message: Yisrael Chazakah, Israel — the Jewish People — are strong."

Sharon Duke Estroff is an internationally-syndicated Jewish parenting columnist, award-winning Jewish educator and mother of four. Her Jewish parenting book will be published by Broadway Books, a division of Random House in 2007.



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Agudas Achim names new education director

Open house on Aug. 27 for religious school

ATTLEBORO — Students returning to the Agudas Achim Religious School will be greeted by their new director of education, Kim Bodemer, and a variety of new programs and initiatives.

Appointed in June, Bodemer holds a degree in education and psychology and has experience creating learning programs in the Chelsea Public Schools and Jewish Community Centers.

With special experience in working with non-traditional learning, Bodemer plans some creative programs for the school. "People learn in many ways," she says. "We are planning more



Kim Bodemer

individualized curricula that suit different learning styles. Rather than just sitting in a chair, and listening, childhood education can include art, singing and dancing."

The new position of director allows the school to combine its upper and lower schools, which will help unify education between age groups.

The position of religious school director was made possible in part by a grant from the Legacy Heritage Fund, which supports creative advances in Jewish family education. Congregation Agudas Achim is one of 27 synagogues in North America and Israel to receive the grant. "This makes us an award-winning Hebrew School," says Rabbi Elyse Wechterman. "We are very pleased to be recognized for our Jewish education."

Enrollment started July 1 and continues. There will be an Agudas Achim open house, Aug. 27 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the synagogue at 901 North Main St.



back to school

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BJE announces Evening of Jewish Renaissance

PROVIDENCE — The Bureau of Jewish Education announces that after a one-year hiatus, the Judge Marjorie and Dr. James Yashar Evening of Jewish Renaissance will again be held this fall on Sat., Oct. 28.

The Evening of Jewish Renaissance was created six years ago to highlight the breadth and depth of Jewish educational opportunities already available in the Jewish community, to inform those who might not know of the various options for Jewish study in their community; and to act as a catalyst for continuing enrollment in the variety of Jewish learning in the community.

In past years, this program has brought together hundreds of adults from all denominations to share Havdalah and an evening of Jewish learning and culture. Participants have come from nearly every city and town in Rhode Island and also from neighboring communities in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The presenters include community rabbis, educators, and other professionals.

The community is invited to participate.

For additional information contact Jana Brenman at jbrnman@bjeri.org or call the BJE at 331-0596.



Parenting class with expert to start Sept. 14

PROVIDENCE — Jewish Family Service and the Jewish Community Center are offering a parenting class for parents of children ages birth to 9 months. This class will explore topics of interest to new parents, such as sleeping, eating, family relationships and baby temperaments, while offering support and networking opportunities for new

moons. Participants will also be able to suggest topics and there will be ample time for Q&A at each session.

Sessions will take place on Thursday mornings from 10-11:30 a.m., beginning Sept. 14. Suzanne Jacobs, LICSW, JFS's child and family therapist, will facilitate with additional community speakers joining as well.

Fee for the series of sessions is \$50 and the classes will meet at the JCC. Partial funding for this program came from the Women's Alliance Endowment Fund at JFRI.

For more information, contact Suzanne Jacobs at JFS (331-1244, suzanne@jfsri.org) or to register, contact the JCC at 861-8800.

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back to school



Back-to-school begins with journey to Japan

By Phoebe Neel

Today, the appearance of an ordinary Macy's catalogue hit hard, shattering my bubble of blissful denial about the beginning of school. On the cover, the words Back-to-School and the crisp, unnaturally new jeans hit me hard, and I had to stop and realize that school is only—gasp! two weeks away. Except I won't be returning to Classical High School in Providence this fall. Instead, I will brave the airport screening process, surrender my sunscreen and lip balm and travel to a country I have never seen before. I'm going to be an exchange student in the community of Kumamoto, Japan for the first semester of the school year, eating the regional specialty of raw horse meat (I am not joking) and generally floundering elementary Japanese ability. To say I am terrified is an understatement, and the back-to-school catalogue was a rude awakening to the fact that on Aug. 30th I will be in a country that uses a writing system I can't read, and speaks a language that sounds like a jigsaw puzzle of vowels.

That being said, to be honest, religion was not at the forefront

of my mind during the first, tumultuous weeks of making the decision to move alone to Japan. I would say it took a few months of nervous breakdowns about the impending move before I considered how my Jewish faith would fare in Japan. Although I will be living there only for a semester, my time there overlaps with Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Hanukkah, and most of the heavy-weight Jewish holidays. Living in the U.S., where Judaism occupies a faraway second place to Christianity, I assumed there was no hope for Japan, which already has not one, but two, national religions. In Japan even Christianity, with only 1.4 million Japanese believers, falls far behind Buddhism and Shintoism.

I expected to be somewhat of a missionary, adding Judaism to the long list of characteristics (being a redhead with countless freckles, I might become somewhat of a jungle show) my Japanese host family will have never seen me before. I had resigned myself to saying prayers by myself and constant explanations of that weird 8-armed candleholder that I've packed in my suitcase, when I decided to utilize the genius of

I was pleasantly surprised to learn that there are two actual synagogues in Japan, and Jews make up a whopping 0.0008% of Japan's total population!

Wikipedia and assess the situation for myself.

I was pleasantly surprised to learn that there are two actual synagogues in Japan, and Jews make up a whopping 0.0008% of Japan's total population! In fact, during the 1930s, Imperial Japan partially implemented the "Fugu Plan," a scheme created to entice Jews to immigrate to Japan during World War II. They thought of Jews as "quite beneficial to Japan, but also quite dangerous." Taking this belief to heart, the plan was named after the puffer fish 'Fugu', a revered Japanese delicacy that, if prepared inexactly, can prove fatal. The plan "promulgated the idea

that the Jewish people had an intrinsic and almost supernatural ability to accumulate money and power."

Reading all of this, I had to laugh at their vision of the Jews—tallit-clad femme fatales, charming the Japanese into wealth and power, but ready to backstab at a moment's notice. Although the Japanese tried greatly to convince tens of thousands of Jews to settle, they apparently weren't too successful. However, it's very nice to think that Jews earned such a glamorous reputation! I'm hoping this image has held over from 1930, so when my Japanese family hears I'm Jewish, they'll immediately envision a peril-



Phoebe Neel

ous seductress, and not a sho junior from unsensational Rhode Island, home of quahogs, an more synagogues than in the whole of Japan.

Phoebe Neel is an intern at the Jewish Voice and Herald this summer.

"School Days" brings responses

The Voice and Herald was delighted to hear from people who were able to identify two of the photos on our "School days, school days" on page in the August 4 issue.

We had two responses on the "news/did" photo, from her daughter, Adele Alberts, and granddaughter, Susan Mershon.

Adele Alberts told us, "Irene Cohen was my mother. She was one of four children of Florence and Abe Cohen, born Dec. 3 1901. She grew up in South Providence and she married at an early

age, my father Samuel Schechter. They had three children and I am the only survivor. I heard many stories how she was a paper girl but I did not have this picture.

From Susan Mershon we heard, "I am sending you some information on my grandmother, Irene Cohen, (the news girl).

Irene was born in Arctic, West Warwick, R.I. on Dec. 3, 1901 to Florence and Abraham Cohen. The oldest of four children, her siblings were the late Leonora Cohen Shuman, Nora Cohen Kozlow of Providence and Danny Cohen of Quincy, Mass.

Irene had a very tough life. Money was tight so the Cohens sent their oldest child to live with an aunt and uncle for a while, who sent her out to be a news girl.

She married Samuel Schechter in 1921. They lived on Sayles St. in So. Providence. They had three children, Marvin and Lawrence Schechter and my mother, Adele Schechter Alberts.



Lewis Treisman of West Greenwich writes: "I have no specific information about the photo of Rose Davidson that appeared in the "School days, school days..." section of your August 4th edition, but Rose was my mother. Judging from the photo, she appears to be about 5 years old, which would date the photo around 1909-10. She emigrated from Russia in 1907 with her parents, lived her whole life in Rhode Island and died in 2000 at age 95.

If anyone can identify one or more of the photos from that page, please contact the Voice and Herald at 421-4111, Ext. 204. Email mkorr@jvfi.org or write to 130 Seasons St., Providence, RI 02908.

— Marylyn Graff

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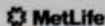
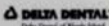
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D'var Torah

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

From page 24

bones of the stories centering on biblical men. Eve, for instance, eats the apple because she craves knowledge that Adam is too ignorant and innocent to understand. Rachel and Leah plot to trick Jacob into marrying Leah because they are disgusted with Jacob's love for Rachel's looks, rather than Leah's intelligence.

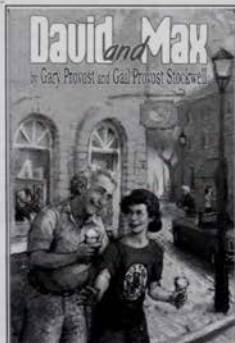
The stories are woven together through the central character of Lilith, the mythical first woman expelled from Eden, who creates an "arc" for the biblical women.

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Max, David's grandfather, believes he has spotted B.B., a childhood friend he believed died in the Holocaust. Now convinced that B.B. is alive, Max and David spend their vacation searching for him. As they begin to unravel the mystery of Max's long lost friend, David learns about Max's own experience in the Holocaust and his past. Max's teachings allow David to cope with the losses he is forced to experience himself over the course of his vacation.

Laura Berlinsky-Schine graduated from the Lincoln School and has been working as an intern at the Jewish Voice & Herald for several months.



TORAH PORTION

Parashat Re'eh — Deuteronomy 11:26–14:2

Resolution through repentance

Parashat Re'eh, along with the month of Elul, remind us that repentance and rapprochement are always the ideal path.

By Dayna Liberman

The Hebrew month of Elul is a very special time in the Jewish year — it is the month directly preceding Rosh Hashanah. It is a time for introspection, personal growth, and preparation for the New Year. It is also a time of heightened spirituality, during which we re-visit our purpose, our relationships with each other, and our connection to God.

This week's Torah portion, Parashat Re'eh, begins with a choice:

See, this day I set before you blessing and curse: blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God... and curse, if you do not obey the commandments... and follow other gods (11:26-28).

The parashah continues with rules and laws pertaining to life in the land of Israel, beginning with the admonition to stay far from idol worship and other religions in

the land.

This parashah is also a source for the concept of the Jews as a "Chosen People".

For you are a people consecrated to the Lord your God: the Lord your God chose you from among all other peoples on earth to be His treasured people (14:2).

For what are we chosen? To act responsibly, to live morally, and to be a "light unto the nations."

The remainder of this portion details many mitzvot [commandments] that set us apart from all other nations. These include kashruth (the laws of keeping kosher), practices related to lending money, how to treat a Jew who is a slave, the consecration of the first-born animal, and a review of the three pilgrimage holidays: Pesach (Passover), Shavuos (Pentecost), and Sukkot (Tabernacles).

Yet while this parashah extensively lists laws that help us lead moral lives, it also describes one of the most difficult topics in the Torah — the commandment to destroy anyone—individual, community, or even town—

devoted to worshipping idols. How is it possible that destroying another person would ultimately bring us closer to God, especially if, as Jews, we are committed to pursuing peace as an ultimate value?

Sometimes war is necessary. Judaism teaches that while the most precious value is life, we are not pacifists. Destroying evil and wiping out a community of evil that is involved with idolatry is also part of justice. The key to any battle or war is to act with mercy. The Torah states: "When approaching a town to attack it, first offer them peace" (20:10).

As we enter the month of Elul, we each fight our own internal struggles against our flaws and shortcomings. But even when this battle seems difficult or hopeless, we should remember that God always accepts *teshuvah* (repentance). With this encouragement, hopefully we will all gain the needed strength to do "what is good and right in the sight of the Lord."

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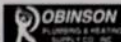
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Obituaries

Seymour L. Cohen, 83

PROVIDENCE — Seymour L. Cohen, 83, died Aug. 1. He was the husband of Rose M. Cohen. They were married for 60 years.

Born in New York City, a son of the late Charles and Eugenie (Jaffe) Cohen, he had resided in Rhode Island since 1956.

He was a World War II Navy veteran.

A member of Temple Beth-El, he was also a former member of Big Brothers of Rhode Island.

Mr. Cohen worked with his son in the family business, Standard Film Products, a founded by his father in 1953.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Paul M. Cohen and his wife, Natalie, of North Scituate; a daughter, Linda Cohen and

her husband, Bruce MacNelly, of West Tisbury, Mass.; and four granddaughters, Gillian and Caitlin Cohen, and Aleah and Julia MacNelly.

Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Providence. Contributions may be made to Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence, RI 02906, or to a charity of choice.

Horace Fabricant, 94

PAWTUCKET — Horace Fabricant, 94, died August 12th. He was the husband of the late Mildred (Sherman) Fabricant. Born in Central Falls, a son of the late Harry and Hannah Fabricant, he had lived in Pawtucket for 29 years.

Before he retired in 1977, he was the owner of Peoples Supermarket, Pawtucket.

Mr. Fabricant was a member of Temple Emanu-El and was a member of the Masons.

He leaves two sons, Dr. James E. Fabricant and his wife Cindi of Tucson, Ariz.; and Fred Fabricant, Esq. and his wife Sheryl of Rye, N.Y.; a brother, Morris Fabricant of Colorado; three grandchildren, Julie, Alexis and Samantha; and numerous extended family. He was the brother of the late Miriam Selinker, Sally, Samuel, and Al Fabricant.

Contributions may be made to Jewish Family Service of R.I.

Herbert Galkin, 82

CRANSTON — Herbert S. Galkin, 82, died August 12. He was the husband of Trudy (Breitkopf) Galkin. Born in Providence, a son of the late Ira S. and Anna (Kenner) Galkin, he had lived in Cranston for 52 years and in Boynton Beach, Fla.

He was vice president of American Insulated Wire Corp. in Pawtucket before retiring in 1989.

Mr. Galkin was a founding member of Temple Sinai as well as its past president and treasurer.

He leaves two sons, David G. Galkin, Esq. and his wife Ellen of Sharon, Mass.; and Dr. Harris M. Galkin and his wife Julie of East Greenwich; a daughter Paula G. Wasser and her husband Bruce of Warwick; A brother, Arnold T. Galkin of Providence and a twin brother Irwin L. Galkin and his wife Carol; six grandchildren, Evan, Jason, David, Leah, Andrew and Ianna, two great-grandchildren, Noah and Greta.

Contributions may be made to Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston, RI 02920.

Betty Selya, 97

HOLLYWOOD, FLA — Betty Selva, 97, longtime resident of Rhode Island, died August 10th. Born in Russia, daughter of the late Max and Malka (Balder) Brier, she spent most of her adult life in this state before moving to Florida in 1984. She was the wife of Herman C. Selya.

In Rhode Island, she was a member of Temple Emanu-El and many civic and community organizations.

Mrs. Selya was a nationally known bridge player, and had attained the rank of Life Master.

Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Judge Bruce M. Selya and his wife Cynthia of Providence; a daughter, Susan Rosen and her husband David of Boston; a brother, Jacob Brier of West Roxbury, three grandchildren, Dawn, Lori Ann and Joel; and three great-grandchildren, Bradford, Samantha and Paige. She was also the sister of the late Ada Golvin and Samuel Brier.

Contributions may be made to The Miram Hospital, 164 Summit Avenue, Providence 02906.

Marion E. Suvall, 89

NORTH ATTLEBORO — Marion E. Suvall, 89, died August 13th. She was the wife of the late Max J. Suvall.

Born in Boston, a daughter of the late Bruno and Florine E. (Scanlan) Morse, she was a resident of North Attleboro since 1939, also living in Tamarack, Fla., for seven years.

She graduated from high school in Dorchester, Mass.

Mrs. Suvall was a former member of Congregation Agudas Achim in Attleboro and its Sisterhood, and its sisterhood, and was active in the Deborah Society in Tamarac, Fla.

She leaves two sons, Donald E. Suvall of Mapleville, R.I.; and Robert A. Suvall of North Attleboro; two daughters, Louise Jarvis of Cleveland, Ohio; and Janice Langille of North Attleboro, eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Marsha Suvall, and grandmother of the late Leslie Langille.

Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Contributions may be made to the North Attleboro Fire Fighters Kids Day Association, P.O. Box 3215, N. Attleboro, MA 02761.

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Simchas

People

Demby receives law degree

CORAL SPRINGS, FLA. — Arielle H. Demby of Coral Springs, Fla., recently received her law degree from Florida State University in Tallahassee. Ms. Demby is also a graduate of the University of Florida with a degree in criminology.

She will begin her career with the State Attorney's Office of Broward County, Florida.

Arielle is the daughter of Deborah and Steven Demby of Coral Springs, Fla., formerly of Cranston. She is also the granddaughter of Harry Demby and the late Helen Demby and the late Harry and Pauline Kortick.

Dr. Ross appointed to Physicians Council

HOUSTON, Texas — Dr. Jeffrey A. Ross, a Providence native, recently accepted an invitation by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (H&HS), Michael O. Leavitt, to be one of 15 practicing physicians to serve on the congressionally mandated Practicing Physicians Advisory Council, which advises the H&HS secretary on Medicare and Medicaid matters.

An associate clinical professor at the Baylor College of Medicine, Dr. Ross is the chief of the diabetic foot clinic at Ben Taub Hospital. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Podiatric Surgery, a fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons and of the American College of Sports Medicine.

He is a member of the regional board of AIPAC.

He is the son of the late Irving and Irina Ross and grandson of the late Louis and Sadie Goldstein, and nephew of Bert and Elaine Goldstein of Providence.

Opera Providence honors Lapidus

PROVIDENCE — Opera Providence has announced that Sally Lapidus will be honored as the 2006 Enrico Caruso Patron of the Arts. The award was established to honor those individuals who have dedicated themselves to the betterment of the community through personal excellence and their support of and generosity toward the arts, and art education. "Sally Lapidus has supported the arts with much passion and conviction," said Lorian De Crescenzo, executive director of Opera Providence.

The award will be presented at Opera Providence's annual gala on Thurs., Sept. 28, at the Hi-Hat Club in Providence.

For more information on the event or Opera Providence, call 331-6060 or visit www.operaprovidence.org.

INTERIM EXEC.

From page 17

Omaha, Atlanta and Boston. He has eight children (through two marriages) and lives with his wife in Secaucus, N.J. He's been contracted for six months here in Rhode Island.

He gives the Providence JCC high marks in the quality of staff, the preschool program and by having a "perfect" location. Where we are still catching up, he said, is in "informal Jewish education," a new spin on the national JCC mission of community building begun in the 1970's. He also hopes to be able to lead the "J" in the search for a permanent director soon.

In the meantime, most of his efforts are on more "concrete" issues, specifically, the building itself. The JCC's boiler is 37 years old (the average life expectancy of one is 20 years). JCC President Jeff Vogel successfully lobbied the Federation last week for a \$30,000 "temporary fix" which would provide the hundreds of daily visitors and dozens of employees in the JCC complex with reliable heat this winter.

Hadassah elects Dannin national V.P.



Karen Dannin

NEW YORK — Karen Dannin of Middletown, R.I., was elected to her second term as national vice president from the Greater Metropolitan Area of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. She will also serve as the chair of travel, and is a national liaison servicing the Boston chapter.

She has recently returned from Israel serving as a Hadassah delegate to the World Zionist Congress. Ms. Dannin is the immediate past national chair of Hadassah Associates and a past president of the Western New England Region of Hadassah. She is a five-generation Hadassah life member and a former Young Judeacan, as are her three grown children.

For more information, visit www.hadassah.org

Birth

LOS ANGELES, Cal. — Stephen S. and Andrea B. (Miller) Hasegawa announce the birth of a son, Jonah Butler Hasegawa, on Dec. 2, 2005. Jonah was welcomed home by his big brother, Nate. Jonah's Hebrew name is Yonah Chaim.

The maternal grandparents are Louis and Ann Messier of Warwick. Maternal great-grandparents are Edward and Evelyn Wasser of Warwick.

The paternal grandparents are Tsuyoshi Hasegawa and Deborah Steinhoff of Santa Barbara, Cal., and Nancy Butler Tulare of Seattle, Wash. Paternal great-grandfather is Dallas Butler of Seattle, Wash.

SEND US YOUR SIMCHAS

Share your good news with the community. Send simchas or people announcements to: Jewish Voice & Herald, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906; or e-mail to: voiceread@jfri.org. Include a SASE if you would like your photo returned.

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My Voice

A Shabbat in Nicaragua

By Nava Winkler

At the end of the school year, I made a truly amazing and memorable trip to Central America. For 18 days, I traveled in Nicaragua, with a group of students and adults from the Met High School, along with our professor, Brady Dunklee. The course, created by Noam Bar-Zemer as his senior thesis project at the Met, was called Democracy, Citizenship, and Education: Nicaragua and the U.S. It was accredited by the Community College of Rhode Island, (CCRI) but fully designed and coordinated by Noam and Dunklee, his mentor, a graduate of Brown University. The purpose of the course was "to introduce students to concepts and perspectives on education in its social and political contexts in the United States and Nicaragua..." as stated in the course's syllabus.

For most of the study, we analyzed college-level texts, held mind-opening discussions, and worked on various assignments here at school. But during that time, we also continually fundraised for our end-of-the-course trip to Nicaragua. By April, we succeeded in raising enough money to make the dream trip a reality, and by the 20th, we were already in the air, flying towards the heart of the Americas.

A brief introduction: Nicaragua, located south of Honduras and north of Costa Rica, is the largest and lowest Central American country. Its land is dominated by two large lakes and a chain of 40 volcanoes, of which six are active. Its history of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes makes this country a geological beauty. I was gaping with disbelief at every new sight we visited. The views of the oceans, lakes, and volcanoes, were all spectacular.

Instability

In the past century, the country has endured continuous social, political, and geological instability. In 1972, an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale, hit the capital city of Managua, killing between 12,000 and 20,000 people, and leaving half a million homeless. In 1977, after 42 years of an oppressive dictatorship, a guerrilla war broke out between the revolutionary, anti-imperialist Sandinistas and the Somoza dictatorship's National Guard (backed up by the U.S.), leaving about 50,000 dead. After the Sandinistas defeated Somoza's National Guard in 1979, Nicaraguans had to adjust to a completely different form of government. Once a totalitarian regime, it was now a government with a strong socialist ideology. With the anti-Sandinista Contras continuing to fight even after the revolution, the Sandinistas ruled a tumultuous decade until they were voted out of office in 1990. A new liberal form of government took over, causing yet another radical shift of power in Nicaragua.

To add to the confusion and dismay, Hurricane Mitch, the "most deadly hurricane to strike the Western Hemisphere in the last two centuries" struck Nicaragua in October 1998, killing an estimated 3,000 people, leaving more than half a million homeless, and ultimately causing more damage to the country than the 1972 earthquake. To make things worse, the people received little help from the corrupt



Scene from a beach...

government, which, they believed, robbed them of their international aid money.

Jewish community

A month or two prior to our departure, I did some research on the Jewish community in Nicaragua. Honestly, I did not think one existed there, but I googled it anyway. To my surprise, I discovered that there really are Jews living in Nicaragua. The fact that a people so small in numbers could be so widely scattered across the world, was both saddening and comforting at the same time. It seemed completely random that a Jewish community would exist there. I stayed glued to my chair, until I found a phone number of a Jewish family I could contact.

By the second Saturday in Nicaragua, I was sprawled across a wide hammock, peacefully rocking under the branches of a tree, surrounded by colorful flowers, green grass, blue skies, and the subtle sounds of chirping birds. A truly restful Nicaraguan Sabbath! I was in the backyard of a Jewish Nicaraguan family whose number I had found online: The Najmans.

Jimmy and Miriam Najman (pronounced Nachman), were born in Nicaragua and lived there until the Sandinista Revolution, when they fled to Miami, Florida, along with the rest of the Jews. The community began with two synagogues; one of which collapsed during the 1972 earthquake. The other was "confiscated along with most of the Jewish businesses" by Sandinistas during the revolution. I heard different opinions as to exactly why the Jewish community felt threatened enough to leave the country. From the Jews, they gave the reason that the Sandinistas were anti-Semitic communists who were, as Jimmy Najman says, "trained by the Palestinian terrorist group Al Fatah." There are others who believe that the Jews were threatened by the Sandinistas, not because of their religion, but because of their status in the Somoza government.

I had arrived by taxi that Friday, a little after the Sabbath began. The Najmans didn't seem to mind that I was late; I soon discovered that most of their guests that night were non-Jews anyway, so I felt at ease. I met all of Jimmy's friends; some coming to visit from countries like Panama



NAVA WINKLER on a bus traveling through Nicaragua.



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and El Salvador. They talked for hours of the troubles in Nicaragua; the corruption, the poverty, the politics, the tragedy, the hopelessness. I found it interesting to hear how different their perspectives were on the history and government of the country. In the preceding two weeks, I had been hearing basically the same viewpoints from the other Nicaraguans we had met. For instance, my impression from them was that they believed the Somoza regime was a harsh and oppressive government that would have continued subjugating its people had the Sandinista revolution not interfered and saved them all. But, what I heard from the guests sitting at the Najman's dinner table was a different story. One woman believed that Nicaragua was better off during the dictatorship when the economy was more successful, as opposed to its crippled state after the revolution. Others explained to me that the Sandinista government was not any different than the previous dictatorship in that they were both "equally corrupt."

I had come to the Najmans to experience the presence of a Jewish Nicaraguan family. But, in addition to this, I had come to learn the history of the Nicaraguan

Jewish community. After asking Jimmy numerous questions, I learned that the first group of Jews arrived during the 19th century, but that after settling, nearly all of them intermarried and converted to Christianity. The larger immigration occurred at the start of the 20th century, when thousands of Jews were leaving Eastern Europe, and soon after, during the 1940's, the community hit its peak at about 250 members. In Jimmy's case: his family emigrated from Bialystok, Poland, to Nicaragua after hearing rumors of a canal being constructed. Unfortunately now, the community isn't as strong as it once was. The number of members has decreased to only about 50 people, and there is no synagogue, no Torah scroll, and no rabbi. Most of the remaining Jews, including the Najmans, travel to Miami or Costa Rica to celebrate the holidays.

In Nicaragua I not only learned more about the country and its history, but I was lucky enough to actually meet Orthodox Nicaraguan Jews!

I would advise people in the community, that every time you travel, try to get in touch with Jews that live there. It is amazing to meet people in other parts of the

HARRY ELKIN

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- o conversational hebrew
 - o talmud
 - o question in search of an answer
 - o what do I stand for?
- 10:20-11:05**
- o israel dancing
 - o jewish civics initiative
 - o fallible heroes
 - o imagine: experiencing the other
- 11:30-12:15**
- o god on trial: book of job
 - o finding your jewish self through art
 - o days of our lives
 - o life for a life
 - o kol kesem youth choir

wednesday classes

@ temple am david in warwick

full semester classes
(9/13 - 1/10)

- 6:30-7:15**
- o driving in cars with god
 - o comparative religions
 - o service learning
 - o jews on the tube
 - o temple sinai confirmation

minimester I classes
(9/10 - 10/29)

- 9:30-11:05**
- o cooking for the high holidays
- 9:30-10:15**
- o clash of generations
 - o lyrical judaism
- 10:20-11:05**
- o israel media watch
 - o duties of the heart
- minimester II classes
(11/5 - 12/3 4 sessions)**
- 9:30-10:15**
- o coffee with the kollel: relationships
 - o stories of the holocaust
 - o philadelphia planning
- 10:20-11:05**
- o the fallit
 - o reading across jewish rhode island
 - o revolving door of the shema

minimester III classes
(12/10 - 1/21)

- 9:30-10:15**
- o where you belong
 - o camera's eye
 - o jewish insider's guide to college
- 10:20-11:05**
- o cult combat
 - o yiddish
 - o improv torah



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9:00 - 11:10

full semester classes
(9/13 - 1/10)

- 7:20-8:10**
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 - o jews and sports
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