



## Japan honors a special friend

Samuel Manski survived the Holocaust thanks to a Japanese diplomat. This week, the Japanese recognized him for all he has done to say thanks.

See Page 2

## Young adults take sex ed

In a class at Moishe/Kavod House, they are surprised by what Judaism has to say about sexuality.

See Page 3

## Can't stand the heat?

Joni Schockett offers recipes for cool meals that won't keep you too long in the kitchen.

See Page 9

## Just call him the Music Man

As schools cut back on electives, Josh Shriber's Jammin With You is keeping kids in tune.

See Page 12

## Reservation, please

Gabriel Kuttner plays 37 characters in 73 minutes as the sole actor in the restaurant-based comedy "Fully Committed." It's not so different from his real life.

See Page 13

Have a news tip or story idea?

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## SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES



Parashat Ekev

BOSTON	7:49 PM
MANCHESTER, N.H.	7:52 PM
FALL RIVER	7:48 PM
PORTLAND, MAINE	7:49 PM
PROVIDENCE, R.I.	7:49 PM
SPRINGFIELD	7:54 PM
WORCESTER	7:52 PM

ERUV STATUS:

BOSTON	781-446-9797
MALDEN	781-322-5686
SHARON	781-695-0505



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PHOTOS BY NIR LANDAU

## A night for romance

About 350 people danced on the rooftop of Splash Ultra Lounge in Boston to celebrate Tu B'Av, a holiday for those searching for love. As the sun set Monday night, young adults dressed traditionally in white mingled and enjoyed pinwheel platters and a cash bar. The event was the first Tu B'Av party sponsored by the Chabad Chai Center of Brookline.



## Luring the flock to shul

Task force suggests ways to do so

By Elise Kigner  
Advocate Staff

What should synagogue leaders do about the half of all Greater Boston Jews who don't belong to a shul? And how can they get those who have signed up to come for more than just the High Holidays?

A task force commissioned by the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts addresses these questions in a report just released to its more than 120 member shuls.

Among its many recommendations:

- Partner with Nishmat Hayyim for meditation classes.
- Provide members with different styles of Shabbat services.
- Consider alternative dues structures.
- Expand educational programs and volunteer opportunities.

"The vast majority of people who are searching for G-d are doing that through synagogues," said Alan Teperow, executive director of the Synagogue Council. "If they are not, and they have rejected the synagogue, then we want to make it more enticing."

The report suggests one way to reach Jews who have been turned off by synagogues is to team up with non-traditional spiritual centers, such as Nishmat Hayyim, the Newton-based Jewish meditation collaborative. With their help, the synagogues could offer programs such as contemplative Shabbats

Continued on Page 20

## Scenes from a (Jewish) marriage

By Ann Green

Special to the Advocate

Harold and Phyllis Kleine were married for 59 years. Were they happy? That depended on which one of them you asked.

Armed with a camera, one of their two daughters, Cindy Kleine, did a lot of asking and a lot of digging. The result is Kleine's poignant, painful documentary "Phyllis and Harold," now being screened in Brookline.

Much of the film consists of Kleine's interviews with her parents, both separately and together.

*'I thought, who are these people? Why were they together for 59 years? They were together all that time, and it was a different marriage! Then I knew this had to be a documentary.'*

Filmmaker Cindy Kleine

One scene shows the couple reading aloud love letters from their courtship. Harold looks at the camera as if to say, "Isn't that nice?" Phyllis seems to ask silently, "What was I thinking?"

The 85-minute film – which also includes vintage home movies, family photos and quirky animations – strips the veneer off a Jewish family seemingly living the American dream in post-war Long Island. We learn about Harold's success as a dentist and real estate entrepreneur; Phyllis's

Continued on Page 2

## As rabbi slims, synagogue fattens kitty

By Elise Kigner  
Advocate Staff

When Rabbi Anne Heath made her New Year's resolution to lose 100 pounds in one year, she knew she couldn't do it on her own. So the rabbi turned to her synagogue, Congregation Agudath Achim in Taunton, for help.

She asked members to each pledge a dollar to the synagogue for every pound she dropped.

The rabbi came up with the

idea after banging up her knees in a car accident last November.

"I said, 'I will never get better if I weigh as much as I do,'" Heath said. "As I was working my way through getting better, I thought of fattening the kitty: Reduce the rabbi, reduce the deficit. There were half a dozen times when I thought 'I'm tired of this.' Then I thought, 'I signed up for this; I have to stick with it.'"

Heath declined to give her weight, but said she was down 70 pounds and two clothing sizes so far this year. She also inspired a few other congregants to lose weight.

When Heath loses the 100 pounds (and she stresses there is no "if"), she will have raised at least \$3,500, based on current pledges.

"Failure is not an option," she

Continued on Page 5



Rabbi Anne Heath