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Iowa Jewish Historical Society and Caspe Heritage Gallery Celebrating Our 20th Anniversary

".....how beautiful is our heritage"

Keynote Speaker – Rabbi Barry Cytron

Sunday, September 18

The Caspe Terrace

33158 Ute Avenue Waukee, IA 50263

Join us for an Interesting and Entertaining Evening

Details on page 24

Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines 33158 Ute Avenue Waukee, IA 50263-7538 Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage **PAID** Des Moines, IA Permit No. 2506 A Civil Conversation about the Presidential Election 2016, September 29

Responding to interest expressed by community members, the Jewish Federation will host a discussion on the presidential election with two prominent panelists and a moderator, Thursday, September 29th, 7:00 pm at the Caspe Terrace. Appetizers and drinks will be provided at 6:30 pm. Reserve your seat at this very special event.**

"The Federation has an exciting event we would like to share with the community," commented the President of the Federation, David Adelman. "As the election approaches and the chatter surrounding the campaigns increase, the Federation would like to help you cut through the noise. We have invited insiders from both political parties to share their perspectives in a unique and

there!"



 Goldford, our panelists will include Democrat Tom Henderson and Republican Matt Strawn.
 Tom Henderson is a partner in the law firm of Whitfield and Eddy practicing in civil litigation and governmental issues. He has served as Chair of the Polk County Democrats for 18 years, and is also on the Board of Iowans Supporting Israel.

Election of 2016: 'For a Change, a Civil Discussion.' Moderated by Professor Dennis

Matt Strawn was elected to two terms as chairman of Iowa's Republican Party, from 2009 - 2012. A member of the bar, he has served as Chief of Staff and Counsel to Michigan Congressman Mike Rogers and as an advisor to numerous elected officials including Senator Joni Ernst. Currently Matt is the managing partner of a Midwest-based public affairs firm. He is a founding board member of Iowans Supporting Israel.

exclusive event. We hope you will take advantage of this special event. I hope to see all of you

The program has been titled, The Presidential



Our moderator, **Dennis Goldford** is Professor of Political Science and Department Chair at Drake University, and the Flansburg Fellow in the Harkin Institute for Public Policy and Citizen Engagement. His most recent book, titled The Constitution of Religious Freedom: God, Politics, and the First Amendment, was published in 2012. Prof. Goldford has served as a political analyst for KCCI-TV and for a wide variety of local, regional, national, and international print and broadcast

media organizations.

The program is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and its Jewish Community Relations Commission. Neither the Jewish Federation nor the JCRC endorses candidates for elective office.

Seating is limited. **For reservations, contact Jodi Larson at the Federation. Call (515) 987-0899 x 213 or email jodi@dmjfed.org.

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Address Service Requested

Message from the Executive Director



Sharon Goldford, Interim Executive Director

Where did the summer go??? I always wish it would stay longer, especially because I will miss the campers at Caspe Terrace. During camp time I can hear and see them from my window. The summer at Caspe was so busy. We had Gan Shalom Camp and Engman Camp Shalom. Engman Camp Shalom would not be possible without the wonderful generosity of Larry and Suzanne Engman. We are so grateful to them for always thinking of our children and how we provide them with the best Judaic experience.

Now it is time to put on our fall attire and move to our schools. Beit Sefer has a new school board under the overseen by President Hannah Rogers and our great Director Sophie Homonoff. We will have a record enrollment due to the efforts of many people. We are grateful to Alan Zuckert for the Zuckert Educational Fund, which provides families with the needed resources to ensure that all of the children in our community have the advantage of a great Jewish education. Gan Shalom is also increasing in size under the direction of Anissa Deay and our fabulous teachers. A wonderful donor made it possible to provide scholarships for our Jewish 2 to 5 year-olds that need some assistance. Our children are our future, and we want them cared for physical, mentally, and spiritually. We strive to meet those care goals at Caspe Terrace.

The Jewish Historical Society is working on establishing a fundraiser. On Sunday, September 18, 2016, they will host a lovely dinner that will kick-off their fall effort, and we hope you will all attend. Information regarding the dinner is in the Jewish Press.

Jewish Family Services also has been very busy this summer doing a few mitzvot. Jody led a food drive for DMARC to help provide protein for lunches for children during the summer, and is seeing an increase in home visits and meals for our elderly. We are spending a lot more time at the Jewish Senior Life Center. If you haven't been there to visit lately, they would love to have you.

As you are all aware, we not only move to new things at Caspe Terrace; we are also changing within our community. Beth El Jacob Synagogue may no longer be housed in the current synagogue, as the building and land are for sale. Because once the sale occurs there may no longer be a community mikvah, a committee of congregants from our Jewish community is meeting to look at the options of building or establishing a community mikvah in the Des Moines area. The committee has representation from Tifereth Israel, Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Beth El Jacob, the Jewish Senior Life Center, and the Jewish Federation. The committee would like your input with regard to the following questions:

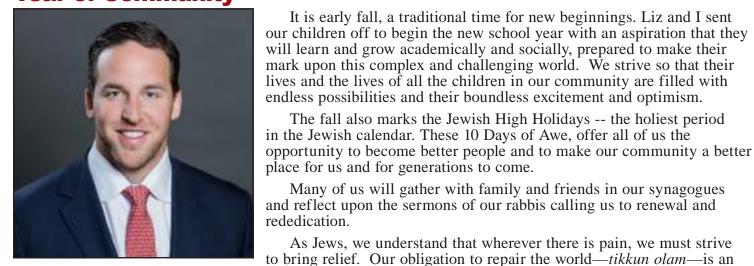
- Need for a "community" mikvah: When the Beth El Jacob site is sold, how do we meet the need for a new community mikvah?
- Location: if we have a community mikvah, where would be a good common site?
- Funding: what type of fundraising is needed?

Please provide your input regarding the building or development of a community mikvah. You may email me at sharon@dmjfed.org or provide your input to your Board of Directors.

Goodbye to summer and wishing you the very best High Holidays! Shalom, Sharon



Message from the President **Year of Community**



David Adelman, President

react to the needs of those around us.

the year, we seek to remain mindful of our own good fortune and, yet, Each of us, personally and communally, are asked to search within to reflect on what we have accomplished and what we can do better; to celebrate in our relationships with family, friends and colleagues, make reparations to those we have wronged by our words, actions or deeds, and rededicate ourselves to begin 5777 as more caring and compassionate people. We strive to ensure that at next year's Rosh Hashanah tables, our conscience will be at peace, knowing we have done all we can to make our world a better place for all who live

It is early fall, a traditional time for new beginnings. Liz and I sent

The fall also marks the Jewish High Holidays -- the holiest period

Many of us will gather with family and friends in our synagogues

As Jews, we understand that wherever there is pain, we must strive

ongoing responsibility. And so, during the High Holidays and throughout

here. At the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, together, our staff and donors, perform mitzvot every day of the Jewish calendar. During these economically challenging times, the Federation funds programs and initiatives that help older adults live safely and more cost-effectively in their own homes, bring healthcare services to those most vulnerable, prepare and deliver food. We are giving more of our children access to Hebrew school and Jewish pre-school. In addition, we educate the greater community on the threat of anti-Semitism and promote Holocaust education. While I am well aware that our Federation has sometimes stumbled and fallen short, we know we can and will do better.

I take these mitzvot to heart. After I signed on as president of the Federation for a two year term, I immediately began working with Sharon Goldford and the staff to make Federation more inclusive and welcoming to our diverse community.

As I enter my second year as president, I promise to intensify my efforts to engage the entire community in Federation's great work. I particularly want to re-engage those who have felt dissatisfied, disappointed or disenfranchised by Federation. Join us and experience the new Federation.

During the next year, I will work with Federation's professional staff and our synagogues to include many more people, in a variety of meaningful ways. We can and must commit ourselves to becoming a truly united Jewish community.

I hope the year ahead will be a "Year of Community" marked by cooperation and collaboration among all in our community, so that together we can make the world and our community a better place. Regardless of your age, ability, or affiliation, there is a meaningful way for you to connect with the Jewish community.

I invite you to renew your commitment to Federation's work in the New Year! As you begin your ten-day period of contemplation, I hope you will give thought to how you can help the Federation.

Our Federation has repeatedly demonstrated how we rise to challenges, how we prepare for the future. We invest in our children and in future leaders for our community. This would not be possible -- could not be possible -- but for the consistent investment of time and energy of our volunteer board members and staff, as well as the generous financial support from community members like yourself. You enable the good work we are doing, and we all should be proud! I thank you on behalf of all those who can't thank you themselves.

Let's make 5777 a happier, healthier and more hopeful year for us all.

L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu!- May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a good year.

David Adelman, President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines

Kever Avot Memorial Services

Conducted by our clergy

The custom of visiting the memorials of loved ones and pausing for remembrance between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is rooted in Eastern European Jewish traditions.

Sunday, October 9th

12:00 noon in the Jewish section at Woodland Cemetery

1:00 pm at Jewish Glendale

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Mark S. Finkelstein, Editor **David Copeland, Production** Jodi Larson, Copy Editor Gayle Brimeyer, Staff Assistant

Sophie Homonoff, Staff Assistant

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We are always happy to consider articles and information for publication.

We reserve the right to edit submissions.

The Jewish Press will not accept paid advertisements for electoral candidates or their causes.

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Gan Shalom Summer Camp 2016

Another successful summer at Gan Shalom Camp is complete.

Our parents found the new Gan Shalom online registration process simple and easy to use. Especially for those parents making summer plans at 10 o'clock in the evening. Gan Shalom Camp processed 45 online registrations. Our ten-week camp focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) and a whole lot of FUN.

Children documented the insects and spiders they found on a nature walk. The looked in trees, the garden and under rocks. They observed a caterpillar change into a butterfly, then released in back to nature. We watched a Tobacco Horned Moth Caterpillar eat 3 cherry tomatoes in one day. The children become eagles, butterflies, and ladybugs and acted out stories. We celebrated International Mud Day with dirt a lot of rain and extra clothes. The children worked with ramps, made an Olympic obstacle course, washed our trikes, weighed the produce that came out of the garden. We had experimented with 'simple machines' and observed changes in 'physical property'.

Visitors to Gan Shalom Camp include Nature Lady, Waukee Public Library, Menace Soccer, DramaTykes, Blank Park Zoo, ZUMBA Kids, Waukee Fire Department, Dallas County Sherriff's Department, Teams of Tomorrow, Anthony San (Break Dancer) and the Iowa Circus Academy. Children also enjoyed making and giving artwork to those who attended the Senior Luncheon at Caspe Terrace.

We appreciate the children and families that donated to the United Way's Pac-a-Protein food drive and Back to School supply drive for area schools. We are also thankful to our parent and Silver Cord volunteers.

Our Gan Shalom Camp has been full of exploration, observation, problem solving and building a foundation of learning through 'PLAY'.

'When I was a kid I had a lab. It wasn't a laboratory in the sense that I would measure and do important experiments. Instead, I would play.' —Richard Feynman, Nobel Prize Recipient in Physics

Gan Shalom

The Jewish Center for Early Childhood Development













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The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press 5

September / October 2016

Chef Du Jour In the Kitchen for the New Year by Karen Engman

Roast chicken and beef brisket are the most popular choices for Rosh Hashanah and Erev Yom Kippur dinners. **Kay Myers** suggests her recipe for Chicken Breasts with Grapes and Thyme might just be a nice change in menu. It's cooked in one pan so it's easy to prepare ahead and convenient for serving. Cooked with the grapes and thyme makes it a sweet and savory entrée.

Kay usually serves this chicken with a rice casserole. Instead of just a white rice dish, it might be nice paired with brown or wild rice or even some of the special boxes (or bags) of multigrain rice blends. I sometimes prepare a Whole Grain Fusion Rice Blend that features brown and red rice, hulless barley, and rye berries. It's pretty "dense" so halfway through the cooking I add jasmine rice, 1-2 tablespoons of olive oil and sliced water chestnuts.

Hope you and your families have a wonderful new year and take the time to try some new recipes during these traditional meals. Thanks to Kay for sharing her chicken recipe with our readers.

As always (for the past 10 years), I'm looking for people to interview, new recipes to share with our readers and any cooking questions I can research. Contact Karen Engman by email (*karen.engman@gmail.com*) or by phone (515-274-3300)



KAY'S RECIPE FOR

BAKED CHICKEN WITH GRAPES

6-8 chicken breasts with skin or other chicken parts (Enough to fill a large baking dish)

Cut the chicken breasts in half if you want smaller, even portions.

1 pound grapes (green or red or both)

6 scallions

Fresh thyme

Salt and pepper

1/4 c. olive oil

Wash chicken and grapes well.

Spread grapes over bottom of a large baking dish. Drizzle with olive oil.

Place springs of thyme over the oiled grapes.

Place scallions over the grapes and thyme (Lightly oil, salt and pepper the scallions))

Dry the chicken well with paper towel. Oil the chicken lightly. Salt and pepper it. Sprinkle some thyme leaves over chicken. Try not to put chicken directly over the scallions.

Bake at 450 degrees for 30-35 minutes uncovered. Baste occasionally with white wine. Chicken should brown evenly.

Plate the chicken with a scoop of the grapes on the side, or serve the whole pan family style, letting people serve themselves.

Accompany the chicken with rice or risotto.



Jewish Family Services and Outreach

Food Drive

Federation, Engman Camp Shalom, and Gan Shalom camp participated in the United Way of Central Iowa's "Pack a Protein Picnic" food drive. Food pantry demand goes up in the summer and donations decrease during this time. Food pantries especially need high-protein, shelf-stable items such as peanut butter, canned meat, and beans. We collected food items and delivered them to United Way on July 21st! A huge thank you to all the Federation employees and Camp families who helped in this effort.



Upcoming JFS Events



- September 13 trip to Prairie Meadows.
- October 13 Senior luncheon at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Entertainment provided by Louise Kaufmann.



Do you have high cost medications or prescriptions that insurance doesn't cover?

United Way of Central Iowa has partnered with FamilyWize to provide low-cost prescriptions.

Whether you are insured or uninsured, FamilyWize can help you save on prescription medication costs. There's no registration or eligibility criteria required. Customers save an average of 43% with the FamilyWize card. Here's how it works:

1) Get your free card – available three different ways:

a. Contact Jody Caswell with Jewish Family Services at 987-0899 ext 210

b. Print your card from familywize.org

c. Download the FamilyWize app on your smartphone

2) Show your pharmacist the FamilyWize card every time you fill a prescription

3) Get the lowest price possible – from FamilyWize from the pharmacy, or from your insurance

Engman Camp Shalom campers ages 9-11 were introduced to PJ Our Way, a new program provided by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, which also oversees PJ Library. Students were able to choose a book from the **PJ Our Way** selection. This new program, designed for kids 9-11, allows program participants to select one of four books every month. We are excited to be a part of this new program. Parents can enroll their children by going to *www.pjourway.org*.







Torah Talk

Miriam by David Friedgood

We first meet Miriam in Exodus, the second book of our Bible. She is 9 years old; sister of the infant Moses. Her mother stationed her to watch over the baby as he floated down the Nile River in his basket. When plucked from the Nile by Pharaoh's daughter, it was Miriam who arranged for her (and Moses') mother to be hired as a wet-nurse for the newborn child. Tradition views Miriam as a 'Redeemer of Israel'. This designation results from the Biblical account that her parents married, and then Moses was conceived. The Rabbi's explain the presence of Moses' two older siblings, Miriam and Aaron, by the midrash (story) that the parents divorced when Pharaoh decreed the death of all newborn male Israelites. Not wanting to conceive doomed offspring, many couples annulled their marriages. Miriam is credited with the reproach: "You are worse than Pharaoh. Pharaoh only threatens the boys; you eliminate the possibility of any child." (BT Sotah 12a) Her parents reunite and 'the rest is history'. The infant Moses is born and develops into the leader who brought our ancestors out of slavery, and delivered God's word to us in the Torah.

After the Exodus from Egypt, the newly freed Hebrew people are camped on the shore of the Red Sea. Pharaoh and his chariots are in hot pursuit, and the people rightfully fear for their existence. God causes the sea to part and the Israelites pass through on dry land. Later the waters closed in on the pursuing Egyptians. Moses and the newly freed slaves sing a triumphant song to their LORD, which begins with: "I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously; Horse and driver He has hurled into the sea." (Exodus 15:1) Next Miriam led the woman in a reprise: "Then Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the woman went out after her in dance with timbrels. And Miriam chanted for them: "Sing to the LORD for He has triumphed gloriously; Horse and driver He has hurled into the sea." (Ex. 15:20-21) Where did these women get timbrels? Midrash has it that even in the rush to escape Egypt, these righteous women, led by Miriam, believed in their

Zipporah, as Moses was a busy man, and frequently neglected his wife. The Bible, on the other hand, records brother and sister justifying their comments against Moses by stating that Moses is not the only recipient of God's word, but both of them have also been spoken to by God. Moses, being the most humble of men, can not speak ill against his sister, but the LORD is incensed: "The LORD came down in a pillar of cloud,.. and called out, "Aaron

"Come, let us sing joyously to the LORD, raise a shout for our rock and deliverer; let us come into His presence with praise; let us raise a shout for Him in song!" (Psalms 95:1-2)

cause. They knew their Deliverer would give them reason to dance and celebrate. Thus they brought their musical instruments with them.

The next Biblical reference to Miriam is less uplifting. When the people were camped in the wilderness (in Hazeroth): "Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman he had married: "He married a Cushite woman!" (Numbers 12:1) Cushite is often translated as Nubian, the southern province of Egypt. Dark skinned Nubite woman were considered to have a special beauty. The Medieval commentator Rashi justifies Miriam's remarks stating that she was only concerned with the welfare of her sister-in-law and Miriam!" The two of them came forward; and He said, "Hear these My words: When a prophet of the LORD arises among you, I make myself known to him in a dream... Not so with my servant Moses; with him I speak Mouth to mouth, plainly and not in riddles... How then did you not shrink from speaking against My servant Moses!" (Num. 12:5-8) Still angry, God withdraws, and Miriam is left covered in snow-white scales (in Hebrew mitzorah – the word connotes impure malicious gossip). Moses immediately cries out to his Creator with the shortest prayer in the Bible: "O God, pray heal her!" (Num. 12:13) Miriam is repentant and sought forgiveness from her brother

whom she wronged. The LORD agrees but commands that Miriam be excluded from the Camp for seven days as punishment for her shameful behavior. The people wait and do not travel until Miriam returns to them, healed and purified. They then head off, back into the wilderness. Some time later Miriam dies, after a long life filled with purpose. Miriam is revered as one of the great woman of Israel. Her life is associated with water; from the Nile River of her childhood, to later influencing the supply of life-giving water in the desert. Her death follows the Biblical passage of the Red Heifer. In the 4th century, the Talmud connects the death of Miriam to this passage stating: "Just as the ashes of the red cow atone for sin, the death of a righteous person does the same." (BT Moed Katan 28a) Tradition sees Miriam's death as a 'kiss from the mouth of God'; similar to the death of her two brothers, Moses and Aaron.

As we enter into the season of repentance and introspection, I believe there is a message for us in the life of our Prophetess Miriam. Even the greatest amongst us are not perfect. We make mistakes. We are sinful. We are all tempted by, and occasionally yield to, our 'evil inclination' (yeitzer ha'rah). But, our Creator is forgiving and ultimately concerned with our benefit. As we are told in this season of judgment repentance, prayer, and good deeds can influence our God, and alter our destiny, as we live out the years afforded to us on this earth.

L'shanah Tova t'chatevu vt'chatemu. May we all be inscribed and sealed for a healthy, peaceful, and prosperous New Year.





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Historical Profile

Sandra Feldman, Labor Leader



Sandra Feldman was born in 1939 in Coney Island, New York, the daughter of a milkman and a bakery worker and the granddaughter of immigrants. Sandra's commitment to the New York City public schools grew out of her own experience. Because her mother was often ill, Sandra frequently cared for her two younger siblings. School provided an escape, and she credited Miss Bezman, her second-grade teacher at Public School 188, with expanding her horizons by encouraging her to read.

Feldman graduated from James Madison High School in Brooklyn and, at the age of sixteen entered Brooklyn College. Her political education began when she heard Bayard Rustin, the civil rights activist, speak about organizing a march to integrate schools. Rustin became one of her mentors. In 1963, she helped organize Dr. Martin Luther King's March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom and was arrested for working to integrate restaurants in Maryland during her trip to the March.

Feldman earned a master's degree in English literature from New York University in 1963, and began teaching first and fourth grades on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. At first, she was one of only two members of the teachers' union there, but within a year she had helped organize the entire teaching staff. In 1966, on the recommendation of Rustin, she was hired by United Federation of Teachers (UFT) president Albert Shanker as a full-time field representative. Working her way through the ranks to executive director, she was elected secretary in 1983 and, in 1986, succeeded Shanker to become the first woman president of the union.

In 1997, when Shanker died, Feldman was immediately

considered a leading contender to be his successor once again, this time as president of the national American Federation of Teachers (AFT). Her supporters believed her experience in leading a large union, her expertise on political reform, and her innovative success in forming alliances with community and parent groups made her qualified for the position; others questioned whether she could successfully serve as president of the UFT and AFT simultaneously (although Shanker had done so from 1974 to 1986); some quarreled with her stand against school vouchers. She was elected AFT president unanimously by the union's executive council on May 6, 1997. Upon her retirement for health reasons in 2004, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution honoring her for "her outstanding contributions and leadership in improving the quality of teaching and learning."

In her position as president of the AFT (she left the UFT in 1998), Feldman pushed for reducing class sizes, for quality preschool programs, and for higher teacher salaries. During her tenure, the organization considered ideas that did not always conform to traditional union tenets, including public charter schools and new work rules for teachers designed to raise the academic achievement of low-income pupils. AFT membership swelled during her presidency, topping the one-million mark in 1998.

Feldman's organizational affiliations reflected a concern for educators, children, women, and workers, as well as interest in her own Jewish heritage. She worked with the United States Committee for UNICEF, the Coalition of Labor Union Women, the Executive Committee of Education International, the New York Chapter of the NAACP, the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, the Jewish Labor Committee, and many other groups. She was a powerful and influential voice in the politics of education, in New York City and nationally.

Sandra Feldman died of breast cancer on September 18, 2005.

Her biography is on the Jewish Women's Archive website at *http:// jwa.org/teach/livingthelegacy/ biographies/feldman-sandra*

Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center Board recognition



On July 24th, 2016 the Semi-Monthly board meeting was held at the Life Center. Ronald Osby, Executive Director presented a gift to each of the following Outgoing board members, Louis Hockenberg, Josh Mandelbaum, David Lettween and Janice Rosenberg (not pictured) and Dr. Jon Fleming for their service to our community and the dedication and commitment each provided during their period of service on the board.

Ronald Osby Executive Director



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JCRC Committee on Disability Advocacy

The Journey Towards Normalization and Independence By Melanie Sandler, Committee Chair



JCRC Disabilities Advocacy Committee meets

Friends, The research I have been able to accomplish as chair of the JCRC Committee on Disability Advocacy thus far, with the help of our committee members, outside service providers, Federation staff, as well as the mental health and disabilities division of the Iowa Department of Human Services has led me to the following interim observations.

The Federally mandated laws that have been put into effect in recent years mandate both service delivery in the least restrictive manner to all populations in need, and have resulted in significant changes in how the elderly, persons who are developmentally challenged, and persons with mental health issues access and receive services.

While the movement to provide services in community-based settings rather than remotely located large institutions began in the 1960s, the development of the service delivery system expanded significantly in the 1970s and 1980s. These services required a

fundamental change in the manner in which Federal and State funds are provided and allocated.

Our current Federal, State, and local mandates go beyond the community-based service delivery system as it was developed in the '70s and '80s towards providing further integration and independence for the populations in need of supportive services. The older model of placing persons in intermediate care facilities or residential care facilities and working in protected, supervised work environments (Sheltered Workshops) is now seen negatively as a form of community institutionalization. The service delivery system for persons with serious mental health issues consisted, until a few years ago, of community mental health outpatient services and when necessary, inpatient hospitalization or day programming. The intent of decreasing inpatient psychiatric beds is to prevent re-institutionalization of that population in need by providing preemptive services such as counseling, case management, more effective medication management and additional community support services. There are currently eight regional health service agencies covering the state and contracting with local providers of these services.

What about the funding for these services? Traditionally, Iowa receives the Federaal share of Medicaid funding applicable to those eligible for Medicaid, but has to match the Federal funds with Iowa appropriations from the legislature and funds from county government.

There are 560,000 Iowans eligible for Medicaid. Some have private insurance or Medicare as their primary coverage and Medicaid is their secondary coverage, but many have only Medicaid to pay for their services. Additionally, Iowa does receive a mental health block grant, administered through the Department of Human Services and transmitted to the eight regional health centers, earmarked for nursing home care for the elderly. Medicaid is often the sole payment source for this. The reimbursement levels depend on the level of care the residents require and it is inadequate for most facilities to deliver services. Reimbursement delays are compounding the problem.

I encourage readers to contact me at sandhthcon@aol.com with factual corrections or additions to this column, questions you would like our committee to pursue, and any comments you might have. Our committee will meet again in September. Thank you for your interest.

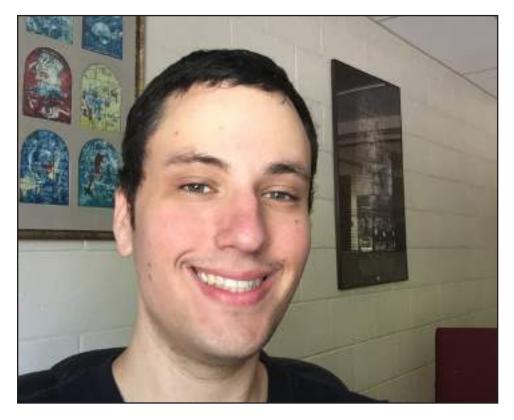
U Iowa Hillel Appoints David Weltman Executive Director

In July, David Weltman, assumed his new position as Executive Director of the Shulman Hillel at the University of Iowa.

David completed the Joint Program between Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary in 2012 and an MBA from The Henry B. Tippie College of Business at The University of Iowa in 2016. David has worked to strengthen the Jewish communities of each place he has lived, whether in his native Chicagoland, New York City, Beersheva (Israel), Iowa City, and even Kyoto, each in its own unique way, adapting to the needs of each one. He is very excited to call the Iowa Hillel and Iowa City Jewish community his new family.

It is an honor to join Hillel to continue the legacy of service to Jewish students, the University of Iowa, and the Iowa City community. I am very passionate about Hillel as a home for Jewish students, no matter their beliefs or backgrounds, as well as establishing it as an epicenter of Jewish learning and living in the area. I look forward to working with the board and other community members to increase the Hillel's impact on the Jewish community." said David.

In his spare time, David is loves to travel and experience all sorts of new and exciting adventures around the country and world, meeting people from many different walks of life. He also is an avid bowler and a strong supporter of the Chicago White Sox. (From the University of Iowa Hillel.)



Jr. & Sr.

Programs Available



WHAT WILL I DO?

Assist in leading small groups or Hebrew practice Support students with special needs Prepare supplies and materials for classroom activities Babysit/Play with younger children ...many other opportunities!

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS Madrichim must be in 7th – 12th grade Be able to work Sunday Mornings (9am - 12pm) or Wednesday afternoons (4:30pm – 6:30pm) or both DO I GET PAID? Jr. Madrichim (7th – 8th Grades) Earn community service hours or gift cards

Sr. Madrichim (9th – 12th Grades)

Earn community service hours or minimum wage (starting at \$7.25/hr. with the potential to earn more based on age & experience.)

HOW DO I APPLY? Applications available online at: http://www.jewishdesmoines.org/ media/bss/bssmadrichapp.pdf

The mission of the Beit Sefer Shalom Madrichim Program is to create a growing and evolving community in which Junior and Senior Madrichim have a strong sense of personal ownership, community connections and Jewish identity.



33158 Ute Avenue | Waukee, IA 50263 | 515.987.0899 x 221

JCRC News

Comments on Pope Francis' visit to Auschwitz



"On July 29th, Pope Francis visited Auschwitz, the largest concentration camp established by the Nazis during the Holocaust. We are deeply grateful to the Pope for this special visit, in which he follows in the footsteps of his predecessors. We are also moved by the Pope's meeting with a group of "Righteous Among the Nations" Polish Christians, who risked their lives to shelter Jews during the Holocaust. By being present there, Pope Francis has ensured that the world never forgets all who perished at the hands of the Nazis." – Anti-Defamation League

"The Pope's visit to Auschwitz is a welcome sign for how far Jewish-Catholic relations have come. A strong message." – U.K. Board of Jewish Deputies

"Pope Francis has been saying all along that it is impossible to be a Christian and an anti-Semite. His visit in Auschwitz is an enormous message of solidarity with the victims and affirmation of his unequivocal reprehension of anti-Semitism and all other forms of racism." – Rabbi David Rosen, the international director of interreligious affairs at the American Jewish Committee, who accompanied the pope on his visit.

"Pope Francis is one of the closest allies Jews have today in the fight against anti-Semitism, bigotry and hatred. He is a true friend of the Jewish people, a man who reaches out to others and embraces them. Never over the past 2,000 years have Catholic-Jewish relations been better. We thank him for going to Auschwitz. *His visit there sends an important* signal to the world that this dark chapter must never be forgotten and that the truth about what happened seven decades ago must not be obfuscated." -- Ronald S. Lauder, president, World Jewish Congress.

A link to Vatican Radio's coverage of the event: http://bit. ly/2aOHUMm

Better Together Better Forever



What will your legacy be? At the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, we are privileged to help individuals and families forever tell their story through charitable giving.

Our team approach allows donors, their trusted professional advisors and the nonprofit organizations they care about to come together to create sustainable support for generations to come.

Let's work together to tell your story.

To learn more about how we can partner visit www.desmoinesfoundation.org or call 515-883-2626.



Live. Give. Better Together.

Partnership2GETHER News

Official Delegation from Mateh Asher visits West Des Moines

The Jewish Federation maintains two very special relationships with the people of Israel's Western Galilee. One is the longstanding participation of the Federation in Partnership2GETHER in consortium with 13 Jewish American communities and the Jewish community in Budapest. The other, since 2015, is as a go-between assisting the City of West Des Moines in its Sister City relationship with a district within the Western Galilee called Mateh Asher.

An official delegation of the mayor of Mateh Asher, that is, the head of Mateh Asher's Regional Council governing 32 local communities, Mr. Yoram Israeli, along with the deputy mayor, Mr. Moshe Davidovich, the region's director of Strategic Planning, Mr. Itai Davidi, and a representative of Partnership2GETHER, Ms Tania Ronen, visited West Des Moines and our metropolitan area in mid-July.

Although, in the past, the Jewish Federation has hosted visiting musicians, writers, and a group of women's professionals from the Western Galilee and has shared our guests and their cultural talents with the West Des Moines Schools, this was the first time that a mayoralled delegation from Mateh Asher was received by the mayor of West Des Moines, members of the City Council, and members of the West Des Moines Sister City Commission, chaired by Jeffrey Lipman.

July 14th was proclaimed Mateh Asher, Israel Day in West Des Moines

In addition to touring and their participation in meetings conducted as part of the delegation's itinerary, the group was hosted over dinner and engaged in discussion at the Caspe Terrace the evening of July 13th. The next evening, the group was hosted by the City of West Des Moines over dinner at which the mayor of West Des Moines, Mr. Steve Gaer, presented the guests with the key to the city and issued a proclamation on behalf of the City Council declaring July 14th as Mateh Asher, Israel Day.

Our visitors, along with those with whom they met, expressed common interests in environmental issues, economic development, education, cultural diversity, and the arts.

Mateh Asher, which is located in northwest Israel, bordering on Lebanon, is comprised of 19 kibbutzim, 8 moshavim, 3 planned residential communities, and 2 Arab villages. There are 28,000 residents in the district. The Regional Council's website is online at http:// www.matte-asher-region.muni.il/ eng/.



At Valley High School. Principal Tim Miller and Dr. Phyllis Staplin introduce the delegation to special aspects of the school.



At the World Food Prize Hall of Laureates. Executive Director of the World Food Prize Ambassador Kenneth Quinn (at left) shares a light moment with our guests Tania Ronen, Moshe Davidovich, Yoram Israeli, and Itai Davidi.



At West Des Moines City Hall. WDM Mayor Steve Gaer (center), Mateh Asher Mayor Yoram Israeli (at right), and Deputy Mayor Moshe Davidovich.



At the Greater Des Moines Partnership. Brent Willets (left) and Ryan Carroll (at right) discuss economic development ideas with Mayor Yoram Israeli.



Mateh Asher Mayor Yoram Israeli displays the proclamation issued by the City of West Des Moines, as Mayor Steve Gaer (at right) and WDM Sister Cities Commission chair, Jeff Lipman, look on.



At Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Mateh Asher Mayor Yoram Israeli (left) and Director of Strategic Planning Itai Davidi present Rabbi Steven Edelman-Blank with a memento of the visit.





Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines Shalom Education Group



Gan Shalom WE GROW CHILDREN

Preschool Programs

Summer Camp

Enrichment Programs

Gold Assessment

Ages 2-5

Before and After Care Programs 7:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.



Beit Sefer Shalom

WE GROW MINDS

Sundays 9:00am - 12:00pm (3 year olds to 6th grade)

Wednesdays 4:30 - 6:30pm (3rd - 8th grade)

Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30pm (9th - 12th grade)

ARE curriculum

Special Israel Programming

Computer Lab/ Online Learning Center Madrichim Program (7th - 12th grade) Library



Engman Camp Shalom

WE CREATE SPIRIT

10 Week summer camp

Ages 5 -12

Monday - Friday from 9:00am - 4:00pm

CIT experiences available

Weekly field trips

Red Cross swim lessons

Before/aftercare & transportation available

Accredited by ACA (American Camping Association)

33158 Ute Avenue | Waukee, IA | 515.987.0899 www.jewishdesmoines.org

Beit Sefer Shalom welcomes new board

Welcome to a new and exciting year at Beit Sefer Shalom! The Beit Sefer Shalom Board of Directors is looking forward to a year filled with engaging and meaningful programs and classes, as well as new and unique opportunities to make our school even better. We are excited to introduce a new Social Justice Curriculum, specialized Israel lessons in all grades, and an enhanced Madrichim Program. As Beit Sefer Shalom continues to grow, we look forward to getting to know each and every family in our school, and making connections with new families in our community.



Gabrielle Callistein, Past President Member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun BSS Kids: Dahlia and Benjamin



Leah Jones, Volunteer Coordinator Chair Member of Tifereth Israel BSS Kids: Gabby and Avi

Hannah Rogers



Hannah Rogers, President Member of Tifereth Israel BSS Kids: Ariella



Jill Mollison, Personnel Chair Member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun BSS Kids: Charlie, Jack and Ellie



Juli Margolin, Secretary Member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun



Todd Steinberg, At Large – Information Technology and Photography Member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun BSS Kids: Maria



Tasha Hausmann, Curriculum Chair Member of Tifereth Israel BSS Kids: Ezra, Zeke, and Felix



Melanie Choos, Programming and Community Outreach Chair Member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun BSS Kids: Dillon



Randi Schwartz-Carr, Treasurer Member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun and Beth El Jacob BSS Kids: Izzy, Brody, and Zeke



Maggie Matijevich, At Large – New and Potential Students Liaison Member of Tifereth Israel BSS Kids: Cora and Vincent

Engman Camp Shalom at The Caspe Terrace











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Photos courtesy of Beau Hausmann











September / October 2016

Engman Camp Shalom at The Caspe Terrace











September / October 2016





It summ Shalo weeks and d trips had a camp Amor 2016 s direct and a Julia





It has been an incredible summer at Engman Camp Shalom. Camp ran for 10 weeks with a new theme and different exciting field trips every week. We also had a record number of campers join us for the fun. Among the changes for the 2016 summer were a new director, Mor Borodovski, and assistant director, Julia Minnehan. We also had many wonderful new counselors join us as well as our experienced veterans.

Some highlights from our summer included a trip to Adventureland, the Blank Park Zoo, the Science Center, and many others. Our campers rotated weekly between several water parks and had swim lessons at the YMCA. We also had visitors this summer including Menace Soccer, the Iowa Circus Academy, a break dance teacher, and an animal trainer just to name a few. Campers also enjoyed daily fun activities such arts and crafts, Israeli culture, cooking, sports, and dance. It was a fabulous summer! We cannot wait for the next one.



Photos courtesy of Beau Hausmann



The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press 17

Community Report July / August 2016

Education

Beit Sefer Shalom / Gan Shalom Preschool / Engman Camp Shalom

- 10 weeks of camp were offered this summer (June 13-Aug 19).
- 93 different campers enjoyed Engman Camp Shalom this year.
- 3rd-8th graders enjoyed an overnight at Caspe Terrace on August 4th.
- Transportation from Tifereth Israel Synagogue supported 20+ campers throughout the summer.
- Our Camp Carnival was August 19th.
- 80 students took advantage of the early bird discount and are already registered for Beit Sefer Shalom 2016-17 school year. Our goal is 150 students this year.
- Classes begin September 11th with Parent Orientation in Bucksbaum Auditorium.
- Madrichim Application is online this year and can be found at: https://goo.gl/yDM7rz
- Social Justice/Tolerance curriculum has been added to all grades this year.
- Five special Israel lessons will be taught in each grade this year.
- Global Day of Jewish Learning is scheduled for November 20, 2016.
- Gan Shalom 2016-2017 Preschool Online Registration Open Now @ http://www.jewishdesmoines.org/gs/enroll. The first day of Gan Shalom will be Monday, August 29, 2016.
- New Pinterest Board for Gan Shalom parents is being created.
- Gan Shalom Camp ran ten weeks with 45 children participating in the camp.
- Gan Shalom participated in food drive, school supply drive, visiting with seniors and working in the community garden.
- Gan Shalom teachers will be attending the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children 2016 Early Care and Education Fall Institute.
- Attended *The Raising of America: Early Childhood and the Future of Our Nation* film and discussion panel, The Wil Blechman, MD series on Brain Development and Nutrition, ACEs Lemonade for Life, Family Support.
- Teaming with Jewish Family Services and Outreach on Gan Shalom service projects.

Jewish Family Services & Outreach

Jewish Family Services and Outreach

- July 14 Art Center tour We enjoyed a tour at the Des Moines Art Center. We viewed a variety of art pieces and learned more about them from our docent.
- July 29 Celebrated Shabbat and shared a picnic lunch at Caspe Terrace with Engman Camp Shalom campers .

Community

Jewish Community Relations Commission

- During the summer, JCRC has been involved in the structuring of its helping-hand committees. Emphasis has been placed on moving forward on Disabilities Advocacy, Interethnic Outreach, and Food Insecurity.
- JCRC has continued discussions about Iowa- Israel economic development with representatives from the Greater Des Moines Partnership and the Cultivation Corridor.
- To guide community members to a better understanding of modern antisemitism, a brief introduction to the topic has been prepared and disseminated.
- JCRC helped structure and implement the visit of an official delegation from Mateh Asher, Israel, to its twinned city, West Des Moines.
- JCRC was represented among the participants commemorating the anniversary of the 1995 genocide committed in Srebrenica.
- JCRC helped a university student research the processes that led to the construction of the Iowa Holocaust Memorial on the grounds of the State Capitol.
- As part of the consortium of communities within Partnership2GETHER/ Western Galilee, JCRC participated in the P2G Steering Committee meetings held this year in Toledo, OH.

History

Iowa Jewish Historical Society

- IJHS is celebrating its 20th Anniversary on Sunday, September 18 from 6-9 p.m. with a dinner and program. Our keynote speaker is Rabbi Barry Cytron, who most Central Iowans remember as the rabbi at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. See page --- for more details and a reservation form.
- IJHS presented a tour of the museum as part of the JCRC-hosted Annual Meeting of Iowa Community Representatives. Discussions included how we can work together to collect and preserve more of the statewide history of Iowa's Jewish communities.
- The IJHS has loaned an 1870 prayer book to the Old Capitol Museum and Museum of Natural History. It was of special interest because the pages are written in German and Hebrew next to each other. The prayer book will be on display as part of an exhibit on Germans in Iowa that is opening on August 16. The exhibit will run through January 20, 2017.
- The IJHS hosted a student from Yale who is doing her senior thesis on the American Holocaust Memorials. She is researching how and why the Holocaust, a largely European event, has acquired such place of prominence in American national memory and is especially interested in those constructed with strong state or municipal support.

Gan Shaom ROSH HASHANAH BASKET

SMALL - \$18

Honey sticks Apples Challah knots Grape Juice

MEDIUM - \$36

Honey sticks Apples Round Challah Grape Juice Chocolates

LARGE- \$54

Wine Honey Jar Apples Round Challah Grape Juice Chocolates

"Free Delivery"

All items are Kosher. All proceeds go to Gan Shalom. Orders are due by Friday, September 23, 2016. Call 515-987-0899 x 233 with any questions. Baskets Delivered Wednesday September 28th – Friday September 30th Pick up at Caspe Terrace, School wing Wednesday, September 28th, 3:00 p.m. -6:00 p.m. Pick up at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, Thursday, September 29th 8:30 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.

GAN SHALOM ROSH HASHANAH BASKET - ORDER FORM HOME OR BUSINESS DELIVERY +\$10 SIZE **QUANTITY** PRICE **PICK-UP SUB-TOTAL** \$18 **SMALL** \$36 MEDIUM \$54 LARGE NO CHARGE NAME:_ **RECIPIENT:** TOTAL_ **DELIVERY ADDRESS:** ADDRESS: **PICK-UP LOCATION:** please circle PHONE #:_ PHONE #:_ Tifereth Israel Synagogue Message to Recipient : 924 Polk Blvd Des Moines, IA 50312 Credit Card:__ Exp:_ Caspe Terrace

Checks payable to "Gan Shalom"

Please return to Gan Shalom Preschool. Caspe Terrace, 33158 Ute Avenue, Waukee, IA 50263

33158 Ute Avenue

Waukee, IA 50263





P2G Steering Committee met in Toledo



The stateside Partnership2GETHER steering committee meeting was conducted in Toledo in July. All 13 U.S. Jewish communities in the consortium, including the Des Moines Federation, were represented along with consortium members from Israel and Budapest.



This year's annual meeting of Iowa Jewish leaders, organized by JCRC, met at the Caspe Terrace in late August. Attending the program were representatives from the Jewish communities of Davenport, Iowa City, Ames, Sioux City, Council Bluffs and Omaha, and Des Moines.



Iowa Jewish Leaders meet at Caspe Terrace

About Modern Antisemitism: A Brief Overview



Antisemitism is again on the rise globally. Fueled by classical anti-Jewish myths and stereotypes, the newest wave of antisemitism, beginning in 2001 and increasing annually, feeds off demonization of Israel and holds Jews elsewhere accountable for Israeli policy. Antisemitism comes in the forms of verbal harassment, vandalism, and, at times, physical violence. And it comes from the far Right, the far Left, rather uniformly from the Middle East, and even where there are no Jews.

Additional information is available from Mark Finkelstein jcrc@dmjfed.org

On a typical day in 2016, if you search for it (unless something horrible has happened that is picked up on CNN,) you will likely find one or more reports of antisemitic incidents scattered across the world. The news might come from Europe, the Middle East, or even the United States, and any incident might be one of verbal harassment, vandalism, or physical violence.

The number and variety of incidents are truly astounding.

On one recent day, for example, two newly-erected Holocaust memorials were desecrated. A memorial in Poland was defaced with right wing, neo-Nazi vulgarity; a memorial in Italy was defaced with left wing, anarchist graffiti.

In France, a gunman angry at Israel kills random shoppers at a kosher grocery. In England, a politician mentions on the Internet that Jews control Britain and are committing genocide on the British. Or perhaps today British soccer fans are, again, heard chanting antisemitic rhymes in the stands.

In Iran, the regime sponsors a Holocaust denial art contest. In Geneva, a UN agency labels Israel the world's worst human rights violator. (The world's worst?) In the United States, a college professor says that Israeli Jews kill Palestinians to harvest their organs. At another school, a law school student asks a prominent woman Israeli politician at a lecture why she is so 'smelly.' And the questioner is defended by students. Jewish students. At a Canadian university, a student group disrupts a Hanukkah party to protest Israeli policy. At a university in Washington state, a headless doll is found, along with a note attached reading 'Death to all Jews.' And the list goes on.

The media noticed several years ago that incidents targeting Jews, in general, spike each time Israel battles Hamas. But even before then, dating back to 2001, a rise in global antisemitism was noted by Jewish observers, including Elie Wiesel. And then thereafter, every few years, observers proclaimed that we were experiencing the greatest increase of global antisemitism since the end of World War II. The trend now continues to increase more sharply.

Yet many people have either not picked up on the trend or apparently can't identify certain aspects of harassment or intolerance as antisemitism. That is perhaps because the incidence of antisemitism, as measured by the ADL, had been dropping over an extended period, and that people had come to know domestic antisemitism to consist almost exclusively of discrimination in employment or housing, swastika daubings, and rhetoric coming (exclusively) from the far right fringe.

The old forms of antisemitism, based culturally on myth, still exist. Jews have for centuries been accused of colluding with the Devil, of debauchery, of using the blood of gentiles for ritual purposes, and of conspiring to manipulate others (even on so broad as a worldwide basis.) Such erroneous beliefs are often combined with visual imagery of Jews as ugly, dirty, and disease

ridden.

The new forms of antisemitism are rooted in the demonization of Israel and combine with the prior defamations of Jews. As the British academic Allan Johnson has stated, "Basically, that which the *demonological* Jew once was, demonological Israel now becomes: a uniquely malevolent force, full of blood lust, all-controlling, the hidden hand, the evil actor, the key obstacle to peace and to a better, purer, and more harmonious world." (Hence the important distinction between legitimate criticism of Israel and the above types of defamation, which amount to antisemitism.)

Now in addition. The verbal hostility (and worse) to which Israel is subjected is now often aimed at Jews elsewhere, at times whether they be supporters of Israeli policy or not.

The *slippery slope* of hostility was noted by Britain's Community Security Trust (the ADL of the United Kingdom) in 2006. " [In the U.K., said the Security Trust,] messages that start out as attacks on alleged Israeli policy or behaviour often conclude with abuse of, or threats to all Jews, the wish that all Jews were dead, claims of Jewish conspiracy, or the accusation that Jews killed Christ."

On one level, current opinion is that a layer of inhibition has been lifted from societies, western societies included, so that even the more educated feel freer to say defamatory things about Jews and Israel than they did a generation ago. But there is speculation on a deeper level as to why people come to think (if not necessarily act) in antisemitic ways. There are two major hypotheses, the first being more common:

Those who have studied the phenomena have speculated that antisemitism as a *mental disorder* controls people who think of Jews as centrally important to everything that is wrong in the world. Individuals who embrace this perspective believe that Jews are inherently evil, malicious, and powerful.

A second theory is that there are individuals who have idealized Jews. They have imagined Jews to be inherently pure and good, and hold Jews to a higher standard than others. These 'admirers' of Jews become angry and sometimes hateful when Jews or Israel fall short of their expectations. ('Didn't the Jews learn anything from having endured the Holocaust?') Such individuals and groups deal in absurd and hurtful double standards, as when Israel is attacked by the UN under the guise of anti-racism. (cf. Cotler.)

Both of the above mindsets involve conceptions of 'purity.' The one, believing that Jews are innately *impure*. The second, believing that Jews are born innately *pure*. It's been commented on that bigotry based on 'the dislike of the unlike' often results in discrimination. When one deals with the concept of spiritual impurity, however, the result leads, horrifyingly, to talk of eradication. Therein lies the *ultimate* fear behind the increase in contemporary antisemitism.

So, you may now be asking yourself, what's to be done? Some suggestions. Well, we all should be monitoring the news of antisemitic incidents a lot more closely. We need, as the scholars on antisemitism are telling us, to understand that the older, dictionary definition of antisemitism has become outdated because it doesn't account for the type of demonizing accusations hurled at Israel and supporters of Israel, when we know that demonization ultimately leads to violence against Jews. We need to be prepared to speak up when we hear antisemitism spewed by either the right or the left or when we encounter unjustifiable, antisemitism denial. We need to explain the new antisemitism to others and to create speaking opportunities for those who can explain it to others. And we would do well to enlist others in support of combating the phenomena. Based on prior experience, we cannot let Jew hatred, whether of the old or new variety, go unrecognized and unrepudiated. The stakes are just too high.

The Coordination Forum for Countering Antisemitism. www. antisemitism.org.il A source for daily reports.

What is Antisemitism? by Jonathan Sacks http://www. momentmag.com/sacks-what-is-antisemitism/

Deciphering the New Antisemitism. Edited by Alvin H. Rosenfeld (2015, Indiana University Press)

If you are interested in helping to educate others about modern antisemitism, please contact jcrc@ dmjfed.org. The opinions expressed herein represent those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Jewish Federation.

Israel and the 2016 Election By Tim Urban

Both AIPAC and J Street support a two state solution for Palestinian statehood. But the Democratic and Republican Party platforms describe two parties moving in opposite directions on resolving the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

The Democratic platform, for the first time, included language recognizing the legitimate rights and national aspirations of the Palestinian people. While affirming the importance of the two-state solution for securing Israel as a Jewish and democratic state, it made clear that Palestinians deserve "independence, sovereignty and dignity." It is likely there may be further movement in the Party's position in the future. It has been established, bipartisan American policy to oppose unlimited expansion of Israeli settlements and the Party may one day oppose the ongoing occupation.

However, changes in the Republican Party platform are a reminder that extreme ideas are gaining traction with the American political right. Since Bibi Netanyahu was invited by Republican leadership to speak to Congress on the contentious issue of Iranian nuclear disarmament, for the first time in history, Israeli government policy became embroiled in U.S. partisan politics. Netanyahu's coalition government has become more extreme and radicalized than any Israeli administration since Independence, shadowing the rise of the Tea Party movement in the Republican Party. For the first time it appears that the Israeli government is in lockstep with a a right wing faction of an American political party, further isolating Israel from years of bi-partisan U.S. support. For decades, Republican presidents have combined strong support for Israeli security with opposition to settlements and support for two states. President George H.W. Bush withheld loan guarantees and President George W. Bush called for a Palestinian state in a landmark Rose Garden speech. Both put the full weight of American diplomacy -- at Madrid and Annapolis -- behind efforts to resolve the conflict ...

The 2016 Republican platform disregards this legacy entirely. It withdraws support for the two-state solution, deletes all reference to Palestinians and makes a point of emphatically rejecting the notion that Israel is an occupying power in the West Bank. This moves the GOP far outside the American consensus and places the Party at odds not just with the large majority of Jewish Americans who support Palestinian sovereignty. But even with the stated position of Prime Minister Netanyahu, who has walked back his rejection of a two-state solution during his election campaign. Republican abandonment of its commitment to resolving the conflict and securing Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state lines the party up with a minority of Israelis aligned with Netanyahu. His administration supports the settlement movement and includes one-state annexationists. Radicals on both sides have joined hands.

These changes didn't come from nowhere -- they appear to be driven by the concerted lobbying efforts of far-right activists in groups like "Iron Dome PAC." Jewish billionaires, like Sheldon Adelson, have bankrolled Israeli politicians and the infection of money in American politics has been exported to Israel. These hardliners have slammed AIPAC from the right, insisting that they give up on bipartisanship altogether. They want the Republican Party to equate support for Israel with support for a Greater Israel -- the continued occupation and expansion of the Jewish population in the West Bank and the continued repression of a majority Palestinian population. These ideas are not just out of touch with reality, but also with most Jewish voters in the U.S. and Israel. For the sake of long term Israeli security, they are dangerous.

If the Republican Party continues to unravel under the weight of radical policies, perhaps responsible leaders in the Republican Party who understand the region and the world will bring the Party back into alignment with the majority of American and Israeli Jews if they can recover the bi-partisan policies that are in Israel's best interests.

To Our Community By Will Rogers, Brad Long, Dorothy and Bud Hockenberg

Serious Threat to America's Security: "Extremely careless" Hillary Clinton (FBI Director Comey report) as Commander-in-Chief connected to a Bill Clinton Foundation with "pay to play" donations from unfriendly, foreign sources.

ELECT TRUMP, GRASSLEY, YOUNG:

This November you have an opportunity to reverse America's decline and elect a President, Senator and Congressperson to restore America's exceptionalism! We need your vote so this trio can grow our economy, protect each of us and our allies from terrorism, clearly support Israel, and provide law and order.

THE GROWING THREAT OF ISIS:

The Obama/Clinton leadership has failed to protect you from ISIS. They have ignored our military intelligence reports of its military strength, labeling ISIS "a JV team". Donald Trump early called out the threat of Radical Islamic Terrorism (Obama/Clinton reluctantly targeted the enemy). When Trump is acting Commander-in-Chief with a Republican House and Senate majority, a priority will be the defeat, not the Obama/ Clinton containment of Radical Islamic Terrorism.

BAD DEAL WITH IRAN:

The tragic 2015 Iran Deal gave a free pass to Iran's ballistic missile production, her global terrorism

mission, and inadequate enforcement of cessation of her nuclear program. Donald Trump will reverse the negative consequences of this misrepresented Deal.

RESTORE U.S./ISRAEL SPE-CIAL RELATIONSHIP:

To our community, the Obama/ Clinton intentional weakening of the U.S./Israel relationship is most troubling. Obama "questioned why the U.S. should maintain Israel's so-called qualitative military edge" (The Atlantic Magazine, April 2016, p. 28). President Donald will guarantee Israel's security as essential to America's security in a dangerous world.

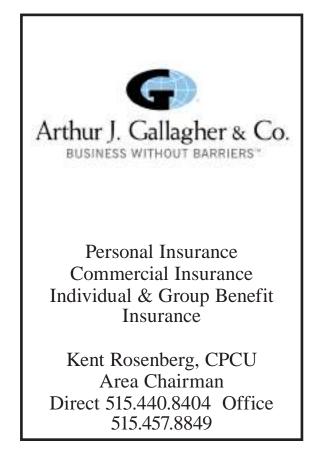
BORDER INSECURITY:

America is threatened by a dangerous Obama/Clinton immigration policy threatening our personal safety. Donald Trump will protect our borders and reform immigration policy.

THE RULE OF LAW AND SUP-PORT OF ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL:

For Trump, Grassley and Young, the rule of law and strong support of our law enforcement personnel is a priority issue to insure that you and our communities are safe.

Your vote for Trump, Grassley and Young will protect you and all Americans from the security threat of an "extremely careless" Clinton Commander-in-Chief influenced by a "pay to play" Clinton Foundation.



Commentary

An indelible lesson I learned personally from Elie Wiesel By Kenneth Quinn

Ambassador Quinn (ret.) is the president of the World Food Prize in Des Moines. He is the former ambassador to Cambodia. Contact: kquinn@ worldfoodprize.org

Elie Wiesel, survivor of Auschwitz and powerful conscience to the world for seven decades, who devoted his life to ensuring that future generations would "never ... forget," died this Fourth of July weekend at age 87.

While Wiesel is not associated with global food security, I mention his name as part of every tour I give of our World Food Prize Hall of Laureates. This occurs when standing in front of the portrait of our founder Norman Borlaug, I point to the bronze replicas of Borlaug's three most significant medals: the Nobel Peace Prize, the Congressional Gold Medal, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

And then I tell visitors that in the 240-year history of the United States, only three Americans have ever received these three highest awards: Norman Borlaug, the Iowa farm boy who became Father of the Green Revolution; Martin Luther King, Jr. the iconic civil rights hero and martyr; and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel.

I had an extraordinary and unexpected opportunity to hear Wiesel speak when I accompanied Borlaug to Norway in December 2001 for the 100th anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize. It was early on Sunday morning when, beset with jet lag and unable to sleep, I decided to go walking in downtown Oslo.

The center city was devoid of people and so I meandered rather aimlessly past unremarkable modern buildings, staring into store windows. But then I heard the distant tolling of church bells, and was drawn toward that sound until eventually a gothicstyle, red brick church came into view. It would have looked very much at home in many of the eastern Iowa towns near where I grew up in Dubuque.

Curious about religious practices, I have on other trips sat in the back of churches and temples in places like Hanoi, Katmandu and Moscow, so I slipped into the church and sat alone in the back pew of what I learned was the Lutheran cathedral of Oslo. The bishop was leading the service with prayers spoken in Norwegian. She then began to give what I thought was the sermon also in her native language. Not understanding any of the words, I began to think about leaving to head back to our hotel to join Borlaug for breakfast.

But then, the bishop switched to English and told the congregation that this morning their church had a special guest, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate and survivor of the Holocaust, Elie Wiesel and his wife. Riveted by this announcement, I sat back down with my eyes fixed on the pulpit to which she had invited him to come and to address the assembled congregants.

What he said is indelibly etched in my memory and motivates everything I do at the World Food Prize in carrying forward Borlaug's legacy.

Wiesel spoke powerfully of how for many, many years his wife and he could never have joined a gathering of Christians such as this, because Christians had done such horrific things to his people. However, he continued, over time they had come to see that not all Christians should be considered responsible for what was done in Germany. And so now Wiesel stated they, Jews, could come to this service and join with you Christians in singing.

Then Wiesel concluded with the statement that I have carried with me ever since. He said: "I believe

people who can stand together and sing together, can live in peace together."

It was so simple and yet so powerful. For people divided by religious, racial, ethnic, national, political or diplomatic differences, if you could find some shared experience, some shared accomplishment that would cause two peoples to stand together and cheer together or sing together, it could produce a bond or a connection that could bridge the gulf that separates them.

Eleven years later in October 2012, I saw Wiesel's dictum played out in the Iowa State Capitol as we presented the World Food Prize to Daniel Hillel, the Jewish Israeli irrigation pioneer, who had been nominated by Arab scientists from three Muslim countries. With the secretary general of the United Nations participating in presenting our award, called by many the "Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture," in the audience standing and cheering together were a Muslim royal family member, Princess Haya bint Al Hussein of Dubai, an Arab Sheikh from Qatar, an Israeli diplomat and Jews and Muslims and Christians and Hindus and Buddhists from 60 countries.

Borlaug demonstrated that confronting hunger could bring people together across great differences such as his work in India and Pakistan in the 1960s when the two countries were engaged in hostilities. Iowa has a rich history of such examples of building bridges between adversaries through agriculture, such as Soviet Premiere Khrushchev's visit to the Garst Farm and the Yamanashi Hog Lift, both in 1959. But no one ever more powerfully articulated that lesson than Elie Wiesel in the Lutheran Cathedral of Oslo in December 2001.

The commentary authored by Ambassador Quinn originally appeared in the Des Moines Register

Schindler's factory in Czech village to be turned into Holocaust memorial



GERMAN PRESS AGENCY - DPA - A factory in the Czech Republic once used by Oskar Schindler, a business owner whose solidarity with Jews in World War II was the subject of an Oscarwinning film, could be made into a Holocaust memorial, the Novinky. cz news website reported on Monday. The site was bought by the Endowment Fund Memorial of Shoah and Oskar Schindler, according to the report. The Czech foundation is now looking at ways to finance the project, which includes restoring the dilapidated building in the eastern Czech village of Brnenec.

"Our main goal is to restore the building and the surrounding area back to its original historical condition, including the watch towers and the hospital," foundation head Jaroslav Novak was quoted by the

website as saying.

He said he was optimistic that the group would receive public

funding for the project, since the renovated building could become a tourist magnet.

The foundation has wanted for years to turn the factory into a memorial site but had to first deal with property rights issues.

German industrialist Oskar Schindler moved his factory with more than 1,000 Jewish forced laborers from the Polish city of Krakow to the Czech site in 1944. By declaring the laborers necessary to his wartime production, Schindler was able to save them from being deported and killed in concentration camps run by the Nazis.

Schindler's story was told in the 1993 film Schindler's List, which won seven Oscars, including for best picture as well as for best director for Steven Spielberg.

This article was originally published on dailysabah.com



Sunday, September 18

The Caspe Terrace 33158 Ute Avenue • Waukee, IA 50263

Join us for an Interesting and Entertaining Evening Patron \$100 per person ● Benefactor \$250 per person Doors Open 5:30 p.m. ● Dinner 6:00 p.m. ● Program 7:30 p.m.

Giving Voice to Our History

Our tradition takes great care to instill in each generation the desire to treasure, to preserve, to learn, and to pass on our beautiful heritage. What within our homes is more meaningful to our families than the items and stories that were so important to our parents and grandparents? These irreplaceable objects that were so much a part of their lives are most worthy of preservation, and artifacts collected from different members of the community do, in fact, serve a much larger purpose. They can illuminate a whole era of time, conveying fresh insights into the history of the Jewish community, better than any words alone can do.....

RABBI BARRY CYTRON



Central Iowans are most familiar with Rabbi Barry Cytron from the time he spent as the congregational rabbi at Tifereth Israel Synagogue from 1972-1983. In 1983, Rabbi Cytron moved to the Adath Jeshurun Congregation in Minnetonka, MN, arriving at the beginning of their centennial year and led that congregation for the next 12 years.

For the past 15 years, Rabbi Cytron has served Macalester College, St. Paul, MN, teaching in the Department of Religious Studies and as the campus' Jewish Chaplain. As a rabbi in the conservative movement of Judaism, Cytron is actively involved in both communal and interfaith activities and served as the Jay Phillips Chair in Jewish Studies at St. John's University and the University of St. Thomas in Collegeville, MN from 1996-2009, a venture devoted to fostering sustained interfaith education.

Rabbi Cytron received a B.A. and a M.A. from Columbia University, was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and earned a Ph.D. from Iowa State University. With colleague Earl Schwartz of Hamline University, he has written two texts exploring Jewish ethical teachings, *When Life is in the Balance* and *Who Renews Creation*. He is also a regular contributor to the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*.

To join in our 20th Anniversary Celebration and Dinner, please fill out and mail this portion of the invitation or make your reservation online at <u>www.ijhs.online</u>

Iowa Jewish Historical Society's 20th Anniversary Event

Sunday, September 18, 6:00 p.m.

at The Caspe Terrace in Waukee

I would like to attend the IJHS 20th Anniversary Celebration and Dinner:

Name:
Address:
Phone Number:
Number Attending
□I cannot attend the dinner but would like to become a member: □\$36 □\$100 □\$250 □\$500 □\$1,000
\Box I cannot attend the dinner but would like to make a \$donation.
For questions, please call Jodi Larson at 515-987-0899 ext. 213 or email jodi@dmjfed.org

Please mail to: IJHS, 33158 Ute Ave., Waukee, IA 50263

The price of the dinner is tax deductible (minus \$60.00 for the cost of the meal). Additional donations are tax deductible as allowed by the law.

Seating is limited. Reservations required by September <u>9</u>.

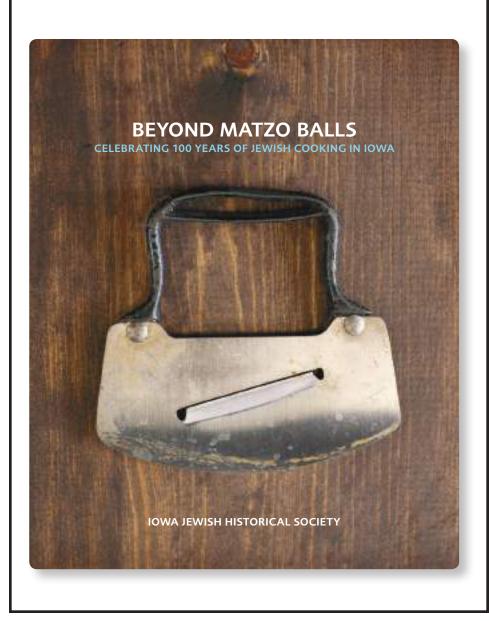
Please make checks payable to the Iowa Jewish Historical Society or IJHS. For credit card use, please call the Federation at 515-987-0899 ext. 213 or go online at www.ijhs.online

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support the work of the Iowa Jewish Historical
Society. In Judaism, 18 is the numerical value for
the word "life." \$
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Signature

Mail form and payment to: Iowa Jewish Historical Society 33158 Ute Ave Waukee, IA 50263

Proceeds from the sale of this book will be used for the preservation and education activities of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society. Thank you.







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September / October 2016



Recurring Events: Minyan: Tuesdays 7:15am

Services: Fridays- 6:00pm Shabbat Evening Services Saturdays- 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services

11:30pm Shabbat Cafe 12:30pm Shabbat Minchah Meditation

Special Events for September and October 2016

September 2016

Friday, September 9th – 6:00pm – Mishpacha Shabbat and Potluck

Sunday, September 11th – 12:00 noon – Women's League Paid-Up Luncheon

Friday, September 16th – 6:00pm Scholar in Residence Weekend with Rabbi Elliot Dorff, Service followed by dinner

Saturday, September 17th – 9:30am – Service with Guest Speaker

Rabbi Elliot Dorff Service followed by Shabbat Café

Saturday, September 17th – 7:30pm Havdalah with Rabbi Elliot Dorff

Sunday, September 18th - 12:30pm – Tifereth's Art Club with lunch

Saturday, September 24th 10:30am – Tot Shabbat & Children's Service

Saturday, September 24th - 6:00pm – Women's League Sushi Night

Saturday, September 24th - 7:30pm – Selichot Service & Study Session

October 2016

Saturday, October 15th - 7:00pm -Game Night – Social Committee Sunday, October 16th – 10:00am – Set up Sukkah Sunday, October 16th - 3:30pm -YAD Decorates the Sukkah Sunday, October 16th - 4:30pm -Harvest Dinner Monday, October 17th - 9:30am -Sukkot Service Tuesday, October 18th - 9:30am -Sukkot Service Sunday, October 23rd - 12:30pm -Tifereth's Art Club with lunch Sunday, October 23rd - 2:00pm -Shelter Dinner Prep Monday, October 24th - 9:30am -Shemin Atzeret Service Monday, October 24th - 5:30pm -

Simchat Torah Celebration

Tuesday, October 25th – 9:30am -Simchat Torah Morning Service Friday, October 28th – Monday, October 31st Women's League Regional Convention

Adult Education:

Miller Introduction to Judaism Program – Rabbi Edelman-Blank: Contact the Tifereth office for more information 515-255-1137

Spirituality Study and Discussion Group - Patrick Courtney:

Saturdays after Meditation (1:30pm)

Best wishes for a Happy and Sweet New Year!

Bruce Sherman Dave Lettween and families



High Holy Days 5777

Schedule of Events



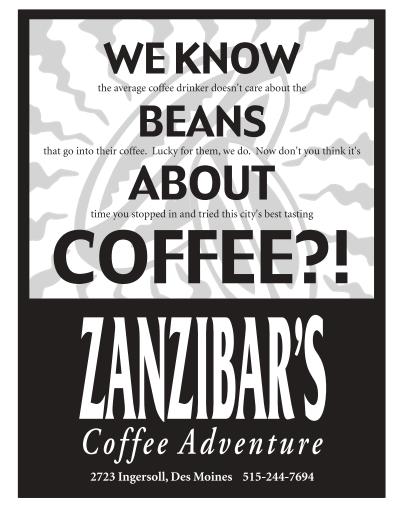
- Saturday, September 24, 2016 Selichot 7:30pm — Services and Program
- Sunday, October 2, 2016: Erev Rosh Hashanah 6:45pm – Erev Rosh Hashanah Services
- Monday, October 3, 2016: First Day Rosh Hashanah 9:00am — Morning Services 10:00am — Alternative and Youth Services 4:30pm — Tashlikh at Gray's Lake Park peninsula
- <u>Tuesday, October 4, 2016:</u> Second Day Rosh Hashanah 9:00am — Morning Services
- Saturday, October 8, 2016: Shabbat Shuvah 9:30am — Shabbat Shuvah Morning Services
- Sunday, October 9, 2018: KeverAvot 1:00pm — Service at Glendale Cemetery
- Tuesday, October 11, 2016: Erev Yom Kippur 5:15pm — DMARC Food Drive 6:15pm — Kol Nidre Service

Wednesday, October 12, 2016: Yem Kippur

9:00am — Yom Kippur Morning Services and Yizkor

- 10:00am Alternative and Youth Services
- 5:00pm Minchah Service, Neila Service, Concluding Ma'ariv, and Havdalah (Glow lights provided for children; bring your shofar!) Break-the-Fast will follow

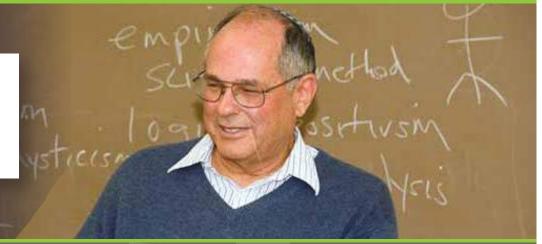
Tifereth Israel



Tifereth Israel SYNAGOGUE

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND September 16 - 17, 2016

Rabbi Elliot Dorff, Ph.D. Rector and Distinguished Professor of Philosophy American Jewish University Bel-Air, California



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

6:00 pm - Services & Dinner "Jewish Biomedical Ethics at Beginning of Life"

Dinner - \$15/person Babysitting will be provided Rsvp to barb.berven@tifereth.org or 515.255.1137

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH

9:30 am - Morning Services & Shabbat Cafe "Jewish Biomedical Ethics at the End of Life"

7:00 pm - Havdalah Service & Discussion "Issues in Conservative Jewish Law"

Scholar-In-Residence Weekend is sponsored by the Suzanne and Larry Engman Fund TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE • 924 POLK BLVD • DES MOINES, IA 50312 • 515.255.1137

JRC Rosh Hashanah Services 5777

BEJ Synagogue 954 Cummins Parkway Des Moines, Iowa 50311

Rosh Hashanah Schedule

Sunday October 2nd Evening services 6:30pm

Monday October 3rd

Morning Services 9:00am Shofar blowing 11:00am *Kiddush Luncheon following services on October 3rd Evening services 6:00pm followed by Tashlich and Maariv

Tuesday October 4th

Morning Services at: 9:00 am Blowing of the shofar 11:00 am Evening services 6:30PM

*(\$12 adult/\$6 child) 515-277-1770 / Jrcspark@msn.com *Prepaid RSVP is a must for the Luncheon Sponsor \$540.00 - Supporter \$360.00 - Partner \$180.00

JRC Yom Kippur Services 5777

BEJ Synagogue 954 Cummins Parkway Des Moines, Iowa 50311

Yom Kippur Schedule

<u>Tuesday October 11th</u> Kol Nidrei Services: 6:30 pm

Wednesday October 12th

Morning Services: 10:00 am Yizkor Memorial Service: 12:00 noon Afternoon Service: 4:45 pm Neilah Closing Service: 6:00 pm Fast Ends at 7:19 pm

Followed by Break the fast (RSVP is a must)

Kiddush Luncheon Fee/donations make payable to JRC of Iowa or log into <u>www.jewishiowa.com</u>.

בס״ד

בס״ד



Simchat Torah

Celebration at the JRC Come Dance And Rejoice With The Torah.

There will be an abundance of food including: Roast, Brisket, Deli, and Egg rolls, Kugels, Salads and Desserts. And lots of L'Chaims, too!

> Monday, October 24h, 2015 at 7:00PM 943 Cummins Parkway, Des Moines, IA 50312 Please RSVP so that we can prepare accordingly. jrcspark@msn.com ~ 515.277.1718

> > Kiddish Sponsor \$180.00 . L'Chayim Sponsor \$100.00.

In Memory of Moshe Ben Chaim Naggar who encouraged our Simchas Torah Kiddush every year!



ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday, Oct. 2, 2016 Evening Services: 6:30 pm Monday, Oct. 3, 2016 Morning Services: 9:00 am Shofar Sounding: 11:00 am Community Lunch (RSVP a must) followed by Shacharis Mincha followed by Tashlich: 6:00 pm Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 Morning Services: 9:00 am Shofar Sounding: 11:00 am Evening Services: 6:15 pm

FAST OF GEDALYA

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 Morning Services 7:00am

SHABBAT SHUVA

Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 Evening Services: 6:30 pm Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016 Morning Services: 10:00 am Evening Services: 6:30 pm

YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016 Morning Services: 7:00 am Kol Nidrei Services: 6:30 pm Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2016 Morning Services: 10:00 am Yizkor Memorial Service: 12:00 noon

Afternoon Service: 4:45 pm Neilah Closing Service: 6:00 pm Fast Ends at 7:19 pm Followed by Break the fast (RSVP is a must)

SHABBAT

Friday, Oct. 14, 2016 Evening Services: 6:15 pm Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 Morning Services: 10:00 am Evening Services: 6:15 pm Shabbat Ends at 7:14 pm

SUKKOT

To purchase a Lulav and Etrog set call 515-277-1718 Sunday, Oct. 16, 2016 Evening Services: 6:15 pm Monday, Oct. 17, 2016 Morning Services: 10:00 am Evening Services: 6:15 pm Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016 Morning Services: 10:00 am Evening Services: 6:15 pm

SHABBAT CHOL HAMOED

Friday, Oct. 21, 2016 Evening Services: 6:00 pm Saturday, Oct. 22, 2016 Morning Services: 10:00 am Evening Services: 6:00 pm

HOSHANAH RABBAH

Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016 Morning Services: 9:00 am

SHEMINI ATZERET & SIMCHAT TORAH

Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016 Evening Services: 6:00 pm Followed by Kiddush & Hakafot Morning Services: 10:00 am Yizkor Memorial Service: 11:30 am Evening Services: 6:00 pm Followed by Kiddush & Hakafot Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 Morning Services: 10:00 am Followed by Kiddush & Hakafot Evening Services: 6:00 pm

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" I don't need special memorial services to remind me. What the [ceremony in Rio] did, though, was to mark the International Olympic Committee's recognizing that this was part of the Olympic movement and that the Israelis and others must be remembered." -- Shaul Ladany, 80

Shaul Ladany was a member of the Israeli team sent to the Munich Summer Olympics in 1972. Eleven of his teammates were killed during the games in the Olympic Village by Palestinian gunmen. It wasn't until August 3, 2016, some 44 years later, that the International Olympic Committee held a memorial for the 11 slain Israeli athletes. *Source: http://www.timesofisrael.com/*

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AMES JEWISH CONGREGATION

Selichot

Saturday, September 24 8:00 p.m.: Dessert social 9:00 p.m.: Selichot service (lay led)

Rosh Hashana

Sunday October 2

8:00 p.m.: Erev Rosh Hashanah service followed

by oneg

Monday, October 3

10:00 a.m.: Morning service

4:00 p.m.: Children's service (geared to 2- to 10-year-olds)

4:30 p.m.: Tashlich (meet @ AJC and walk to river)

Tuesday, October 4 10:00 a.m.: Morning service

Yom Kippur

Tuesday October 11

8:00 p.m.: Kol Nidre Wednesday, October 12

10:00 a.m.: Morning service

3:30 p.m. Children's service (geared to 2- to

10-year-olds)

4:00 p.m.: Afternoon service

5:30 p.m.: Yiskor

6:00 p.m.: Neilah and Havdalah followed by Community Break the Fast

Sukkot

Sunday October 16 9:00 a.m.: Build the Sukkah 11:00 a.m.: Decorate the Sukkah 12:00 noon: Lunch in the Sukkah Friday October 21 6:00 p.m.: Sukkot Service 6:30 p.m.: Dinner (RSVP requested)

Simchat Torah

Sunday, October 23, 1:15 a.m.: Simchat Torah Service Monday October 24, 8:00 p.m.: Yiskor

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Ames Jewish Congregation welcomes Rabbi Robin Damsky

Shalom! I am honored to be serving as the new rabbi for the Ames Jewish Congregation and to be addressing you in these pages.

By way of a bit of background, I was ordained by the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies after earning a Masters in Jewish Education at the Davidson School of JTS, making me one of few rabbis to have studied at both US Conservative seminaries. I pursued graduate school after other life ventures; college took me to Athens, OH, where I began a major in botany and graduated with a BFA in Dance. It's a long story, but suffice it to say my love of movement and my love of growing things have always stayed with me. The life of a dancer is one of sore muscles – many sore muscles, so I enrolled in massage courses, eventually becoming a medical massage therapist. I practiced for close to twenty years, addressing issues of injury, disease and trauma. It is work that I love until this day.

Life takes us on many journeys. In 1992 I was blessed to become a mom. It has been the single most remarkable gift I have ever been given. My daughter, Sarah, now 24, is my treasure. One year after her birth I had the unexpected occasion to become a single mother. Sarah and I have been on this journey as two since then, through thick and thin. I am proud to say she is now a college grad and lights up my life today as she did as an infant.

AJC is the third congregation I will have the privilege of serving. I have worked with Congregation Or Chadash (now Or Tzion) in Scottsdale, AZ and with West Suburban Temple Har Zion in River Forest, IL. I love the opportunity that congregational work offers to cultivate deep and meaningful relationships across the generations and to enhance people's lives with spirit and good works.

Throughout the years I have worked the earth growing food and have learned about sustainability and the escalation of hunger both locally and globally. Turning my property into an organic, edible permaculture landscape, I felt called to help feed the hungry, break down barriers of faith, culture and race, and educate about growing food locally for our physical well being and to diminish our carbon footprint.

As this was evolving, I took part in the Institute of Jewish Spirituality's 18-month Clergy Leadership Program. Designed to cultivate mindful Jewish leaders, this training brought the field of mindfulness practice with its spiritual gifts and benefits to health and well being front and center. Merging the teaching of mindfulness practice with garden design and implementation, the nonprofit In the Gardens was born. It employs interns, teaches mindfulness and gardening, and donates 80% of its produce to the local food pantry.

As we begin the month of Elul and our preparation for the High Holy Days, I cannot help but feel the connection of this cycle of our year to the earth. Each year we take the month before Rosh Hashanah to reflect and take personal account. We wake ourselves up with the morning blast of the shofar. There is great wisdom in the design of the Jewish calendar, and it is no accident that we begin the process of teshuvah – of return – during the waxing months of the earth's produce. When we look out at the fruits and vegetables adorning our trees and shrubs, when we see the rich greens of tree and field, we feel that the safety of the earth's fullness will hold us as we begin to look inside and perhaps feel where we are broken. The trees can hold our fears. The grasses and flowers can hold our tears. And the beans and tomatoes, the corn and berries, show us that while we take account and despair at where we still have missed the mark, fullness, like the fruit of the vine, will return.

This year I invite you to connect your Elul – your preparation to the High Holy Days – to the earth that nourishes us, using the abundance of the summer growth as a guide for your personal reflection and regeneration. You might explore any of the following questions, or come up with your own:

• What can you glean from the way the sun warms the soil, or the way the rain soaks in, feeding plants and animals?

• How can the flowers and vegetables teach you about coming home to yourself – teshuvah?

• What solace or blessing can be found in picking apples or other late summer fruits?

• Which lessons of forgiveness speak to you in the wind?

• How can the earth teach you about reaching out and connecting in compassion to others?

May your Elul and High Holy Day season be rich and rewarding in relationship – to yourself, to those you love, and to the planet that sustains us.

Shanah tovah u'metukah,

Rabbi Robin Damsky





October 2nd (Sun.) Erev Rosh Hashanah Erev Rosh Hashanah Service 7:00 pm Rosh Hashanah Party 8:30 pm

October 3rd (Mon.) Rosh Hashanah Day Rosh Hashanah Morning Service 10:00 a.m. Temple Lunch 11:30 am Rosh Hashanah Afternoon Family Service 2:00 pm Tashlikh Service @ Raccoon River Park 4:00 pm

October 11th (Tue.) Kol Nidrei Yom Kippur Kol Nidrei Family Service 6:00 pm Yom Kippur Kol Nidrei Adult Service 8:00 pm

October 12th (Wed.) Yom Kippur Day Yom Kippur Morning Service 10:00 am Yom Kippur Interlude 12:00 pm Yom Kippur Afternoon Torah Service 3:30 pm Yom Kippur Healing Yizkor Ne'ilah Service 4:15 pm Break the Fast Meal 6:00 pm

All About The High Holidays - From Slichot to Simchat Torah The First Class in the Introduction to Judaism Series September 22 from 7:00-8:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, September 25, 2016 Temple Treasures Auction 1-3 pm Temple B'nai Jeshurun Social Hall Open to the Community!

In Memoriam We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Ronald M. Blumenfeld Ronald Herzog Esther Mogolov Bernard Levine Madalyn Rosenberg Piel Roy Hjelmaas Shirley Silver

We note with joy the Bar Mitzvas of



Our son, **Avi Kaufman**, will be marking his Bar Mitzvah on **Saturday**, **September 10, 2016**. Our family wishes to extend a cordial invitation to the Jewish community to join us in our celebration of this milestone in Avi's life. Shabbat morning services led by Avi will begin at **10 am** and a celebratory luncheon will follow. We hope to see you there. **Rabbi David & Julie Kaufman**



With great pleasure we invite you to share our elation at the Bar Mitzvah of our son, **Zavier Tristan Hahn**, on **Saturday, September 17th, 2016 at 4:30** in the afternoon at Temple B'Nai Jeshurun 5101 Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50312



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UNDER THE SAME SKY: "The earth is full of Your creations"



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Free kosher lunch is provided

GDJL Mission Statement

The Global Day of Jewish Learning brings the Jewish people together once a year to celebrate our shared texts through community-based learning.

Guiding values

Fostering Jewish unity, empowering individuals through increased Jewish knowledge, and creating meaningful shared experiences.