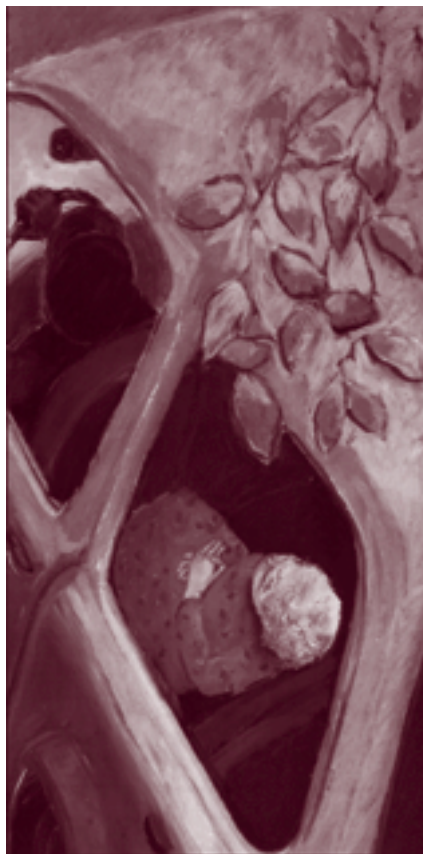


DRIVING MISS DAISY BENEFIT PERFORMANCE AT CAP REP

Take a rich 72-year old Southern Jewish liberal and pair her with a thoughtful, quiet 60-year old black man and what do you get? A delightful evening of great theater as Capital Repertory Company presents a special performance of "Driving Miss Daisy" to benefit Jewish Family Services. This private showing will take place on Sunday, March 9 beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a pre-show nosh and raffle. The show starts at 7 p.m. and will be performed without intermission.

Alfred Uhry's off-Broadway production first captured hearts in April 1987 and then went on to win the Pulitzer Prize in 1988. Sharp-tongued Daisy Wethman has become a danger behind the wheel, ultimately leading to the loss of her driver's license. Enter Hoke Coleburn, who is hired as her chauffeur. As crusty as Daisy is, she soon learns that Hoke is not about to be intimidated by her patronizing tone and what he believes is her latent prejudice. In a series of humorous and captivating scenes, the unlikely pair discovers that they actually have a great deal in common. What begins as a reluctant relationship and a test of wills actually develops into a beautiful friendship that spans 25 years. This gentle, charming comedy is pure magic on stage. You won't want to miss it!

Lois Markel (Daisy) has appeared on Broadway with Joseph Cotton in *Calculated Risk*, with Hans Conried in *Something Old, Something New*, and opposite Kevin McCarthy in *A Warm Body*, and in *True West* and *The Grapes of Wrath*. Her national tours include *Three Tall Women*, *Present*



Laughter opposite Louis Jordan, *Fair Game* opposite Jackie Mason, *After the Fall* opposite Jose Ferrer and opposite Robert Foster in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. She has also appeared in "Law & Order," "NYPD Blue", "One Life to Live" and "All My Children."

William Jay Marshall (Hoke Coleburn) has film credits that include *Billy Bathgate*, *The Fisher King*, *Blue Steel* and *Cookie*. He has appeared in *Driving Miss Daisy* Off-Broadway at Queens Theatre in the Park and in *Fences* and *Master Harold and the Boys* at Seattle Repertory Theatre, *A Raisin in the Sun* and *Blood Knot* at Hartford Stage, *Piano Lesson*

at Denver Center Theatre as well as *Golf* with Allan Shepard at Rochester's Geva Theatre and at Syracuse Stage. His television credits include "Law & Order", "Loving," "As the World Turns" and "NYPD Blue".

In keeping with a tradition started several years ago, an anonymous benefactor has once again bought the house for this special performance so that all proceeds benefit JFS.

The cost to attend is \$36 per person or \$50 to join the Honorary Committee. Checks should be made payable to **Jewish Family Services** and mailed to **JFS, 877 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY 12208**. If you are a Cap Rep subscription ticket holder, please send your ticket(s) with \$10 for the show or \$25 for the honorary committee to the JFS office.

For more information, please call JFS at 518-482-8856.

SAVE THE DATE!

Jewish Family Services Annual Dinner

Tuesday, June 10th
at Congregation Ohav Shalom
in Albany

Our honorees:

Mark Koblenz

And

Rabbi Michael Senes,

Rabbi Emeritus,
Temple Gates of Heaven

**Watch
for more information!**

FAMILY MATTERS

is published by Jewish Family Services
of Northeastern New York.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Please contact us at:

877 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY 12208. 518/482-8856.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In a just a few months, Jewish Family Services will embark on its 150th anniversary celebration. Yes, that's right. JFS has

served this community for a century and a half. We started as a committee of Congregation Beth Emeth in 1854 to assist new Jewish arrivals to Albany. Over the years, the Jewish Home Society, and the Social Welfare Committee of the National Council of Jewish Women joined forces to establish what was known as Albany Jewish Social Services. Today, we are known as **Jewish Family Services of Northeastern New York**.

While our name has changed our goal of serving the Jewish community has not. In fact, we've just begun a new program—**B'Yachad, Parents Supporting Parents: A support group for Jewish parents of special needs children**. The service will be provided under the auspices of the Board of Jewish Education and facilitated by Caren Jacobs.

The group is designed to enhance parent networking as well as provide educational resources available through speakers with expertise in dealing with special needs children and their families. The support group will meet on a monthly basis at our headquarters at 877 Madison Ave.

In just a few short months, I will step down as President of the agency. These past two years have been terrific and I am proud of the work we have done. We've made substantial community connections

as evidenced by the collaborative work we are doing with Hillel at the University at Albany. Working with its director, David Liebschutz, we've identified a group of three marketing students who will work with our Senior Adult Committee on the upcoming NORCS (Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities project). Connecting with these students not only helps JFS but it also opens up a volunteer opportunity for the students that will serve the community well into the future.

While we always strive to address the local needs of our community, JFS also keeps tabs on how national developments will affect our community. One example of this is the research we are doing on the impact of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, also known as HIPPA. While our day-to-day operations are not effected by HIPPA, the people we serve are.

In this issue of **Family Matters**, we have provided an overview of how HIPPA impacts our rabbis and the information they can and cannot receive from our health care providers—both hospitals and adult care facilities. In the future, we will research and write about HIPPA's impact on other non-health care providers who work in a health care environment such as social workers and hospital volunteers.

One last thing—I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the two awardees we have named for our upcoming June dinner. Mazal tov to both Mark Koblenz and Rabbi Michael Senes. You'll see more about them in the next issue of **Family Matters**.

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BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: ARLEEN URELL



An Albany native, Arleen Urell has served as a JFS board member for more than six years and is a major contributor to two programs that are of particular personal interest to her—the agency’s Senior Adult and New American programs. “But what impressed me the most when I first joined the board was the breadth of programs JFS offers to the community,” said Urell.

Urell chairs the JFS Senior Adult Program. Under Urell’s chair, the

Senior Adult Program’s most recent project involvements include the self-help arthritis training program (see page 4 for related story) and involvement in the Naturally Occurring Retiring Communities (NORCs) project. The latter is an initiative that pinpoints where seniors “naturally” live in their community and what services they will need as they grow older.

In past years, she chaired the Resettlement Program for refugees from the former Soviet Union. Urell’s committee conducted a bilingual survey targeting the New Americans JFS resettled in the Capital District. The survey helped JFS to develop new programs and services for these immigrants.

A mother of three grown children and grandmother of four, Urell is currently the Associate Director of the Northeast Regional Public Health Leadership Institute at the University at Albany’s School of Public Health. If JFS and her job weren’t enough to keep her busy, she is also on the board of Beth Emeth and chairs the synagogue’s social action committee. She also serves on United Way of Northeastern New York’s Allocations Executive Committee and co-chairs an allocations review panel.

JFS LAUNCHES B’YACHAD

A Support Group for Jewish Parents of Special Needs Children

We all need support. How do you think our parents did it? Or our parent’s parents? Parenthood is a challenge and it’s nice to know there are people out there who care and can relate to the same daily difficulties.

On January 26, Jewish Family Services launched its first meeting to organize what is to become **B’Yachad, Parents Supporting Parents: A Support Group for Jewish Parents of Special Needs Children**. The service will be provided under the auspices of the Board of Jewish Education and facilitated by Caren Jacobs.

The group is designed to enhance parent networking as well as provide educational resources through speakers with expertise in dealing with special needs children and their families. The support group will meet on a monthly basis.

The next meeting is to be held on March 2 at the JFS office at 877 Madison Ave. at 10 a.m. Issues and activities to be discussed include a Passover Seder for special needs children and the need to provide Jewish community educators with programs and resources for the needs of special needs children.

For more information, call Caren Jacobs at Jewish Family Services at 482-8856.

NAVIGATING THE NEW HEALTH CARE PRIVACY RULES

The rules and regulations passed in the 1996 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, otherwise known as HIPPA, will go into effect on April 14, 2003. The mainstay of HIPPA is the Act’s Privacy Rule which mandates patients consent for a host of health care information sharing activities. Religious activities and the role of clergy in health care are also covered by these new rules. Over the next year, Jewish Family Services will educate the Jewish community regarding HIPPA’s effect on those who are not clearly defined as health care workers but who are active in the health care setting— individuals such as clergy, social workers and hospital volunteers.

When entering a hospital or a long-term care facility, such as a nursing home, patients will be given a number of consents to sign that will enable health care organizations to disclose protected health care information when it is needed for “treatment, payment or health care operations.” The activities of clergy are not always seen as falling under this rubric.

However, if the health care provider has informed the patient that it maintains a patient directory, the provider may release the directory to our local rabbis. If the patient does *not* want their name released, he/she must sign a declaracion to that effect. The directory would include the patient’s:

- Name
- Location in the facility
- Health condition, expressed in general terms, and
- Religious affiliation.

If a patient agrees to be included in the directory, the health care provider may also release her or his name in the event of death because this disclosure constitutes a statement about the “general condition” of the patient. The directory does not include contact information for relatives and significant others. As a result, the provider must obtain an

continued on page 4

JFS TO TRAIN ARTHRITIS SELF-HELP TRAINERS

JFS has been awarded a \$3,500 grant from the Arthritis Foundation, the New York State Office for the Aging and the New York State Department of Health to train people in both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities how to conduct support groups for people living with arthritis.

This "training the trainer" workshop is designed so that people without any past medical and/or teaching experience can become group leaders. After completion of the workshop, the trainers will be able to teach the Arthritis Self-Help Course that was developed at the Stanford Arthritis Center in 1979. The goal of the 6-week Self-Help Course is to increase the self-sufficiency of arthritis sufferers.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for JFS to expand its reach in the community," said Jeff Finkle, president of the JFS board. "It also dovetails perfectly with our overall services for the senior population."

The Arthritis Self-Help Course is geared to broaden the knowledge base of people living with arthritis and teach them how to live more active lives despite their illness. People living with arthritis can also be trainers who not only impart knowledge but also serve as role models for their students

Trainers will teach various strategies to help people living with arthritis manage their pain more effectively and, thus, have a better quality of life. By taking the

course, people with arthritis will become more self-sufficient and experience a decrease in pain and physician visits. .

The Arthritis Self-Help course is open to change. If leaders or participants feel something does not work for them or if they develop any new strategies they are welcome to offer suggestions.

"We want to thank the Arthritis Foundation, SOFA and the NYSDOH for giving us this opportunity," said Finkle. "We are looking forward to working with the Foundation and its new president Martin Farber to strengthen our collaborative relationship."



JFS Board member Gordon Zuckerman (far left) had the opportunity recently to speak with three members of Hillel at the University at Albany about the work they will be doing on the agency's upcoming NORCs project. All three are marketing students in the University's School of Business. From left to right they are Michele Adler, Daphne Weisser and Eric Himy. We look forward to working with them.

PRIVACY RULES *continued from page 3*

Authorization from the patient's personal representative to disclose this type of information.

It is incumbent upon your rabbi to contact the hospital for the directory. It will not automatically be sent.

If the health care provider employs a rabbi or has a Jewish chaplain on staff, that person can still make "rounds" to the patients. Of course, patients always have the right to refuse this spiritual care. In addition, rabbis or Jewish chaplains who have obtained the facility's directory can make unsolicited visits to patients as long as the

patient does not object. If a facility is concerned that about unsolicited visits, the facility is free to establish visitation policies or more closely limit the disclosure of directory information.

"These new regulations go along way in giving patients power over how their medical information is made public," said Anshel Weiss, executive director of Jewish Family Services. "We want to make sure the community understands how HIPPA impacts their access to our rabbis and Jewish chaplains."

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