

# THE GREATER DES MOINES Jewish Press

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## HAPPY Hanukkah

THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS  
BEGINS ON THE EVENING  
OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21



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**Chef Du Jour**  
**Judy Flapan** - page 15



**Volunteer**  
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## Legendary Debbie Friedman Performs December 14



Don't miss this rare opportunity to see Debbie Friedman, who is quite simply the most honored, beloved, and most widely performed of all living composers of contemporary Jewish liturgical music. Her musical language is spiritual and universal. One of her most famous songs, "Mi Shebeirach" (the prayer for healing) is sung in synagogues and churches world wide.

We are delighted to announce that Debbie Friedman will perform 4:30 pm, Sunday, December 14th at Valley High School in West Des Moines. Her concert is sponsored by Temple B'nai Jeshurun and co-sponsored by Tifereth Israel Synagogue, The Charles Steinger Memorial Lecture Fund, The Louis and Rebecca Nussbaum Adult Lecture Fund, and The Caspe Terrace Programming Committee of the Jewish Federation.

Tickets will be available from the sponsoring organizations and at the door. Patron tickets, including admission to a reception with the artist, will be available for \$100, \$18 for members of the sponsoring organizations. Reserved Seating is \$36. If General Admission tickets remain, they may be purchased at the door for \$25. For more information, call 277-6321 x 218.

## JEWS ROCK! November 16

**A Celebration of Rock and Roll's Jewish Heritage**  
**Annual JFCS Community Book Fair - Ohringer Family Education Day**

The community is invited to join us for our Annual Ohringer Family Education Day dedicated to "Rock and Roll." Hold the date for Sunday, November 16 from 9:00 am - Noon at The Caspe Terrace. Adults will have an opportunity to peruse our book fair, walk through the Jews Rock! Exhibit, and listen to Rabbi Brian Leiken. Rabbi Leiken will explore the role of music in the Jewish tradition, the early history of Jewish song-writing in the United States, the unique Jewish backgrounds of a variety of Jewish Rock and Roll performers, and the ways in which Judaism is now embraced by a variety of popular Jewish musicians. Children can also look through our book fair and pick out their favorite titles to share with their parents, listen to Rabbi Leiken (separate from adults), and participate in activities related to music and literature.

We are delighted to feature Jews Rock! A Celebration of Rock and Roll's Jewish Heritage Exhibit during our Ohringer Family Education Day. A great deal is known about the contributions of Jewish actors, comedians, sports heroes, politicians and others. More than 60 years after the birth of rock and roll, the importance of Jews in the evolution and popularity of this genre of contemporary music is a joyous discovery that deserves recognition.

Music has been an essential part of Judaism since Moses sang a song of thanks to G-d for leading the Hebrews out of Egypt. The power and importance of music are extolled throughout the Torah. Jews Rock! reveals some of Rock and Roll's key Jewish icons through the award winning photographs of photojournalist Janet Macoska and behind the scenes anecdotes of the Jewish influences in their rise to stardom.

The photographs in this exhibit may be ordered and a new coffee table book: "Jews Rock! A Celebration of Rock and Roll's Jewish Heritage" will be available for purchase. Along with these items, other Jewish books will be displayed. Choose from over 100 titles. Payment for these books should be made at time of order. Items should arrive in time for Hanukkah. If you are unable to attend this program but are interested in ordering books or exhibit photos, please call Lyanna at 277-5566 or email at [JFCSDM@aol.com](mailto:JFCSDM@aol.com).

## Out of the Ashes

**November 5th Program to Honor the Legacy of Survivors and the Jewish Future**

Past and present survivors of the Holocaust who have resided in Central Iowa will be honored by the Jewish Federation at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, November 5 at an educational program and dessert reception at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. This special program commemorates the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the massive pogrom considered to be the beginning of the Holocaust. On the "Night of Broken Glass," 1000 synagogues and Jewish businesses across Germany were destroyed and collective punishment meted out by the Nazis. Guest speaker will be Neil Salowitz, President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines.

Donations to benefit the Mischkiet-Spieler Holocaust Education Fund of the Jewish Community Relations Commission will be accepted. For reservations, contact the Jewish Federation at 277-6321 x 218 or e-mail [dorothea@dmjfed.org](mailto:dorothea@dmjfed.org).

## FALL EVENT: Iowa Jewish Historical Society Dinner and Premiere of Cathy Lesser Mansfield's "The Sparks Fly Upward" November 8

**For Patron Dinner information  
see page 18 or contact  
Dorothea at 277-6321 x218**

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## JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Since the last article there were changes in the plans for the new school year. With a lot of hard work, and a short delay, the new JFCS school year began on Sunday, September 21st at Tifereth Israel Synagogue (TI) for our elementary-aged children. Our Junior High and Senior High classes began at Temple B'nai Jeshurun (TBJ) on Wednesday, Sept. 24th.

As the staff, teachers and children settled in for a new school year in the rejuvenated school wing at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, they jumped right into learning all about the many holidays that come at this time of year. On the first day of school, Steve Altman (pictured here) took the time to visit with our younger students and allow them the opportunity to not only see and hear a Shofar up close, but to also touch one. What a treat! The kids had a wonderful time, gained a lot of knowledge about the High Holy days and were more excited than ever about the approach of Rosh Hashanah. Thank you Steve! By the end of that first day, apples had been baked by the Kindergarten and Preschool classes, new Hebrew words had been learned by many and everyone was ready to return again for more opportunities to discover something new.

### Upcoming events of note:

For our Ohringer Family Education Day on November 16th at The Caspe Terrace, we are excited to be hosting an exhibit entitled "Jews Rock!" Also at the same event we will be holding our Annual Book Fair. So, while parents have time to peruse a wide selection of books, view the exhibit and listen to a notable speaker, the children will be able to participate in age appropriate activities that broaden their knowledge of the Jewish peoples' influence on modern culture.



On December 21st, as part of our regular JFCS day, the joint community Hanukkah program (TBJ/TI/JFCS) will be held at Tifereth Israel Synagogue from 9 a.m. to 12 noon with a lunch available.

Also, please note that there will be no classes on Wednesday, November 26th or Sunday, November 30th, Thanksgiving break. Nor will there be classes from December 24, 2008 through January 4, 2009 for Winter break. Classes will resume again on Wednesday, January 7th.

## JeLI:

The Jewish Education Learning Institute presents:

## "Taking The Holidays Home" for Hanukkah

**Sunday, December 14, 2008**

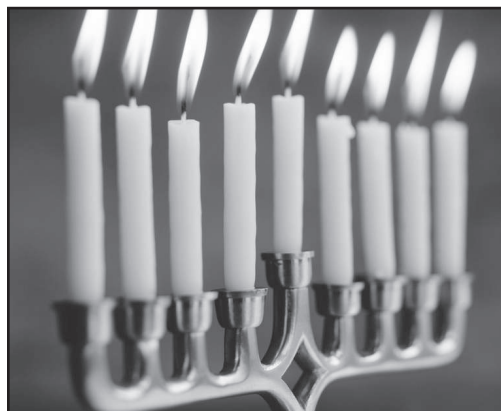
**9 am – 12 noon at Tifereth Israel Synagogue**

**We will learn games to play with our children, foods to make and will give tips to help place the holiday in its proper perspective.**

**For more information, contact Cindy Statman at 277-6321 x230.**

The Jewish Learning Institute, JeLI, is an Adult Education project of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines

## The Festival of Lights



Hanukkah is one of the few Jewish holidays not mentioned in the Bible. The story of how Hanukkah came to be is contained in the books of 1 and 2 Maccabees, which are not part of the Jewish canon of the Hebrew Bible.

These books tell the story of the Maccabees, a small band of Jewish fighters who liberated the Land of Israel from the Syrian Greeks who occupied it. Under the reign of Antiochus IV Epiphanes, the Syrian Greeks sought to impose their Hellenistic culture, which many Jews found attractive. By 167 B.C.E, Antiochus intensified his campaign by defiling the Temple in Jerusalem and banning Jewish practice. The Maccabees, led by the five sons of the priest Mattathias, especially Judah, waged a three-year campaign that culminated in the cleaning and rededication of the Temple.

Since they were unable to celebrate the holiday of Sukkot at its proper time in early autumn, the victorious Maccabees decided that Sukkot should be celebrated once they rededicated the Temple, which they did on the 25th of the month of Kislev in the year 164 B.C.E. Since Sukkot lasts eight days, this became the timeframe adopted for Hanukkah.

About 250 years after these events, the first-century Jewish historian Flavius Josephus wrote his account of the origins of the holiday. Josephus referred to the holiday as the Festival of Lights and not as Hanukkah. Josephus seems to be connecting the newfound liberty that resulted from the events with the image of light, and the holiday still is often referred to by the title Josephus gave it.

By the early rabbinic period about a century later—at the time that the Mishnah (the first compilation of oral rabbinic law included in the Talmud) was redacted—the holiday had become known by the name of Hanukkah ("Dedication"). However, the Mishnah does not give us any details concerning the rules and customs associated with the holiday.

It is in the Gemara (a commentary on the Mishnah) of the Babylonian Talmud that we are given more details and can clearly see the development of both the holiday and the stories associated with it. The discussion of Hanukkah is mentioned in Tractate Shabbat. Only three lines are devoted to the events of Hanukkah while three pages detail when, where and how the Hanukkah lights should be lit.

*continued on page 16*

Jews Rock!

## Celebrating Rock & Roll's Jewish Heritage Exhibit & Speaker

**Sunday, November 16, 2008**

## Jewish Federation Community School Book Fair

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## Message from the President



**Neil Salowitz**  
**President**

Friends,

In the Hindu spiritual tradition, a mantra is a syllable or phrase that instills concentration of mind in the user. Mantras are supposed to divert a person from basic instinctual desires or material inclinations, by focusing the mind on a spiritual idea.

My father (of blessed memory) had a mantra. Whenever he was confronted with bad news, he would repeat it—"This, too, shall pass." It was his way of keeping his perspective.

It is just before Erev Rosh Hashanah as I write this column. The meltdown in the financial and credit markets continues unabated, and the stock market, as represented by the Dow Jones Industrial Index, lost almost 800 points today. People are angry, confused and fearful. They are afraid of losing their jobs (many already have), and are looking for someone to blame.

Anger, confusion and fear are human emotions, and our emotions get the better of us. As we listen to talk radio and television news sources that have become shrill and pessimistic (in my mind, CNN has gone from "Cable News Network" to "Completely Negative News"), we succumb to despair. During difficult times, we get emotional tunnel vision, and can't see the many positive things happening in the world and in our lives.

I work for a financial services company, and I've been closer than most people to the current financial crisis. I could explain what has happened, and why, but I'd use most of this column to do it. I'd rather talk about how we Jews can and should respond to the seemingly endless bad news.

What can we do to regain our perspective? First, we can turn to the comfort of our Torah. The Torah is essentially a story of how a small group of people, led by flawed but passionate men and women, overcame great odds to forge a monotheistic religion in the midst of idolatry and superstition. We can take inspiration from that story. Whether you believe that the Torah was written by the hand of HaShem, or was written by people trying to explain something larger than themselves, our Holy Scriptures teach the universal truths that have sustained us as a people in the face of crises far more severe than the current economic turmoil.

Second, we can pray. Yes, I'm serious. Prayer, especially communal prayer, links us to HaShem and to each other in a very profound and powerful way. You are NOT too busy, too sophisticated or too stressed to pray. In fact, I would argue that it's precisely when you believe that you are too busy, sophisticated or stressed that prayer is most needed—and most effective. Although prayer is called service to HaShem, it's really for our benefit. It's amazing how stepping outside our "real" worlds and engaging in prayer can rejuvenate, refresh and restore our souls and our minds.

Third, we can help ourselves by helping those less fortunate. Whenever I allow problems—the world's or my own—to get to me, I reflect that I have my health (OK, I could stand to lose a few pounds), a roof over my head, food on my table and the love of my family and friends. My life is really quite comfortable. Although we are blessed with varying degrees of health and prosperity, in times of crisis it's easy to forget that there are many people in the world, and in our own community, who live from paycheck to paycheck, or on a fixed income that forces them to choose between feeding their children and feeding themselves. Many older people have lost their loved ones and friends over the years, and find themselves alone. There is no shortage of people in need of your help. Sure, you can write a check (and I hope you do from time to time, to the Federation, your synagogue, Mazon, United Way or another charitable service organization), but giving your time to help another person benefits BOTH of you.

In the Pirke Avot, the Ethics of the Fathers, it says, "On these three things the world stands: on Torah, on service to HaShem and on acts of loving kindness." This notion has been the underpinning of our spiritual tradition for generations. All three "pillars" share this attribute: they take us outside of ourselves and require us to confront and become part of something larger, more meaningful, than our day-to-day concerns. They can be powerful antidotes to anger, confusion and fear—and they remind us that this, too, shall pass.

Shalom, Neil

## CZECH YOUR REPORTING

Editor, Des Moines Jewish Press:

Imagine my disappointment upon reading the latest installment of your "Jews Tour Europe" series, written by that Moskowitz fellow. For years, millions of European readers have trusted the "Des Moines Jewish Press" to provide accurate and unbiased reporting about family trips taken by Jewish Iowans to Czech cities. I guess those days are over! Clearly, Mr. Moskowitz's knowledge of Prague's medieval Orloj clock is superficial and his depiction of its adorable anti-semitic elements is uninformed. He would have your readers believe that the delightful hourly parade of a hideously stereotypical Jewish character across the face of the clock, shaking his bag of ill-gotten money to the raucous applause of the crowd, is somehow "negative." Ridiculous! Everyone knows that the clock's depiction of the Jewish role in controlling world finance is just our city's way of saying: we miss you!

Sincerely,

Curator, Prague Orloj astronomical clock [currently on loan to Jewish Museum of Teheran]

## ALL ARE WELCOME The 2nd Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

**with participation of clergy from Temple B'nai  
Jeshurun and Tifereth Israel Synagogue**

**Sunday, November 23, 2008 at**

**Faith Lutheran Church  
10395 University Avenue, Clive**

For more information, contact JCRC at 277-6321 x 218

THE GREATER DES MOINES

# Jewish Press

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We are always happy to receive articles  
and contributions for consideration.  
We reserve the right to edit submissions  
for space considerations and clarity.

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## Do you...

- Have an interesting story or memoir you'd like to tell the community about?
- Have a secret interest in writing an occasional story for the **Jewish Press**? Don't wait for us to ask—we won't know you're interested if you don't tell us.
- Know someone in the community with an interesting story (even if you don't feel up to writing it yourself)?

If you recognize yourself (or someone you know, go ahead, rat on him) here, please email [jcrc@dmjfed.org](mailto:jcrc@dmjfed.org)

# Jewish Press

## Preaching Jew-hatred at the United Nations by Rabbi David Kaufman



Shalom All,

Just before Rosh Hashanah, the President of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, came to the United States in order to address the United Nations. I am not going to address the issue of whether or not he should have been invited to do so. Instead, I would like to look at some of what he actually said in his address.

What Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said at the UN on September 23:

"The dignity, integrity and rights of the American and European people are being played with by a small but deceitful number of people called Zionists. Although they are a miniscule minority, they have been dominating

an important portion of the financial and monetary centers as well as the political decision making centers of some European countries and the US in a deceitful, complex and furtive manner. It is deeply disastrous to witness that some presidential or premiere nominees in some big countries have to visit these people, take part in their gatherings, swear their allegiance and commitment to their interests in order to attain financial or media support. This means that the great people of America and various nations of Europe need to obey the demands and wishes of a small number of acquisitive and invasive people. These nations are spending their dignity and resources on the crimes and occupations and the threats of the Zionist network against their will."

Those who believe that Judenhass, the hatred of Jews, ended with the Holocaust, think again. I questioned myself as to whether or not I should include his words in this article or simply summarize them because they are so offensive. I decided that bringing them to light in our community was the best way to make clear the threat that Iran poses to Israel, to the United States, and to its allies. I could have simply said that Ahmadinejad had blamed the evils of the world on the Jews and you might have been upset, but it would have made little of an impact upon you. You might have said, "No, he really is anti-Israel, not anti-Jewish."

Ahmadinejad rejected accusations he was anti-Semitic, saying his criticism was aimed at the "Zionist regime" for its oppression of the Palestinians rather than at Jews. You might have seen or heard his denial, "As soon as anyone objects to the behavior of the Zionist regime, they're accused of being anti-Semitic, whereas the Jewish people are not Zionists," Ahmadinejad said. "Zionism is a political party that has nothing to do with Jewish people."

By actually looking at what he said, there is no doubt that it is classic anti-Judaism that is at work. By "Zionists," the President of Iran clearly meant "most Jews."

He meant that Jewish causes, Zionist causes, clearly violate the "dignity, integrity, and rights of the American and European people." In his mind, Jews manipulate the politicians of the world through deceit and stealth. Further, Jews control the world's finances, politics, and media. Ahmadinejad argues that world leaders need to obey these Jews, "obey the demands and wishes of a small number of acquisitive and invasive people."

This is NOT criticism of Israel. This is not even criticism of America and Europe's support for Israel. This is blatant Jew-hatred, full of conspiracies straight out of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion. That such words were uttered in the United Nations is a disgrace to the institution, an institution whose mission to bring peace to the nations of the world is jeopardized by its inability to take the side of righteousness and justice as well as by the ease in which a tyranny of the majority is allowed to corrupt its ideals and persecute minorities.

Ahmadinejad did not end his despicable address with the above. He continued with words eerily similar to another Jew-hating dictator who attempted to confuse the opinions of world leaders and mask his intentions by calling for peace. Ahmadinejad stated:

"Friends and Colleagues, all these are due to the manner in which the immoral and the powerful view the world, humankind, freedom, obeisance to God, and justice. The thoughts and deeds of those who think they are superior to others and consider others as second-class and inferior, who intend to remain out of the divine circle, to be the absolute slaves of their materialistic and selfish desires, who intend to expand their aggressive and domineering natures, constitute the roots of today's problems in human societies. They are the great hindrances to the actualization of material and spiritual prosperity and to security, peace and brotherhood among nations."

Simply put, it is the fault of the Jews called "Zionists" that there is no "actualization of material and spiritual prosperity" or "security, peace and brotherhood among nations." It is amazing to realize how powerful Jew-haters believe Jews to be. It is shocking to us to see those words in print, to hear them said.

We can act as if we understand Jew-hatred. We can rationalize the use of the verb "To Jew Down," perhaps as some in the Asian world do, as a compliment to Jewish business savvy, rather than as an insulting statement about Jewish concern for money. They don't mean any insult by it. Neither do those who accuse Israel of oppression of the Palestinians on a par with the Nazis and Apartheid South Africa. They are making criticisms of Israel! Really? Of course they are doing more than that. They are demonizing Israel and often by inference all Jews, at least those Jews who do not join them in demonizing Israel.

continued on page 16

# Tursi's

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## Project Elijah Foundation Holding Open the Door of Hope to Jews in Need; Worldwide



**Julie Kaufman**

Fall is my favorite time of the year. The air is crisp and cool, the children are in school, the Holidays are near, and college basketball is gearing up. This is the time I can really sit down and think about what I am doing in my life. Am I caring for my community? Am I making the world a better place for my children?

This year, as I look back on working for Project Elijah, I feel that I answer that question with a yes. I have learned so much about hunger and food insecurity here in the States as well as abroad. I have learned about the ever increasing need to help care for Jewish children whose life situation makes it necessary for them to live apart from their families in child care facilities. I have learned so much, and Project Elijah is dedicated to helping make a positive difference in these areas.

With the ever growing number of individuals in America who are food insecure, we spent this summer working with Iowa State University's Food and Human Nutrition Department reformulating our Elijah's Kosher Manna. Not only do we wish to nourish their bodies, but also their souls and help restore their dignity by providing them an appealing and comforting meal. Our Manna now looks and tastes like a food product that you might buy in any grocery store in any city.

I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to Debbie and Bob Gitchell, Hanna Gradwohl, Herbert David, Ed Pollak, and Michelle Maples as well as the staff of ISU's nutrition department for all their valuable time and hard work in making our "new and improved" manna a success. Their efforts will help improve the lives of countless individuals. This new manna had its premier at the Iowa Hunger Summit Luncheon in October.

Of course we cannot forget about 'our children' at Ieladeinu. Currently 54 children live there 24/7. This year one of our goals is to provide each child that lives there with a quilt that is their very own. These children have very little that they can truly call their own. A brightly colored quilt that was made just for them, can do wonders for their spirit and soul.

If there are any quilters out there who are interested in helping with this project, please call me, as all help is welcome.



As always, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support of Project Elijah throughout this past year. We can make a difference, and we can change the world, and it all starts with your help.

Julie Kaufman, Executive Director, Project Elijah Foundation  
515-246-8001 [www.projectelijahfoundation.org](http://www.projectelijahfoundation.org)

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER DES MOINES

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[in profile]

## Cathy Lesser Mansfield

Composer of "The Sparks Fly Upward"



A member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Cathy Lesser Mansfield is a Professor of Law at Drake Law School and composer-librettist of a Holocaust-themed opera to premiere at Hoyt Sherman Theater on November 8.

For details about the performance see page 18.

**Jewish Press:** Where do you come from originally, Cathy?

**Cathy Mansfield:** I was brought up in Cleveland, Ohio.

**JP:** And what brought you to this area?

**CM:** My job at Drake Law School. I am a Professor of Law specializing in Consumer Protection. I teach Contracts and some other related courses, and I write about Consumer Protection and Sub-Prime Mortgage Lending.

**JP:** You're a scholar on sub-prime mortgage

lending? That's a hot-button issue at present.

**CM:** Yes it is. I was interviewed by NPR about it last year.

**JP:** I'm sure there's plenty you could tell us about that topic, but as interesting as that is, we're going to have to put that aside for the time being. Let me ask you, then: Where did you go to college?

**CM:** I did my freshman year at Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, in Composition and Theory. I then transferred to New York University, spent a semester majoring in Theater at the Lee Strassberg Institute, and ended up becoming interested in Political Science, mostly because of all the homeless people in New York. That is how I became interested in social justice and social activism (which is the root of my involvement in writing a Holocaust-themed opera). I worked up on "The Hill" in Washington, D.C. one summer, and then I went to law school at the University of Virginia.

**JP:** You eventually gravitated to law school, but you began your academic studies in music. Did you play an instrument?

**CM:** I sang and did a lot of theater and performed in a number of choirs. I play piano and guitar.

**JP:** Well, your musical training, along with your commitment to social justice, led you to produce both the score and libretto for a Holocaust-themed opera, entitled "The Sparks Fly Upward." What got you interested, first of all, in composition?

**CM:** As a child, I started writing little ditties here and there, and then, when I was in about tenth grade, I did some arranging for the Jewish Community Center in Cleveland.

In 11th grade, I performed in the Teen Program productions of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," an original musical on Esther and another one on Solomon. Afterwards, I was asked to write a 45-minute Teen Theater musical for the following summer. So I picked the "Book of Job" to interpret musically -- and some of the music and moral themes of that high school musical survive to this day in "The Sparks Fly Upward."

**JP:** To what can you trace your interest in the Holocaust?

**CM:** When my twin daughters were born -- they're now 14 -- I stopped teaching for two years. During that time I decided to re-visit the high school musical I had composed. It was our nanny who suggested that I pair the music with a story from the Holocaust. And then I was off to the races: I read all the major books about the Holocaust and then I selected a framework that could be worked into a narrative for the opera.

**JP:** Describe what you did, please, to focus and concretize the text.

**CM:** I narrowed the story down to a couple of families -- composite characters -- that lived in a single neighborhood. I picked Berlin. I now feel that I've lived with these people in the same neighborhood, I've read so many memoirs and books, and I've been there twice. While in Berlin, I've met with all the local historians, and I've met survivors. This experience is now deep in my soul. I've written this opera over a period of 15 years and the learning process continues. The libretto continues to be historically footnoted. I'm constantly doing more research.

I still have memoirs in my files I haven't read yet, details of which will eventually be added to the footnoting.

**JP:** How would you characterize the style of musical composition that you use?

**CM:** The musical style of Sparks is probably most similar to "Les Miserables" or "Phantom of the Opera" or maybe some of Leonard Bernstein -- although I am not comparing myself to either Bernstein or Andrew Lloyd Webber. (chuckling.)

**JP:** What was the process like in revising the music?

**CM:** It was like stepping out of my life for hours at a time and realizing I hadn't gone anywhere. It was almost trance-like. I would work for six hours and finally realize I hadn't eaten. It is a very intense process because you virtually exist in this imaginary world.

**JP:** How did you expand your original score into parts for a full orchestra?

**CM:** Simply by trial and error. We did a performance of a segment of the work with an orchestra for the Jewish Federation in the Quad Cities about three years ago. I wasn't sure the orchestration was good enough, but after the run through, the orchestra members were not laughing (chuckling) so I suppose it was good enough. I did a lot of score studying. And I would study chords to see how the notes would be distributed to orchestral parts to try to get a certain timbre. And then I have a computer that has a very sophisticated tone generator that creates sounds that resemble the timbre of each instrument so I can actually listen back, for example, after I compose a line for flute, to see how it is working. *continued on page 16*

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## senior news

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### Upcoming Luncheons:

**Thursday, November 13th**, 12:00 Noon at Temple B'nai Jeshurun- We will welcome Barb Rinell, RN, who is the Lifeline Coordinator for Iowa Health Home Care. She will inform us about the Lifeline program that is designed to give senior citizens the opportunity to remain independent and to live in the home of their choice, with help just a push button away. The medical alert system provides peace of mind for the subscriber as well as their loved ones. The Philips Lifeline has been available since the 1970s and is being used by 700,000 subscribers in the USA.

**Thursday, December 11th**, 12:00 Noon at Beth El Jacob Synagogue We are delighted to have back the music provided by the Zarnow Fund in honor of Abraham, Regina, Paul, Sidney, Silvia, and Ralph Zarnow. Come join us for a wonderful time!

**Pictured at left: Ed Bell, professor in the College of Pharmacy at Drake, spoke on common problems with taking medications. He had a very informative presentation that answered many of our Senior's concerns and questions.**

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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

6 The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press

november/december 08

# Des Moines Jewish Federation and Foundation



**Elaine Steinger**  
**Executive Director**

Dear Donor:

Now more than ever in these economic times, the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines is very grateful to you for your continued commitment to the programs and services provided to the community by the Federation and Foundation.

Some of you have chosen to fulfill your pledge commitments with a transfer of stock to the Federation. It is the policy of the Federation and the Des Moines Jewish Foundation to sell the stock immediately and credit your pledge account with the net amount that we receive. Because this is becoming an increasingly popular way for individuals to fulfill their commitments, we would like to make the following suggestions:

- 1) For IRS tax reporting purposes, we acknowledge the number of shares that you transfer to us. The IRS recognizes a charitable tax credit equal to the fair market value on the day of the transfer. The Federation will provide the low, high, and close values on the day of transfer. This information is provided as a courtesy to you; we urge you to confirm these values with your broker. The Federation applies to your account the net amount that we actually receive upon the sale of stock/securities. What you report to the IRS as the value of your charitable gift may be different than the net amount the Federation receives and credits your account. Nothing in this paragraph should be construed as tax advice. Everyone's tax position differs; please contact your personal tax advisor for information concerning the deductibility of your gift.
- 2) Please inform Linda Vander Hart or Elaine Steinger at the Federation/Foundation three days prior to your transfer.
- 3) Tell us the name, company, address, phone number, and e-mail address of the broker you are going to use.
- 4) Inform your broker that it is the Jewish Federation's policy to sell stock immediately (within a business day). Too often brokers do not sell your stock and its value may go down, diminishing the net amount that the Federation receives towards your pledge.
- 5) Experience suggests that an early morning transfer on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday with clear instructions for an immediate sale reduces the chances for a significant loss.
- 6) If you are doing an electronic transfer, instruct your broker to contact the Federation for our DTC number. This also lets us know that the stock has been transferred into our account. Please also give us your name as donor. Too often the brokers and the brokerage firms neglect to inform us of donor and the transfer.
- 7) The Des Moines Jewish Foundation has similar policies.

We continue to be grateful for your commitment to the enhancement of Jewish life in central Iowa.

Sincerely,

Norman Mandelbaum, Treasurer, Jewish Federation

Marvin Winick, Treasurer, Des Moines Jewish Foundation

Elaine Steinger, Director, Jewish Federation/Des Moines Jewish Foundation



**Des Moines Jewish Foundation Board:** Don Blumenthal, President; Martin Brody, Vice President; Marvin Winick, Treasurer; Elaine Steinger, Executive Director. Harry Bookey, Suzanne Engman, Debbie Gitchell, Alvin Kirsner, Fred Lorber, John Mandelbaum, Polly Oxley, Sheldon Rabinowitz, Stanley Richards, Ron Rosenblatt, Mary Bucksbaum Scanlan, Don Schoen, Toni Urban

# Moses our Teacher

by David Friedgood



Moshe Rabbeinu (Moses our teacher) is central to Biblical narrative in the last four books of our Bible. We are told that the Bible itself was written by Moses acting as God’s stenographer. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers are written from God’s perspective while Deuteronomy, the last book, is written from Moses’ point of view and includes his last three speeches to the Israelite people. Moses was the first man to expound on Jewish law and tradition. Abraham was the first Jew, the first monotheist. Isaac and Jacob along with Sarah, Leah, Rachel, and Rebecca spread the teachings of human value and the ultimate purpose of our life on earth. But, it was Moses who established institutions, a legal system, and the basic principles of Judaism, which have survived over 3000 years. According to Maimonides 7th principle of faith, Moses was the greatest of all prophets. His ability to see God’s true glory approached the angelic. No other mortal has ever duplicated his greatness. Despite these accomplishments Moses was only human, and the Bible catalogues many of his human shortcomings. At times he was aloof and quarreled with his family. He had a short temper, could be inflexible, and often acted impulsively. In our tradition we make a concerted effort to keep Moses in perspective. His success was God’s will. Moses was our intermediary with the divine presence. He taught us how to behave in God’s world. We are a people beholden to everlasting truth. We are not and never could be a Moses cult, deifying a man. An example occurs in our Passover observance. The Haggadah used at the Seder table specifically excludes Moses even though he was central to the Exodus from Egypt. Moses was our first and greatest leader. There is much we can learn from the example of this man’s life.

Moses came from humble origins. His parents were slaves who survived only by the grace of Egyptian royalty. In fact he had to be hidden at birth to escape infanticide mandated by Pharaoh who felt threatened by male Jews. Ironically Moses grew up in Pharaoh’s court and became an educated Egyptian nobleman. His life could have been easy and rich, but Moses never lost his attachment to his people. As a young man he intervened to save the life of a Jewish slave, killing an Egyptian overseer in the process. Forced to flee Egypt, Moses wandered in the Sinai desert, married a gentile woman, and settled down as a shepherd tending his father-in-law’s sheep. God chose this reluctant shepherd to free the Israelite nation from their bondage. God appears to Moses as a burning bush, which is not consumed despite the intensity of the flame. (The image of the burning bush has become a symbol for the State of Israel.) At first Moses defers. “...Please O Lord, I have never been

a man of words...; I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.” (Exodus 4:10) But God prevails and Moses finds a higher calling as God’s prophet; a shepherd to his people and, through his writings, to all mankind.

Moses labors at his task for the last third of his life. His triumphs are many. He leads his people from slavery to freedom - both literally and figuratively. He drives them through the Red Sea and teaches them a new way to live in preparation for their freedom. He infuses them with purpose and shows them the true glory of their lives. Man was meant to be free. Life has meaning and ultimate value. Along the way Moses communicates with God “face to face (panim al panim)”. (Exodus 38:11) He is privileged to see “God’s back” - or the effect God has on the world as He passes by. (Exodus 33:23)

As already noted, this man does make human mistakes, forming enemies amongst his kinsman and, at times, even angering his God. As punishment he is not permitted to cross the River Jordan with the people he led for 40 years in the desert. Moses dies at the ideal age for mortal man - 120 years. (Genesis 6:3) Traditionally his death was mediated by a kiss from God’s lips. (Bava Batra 17a) Moses is buried by God. His grave forever hidden. His legacy is the survival of the Jewish people, the idea of universal justice, and the true value of human existence. Through the millennia he has remained our greatest leader and foremost teacher.

To truly know a person you need to know his name. When our names are known we are no longer faceless entities, we become somebody. Moses asks for God’s name at the burning bush. He needs to know this God so that he can introduce him to a world of slaves who had long forgotten anything but their servitude. God answers: “Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh - I Am Who I Am, I Am that I Am, I Will Be What I Will Be.” (Exodus 3:14) Ehyeh - a word from the Hebrew root hayah meaning ‘to be’. A word spoken as a fleeting breath. A sound which comes from deep within, from the depths of our soul. A whisper spoken loudly. Each of us is infused with the breath of our Lord. It is who we are, what we are, and who we will be. Each of us has the potential for greatness. The path begins with the teaching of Rabbeinu Moshe.

*“Never again did there arise in Israel a prophet like Moses - whom the LORD singled out, face to face... and for all the great might and awesome power that Moses displayed before all Israel.”  
(Deuteronomy 34:10-12 - final versus of the Bible)*



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## Leg Number Five: Mozart and Barbie by David Moskowitz



*In our last episode, the Moskowitz family, accompanied by hordes of train ninjas, makes its way across fog-shrouded Switzerland and finally arrives at*

*Prague, the Kafka-esque Czech capital city notable for both its lack of actual Jews and its surfeit of Jewish cemeteries (to some Czechs, this combination makes for the perfect Jewish tourist attraction). The family admires the endless rows of stores selling glassware and stares with bewilderment at the shocking Orloj, a giant medieval clock dedicated to belittling Jewish "evil." Awesome!*

I know what you're thinking. You think the introduction above sounds a little bitter and paranoid, and that my impressions of Eastern Europe are warped and unfair. I think you're right. But no matter the level of my cultural enlightenment at the time of my departure for Europe ("The Israelis' best friend in Europe is Germany!"), a few weeks inside Europe resulted in an increasing level of anger at what I saw. Everywhere I looked I saw tearfully ironic signs of the ruins of the Great Jewish Civilization of Europe. Why should I happily ignore what seemed so painfully obvious: that our people contributed so much to the culture and accomplishments of Europe but have been so easily forgotten? I don't know about you, but behind the eyes of every middle-aged European was the vague glow of satisfaction

at the disasters that have befallen the Jews. This may be unfair, but I don't think you should be forgiven after a mere 60 years for an event as unbelievably evil as the Shoah. You should have to wait a thousand years.

Enough of that soapbox. Back to Prague, the wonderful city that inspired Mozart to write his Requiem. What does one do with a free evening in Prague? Well, you could walk across the Charles Bridge to the amazing U Modre Kachnicky restaurant, where every meal comes complete with a tour of an amazing collection of antiques and artifacts ("hey, who do you think they stole this stuff from anyway....?" "Stop it!"). Or a stroll down to the Tyl Theatre, the concert hall where Mozart himself premiered Don Giovanni and The Marriage of Figaro. The streets of Prague will seem eerily familiar to movie



**The Slatka Klara Restaurant**

buffs: Milos Forman filmed Amadeus almost exclusively in Prague and things really don't look any different today than they did in

1791 when Mozart was chased down Mala Strana by that scary ghost (or was it Salieri?).

Or you could even take a cab to the Slatka Klara restaurant, where you descend the stairs into an actual cave to enjoy a meal served by the Scariest Waiter on Earth. The good news was that you couldn't actually see the food without using the same infrared flashlight used by South African diamond miners (see inset picture). My best guess is that our entrees were assembled from some odd collection of organ meats that would make a Beijing sautéed scorpion seller lose his lunch. But hey, check out the dessert tray! Pickled blurf anyone?

One thing you can't escape in Prague, especially if you're accompanied by a bunch of young nieces and nephews (shout out to Caden, Shay, Cosette, Mallory, and Giselle) is an evening with the Mozart puppet shows.

The idea sounds wonderful: let's take Don Giovanni and act it out with adorable puppets! American tourists will love this, even if it costs \$60 a ticket! So we bought our tickets and entered the Mozart Puppet show theatre, and settled into our seats to enjoy the fun. That's when things started to go wrong. Turns out the Czech definition of an adorable puppet show stars a monstrous rapist who spends his time murdering and



**Prague Castle**

plotting against an array of women ... in Italian. While the Prague newspaper critic's description sounded kid-friendly ("Kids will be enchanted by this age-old story about bunnies and princesses!!"), it turns out that when he said "bunnies" he meant slaughtering your father-in-law before being sent to hell, and when he said "princesses" he meant blood-caked hell ghouls. After 20 minutes of crying, we cut our losses (not including the cost of years

of therapy) and slipped out early and told the kids that the show was over! "Puppet show fun time is over kids - time to leave!" "But what happened to the bad guy?" "Is the princess going to wake up?" We just told them that the bad guy turned into a prince and that everyone woke up from the dream with a free iPhone! All was well in the world. But my advice to everyone is now the same: skip the puppets if you ever plan on sleeping again.

The crown jewel of Prague is literally that: Prague Castle. It's not just the castle where the Czech kings and Holy Roman emperors lived, it's also the home of the Basilica of Saint Vitus, a cathedral so enormous and old (even the remodeling began in 1352) that, odds are, you will never feel the need to tour one again. *continued on page 16*

### Chanukah is A Time for Rededication

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# In Tune With Nature In Tune With Life

photos by Laurie Wahlig







On Sunday, September 14th, The Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center's Fine Affair in Fresh Air was held at The Caspe Terrace. "In Tune With Nature - In Tune With Life" was the theme for the outdoor event celebrating The Life Center and its 77-year Mission of Service to the Community.

The evening was a wonderful opportunity for old friends and new acquaintances to come together in support of a great cause. The almost 160 attendees enjoyed an evening of dining and dancing to music provided by Chuck Kuba and his fabulous band. With an eye to the future, the focus now is on continuing this "new tradition." A worthy successor to The Golden Ball, which for almost half a century brought the community together to support the care needs of our elders and their families.

The fundraising goal of the evening was surpassed, with over \$80,000 raised, which will allow plans to move forward for the renovation of The Life Center's bathing "spa." This much-needed project will substantially enhance the care experience for current and future Residents.

A very special thank you to all of the Patrons and Event attendees whose generosity will tangibly impact the efforts of The Life Center to maintain its position of preeminence amongst the many long term care organizations in Des Moines and across Iowa.



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## Part Two of a Three Part Series

# Two-Gun Cohen By Marvin Tokayer

As featured in SASSON 2007, reprinted with permission. SASSON is an annual Canadian Luxury publication geared to a Jewish demographic. SASSON functions both as a lifestyle magazine and an upscale resource for Jewish celebrations and can be found at [www.sassonmagazine.com](http://www.sassonmagazine.com).

Morris Cohen formed a tight bond with his Chinese neighbours. They would often exchange stories and anecdotes – the Chinese relating the classic lessons and morals of Confucian ideology and Cohen responding with tales from his childhood home that embodied the guiding principles and essence of Jewish life.

Stirred by the similarity between the values and ethics of the two cultures, Cohen became an advocate and protector of the local Chinese population. Once, happening upon a robbery in a Chinese-owned establishment, Cohen impulsively delivered a blow that knocked the thief unconscious. A radical act, given the rampant racism that existed at that time and place, Cohen thus earned a reputation as a hero and protector of the Chinese and their rights.

At that time, a revolution was brewing on the other side of the world as Dr. Sun Yat-sen was beginning his odyssey towards attaining independence for China and restoring the country to its ancient glory. His mission was to eradicate the corrupt imperial system and institute a democratic and progressive new China. The charismatic leader had clandestinely come to Canada – with a million-dollar price on his head – to enlist the support of the Canadian Chinese community. Covert meetings were arranged, and Morris Cohen, intrigued by the volatile world of Chinese politics, was invited to attend. The Chinese found in Cohen, with his intense convictions, charming personality and keen intelligence, a useful ally. At that very meeting, Cohen – a foreigner to the Chinese and child of shtetl immigrant Jewish parents – was unanimously voted into the Chinese secret society mandated to liberate China.

Distrustful of any outsiders, Dr. Sun was persuaded that Morris Cohen was indeed an ally, and a private meeting was arranged. The two men connected immediately, seeing eye to eye on numerous relevant issues. The meeting went so well that Sun Yat-sen invited Morris Cohen to join Tongmenghui, his anti-Manchu organization and return with him to China. Though Cohen felt that the time was not right for such a move, he did agree to act as Dr. Sun's personal bodyguard in Canada. And as the two men grew better acquainted, their friendship blossomed.

Cohen found many ways to demonstrate his loyalty to the Chinese cause. Given funds to purchase arms, he managed to smuggle 200,000 rifles, revolvers and other armaments into China, hidden in boxes labeled "Singer Sewing Machines." (To this day, light machine guns in China are still known as "Singers.")

By this time, Morris Cohen had become a successful real estate speculator in western Canada and was making a fortune. With each lucrative deal, he donated a portion of his profit to Dr. Sun's progressive movement.

With the outbreak of World War I in 1914, the 27-year-old Cohen volunteered to train 750 Chinese soldiers for the Canadian army and lead them in battle, but the military refused his offer. Cohen instead enlisted and was sent to France where he fought with the Canadian Railway Troops

and, ironically, was asked to command a regiment of a Chinese labour brigade.

After the war, Cohen finally accepted Dr. Sun's persistent petitions to join him in China. He had internalized the leader's dream of a great, free and democratic China, which had finally begun to materialize with the toppling of the Imperial government in 1912. In China, Cohen became Dr. Sun's aide-de-camp, serving as his personal bodyguard, advisor, arms purchaser and friend. He was promoted to the rank of colonel, and, on no less than two occasions, rescued Dr. Sun from assassination attempts.

After a battle in which Cohen was grazed by a bullet in his right arm, he recognized the importance of being adept at shooting with both hands. Indeed, he always carried an automatic in his shoulder holster and a Smith & Wesson on his hip. To westerners, Cohen would forever be known as Two-Gun Cohen, but to the Chinese, he was reverently referred to as Mah Kun, or General Mah. This designation was not only an "orientalization" of the Jewish name, Morris, but also a sign of the deep respect and affection that the Chinese felt towards him.

In addition to his role as Sun Yat-sen's protector and confidante, Morris Cohen was instrumental in achieving many important goals for China. He helped close a deal in 1922 with Canadian companies Great Northern Construction Company Ltd. and J.W. Stewart Ltd. to build and extend 1500 miles of railway across China's vast land mass. He was a pioneer in establishing the Chinese secret service, a necessary adjunct for the fledgling administration. He became an avid fundraiser for the young government, garnering support and cooperation of overseas Chinese in Hong Kong, Canada, the United States and Singapore. And he also held a vital post with the Central Bank of China, in charge of the security of the bullion vaults and empowered to issue new currency. Cohen inspired enough confidence in the economy to prevent a collapse of the national bank, greatly enhancing his reputation for financial acuity.

Morris Cohen became an indispensable asset to Sun Yat-sen. As an intelligence officer, Cohen was responsible for Hong Kong and monitored foreign powers in China. It was his job to procure all types of guns, ammunition, tanks and even airplanes for the government and he had his hand in almost every aspect of its operation. In fact, the Manchester Guardian, a staid and respected British publication, labeled Cohen the "diplomatic and financial force behind modern China."

All this was only a preamble to what, for the Jewish nation, was undoubtedly the most fascinating aspect of the Two-Gun Cohen saga. Very few are aware of the vital role Cohen played in fostering Chinese support for the Zionist movement and for the creation of the State of Israel. In 1920, Dr. Sun penned the following statement: "I express my sympathy to the movement which is one of the greatest movements . . . All lovers of democracy cannot help but support the movement to restore your wonderful and historical nation which has contributed so much to the civilization of the world and which rightly deserves an honourable place in the family of nations." This, likely due in part to Cohen's influence, was one of the earliest letters of support for the formation of the Jewish state. *To be continued in the Jan/Feb edition.*

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## Weizmann Institute Scientists' New Technique Gets to Root of Cancer

In two complementary studies, Weizmann Institute scientists have developed a new method for reconstructing a cell's 'family tree,' and have applied this technique to trace the history of the development of cancer.

The quest to understand a cell's path of descent, called a cell lineage tree, is shared by many branches of biology and medicine as gleaning such knowledge is key to answering many fundamental questions, such as whether neurons in our brain can regenerate, or whether new eggs are created in adult females.

So far, only tree lineages of tiny organisms, such as worms, which possess only a thousand cells, or 'branches,' have been determined. Now, Prof. Ehud Shapiro of the Institute's Biological Chemistry, and Computer Science and Applied Mathematics Departments, together with Doctoral students Dan Frumkin and Adam Wasserstrom, have developed a novel way to reconstruct, in principle, trees for larger organisms, including humans.

The human body is made of about 100 trillion cells, all of which are descendants of a single cell – the fertilized egg (zygote). Cells that have undergone a small number of cell divisions are relatively close descendants (akin to branches representing children and grandchildren etc., on a family tree), while some cells may have undergone hundreds or even thousands of divisions ('distant cell generations'). Knowing the number of cell divisions since the zygote, known as the depth of cells, would enable scientists to address questions

about the behavior of the body under physiological and pathological conditions.

Until now, estimates of cell depth were based on theoretical calculations and assumptions, but Shapiro provides a practical way of determining cell depth precisely. The concept behind their new method is simple: Previous research indicated that each time a cell divides, harmless mutations are introduced, and that 'cell relatives' of distant generations tend to acquire more mutations, drifting away from the original DNA sequence of the zygote. Inspired by this, the team developed a non-invasive, accurate and systematic way, involving DNA amplification and computer simulations, to quantitatively estimate cell depth on the basis of the number of mutations in microsatellites (repetitive DNA sequences), and has applied it to several cell lineages in mice.

According to the team's estimates, as reported in PLoS Computational Biology, the average depth of B cells – a type of immune cell – is related to mouse age, suggesting a rate of one cell division per day. In contrast, various types of adult stem cells underwent fewer divisions, supporting the notion that they are relatively quiescent.

Shapiro and Frumkin, in collaboration with Prof. Gideon Rechavi from the Sheba Medical Center and others then decided to apply this method to reconstruct, for the first time, the family tree of a cancer cell. 'Despite several decades of scientific research, basic properties of the growth and spread of tumor cells remain controversial. This is surprising,

since cancer is primarily a disturbance of cell growth and survival, and an aberrant growth pattern is perhaps the only property that is shared by all cancers. However, because the initiation and much of the subsequent development of tumors occurs prior to diagnosis, studying the growth and spread of tumors seems to require retrospective techniques and these have not been forthcoming,' explains Shapiro.

Therefore, by reconstructing a cancer cell lineage tree and performing an analysis of mutations accumulated in the cells, scientists would be able to trace back and reveal several aspects of the tumor's developmental history. Shapiro: 'We intend to apply this method to study key questions in human cancers, including when and where does a tumor initiate? The progression from pre-malignant to malignant states: At what stage does metastasis occur? Can the depth of tumor cells serve as a prognostic marker for cancer severity? And does chemotherapy target a subset of cells characterized by distinct lineage features (e.g. greater depth)?'

So far, their findings, featured on the cover of the July 15th issue of Cancer Research, show that cancer cells (extracted from tissue sections of a mouse lymphoma by laser micro-dissection) had almost double the number of branched generations (i.e., had divided almost twice as many times) compared to adjacent normal lung cells in the same amount of time. They were also able to calculate the age of the tumor and characterize its growth pattern. Further analysis was

sufficient to corroborate the long-standing hypothesis on the single-cell origin of cancer.

The scientists believe cell lineage studies of cancer can greatly enhance our understanding of, and eventually lead us to, the root of cancer.

Prof. Ehud Shapiro's research is supported by the Clore Center for Biological Physics; the Arie and Ida Crown Memorial Charitable Fund; the Cymerman - Jakubskind Prize; the Fusfeld Research Fund; the Phyllis and Joseph Gurwin Fund for Scientific Advancement; the Henry Gutwirth Fund for Research; Ms. Sally Leafman Appelbaum, Scottsdale, AZ; the Carolito Stiftung, Switzerland; the Louis Chor Memorial Trust Fund; and the estate of Fannie Sherr, New York, NY. Prof. Shapiro is the incumbent of the Harry Weinrebe Chair of Computer Science and Biology.

The Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel, is one of the world's top-ranking multidisciplinary research institutions. Noted for its wide-ranging exploration of the natural and exact sciences, the Institute is home to 2,600 scientists, students, technicians and supporting staff. Institute research efforts include the search for new ways of fighting disease and hunger, examining leading questions in mathematics and computer science, probing the physics of matter and the universe, creating novel materials and developing new strategies for protecting the environment.

Weizmann Institute news releases are posted on the World Wide Web at <http://wis-wander.weizmann.ac.il>.



Happy Hanukkah!

Jim and Shirlee Marcovis  
Nashi and Bobbi Khalastchi and family  
Frank and Janel Marcovis and family  
David Marcovis

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[art history]

## Reuven Rubin, Israeli Painter (1893-1974)

Although born in Romania and trained in art in Paris and Romania, Reuven Rubin in many ways is a distinctly and distinctively Israeli artist. He studied briefly at the Bezalel School of Art in Jerusalem, and he exhibited in the first art exhibitions in Jerusalem in 1922. His exhibit of 1924 was the first one-man show in the Jerusalem exhibits, and his one-man show in 1932 launched the Tel Aviv Art Museum. He designed scenery for Habimah, Israel's National Theater, and Rubin was one of the first Israeli artists to achieve international recognition.

Most important, though, was Rubin's attempt to create an indigenous style of art. Influenced heavily by the work of Henri Rousseau, he sought to fuse this style with Eastern nuances. Hence his custom of signing his first name in Hebrew and his surname in Roman letters. Among Rubin's most memorable works are his paintings of the Yishuv, particularly his landscapes and his paintings of the Israeli worker. Biblical themes also occur frequently in his work. His work was extremely popular both at home and abroad, and if his later work was less complex and profound than his earlier productions, it did not lessen his popularity.

Rubin served as Israel's first ambassador to Romania, from 1948-1950. His autobiography, *My Life—My Art*, was published in 1969, and he received the Israel Prize in 1973 for his artistic achievement.

Source: *The Pedagogic Center, The Department for Jewish Zionist Education, The Jewish Agency for Israel*



[next generation]

## Elizabeth Koslow by Robin Bear



Elizabeth Koslow can be found most days at Fox Hill Stables near downtown Des Moines where she boards her two horses. In fact, when she isn't attending classes at Central Academy and Roosevelt High School, most of Liz's free time is spent grooming and riding horses at the stable. She began taking English riding lessons at the age of 7. The horses Liz rides are trained to jump and although she is an accomplished rider she says she feels a rush of adrenalin at each jump. She also says taking falls from the horses are just part of the sport. Mason City, Omaha and Kansas City are a few of the cities where Liz travels, with her horse Ricky, to participate in the "A" level horse shows year around.

Splitting her time between high school and the stable consumes most of Liz's time. She has a part-time job as a nanny for a 13 year-old girl who also rides horses, so in the afternoons they spend time together at the stable.

Liz makes time at school to participate in an extra-curricular activity focused on electing Barack Obama. She comes by her interest in politics naturally as her father, Dr. Alan Koslow, is currently running for state senate. Liz has donated time volunteering for her father's campaign, including a fun afternoon walking in the West Des Moines Fourth of July parade raising awareness of her father's candidacy.

Classes at school are enjoyable for Liz, a senior. Her AP Government class focuses on the current election campaign and Liz says the topics discussed each day are fascinating.

Half of each school day is spent at Central Academy and Ruby Van Meter, a school that services children with special needs. Liz loves the work she does with the children.

Liz lives in West Des Moines with her parents, Alan and Margie Koslow. She has an older sister, Christina and an older brother, Scott, who currently attends the University of Oklahoma. Liz has a grandmother living in New York and her family travels east for visits a few times each year.

Liz was confirmed at Tifereth Israel Synagogue where she enjoyed weekly classes with the rabbis. She especially liked the confirmation trip to Washington DC that she took a couple of years ago with her confirmation class and she recommends it to others.

Currently involved in a college search, Liz would like to attend a university that has a Varsity equestrian team. She is putting together a video of her riding that will be sent to coaches interested in recruiting students for their equestrian teams. Recently, Liz was invited to Texas A&M for an Honors Invitational weekend. She liked the school but says she'll look further before deciding which school to attend. She is interested in animal science as a college major with an emphasis on animal behavior.

Liz and her family are passionate about books, films, anything and everything having to do with science fiction. This summer they attended a science fiction convention in Atlanta. It was one of the highlights of Liz's summer. For science fiction buffs, Liz highly recommends the book "Ender's Game" by Orson Scott Card. For Liz, it's a favorite.



In the Kitchen With  
**Judy Flapan**

by Karen Engman



Judith Karpen Flapan was born in Chicago on September 6, seventy years ago. One of her fond childhood memories is stopping at the neighborhood bakery/deli to pick up some favorite sweets. Her recipe for French Apple Slices is reminiscent of one of those store bought pastries.

One of her first trips to Des Moines was to visit her boyfriend Marshall Flapan who was a student at Drake University for his fraternity formal which was held in "the Club House" (the old social hall) of Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Judy worked while she attended University of Illinois on Navy Pier and then Roosevelt University on Michigan Avenue. She actually didn't finish her fine arts degree until 1986 when she graduated from Drake University with a major in speech communication.

Judy and Marshall dated for over four

years before they married in 1960. They moved to Iowa City for Marshall's medical schooling while Judy was the departmental secretary for Biochemistry. Their first of five daughters, Cheryl, was born when they moved to Oakland, CA for Marshall's internship. In 1964, they returned to Iowa City for his general surgery residency only to be drafted within a month. So, pregnant with second daughter Valerie, they moved to Ft. Gordon in Augusta, GA for a year. He began his training in orthopedics and served in Viet Nam until 1966. They moved to Syracuse, NY for his orthopedics residency where daughter Suzanne was born in 1967 and then Julie in 1968. Judy laughed when she remembered driving back to Des Moines, pregnant with fifth daughter Wendy in a station wagon filled with the four girls and a "summer girl." They were returning for Marshall to join the practice of Marvin Dubansky and Sidney Robinow. Wendy was born in 1969.

As they traveled across the country from coast to coast, they made many lasting friendships and developed strong ties to the Jewish communities. Judy's primary occupation was rais-

ing five daughters and volunteering. She has served as president of the Tifereth Israel Women's League, board member of Planned Parenthood, ORT, Metro Opera, Des Moines Junior League and the Women's Medical Auxiliary. She really had fun as co-editor with Phyllis Cytron of the Tifereth Bulletin. Judy taught speech classes at Drake and was a wedding consultant for six years. She often took art classes and cooked and baked a lot while raising their family, but now she prefers reading her book group selections, knitting, walking and working

out. For those readers who knew the Flapan "girls," here's a quick report on their activities: Cheryl is married to David Lewis and they have three sons (13, 15 & 16 yrs) and live in Calabasas, CA. She is active in the Jewish Federation and their synagogue. Valerie lives in Ann Arbor with her husband David Canter and she's helping him raise his college age daughter and two teenage sons. She practiced law and then returned to school to become an English and social studies teacher. continued on page 16

**French Apple Slices**

A Recipe from Judy Flapan

**CRUST**  
2 cups all purpose flour  
½ tsp salt  
¾ cup shortening  
2 egg yolks  
7 Tbsp cold water  
1 Tbsp lemon juice

Sift flour and salt together. Cut in shortening until mixture resembles corn meal. Add egg yolks, water and lemon juice; stir until a soft ball is formed.

Parve

**FILLING**  
10 or 12 apples (any kind you like) \*sorry this measurement isn't specific  
¼ cup sugar  
¼ tsp salt  
1 Tbsp flour  
½ tsp cinnamon

Peel and core apples, slice thin. Add sugar, salt, flour and cinnamon. Toss lightly so all slices are coated.

**SUGAR GLAZE**  
¾ cup sifted confectioners sugar  
½ tsp vanilla  
1 Tbsp water  
Combine all ingredients.

Roll one half of the dough. Place in bottom of 7 x 12" baking dish. Fill with apples. Roll top crust. Place on top of apples. Seal edges of crust. Bake at 350 for 50 minutes. Remove from oven, cool. Glaze top crust. Cut into squares.



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## Festival from page 1

Completed approximately 600 years after the events of the Maccabees, the Talmud contains the extant version of the famous story of the miraculous jar of oil that burned for eight days. The Talmud relates this stories in the context of a discussion about the fact that fasting and grieving are not allowed on Hanukkah. In order to understand why the observance of Hanukkah is so important, the Rabbis recount the story of the miraculous jar of oil.

Perhaps the Amoraim-the sages of the Talmud-were retelling an old oral legend in order to associate the holiday with what they believed to be a blatant, supernatural miracle. Although the seemingly miraculous victory of the Maccabees over the Syrian Greeks was certainly part of the holiday narrative, this event still lies within the natural human realm. The Rabbis may have felt this to be insufficient justification for the holiday's gaining legal stature that would prohibit fasting and include the saying of certain festival prayers. Therefore the story of a supernatural event centering on the oil-a miracle-would unquestionably answer any concerns about the legitimacy of celebrating the holiday.

Hanukkah gained new meaning with the rise of Zionism. As the early pioneers in Israel found themselves fighting to defend against attacks, they began to connect with the ancient Jewish fighters who stood their ground in the same place. The holiday of Hanukkah, with its positive portrayal of the Jewish fighter, spoke to the reality of the early Zionists who felt particularly connected to the message of freedom and liberty.

Hanukkah began to find new expression in the years leading up to the founding of the modern state of Israel. In the post-Holocaust world, Jews are acutely aware of the issues raised by Hanukkah: oppression, identity, religious freedom and expression, and the need to fight for national independence. Hanukkah has developed into a holiday rich with historical significance, physical and supernatural miracle narratives, and a dialogue with Jewish history.

## Jew-hatred from page 4

Ahmadinejad wants "peace!" so he says. He and other leaders of his nation continue to speak of a world without Israel or America. His nation, rich with oil wealth, seeks nuclear power. No thoughts about creating a warhead or two from the project, so they say. Yet they have accelerated their nuclear program and have worked to create missiles both capable of reaching Israel and parts of Europe and capable of arming with a nuclear warhead or a biological or chemical one.

Ahmadinejad wants "peace!" so he says. So said another dictator who hated Jews. This November, we mark the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht. Posters from around that time are eerily familiar.

In one, the man, whose name should be blotted out, stands with his hand raised. Underneath his picture are the words, "I now ask the German people to strengthen my faith and to give me through the strength of its will the strength I need to continue to fight courageously at any time for its honor and its freedom, and to be able to further its economic prosperity. I ask it particularly to support me in my struggle for true peace."

In a second, from a few years later, around 1943, we see a curtain pulled back

to reveal the face of a Jew proudly staring down at a burning village with the caption, "The Jew: The inciter of war, the prolonger of war."

It has not gone away, my friends. The President of Iran stood at the podium in the General Assembly of the United Nations and stated plainly, "They are the great hindrances to the actualization of material and spiritual prosperity and to security, peace and brotherhood among nations."

Yet this man was hosted, in fact, honored and feted, by pacifist Christian groups during his visit to America during an interfaith celebration of Ramadan, an iftar meal, breaking the fast. The groups behind the September 25th event at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, and who should rightly be ashamed, are the Americans Friends Service Committee, Mennonite Central Committee, Quaker United Nations Office, Religions for Peace and the World Council of Churches. Ahmadinejad dined with around two hundred people of various faiths including Mennonites, a Jew (only one of which I know was in attendance, Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb, founder of the Shomer Shalom peace movement and one of the early forces behind the Jewish Renewal movement in America) and Zoroastrians who said they wanted to promote peace by meeting such a prominent foe of the United States.

The President of the Catholic League, Bill Donohue, said in response to hearing about the participation of Christian groups in welcoming Ahmadinejad, "Catholics need to stand with their Jewish brothers and sisters in protesting this obscene event. Ahmadinejad is a menace to freedom-loving people the world over, and the sight of religious groups embracing him is nauseating."

I cannot agree more. Honoring such a man makes a mockery of the pursuit of peace and the pursuit of well being for the nations of the world. Hundreds of Jews, Christians, and others protested outside the hotel during the dinner.

As we mark the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht this month and celebrate Chanukah, a holiday symbolizing a time when our people triumphed over those who would have destroyed us, let us remember the threats that our people face in the world today. The leading face of that threat was invited to address the United Nations, received applause for his remarks which contained blatant anti-Jewish sentiments, and was honored by people who seek to bring peace to the world. That should give us all pause.

David Kaufman, Rabbi, Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Des Moines, Iowa

## Tour from page 9

Prague Castle has it all: a ritual changing of the guard, complete with expressionless guards, the residence of the President of the Czech Republic (who we think tried to run us over with his limo), an artists' colony built onto the side of a cliff, breathtaking views of the city spires below, and even (according to the brochure), a "Barbie museum." We were



**Moskowitz family narrowly escape danger**



**Barbie Museum**

"off" in some peculiar Czech way (see inset picture). For example, growing up in the 60's, I was familiar with Malibu Barbie and her pink convertible and boyfriend Ken, but it was not until I visited Prague that I encountered Vltava Barbie with her diesel-powered Skoda and boyfriend Tomas. Based on their outfits and accessories, Barbie appeared to have chosen "political prisoner" as her career path, while Tomas appeared to be working towards a career as either a rusty tractor sprocket repairman or an experimental dentistry patient.

As Heidi and I made our way down the narrow stairs from Prague Castle, we said goodbye to Prague and eastern Europe. Next stop, Venice!

*In our next episode: we visit the original Jewish Ghetto in Venice, located on the island of Geto, and retrace the steps of Venice's famous Merchant. David is thrown out of both a Venetian casino and a Jewish gift shop, before Interpol teaches him the difference between a tip jar and a penny cup. Read more about the Moskowitz trip at [www.insaneworld.org](http://www.insaneworld.org). Hundreds of pictures, complete with hilarious captions!*

## Mansfield from page 6

JP: You're working with Maestro Giunta. How has he taken to the piece?

CM: It has been wonderful working with the maestro. He's been encouraging. He has said numerous times that this is a story that really needs to be told.

JP: What's the length of the opera and how does it divide? Do you have an overture? If so, of what kind?

CM: It is just under two hours. There are two acts with an intermission. The opera begins with an overture that includes musical themes from the opera.

JP: What are the main historical events or periods around which the text is organized?

CM: The opera begins with the arrest of the Polish Jews living in Germany in October of 1938, which was the pretext for Kristallnacht [Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass, is the name given to the organized Nazi pogroms in Germany on November 9, 1938 in which a thousand synagogues were burned.] By the way, between one thematic event and the next, we have letters read (or sung) from people trying to emigrate from Berlin writing to relatives in the United States. The next scene depicts the post-Kristallnacht re-opening of some of the synagogues. When the second act opens, it's 1941 and the initial scenes chronicle the deportation of Jews from Berlin. Then a scene is presented portraying a mass arrest called the Factory Action from 1943, followed by a scene from near the end of the war, in 1945. The opera concludes with a musical epilogue set in Berlin.

JP: Cathy, what is the musical writing like?

CM: The entire work is conveyed

musically. There is virtually no spoken dialogue. Musically, vocalists "converse" in character with each other in many of the segments. In some pieces the vocalists have solos. Other pieces feature the chorus and some of the lead characters.

JP: How large a chorus will you use?

CM: For this production, we're honored to feature the Des Moines Choral Society, with 60 voices.

JP: What impact has the opera had in rehearsal? What have you observed?

CM: Music touches people in ways that words can't always do. There are definitely some moments in rehearsal where the performers are still being moved to tears, even though we have sung the pieces many times.

JP: Will you be recording the performance?

CM: Yes. We hope the CD will be available at some point.

JP: What plans do you have for the production?

CM: A few communities have already expressed interest in bringing a production to their cities. There is a new Holocaust museum opening in March in Skokie, and the museum is sending six people, including a survivor, to Hoyt Sherman to see the opera. I went up and met with them in August and we had a wonderful meeting.

JP: What is the message of the opera?

CM: Certainly on one level, the opera is about the past, about the Holocaust. But on another level, the opera is about tolerance and the difference that one person can make in the life of another person. The message is: pay attention to what's going on in the world. Don't let this happen to other people. "Never Again" means we don't let this happen again - whether in Darfur or elsewhere. On our website [www.thesparksflyupward.org](http://www.thesparksflyupward.org) we have links to Holocaust education resources and to the situation in Darfur, Sudan.

JP: Is there anything else, in particular that you would like to convey to readers?

CM: Yes. I can assure those who are thinking about coming to see the opera that they won't be traumatized by visuals of explicit violence. We will be using over 100 images from the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's archives, but they are mostly of daily life.

JP: Cathy, thank you so much for providing insight into your new opera. We wish you and the production great success.

CM: Thank you.

*The Jewish Federation is proud to have contributed funds to enable the performance.*

## Flapan from page 15

Suzanne Flapan is married to Todd Newman and they have two sons (3 & 4 yrs) and live in New City, NY. She is an OB/Gynecologist.

Julie Flapan-Feig is married to Rabbi Andy Feig and they live in Los Angeles, CA. with their daughter (7 yrs) and two sons (1 & 5 yrs). Julie has an EdD from UCLA in education leadership.

Wendy lives in Los Gatos, CA, is a doctor of physical medicine and rehabilitation, but still finds time to ski.

Now that Marshall is retired they spend almost four months of the year at their home in Newport Beach, CA, and love it.

Hopefully there are still some wonderful apples available to try this delicious recipe. The JEWISH PRESS thanks Judy for sharing this recipe with our readers. If YOU have a recipe to share, call Karen Engman (274-3300) or email ([aengmandsm@yahoo.com](mailto:aengmandsm@yahoo.com))



[community news]

BETH EL JACOB SYNAGOGUE

Beth El Jacob Learning Opportunities Expand

Beth El Jacob – the Orthodox Congregation of Des Moines and Iowa is expanding opportunities for adult and youth learning. It’s never been so easy to ask a question and get the correct answer. Consider:

**Contemporary Issues Through Torah Eyes** – It’s a weekly class conducted by Rabbi Schwarzbaum that meets each Tuesday evening at 7:00PM. Class members are urged to ask various news related, contemporary questions and Rabbi Schwarzbaum offers the rational as seen in the Torah. We talk about Israel, Same Sex Marriage, Charity, War, Peace and a host of issues ripped from the front page of the daily news. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge. For details see our website and calendar.

**Ask Janice** – A Class for Women – Each Sunday morning at 10:00am Janice Schwarzbaum holds an open forum dealing with women’s issues. Learn from a respected teacher about family issues, the Mikvah, kosher cooking, kosher living and how easy it is to do just one more mitzvah. For details and to ask your question by e-mail visit the Beth El Jacob Website.

**The Shabbat Challenge** – Coming up in February an opportunity for your family to come and experience a beautiful Shabbat experience. We’ll arrive at our hotel on Friday afternoon, welcome Shabbat on Friday evening, spend Shabbat in worship, study and just “taking some time off.” The event concludes Sunday morning following services and breakfast. If it’s been a long time...or even if you’ve never had the experience, step up to the challenge. What have you got to lose? For details see the Beth El Jacob Website under “Shabbat Challenge”

**Torah In 90 Seconds** – Now available each week on the Beth El Jacob website. Got ninety seconds to learn some Torah? Beth El Jacob gives you the opportunity go do just that by heading to the website and watching a short D’var Torah for the week. It’s contemporary, important and sometimes...even fun!

To keep up on all the events (like the upcoming Chanukah Party) head to WWW.BethElJacob.org where you can also sign up for the regular BLOG. See you in shul!

Beth El Jacob Service Schedule

Beth El Jacob is open to any individual wishing to expand their knowledge and religious life. Our daily minyan takes place at 7:00AM and roughly 5:00PM during the winter. Shabbat and Holiday services are at 9:00AM and concluding services about thirty minutes before sunset. Consult the Beth El Jacob Website for details

[leadership forum]

Des Moines Jewish Leadership Forum Update



The Leadership forum members have gathered for a couple of good book discussions and private sessions over the past month. They have had the privilege of an exclusive Shabbat Torah Study with renowned author Rabbi Michael J Cook, PhD. The weather was gorgeous and there were great topics of discussion. These thought-provoking subjects ranged from European Religious Trends to Evangelistic Israel Agendas. After five hours of intense religious

studies everyone enjoyed a wonderful chicken kabob and pasta salad dinner with wine and brownies. The event was brought to a harmonious conclusion with a giant bonfire and Havdallah service where everyone had their own candles, even the kids. This educational event was sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Des Moines, and graciously hosted by Tom and Shirley Goldman at their beautiful “Puckerbrush Acreage” just north of Van Meter.

B’nai Mitzvah



**Aden Finkelstein**  
Saturday, Nov 1  
We are delighted to announce that our son Aden Raviv will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah for sedra

Noah. Please join us for the service at 9:00 am and for the Kiddush luncheon that follows.  
-- Jody Hramits and Mark Finkelstein



**Sarah Ann Margolin**  
Saturday, Nov. 8  
Jeff and Juli Margolin invite you to share the tradition when our daughter, Sarah Ann, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah, Saturday, November 8, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., Temple B’Nai Jeshurun. The community is cordially invited to a Kiddush luncheon following services.



**Derek and Trevor Hemedinger**  
Saturday, Nov. 15  
Jennifer and Michael Hamilton are proud to announce that their sons Derek and Trevor Hemedinger will be called to the Torah as B’nai Mitzvah on Saturday, November 15, 2008 at Temple B’nai Jeshurun. Services begin at 10:00 am followed by a Kiddush luncheon hosted by grandparents Chuck and Lynn Kuba. Please join us in sharing this special day with Derek, Trevor, their family and friends.



**Barak Luban**  
Saturday, Nov. 22  
Barak Luban, son of Pnina and Marshall Luban, will be called to read from the torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 22, at 9:00 a.m. at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. The community is cordially invited to join Barak and his family for services and the Kiddush luncheon that follows.

In Memoriam

*We note with sorrow the recent passing of*  
*Charles Anolik*  
*Rebecca Nussbaum*  
*Millie Zingerman*

Mazel Tov

to **Dr. Steven Goldstein**, member of the Leadership Forum and chair of the Israel mission trip, on being voted, by his peers, as one of Des Moines’ top “docs”

The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra will be performing at Stephens Auditorium in Ames Sunday, Nov 9, 7:30 pm.

Tickets for the concert are available through Ticketmaster.  
Music Director: Leon Botstein  
A website provides information about the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra [http://www.jsco.co.il/history\\_english.php](http://www.jsco.co.il/history_english.php)

ALL ARE WELCOME  
The 2nd Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

with participation of clergy from Temple B’nai Jeshurun and Tifereth Israel Synagogue  
**Sunday, November 23, 2008 at Faith Lutheran Church 10395 University Avenue, Clive**  
For more information, contact JCRC at 277-6321 x 218

Let us know...

Has your family had a celebration? A Bar/Bat Mitzvah? How about sharing with the community? We’d all love to see a photos of your anniversary party, new grandchild, son’s wedding, or any simcha. The **Jewish Press** is **your** community newspaper and we’d like to publish more local news, but you need to tell us about it. Please help us to sharpen our local focus with your news. Send photos, information, stories, to [jrcr@dmjfed.org](mailto:jrcr@dmjfed.org).

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## FALL EVENT: Dinner and Premiere of "The Sparks Fly Upward"

Imagine living a normal life in a normal city. Work, family, faith, and national identity are all part of the accepted fabric of your life. Then, within the span of 24 hours, this normal existence is shattered. Where would you turn?

"The Sparks Fly Upward" is that story.

Written and composed by Cathy Lesser Mansfield, "The Sparks Fly Upward" uses lush music and rich lyrics to portray the personal struggle of three German families in Berlin—two Jewish and one Christian—as they are thrust headlong into the Holocaust as they fight to survive and hold on to each other and their faith. Their stories are woven from the stories of those who were actually there and are based on years of research in Holocaust archives.

**Please join the Iowa Jewish Historical Society for the premiere of "The Sparks Fly Upward,"** a very special event at Hoyt Sherman Place on the 70th Anniversary of Kristallnacht, November 8, 2008. Playwright and composer, Cathy Lesser Mansfield will share her thoughts on the production with us at the dinner.

**Cost:** \$125 for the pre-performance dinner only

**\$150 for dinner and tickets for the premiere performance of "The Sparks Fly Upward,"**—a bargain, as individual tickets cost \$47.00.

**Please Note:** The IJHS will not be selling tickets to the musical drama without the dinner.

Call Karen Engman at 515-274-3300 or email her at [aengmandsm@yahoo.com](mailto:aengmandsm@yahoo.com).

Proceeds from this event will be used to support the education and preservation activities of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society.

### MEET THE PLAYWRIGHT AND COMPOSER

"The Sparks Fly Upward" is an original musical drama researched, written and composed by Cathy Lesser Mansfield, a Professor of Law at Drake University Law School and a classically-trained musician. Cathy teaches a variety of Consumer Law courses, is the Chair of the Board of Directors of Americans for Fairness in Lending, has served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Consumer Advocates, and has worked as a consultant for the National Consumer Law Center. Cathy lectures nationally about consumer law issues.

"The Sparks Fly Upward" is produced by The Sparks Fly Upward Foundation, a non-profit corporation organized to educate people about the Holocaust, genocide, and tolerance.

## IJHS News



**Sandi Yoder**

We are pleased to announce that Sandi Yoder has joined the Iowa Jewish Historical Society as Interim Director.

Sandi comes to IJHS with an extensive background in museums, including working at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Williamsburg, VA, serving as Executive Director of the Stuhr Museum of the

Prairie Pioneer and the Stuhr Museum Foundation in Grand Island, NE, and, most recently as the CEO of Living History Farms here in Des Moines. During her time at the Farms, the museum introduced the award-winning "Get Your Grip on History at Living History Farms" initiative that enhanced hands-on learning throughout the museum, installed new interactive exhibits in the Henry A. Wallace Exhibit Center, introduced a new omnibus and transportation program, successfully completed the "Go to Bat for the Future of the Farms" drive, and completed a new strategic plan for the future of the museum.

In addition to her work at IJHS, Sandi is President of the Iowa Museum Association, is serving as a member of the Cultural Heritage and Records Task Force of the Rebuild Iowa Commission, and is on the board of Metro Arts Alliance.

During the coming months, Sandi will be working with Janice Rosenberg, Chair of the IJHS board, and the entire board on reviewing the Society and the museum's current plans, expanding the exhibit and outreach programs, and working on a new strategic plan. She is looking forward to working with the board and building on the wonderful progress that the Society and The Caspe Gallery has made since its inception.



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# nov • dec [calendar]

<b>Saturday, Nov 1</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Aden Finkelstein Bar Mitzvah at Tifereth</b>
<b>Saturday, Nov 8</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Sarah Margolin Bat Mitzvah at the Temple</b>
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>IJHS Fall Event at Hoyt Sherman Place</b>
<b>Sunday, Nov 9</b>	<b>12:00 Noon</b>	<b>Torah Fund Luncheon &amp; Musical Program at Tifereth</b>
<b>Saturday, Nov 15</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Trevor and Derek Hemedinger Bar Mitzvah at the Temple</b>
<b>Sunday, Nov 16</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>JFCS Book Sale, Jews Rock Exhibit &amp; Family Education at The Caspe Terrace</b>
<b>Saturday, Nov 22</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Barak Luban Bar Mitzvah at Tifereth</b>
<b>Thursday, Nov 27</b>		<b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b>
<b>Monday, Dec 8</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Federation Board of Directors at The Caspe Terrace</b>
<b>Sunday, Dec 14</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>	<b>Debbie Friedman Concert at Valley High School</b>
<b>Monday, Dec 15</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Federation Executive Committee at the Federation</b>
<b>Sunday, Dec 21</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Community School Hanukkah Celebration at Tifereth</b>
<b>Monday, Dec 22</b>		<b>FIRST DAY OF HANUKKAH</b>
<b>Thursday, Dec 25</b>		<b>NATIONAL HOLIDAY</b>

## Hebrew University Scientists Enhance the Scent of Flowers

JERUSALEM, Israel - A team of scientists at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has found a way to genetically enhance the scent of flowers and implant a scent in those that don't have one.

Smell plays an important role in our lives: It influences the way in which we choose fruit and vegetables, perfume, and even a partner. And yet, smell is not just what we smell with our noses, it's also what we taste, explains Prof. Alexander Vainstein. "Aroma is of major importance for defining the taste of food."

Scent in flowers and plants is used to attract pollinating insects like bees and beetles that pass on the pollen and help in the reproduction and creation of fruit. The intensity of the scent that the flower emanates is influenced by the time of day, depending on weather, age of the flower and the species.

In research that was published recently in the Plant Biotechnology Journal, Prof. Vainstein and his research assistant Michal Moyal Ben-Tzvi succeeded, together with other researchers, to find a way of enhancing the scent of a flower by ten-fold and cause it to emit a scent during day and night - irrespective of the natural rhythm of scent production.

The development, which has been patented by Yisum, the Hebrew University's technology transfer company, is intended to be applied to other agricultural produce.

Utilizing natural components will increase and change not only the smell of fruit and vegetables, but also influence the commercial appeal of a wide array of produce.


Source: The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

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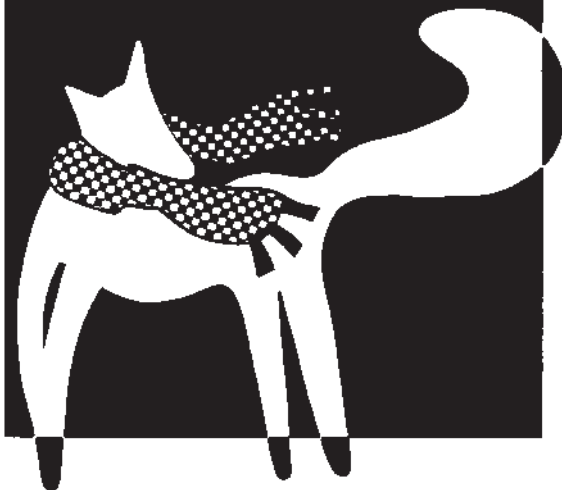
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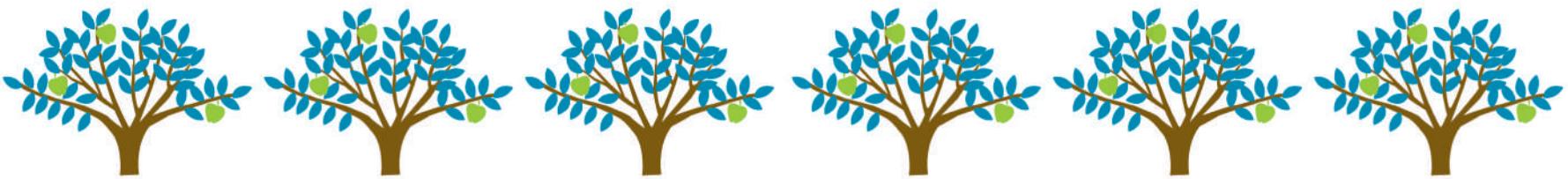




Volunteer Appreciation

Volunteers do make a difference in the lives of the people they serve! Through the creation of the Volunteer Program we are able to decrease isolation, promote better health, prevent hospital admission and nursing home placement, and increase a Seniors' ability to age safely in their own home and community.

The OASIS/Senior Adult Program of Jewish Family Services showed their appreciation for the 28 volunteers at the 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet by providing them with an elegant and memorable evening. The lovely meal was prepared by Maccabee's Deli (Chanie Jacobson), wonderful music was provided by the musicians Frank Cebular and Mel Hrubetz, and photography by Mike Kroloff. Our volunteers are the heart of this program. The success is only possible with the care that each of them provide. They are all special and we feel blessed to have them aboard.



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

On behalf of the Residents, Board of Directors, and Staff, we want to thank our Community for helping us celebrate

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