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# the JEWISH VOICE

Serving the Jewish community of Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts

MAIN MENU



## Talan named 'Keeper of the Flame'



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Some of the Temple Torat Yisrael delegation at the awards dinner (left to right): Steve Shapiro, Harvey Rappoport, David Talan, Marc Gertsacov and Michael Field.

Posted Thursday, December 21, 2017 9:11 pm

David Talan from Temple Torat Yisrael (East Greenwich) recently received the "Keeper of the Flame" award, from the New England Federation Of Jewish Men's Clubs. The award, given to outstanding leaders of Temple Men's Clubs, was presented at a dinner attended by 320 people, from 13 temples in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, at Temple Emunah in Lexington Massachusetts.

Talan, of Providence, is in charge of programming for Torat Yisrael's Men's Club. He arranges speaking programs for monthly breakfasts. He also is on the temple's Board of Trustees and the Membership Committee.

Active in the Jewish community, Talan is on the board of Hillel at the University of Rhode Island, on the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island and on the Board of the R.I. Coalition for Israel (RICI) – a group of Christians and Jews who support Israel and oppose BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions).

A community activist, Talan is also president of the Reservoir Triangle Neighborhood Association in Providence; past-President of the Elmwood Little League; and is administrative assistant to State Rep. Ramon Perez (D-Dist. 13).

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## E-EDITION

# the JEWISH VOICE

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Serving Rhode Island and  
Southeastern Massachusetts  
4 Tevet 5778 | December 22, 2017

WINTER

## The Reform movement is alive with the sound of music

BY PENNY SCHWARTZ  
BOSTON (JTA) – Emily Katz and Liora Hyman arrived early enough to snag front row seats for a concert with some of their favorite performers. But this show wasn't at one of Boston's storied nightclubs. Rather, it was the first-ever music lab at last week's biennial convention of the Union for Reform Judaism, where 6,000 delegates gathered at the Hyman Convention Center for the movement's largest ever gathering.

When popular Jewish singer-songwriter Perli Smilow led off the set with her new song, "One," the excited teens, who are youth song leaders, could hardly sit still. The friends – who met last summer at a program for youth leaders at URFJ's Katz Camp in Orange County, New York – were on their feet, singing, jumping and bounc-

ing with the beats that constitute the Jewish soundtrack of their lives.

"One" is heard in "Together As One," a newly released CD compilation of eight songs about social justice, written by some of the Reform movement's all-star musicians. The project, which benefits the movement's Religious Action Center, was funded by Isabel Dunst, chair of RAC's commission on social action.

While songs and melodies are integral to worship in all the major Jewish denominations, the Reform movement has been the boldest in experimenting with genres and reshaping traditional liturgy in song. It's an emphasis reflected in synagogue services, religious schools and summer camps. The Hava Nashira Institute, an annual five-day summer program in Wisconsin, is a prime example.

MUSIC | 10



First place winner Moshe Zimmerman, grade 2, Category K-2

## Artwork shines in 2017 Hanukkah contest

BY FRAN OSTENDORF  
What does Hanukkah mean to you?

This year, we asked that question of our youngest readers, and they responded with their artistic creativity.

The re-envisioned Jewish Voice Hanukkah Art Contest challenged artists in kindergarten through Grade 8 to illustrate "What Hanukkah Means to Me." Fifty-two youngsters in kindergarten to grade 5 re-

CONTEST | 16

(/stories/december-22-2017,7816)



PHOTO: JEWISH VOICE JAN 2017

## Vigil to mark 10 years of fighting poverty with faith

BY FRAN OSTENDORF  
Ten years ago, a group of 29 faith leaders and advocacy organizations in Rhode Island got together and formed the Rhode Island Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty.

The coalition, part of a national movement, grew from an idea presented at a national meeting of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) in the summer of 2008, according to Maxine Rich-

man, one of the original Rhode Island members.

The coalition is committed to the belief that every Rhode Islander deserves to have the basics, including affordable housing, nutritious food, accessible health care, an equitable education and livable wages.

To achieve this goal, the R.I. group joined together with the JCPA, the National Council of Churches, Catholic Charities

USA and other groups across the U.S. in an initiative called "Fighting Poverty with Faith." The goal was to cut poverty in the U.S. in half by 2020.

Through the years, the coalition has advocated for legislation that helps the poor, including laws that reduce homelessness and increase affordable housing, raise the min-

STANDING | 11

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SENIORS

**Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, starting January 9 - March 2, 2018** | Kosher Senior Cafe at Temple Sinai,

**Every Tuesday, starting January 2 - 30, 2018** | Yoga at Temple Torat Yisrael,

**Every Wednesday, starting January 3 - 31, 2018** | Mah Jongg at Temple Torat Yisrael,

**Wednesday** | Israel at 70: Serving Up Israel,

### ADVOCACY, SOCIAL JUSTICE & POLITICS

**Wednesday** | Fighting Poverty with Faith Vigil,



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oaparams=2\_\_bannerid=27\_\_zoneid=1\_\_cb=3aaebfd2a\_\_oadest=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bankri.com%2F)

## RECENT STORIES

### Ask the director: When the mourning ribbon is torn, what is the reason? (/stories/ask-the-director-when-the-mourning-ribbon-is-torn-what-is-the-reason,7815)

Question: When the mourning ribbon is torn, what is the reason? K.G., West Warwick Dear K.G., There seem to be as many answers to this question as there are rabbis. The answer ...

### Hanukkah around town (/stories/hanukkah-around-town,7812)

### World AIDS Day speaker urges URI students to uncover their magnificence (/stories/world-aids-day-speaker-urges-uri-students-to-uncover-their-magnificence,7809)

### The wonders of growing up in Pawtucket (/stories/the-wonders-of-growing-up-in-pawtucket,7808)

### Highlands' seniors benefit from Right at Home event (/stories/highlands-seniors-benefit-from-right-at-home-event,7807)

### A notable gentleman (/stories/a-notable-gentleman,7806)



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