



The gre ATer D e S M O I N e S

Jewish Press

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Happy Hanukkah!

Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines
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Waukee, IA 50263-7538

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Save the Date to celebrate!

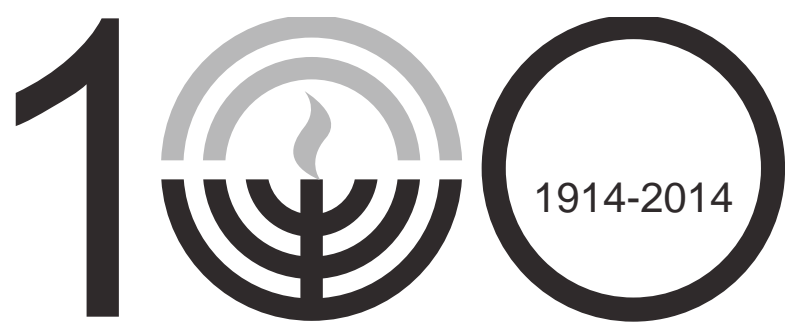
Join us on Sunday, August 24th, 2014 at the Iowa Events Center Grand Ballroom for the Federation of Greater Des Moines' 100th Anniversary gala featuring guest speaker,

Richard Dreyfuss

4:30-6:00 pm cocktails

6:00-8:00 pm Dinner/Speaker

See you there!



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER DES MOINES

ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM **Winter Camp** Dec 23, 24, 26, & 27



K - 12 year olds 9:00 am - 4:00 pm At Beth El Jacob Synagogue

Pre-camp care (8:00 - 9:00) & After-camp care (4:00 - 6:00)

**Preschool - 3 to 5 year olds 9:00 am - Noon and/or 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
At The Caspe Terrace**

Pre-camp care (8:00 - 9:00) and After-camp care (4:00 - 6:00) Bus service available.
(Please contact Lyanna if you need full-day care.)

Skating, sledding, cooking/baking, arts & crafts, inflatable fun, and much more. Weather permitting, a field trip each day.

Kibitz & Kids

*Brought to you by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines
Co-sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Beit Sefer Shalom*

Get to know other parents and discuss the topic of raising self-reliant children. Based off the book, "The Blessings of a Skinned Knee," each session will cover one aspect of everyday parenting through the lens of the Torah, the Talmud, and important Jewish teachings. Our discussion will be relevant for any era and any household of any Jewish faith.



11:00am-12:00pm

Sunday, 11/3/13

Sunday, 12/8/13

Caspe Terrace in Staroselsky Lounge



This is a free program for parents with children of any age. The hour will allow for the planned discussion, snacks, and socializing. During the program, childcare services and a special activity for kids ages 3 and under will be provided.

Please RSVP to laura@dmjfed.org if you plan to attend.

33158 Ute Avenue, Waukee, IA 50263 • phone: (515) 987-0899 • email: laura@dmjfed.org

SAVE THE DATE **Family Trip to Israel** June 11-21, 2014

Subsidies are available for Federation Members.
For more information please contact mark@dmjfed.org



LIFE after...



Barb Hirsch-Giller
President

“Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms—to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one’s own way.”
–Viktor Frankl

In nearly all things, human beings have the most important of gifts and that is **the freedom to choose**. In the midst of modern Jewish history’s darkest years, Viktor Frankl watched a beautiful sunrise from the depths of Auschwitz and decided—chose—to find meaning even in the midst of the horror that was the Shoah. Viktor Frankl, psychiatrist, neurologist, author, and Holocaust survivor, lived to create a way of conceptualizing the human being’s primary driving force as the search for meaning in our lives.

On October 23rd, 2013, the Iowa Holocaust Memorial was dedicated on the grounds of Iowa’s Capitol. Some people believe that the cold stone of memorial landmarks are lifeless relics, but the opportunity offered by this amazing monument brings to all a message of LIFE after this genocide.

The Blank Family Foundation, under the direction of Judy Blank and with the assistance of Elaine Steinger and Mark Finkelstein, has placed this memorial on a lovely, green space where all who visit our state’s most distinguished building may reflect on the 20th Century’s most devastating example of hatred. Yet what a waste to stop there! Through the Federation’s Teachers’ Institute, conceptualized and directed for many years by Roselind Rabinowitz, we have been a voice for all of those millions who were silenced in the gas chambers of the death camps of Europe. Now we have yet another chance to allow those lost voices to speak again.

Dan Rather, former CBS news anchor, spoke about the importance of remembering in this way: “We cannot rely on memorials and museums alone. We can tell ourselves we will never forget and we likely won’t. But we need to make sure that we teach history to those who never had the opportunity to remember in the first place.” What is critically important about the erection of this monument is the message that the Jewish people, so reviled through history, have lived and have made homes in this beautiful state of Iowa. The Iowa Holocaust Memorial is NOT a cold relic but a living tribute to the survivors of the Shoah who came here, who made rich lives for themselves and their families, who have lived proudly and openly as Jewish Americans, and who have contributed immeasurable prosperity to our world. Engagement by the Federation’s agencies—the Community School, the Jewish Historical Society, Community Relations, Jewish Family Services—will find this memorial not just a place of remembrance but an inspiration to learn.

The Iowa Holocaust Memorial, like the picture shown in this issue of the Press of the Holocaust survivors who settled in Des Moines, is symbolic (see page 13). As he reflected on the essential meaning of this memorial, JCRC Director Mark Finkelstein explained that while the Jewish people suffered a horrific assault and can never recover the lives nor the generations that we lost, the memorial symbolizes something even greater. He insists...“it also symbolizes that the Jewish community as a whole has transcended defeat. Am Yisrael Chai!”

Barb

THE DIRECTORY

The Jewish Federation is now in the process of updating the next issue of “The Directory” to be available April 1, 2014. The Directory is a listing of Jewish community members in the greater Des Moines area and Ames. This booklet is published every two years and is used solely for the use of the Jewish community and organizations locally and in the surrounding Jewish communities.

By now you should have received a directory order form and the information for the directory form. If you have not received this information, please contact Lyanna at 987-0899 ext. 232 or at lyanna@dmjfed.org. If you have received this information, don’t forget to return our form. **The deadline for inclusion in this book is February 14, 2014.** You do not have to order the directory to be listed.

For those of you who have moved or are planning to move out of this area, we will list your new address information for two years.

THE GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish Press

Published 6 times annually by the Jewish Federation of greater Des Moines under the auspices of the Jewish Community relations Committee

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Opinions expressed in The greater Des Moines Jewish Press are not necessarily those of the Jewish Federation of greater Des Moines, its committees, or its staff.

Inserts to the Jewish Press may not necessarily bear endorsement of the Jewish Federation.

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

We reserve the right to edit submissions.

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The greater Des Moines Jewish Press
33158 Ute Avenue
Waukee, IA 50263-7538
515-987-0899
jcrc@dmjfed.org

Volume 30, No. 2
November/December 2013

Meet Gabrielle Callistein

President, Beit Sefer Shalom School Board



Joined June, 2013

Devoted wife and mother. Loyal friend. Community volunteer. Avid reader. Passionate cook. Distance walker. Spiritual being. Education advocate.


Gabrielle and her husband, Steve, moved to Des Moines from Chicago in 1998 and live in the Waterbury Neighborhood. Having happily and triumphantly completed two full RAGBRAI rides many years before coming to Iowa, Des Moines immediately felt like home, and deep roots have been set down in the fifteen years since she has lived here. Over those years, Gabrielle's family has grown to

include four Iowa-born natives: children, Dahlia and Benjamin, dog, Trixie, and cat, Mitzi.

Before coming to Iowa, Gabrielle was a Case Worker and Business Manager at the Josselyn Center for Mental Health in Northfield, Illinois and Associate Director of Donor Recognition at the University of Chicago. Upon arriving in Iowa, Gabrielle's attentions were turned toward being a full-time mom and active community volunteer. Gabrielle spearheaded the Junior Great Books Program and was a classroom parent at Hanawalt Elementary School. At Temple B'nai Jeshurun Gabrielle was President of Sisterhood and has served on the Board of Directors as At-Large Member and Secretary before taking on her current position as Fourth Vice President. Within the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, Gabrielle serves as Education Chair on the Board of Directors.

Gabrielle holds a B.S. in Human Development and Social Policy from Northwestern University and has attended classes at Drake University's Graduate School of Education.

Gabrielle's primary goal for the 2013-14 school year is to lead the Beit Sefer Shalom School Board in its efforts to improve the school's curriculum, help the teachers reach their highest potential and create programming that excites and educates our students and their families.



Global Day of Jewish Learning: Creating Intergenerational Community Together

Generously sponsored by the Ohringer family
Brought to you by Beit Sefer Shalom, Jewish Family Services, and PJ Library


Join us and 350 other Jewish communities from 40 different counties in 6 continents around the world for our first-ever Global Day of Jewish Learning!

Mark your calendars for
Sunday, November 17th, 2013 from 8:30-12:00
and meet us at Caspe Terrace for a morning filled with community-based activities, food, and celebration.


Bring your whole family to help us create music and art and read with us in our PJ Library Reading Room. Come for breakfast at 8:30 and snacks throughout the morning, and enjoy learning with our entire community.

We will have special events for people of all ages.

To RSVP for this special event,
contact Mollie Giller at mollie@dmjfed.org or 515.987.0899 ext. 230.
Transportation to Caspe Terrace will be available.
Please call Mollie if you would like a ride.



JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES and SONGS



The Jewish Federation Community School

33158 Ute Avenue, Waukee, IA 50263 • phone: (515) 987-0899 • email: mollie@dmjfed.org

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@LithiaVWAudi

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Monday, January 20, 2014

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

American Friend's House • Cost: \$25.00
(4211 Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa)

DMARC INTERFAITH YOUTH JUSTICE CAMP



City is made possible by the Larry and Kay Myers Interfaith and intercultural Ambassador Initiative.



movefood.org

For more information, contact the DMARC office at 515-277-6969, or info@dmreligious.org.
Des Moines Area Religious Council • 515-277-6969
3816 36th St., Ste. #202 • Des Moines, IA 50310-4710
www.dmreligious.org • www.movefood.org

Learn about social justice in our community and how YOU can make a difference! The day-long camp includes:

- Tour of DMARC Food Pantry
- Tour various worship spaces
- Tour community outreach organization
- Expert speakers
- Games
- Small & large group sharing
- Prayers from various faith traditions

Registration forms are available through the DMARC office or online. The event is facilitated by the Center for Social Ministry, an organization that provides poverty awareness/justice education programming in Des Moines.



Beit Sefer Shalom, page 8



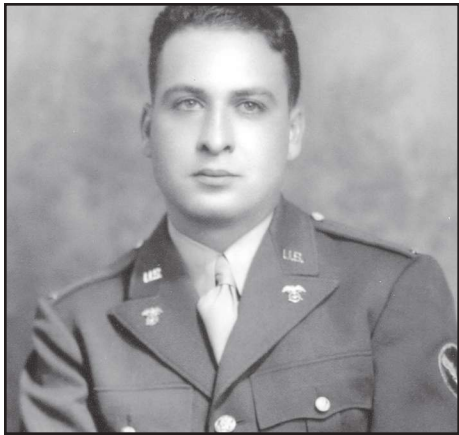
Esther Bergh honored, page 12



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Rabbi David Saperstein, page 23



IJHS collections, page 22

Community Report

OF RECENT ACTIVITIES

Education

Jewish Federation Community School

- As of 10/06/13, 120 students are enrolled in Beit Sefer Shalom (our community school).
- The first day of Beit Sefer Shalom Sunday school was a success! There was standing room only in the auditorium during the all-school assembly. Parent orientation had record attendance. All classes used the school library, which is now equipped with tablets, audio books and a check-out system.
- The all-community event celebrating the opening of g an Shalom (our new weekday preschool) and honoring esther Bergh was held on September 8. This event hosted over 250 people. h ighlights were a ribbon-cutting ceremony with Waukee Chamber representatives and tours of the school wing.
- g an Shalom preschool officially opened on September 16, 2013.
- Waukee Fire Department visited our preschool students on October 2nd to celebrate fire safety month.

Senior Care & Family Outreach

Jewish Family Services and Outreach

- enrolled 78 children in PJ Library, and have been planning for our first PJ Library event at the Ohringer Day of g lobal Learning on Sunday, November 17.
- h eld senior events at Prairie Meadows and Tifereth Israel Synagogue. We also attended Fiddler on the r oof at the Des Moines Playhouse. Over 60 people attended these three events.
- Provided over \$1,200 in assistance for medical equipment for seniors
- h eld outreach activities for the Drake h illel, including a bonfire at Caspe Terrace for October 18th, and a fundraiser planned for October 13th benefitting the University of Iowa h illel.
- Provided 42 meals to seniors, including holiday meals to home-bound community members.

Community

Jewish Community Relations Commission

- Met with law enforcement on security issues.
- Interacted on several h igh h oliday religious absence issues.
- Followed up on projects stemming from the annual Iowa Jewish leadership meeting: facilitating communication among the religious school instructors, developing projects for the Iowa Council for h olocaust education for Des Moines, Iowa City, Quad Cities, and Cedar Falls.
- Organized and facilitated the annual Kever Avot service conducted by our clergy.
- Worked on Partnership2g ether programming, the P2g Israel trip, and programming with guest speaker, r abbi David Saperstein.
- Worked on the h olocaust Memorial dedication program and the memorial's Facebook page, as a means of audience development, attracting 1200 followers.
- Monitored the incendiary situations in egypt, Syria, and Lebanon, as well as the ongoing peace process between Israel and the Palestinians.

History

Iowa Jewish Historical Society

- Continue to inventory and review printed materials, photos, and oral histories for possible use in 100th Anniversary projects.
- h osted a Wine and Cheese event in October before the dedication of the new h olocaust Memorial. Members of the Blank Family were in attendance.
- Completed the Blank Family Collections project with the uploading of 1,648 images from the Blank Family collection onto the website, along with other images from the IJh S collection.
- h osted the film "Lost Cinemas of Des Moines," which includes numerous photos from the Blank Family collection. Filmmaker Mark h eggen, was at the event.
- Participated in the celebration of the first day of Sunday School/the all-school assembly with gallery tours and welcomed dozens of guests to the museum. Many were first-time visitors.
- Cookbook: Karen engman and h eidi Moskowitz continue to collect and review recipes. The book will coincide with the 100th Anniversary celebration.
- Oral h istory: Past Program Director and Past Board Chair Janice r osenberg and the IJh S staff are reviewing the list of 300+ audio and videotapes for possible use in 100th Anniversary publications.
- Meetings to discuss how to share information about Des Moines' Jewish cemeteries have begun.



The **Strength** OF A PeOPLe.
The **Power** OF COMMUNITY .

www.JewishDesMoines.org
facebook.com/JewishDesMoines

Meet Our New Social Worker Jody Caswell



We are thrilled to announce our new Jewish Family Services Social Worker, Jody Caswell! Jody has worked in the field of social work for over 30 years – in the areas of child protection, adult services, mental health, and child care.

For the past 15 years, she served as a program manager at the Department of Human Services in the child care unit, overseeing Iowa's child care Quality Rating System and managing quality contracts. More specifically, she worked with senior adults assessing the needs of elderly and disabled adults to determine appropriate services for all of her clients, as well as providing services for mentally ill adults and children with disabilities.

She is a graduate of the University of Northern Iowa. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, gardening, travel, and spending time with her two adult children.

Jody comes to Jewish Family Services at a time of growth in both the services we provide and the people that we serve, and we are excited to have her and her expertise as a part of our new Federation family.

INTRODUCING NEW LECTURE SERIES

Date TBD at Temple B'nai Jeshurun Join us for a presentation from Dr. David Friedgood on Judaism and medicine, including what role Jews have played in the development of modern medicine. Dr. Edward Loeb will speak on pancreatic cancer and its prevalence within the Jewish community.

Thursday, Dec 12th at 6:00 at Tifereth Israel Synagogue We will be leading a conversation about "An Interrupted Life: the Diaries and Letters of Etty Hillesum, 1941 – 1943." Originally written as a private work and later converted into book form, Etty's diary details her personal observations and emotions during World War II in Amsterdam.

Plan to bring questions and comments to discuss!

Wednesday, March 12th at 6:00, Location TBD We are excited to present Hot Psotromi, a music repertoire that includes Klezmer, Yiddish, and Ladino songs. Interspersed with stories and historical facts about the people and places behind the music, this concert is a perfect way to start the Purim holiday.

Torah Talk

The Law – As Given to Noah

by David Friedgood



Faith began when the first human looked toward heaven and wondered what was out there. Primordial humans questioned the meaning of their existence. Like us, they asked: Why was I placed on this earth, and what is to become of me when the breath of life is gone from my body?

Our tradition, and religion in general, was developed out of this faith as a civilizing force in an unstable world. As men and women formed family groups, tribes, and communities of unrelated people, rules emerged to ensure harmony in society. Each individual had to know his or her place. What was their value, their ultimate worth, their destiny? By what authority are laws prescribed? How are the rules to be enforced? Power and might were certainly used to force behavior in subject people, but coercion has its limits, and voluntary obedience to standards is always preferred. It is easier to control people if the motive for conforming is spiritual and seen as ultimately true. Also, the reward for good behavior can be in some unknown future existence, and not necessarily in this world. With the advent of religious belief, individuals were taught from birth to conform to certain expected behaviors for the good of their soul, and for the benefit of society. God, after all, is beyond the limit of human understanding. The Almighty Lord of us all is infinite and true. His rules are perfect and forever binding. They cannot be altered by the will of man; and, we have to obey or face dire consequences. It is in the nature of some people to seek advantage over their neighbors. Early in our history religion was co-opted by corrupt authority using people's faith as a tool to manipulate their subjects. One obvious example is forced conversion by the Roman Emperor Constantine to Christianity in the 5th century. He used Christian faith as a means to control the masses of people scattered throughout the vast Roman Empire. What followed was repression and abuse of minority groups, sanctioned by Rome, all in the name of God. Unfortunately our history contains many examples of religious belief, developed as a tool to uplift and improve the state of humankind, abused by those seeking control and personal gain. Horrific atrocities have been, and are still being perpetrated by man against man in "The Battle for God" (see the book by Karen Armstrong with this title).

Are there, however, some basic standards? Are there some rules that all people – irrespective of their belief, presence or lack of religious credence, or their position in society – are expected to abide by? What can we assume is the minimal standard, the lowest common denominator, for human behavior? These questions have been addressed by our tradition. In the first book of the Bible, God makes note of the

New Van for Our Kids



Kent Rosenberg, Don and Margo Blumenthal, and Mollie Giller accept the grant for our new van from Rosalie Gallagher and Kim Baer at the Variety Club Award Ceremony

We are so excited to tell you about the Jewish Federation's new van! The Variety Club: The Children's Charity of Iowa and Don and Margo Blumenthal have generously donated the funds for us to be able to transport children to and from Gan Shalom Preschool and Beit Sefer Shalom Community School, as well as on field trips for Engman Camp Shalom campers.

In addition to providing transportation for activities and field trips during our winter and summer camp, we will now be able to pick children up and

bring them to and from Caspe Terrace on Wednesdays and Sundays for Beit Sefer Shalom Community School. This will be in addition to getting children to and from Gan Shalom Preschool Mondays through Fridays.

Our van will be equipped with federally-approved child-restraint systems and booster seats. If you would like to know more about our new van, or if you would like to sign your child up for rides to school, please contact Laura at 515.987.0899 ext. 221.

Senior News UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday: November 17th: g lobal Day of Jewish Learning event at The Caspe Terrace from 8:30-12:00

Thursday, November 21st: Senior luncheon at Temple B'nai Jeshurun from 12:00-1:30

Tuesday, December 10th: Senior luncheon at Tifereth Israel Synagogue from 12:00-1:30



imperfection of man: "The LORD saw how great was man's wickedness on earth..." He brings a great flood to obliterate life on earth. But Noah, son of Lamech, "found favor with the LORD" and was spared with his family. (Genesis 6:5-8) According to Biblical narrative, all the nations of mankind – Jew and non-Jew – are derived from Noah's offspring. Our tradition enumerates 613 commandments for Jews, but all "sons of Noah" (that is non-Jewish men and woman) are expected to adhere to only seven basic laws. These have been labeled the "Noahide Laws" by Rabbinic authority. They are alluded to in Genesis chapter 9 and detailed in the Babylonian Talmud (Sanhedrin 56a). According to Maimonides (12th century codifier of Jewish law), acceptance of these "Seven Commandments of the Descendents of Noah" is voluntary; it is not to be coerced. Those who do not comply may be counted amongst the "wise" of the nations, but not amongst the "saints" of the nations of the world. Only those who comply will find a place in the "world to come" (Mishnah Torah chapter 8).

The seven Noahide laws are: 1) The prohibition of idol worship. Maimonides defines idolatry as the worship of objects. Included are animals, the sun, the moon, and other inanimate objects. The worship of these was associated with abominable practices such as sexual perversion and human sacrifice. Also included are the worship of things which divert attention from true belief. These include the worship of money, privilege, and selfish aggrandizement. Only the one true God is to be worshiped. This being the God of all people, not exclusively the LORD of Jewish practice. 2) A prohibition against blasphemy. Precisely what is meant by blasphemy is unclear. The Mishnah (2nd century Biblical commentary) states that this law only applies when the holy unpronounceable name of God is used to curse the Almighty. "Let the Tetragrammaton curse the Tetragrammaton" (Sanhedrin 2:5). 3) A prohibition against murder. "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in His image did God make man." (Genesis 9:6) Human life is of infinite value. Murder is prohibited, but killing can be sanctioned as part of a suitable legal process or during war for a just cause. 4) Sexual perversion is prohibited. This specifically includes incest and adultery; behaviors felt to be specifically abhorrent and disruptive to managing human interactions in society. 5) The establishment of a system of justice, which is fair and transparent. Particularly the rights of the poor, the widow, the orphan, and the stranger are to be protected. 6) Robbery is not permitted. Included is the appropriation of another's property, their spouse, and their honor or "good name." 7) It is prohibited to eat meat torn from the limb of a living animal. Human life is sharply distinguished from animal life. Animals, however, do have rights that need to be respected – for their sake, and for ours.

continued on page 21

Record Attendance at Sept 8th All-School Assembly!



Beit Sefer Shalom: The Jewish Federation Community School kicked off the new school year with an all-school assembly that filled the Bucksbaum Auditorium to capacity. With standing room only, parents, students, teachers and board members met together to review school priorities and learn what is new for the school year 2013-14.

Curriculum upgrades, school-wide art and culture, conversational Hebrew, and new Israel programming were highlights discussed. As students were dismissed with teachers for class, parents stayed for an orientation that featured information about school-wide curriculum, board involvement, commitment to communication, and family programming.

Prior to the first day of school, there were 85 students enrolled. **As of October 14th, we had 120 students enrolled, a 30% increase over last year's enrollment!**

The school's director, Laura Bernstein, says "I couldn't expect a better first day. We did have a few hiccups, but we worked through them and will continuously improve to make our program valuable and provide our students with an awesome experience. I know we have a lot of work to do, especially to improve the program for the upper grades, but I'm confident our team is up to the challenge!"

If you have a child or grandchild age 3 through 12th grade not yet enrolled in the community school, Laura invites you to check out the program.



Photos by Laurie Wahlig



Library Opens

When Beit Sefer Shalom opened its doors on September 8th for the new school year, one of the big surprises was the upgrade to the school library.

What's new in the library?

- The library now boasts 2000 books and resources, specifically for children ages 1-18
- New technology has been added that allows for easy tracking and check-out
- The library is now a media center with tablets and audio equipment to support individualized and small group learning
- New arrivals are now displayed upon entering the library
- There's a PJ Library corner, with resources for teachers and parents
- Several new music CDs have been added

Who is using the library?

- Preschool teachers check out books for use in the classroom
- PreK – 2nd grade classes meet each Sunday in the library for stories and music
- All grades meet Sunday or Wednesday for individualized library time
- 10th – 12th graders meet in the library each Wednesday for Torah & Talmud

A Big thank you to **D r. Steven & Jule Goldstein** for their generous support of the library, to **Sophie Homonoff** for working over the summer to organize the library, and to **Samantha Brenner** for helping each Sunday to keep our library a vibrant space!



Some of us spent time with the popular mayor of Mateh Asher, Yehuda Shavit. Sadly, Mayor Shavit recently passed away.



Dennis and Sharon Goldford in Old Akko



This pic includes Zoe Riekes, seated. Zoe is the American Chairperson of our Partnership Consortium.



The marina in Old Akko



In the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City



Catching our breath, with members of our tour participants from Omaha.

Partnership Trip To Israel Was Wonderful, Unique



A group picture of the Des Moines - Ames participants: Bottom row: Hannah Rogers, Dennis Goldford, Mark Finkelstein, Will Rogers; Middle row: Marilyn Vaughan, tour guide Ari Harel, Sharon Goldford, Laurie Bishop, Susan Jackson, Ron Jackson, Lou Balentine, Ann Balentine; Top row: John Pleasants, Connie Cook, Joe Jongewaard, Matt Rosen, Gary Bishop, Stuart Oxer.



All ready for a jeep ride on the Lebanese border.



Everybody lean to the right!



Laurie and Gary Bishop

In late September, eighteen people from Des Moines and Ames - mostly first timers! - participated in a very special trip to Israel. It was the first organized by our Partnership2Gether(P2G) Western Galilee Consortium and it brought together travelers from several of the American Consortium cities: Omaha, Dayton, Louisville, and Des Moines/Ames.

One could not ask for more perfect weather. The sun-filled days and moderate temperatures made touring a delight. The itinerary was chock full of engaging activities, with an array of interesting people to meet, and the food was delicious!

Our trip began in the north, along the Mediterranean coast, and was focused on learning about our Partnership region - its geography, its people, its culture, its institutions, and about how our P2G actually works. We found ourselves immersed in the charm of the Crusader city of Acco, sampled the Acco Festival, were present for the cornerstone setting at the Damon Rose Partnership Center in Acco. We were one-and-all mesmerized by the Holocaust-themed ballet performed (for the first time in Israel) by Ballet Austin, Austin being one of our Consortium cities. And there were many more intriguing side trips we took in the region, to see a renaissance festival at Yechiam Fortress, a visit to local kibbutzim, the Ghetto Fighters Museum, and the extraordinarily impressive Western Galilee Medical Center, with its state-of-the-art facilities. A part of our group spent time with officials of the county of Mateh Asher and established the beginnings of a relationship between it and West Des Moines.

After a visit to the mystical city of Safed (Tsfat) we made our way south to Jerusalem. Incomparable as Jerusalem was - with our visit to the Old City and its Western Wall and welcoming in Shabbat together as a group, so was visiting Massada, Herod's fortress near the Dead Sea. In Jerusalem, we were addressed by several speakers, each of whom focused on a different aspect about the contemporary challenges faced by Israel in its quest for peace. None the less impactful was the time we spent at Israel's national museum of the Holocaust, Yad VaShem, accompanied by an excellent guide.

Onwards, finally, to Tel Aviv, where we visited the new museum that illustrated the life and times of Yitzhak Rabin and then still had some time to enjoy the fabulous beach and walkway, and restaurants of this vibrant and colorful city!

With never enough time to do everything there is to do in Israel, we reluctantly boarded the plane back to the States, having made new friends, and having gained fresh insights into the Jewish homeland, with all its beauty, diversity, and complexities. To return again - that is the hope that was most commonly expressed.



Lou Balentine and Gary Bishop scope out Masada.



The debonair Will Rogers.

Gan Shalom Preschool Officially Open!



Esther Bergh honored

Gan Shalom, our community's new Jewish Center for Early Childhood Development, located at The Caspe Terrace in Waukee, officially opened its doors on Monday, September 16th. As part of our grand opening, a celebration honoring Esther Bergh and the original Shalom Preschool took place on September 8th. Over 200 people were in attendance, with overflow seating in the Staroselsky Clubhouse and the Bookey Lodge balconies.

Parents and students (now adults!) from the original Shalom Preschool were in attendance and shared fond memories of their preschool days.

Gan Shalom accepts children ages 2 - 5 and has openings. Contact Laura Bernstein at 987-0899 x 221 for more information.



David and Alice Friedgood



Bertie Waltman



Jennifer Blumberg engages children in an activity



A MESSAGE FROM ESTHER BERGH

There is nothing that pleases me more than to have been at the opening of a new preschool for the children of the Des Moines Jewish community. With the outstanding facility, the committed teachers and supportive parents, I believe Gan Shalom will be a great success.

The Des Moines Jewish community deserves a Jewish-based preschool that delivers the best of early childhood education. It sets the foundation for the community's future and is an important rallying point.

I leave Des Moines with a good feeling that, after 10 years without a school, our children will now receive a first-class preschool education under Laura Bernstein's direction and with the Federation's support.

I also want to express many thanks on behalf of former teachers Ethel Norman, Sandy Garland and Bertie Waltman for honoring us for our work in the community's first Jewish preschool. We have so many fond memories of the years we were able to teach hundreds of children - a number of whom joined us at Gan Shalom's dedication.

Our wish for Gan Shalom is that it will continue to play an important role in our children's lives. Hatzlacha rabba - the best of luck in all your endeavors.



Esther Bergh and Ann Blumberg



Ethel Norman cuts the ribbon to make the opening of Gan Shalom official



Nicole Hayes

Lead Teacher (2-3 year olds)
Joined July 2013

Wife. Mother. Nurse. educator. Child Development Specialist.

Originally from Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, Nicole attended North Central Technical College while still in high school to get her Nursing Assistance Certification through the State of Wisconsin. Nicole worked as a hospice nurse for several years before moving to North Carolina where she married her husband Samuel Hayes, who is an active-duty Marine. Nicole has since lived in Okinawa Japan, Anderson, Indiana and is now in West Des Moines.

Nicole began her job as a Child Development Program Teacher overseas in Japan after going through an extensive fifteen-month-long training process. Nicole also started a before and after care program and a preschool program for the United States Air Force.

Prior to joining Gan Shalom, Nicole was a program teacher for the Y.M.C.A. and a master teacher for Apple Tree Children's Center, where she was awarded the 2012 Child Development Program Teacher of the Year.

Nicole is excited to be a part of the Gan Shalom team and looks forward to creating new and exciting relationships with all children, parents and teachers as we kick-off our community's new weekday preschool.



Juli Margolin

Lead Pre-K Teacher
Joined August 2013

Mom. Wife. Teacher. HG TV and Food Network fan. Bookworm.

Juli moved to Iowa from Illinois in 1989 after marrying her husband, Jeff. She lives in Urbandale with Jeff and their two children, Adam and Sarah. Adam is out of school and Sarah will be a senior at Johnston High School this year. In addition to teaching in Gan Shalom, Juli is also on the Jewish Federation's Community School Board as the Programming/Community Outreach Chair. She is a member of Temple B'nai Jeshurun and has served on the Temple Board as Secretary and Education Chair.

Juli started teaching in Illinois in a middle school resource room. After getting married and moving to Urbandale, she taught at Fairmeadows elementary in West Des Moines in a resource room for 10 years. Juli then switched to teaching preschool where she taught three years at the Science Center of Iowa Preschool and then seven years at St. Timothy's Preschool. During that time, she also taught first grade at the Jewish Federation Community School for 11 years.

Juli holds a B.S. in education from Illinois State, and a Masters in Special education from Iowa State. She recently completed her early Childhood/Prek-3 endorsement through Drake University.

Juli's goals for the 2013-2014 school year are to provide a nurturing classroom environment where both children and parents feel welcome; a place where students are actively involved in their learning and play. She wants her class to be a place where children can grow socially, emotionally, and academically, as well as begin to develop their Jewish identity.

Photos by Laurie Wahlig



Sheldon Rabinowitz, Stan Richards, Jared Aarons



Stan Richards, Roselind Rabinowitz, Gail Richards



Stuart Oxer



Janice and Kent Rosenberg



KGAN Sports Director Jared Aarons presenting on Jews and Sports in America



Chef extraordinaire David Copeland



Jeanne and Dick Levitt enjoying the fundraiser with their grandson, Brian



Edye Beckerman and Phil Blumberg



Hillel Executive Director, Jerry Sorokin



Shelley Hersch and Kent Rosenberg

On Sunday, October 13th Caspe Terrace welcomed the University of Iowa Hillel for a tailgating-themed fundraiser benefiting the Shulman Hillel in Iowa City. Guests not only enjoyed the food, beer, and conversation with Hillel student leaders and other Hawkeye fans but in addition, Jared Aarons, sports director at KGAN Cedar Rapids and Hillel board member presented on the history of Jews in sports. Overall, the event raised over \$500, which will support programming and events for Jewish students in Iowa City.



UI Hillel Student Board

Photos by Janice Rosenberg

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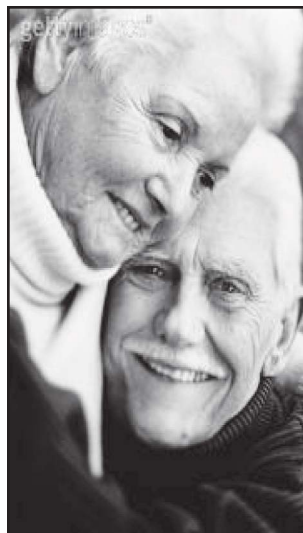
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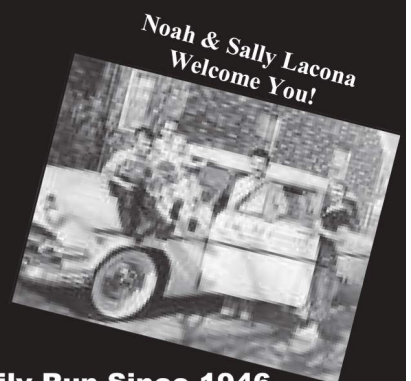
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The Iowa Holocaust Memorial

"If there is any substitute for love, it is memory." –Joseph Brodsky

A gift to the people of Iowa from the Jacqueline and Myron Blank Fund, the Iowa Holocaust Memorial is situated on the West Terrace of the Iowa Capitol in Des Moines. It is located near the corner of East Grand Avenue and East 7th Street.

The memorial was erected during the summer of 2013 in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, which took place during the era of the Third Reich in Germany (1933 – 1945), in gratitude to the Iowans who, as members of the United States Armed Forces, liberated the prisoners of the concentration camps, and in honor of the survivors who came to Iowa.

An important message conveyed by the memorial is to heed the universal lessons of the Holocaust: protect democracy, stand up for those being victimized (take personal responsibility for "doing the right thing,") and teach your children to respect people different from themselves.

Among the photographs displayed on the walls of the memorial is the following one taken of several Holocaust survivors who gathered, circa 1960, in front of the Holocaust memorial in Jewish Glendale Cemetery in Des Moines. The memorial was erected by the survivors themselves, as members of the Jewish Culture Club. Pictured from left: M. Wolf, J. Szneler, Mr. Sayone,

M Shnurman, O. Ickowitz, A. Fishman, accompanied by Rabbi Nadoff from Beth El Jacob Synagogue. The picture, courtesy of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society, and taken by the late Linda Fishman, herself a survivor, symbolizes all the survivors who came to Iowa.

By the time this edition of the Jewish Press went to print, the event to dedicate the memorial had not yet taken place. Coverage of the dedication will be featured in the next issue of the newspaper.

A page about the memorial is online at facebook.com/IowaHistoricalMemorial. For more information, contact jcrc@dmjfed.org



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[book review]

“The Wanting” by Michael Lavigne

by Nancy Waldman



Reading a novel with three different first person character narratives is challenging enough. When the story also takes place in three different locations - Israel, Palestine and Moscow - and then a flashback is thrown into the mix, it's enough to make a leisure book reader quit even before starting. But this second novel by Michael Lavigne following his first novel, “Not Me,” (which received the Sami Rohr Choice Award for emerging Jewish writers and has been translated into three languages) is actually a great read. It would

be a pity to quit just because you're not sure which character is talking as you begin a new chapter, even though as one reviewer said “...Lavigne has had to make himself a master of voice to pull it all off.” Thankfully, the reader is given some help with a graphic key to know whose voice they are about to read. More on that at the end of this review. First, let me briefly introduce you to each of the three main characters whose stories become interwoven.

On the first page we meet Roman Guttman, the Moscow-born, now Israeli citizen and architect describing the chilling details of sitting at his office window when a suicide bomber blows himself up at the bus stop on the corner of his office building. The picture window Roman is sitting in front of is shattered, sending shards of glass raining down on him. He learns from the medic in the ambulance going to the hospital that if he hadn't raised his right arm 10 centimeters above his drafting table, the glass would have hit his carotid artery. Roman is later discharged with life-long scars on his forehead and cheek, but his emotional and mental scars grow increasingly debilitating, keeping him from being a father to his thirteen year-old daughter, Anna, and to his daily work as a respected post-modern architect.

It is when this split-second, life-changing event occurs that we next meet Amir, the young Palestinian boy who is the suicide bomber. In his own first person words, the now dead Amir tells us what he “sees” right before, during, and after the bombing. At first I found a dead Palestinian telling of his experience off-putting, but once I reminded myself that this is fiction and suspended any need for total reality, I had to chuckle as Amir tells of his disappointment at not immediately finding himself, as promised “... in Paradise with my dark-eyed maidens and rivers of wine, at peace with the pleasure of Allah and his angels.” Lavigne draws Amir as a sympathetic, likable young boy who looks down upon Roman and the others who survived his bombing and who searches for answers to what drove him to turn to such an extreme violent action.

The third character is Anna, Roman's young teenage daughter, whose first person address is through a journal she decides to start writing after her father is hurt in the bombing.

continued on page 21

Magic at the White House By Janet Morse



Janet Morse, professional ballerina, pictured above in *Les Sylphides*

On May 23, 1962 the American Ballet Theatre was the first ballet company to perform at the White House. The President's house. The home of President John F. Kennedy and the First Lady, Jacqueline Kennedy.

The performance was in honor of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny and his wife, of the Ivory Coast of Africa. I can't begin to tell you how thrilling this event was. I felt as though I had entered a magical kingdom. I can understand first-hand what people mean when they speak of the Kennedy White House as Camelot.

The day began when we were driven to the White House by bus, for the morning rehearsal. A White House Official directed us to a room that had been someone's office, turned into a dressing room for the performing artists. There were full-length mirrors and enough places for us to put on make-up. Our costumes had been hung before we entered the room.

We were performing the ballet “Billy the Kid,” with music by Aaron Copland, and choreography by Eugene Loring. “Billy” was one of my favorite ballets. I had all those wonderful parts. The four Mexicans, the two cowgirls in grey, and I got to take my bow in the front row, with the other soloists.

For the rehearsal I wore my deep scoop-neck black leotard, pink tights, ballet shoes, and leg warmers. My hair was pulled back in a neat bun, with a black ribbon.

After dressing we were escorted into the Blue Room, the room reserved for entertainment. There was a huge crystal chandelier in the center of the ceiling. Rows of gold chairs decorated with blue silk fabric. Among other things with the Kennedy administration came the first portable stage, made from a series of panels covered in rich red velvet, mounted on top of an eighteen-inch platform.

During rehearsal, Jackie brought Caroline into the room to watch us work. After rehearsal, one of the dancers presented Caroline with a three foot high ballet doll, dressed in a classic white tutu. You could see her delight. She was so precious!

We went back to the hotel for dinner and a rest, then back to the White House for the performance. The performance went extremely well. We then gathered in a special room where we drank champagne, and were given two books of matches with the White House emblem on the corner.

continued on page 21

In The Kitchen With Andi Duitch

by Karen Engman

Andi grew up in Sioux City, Iowa and attended the University of Iowa, but finished her education degree at Drake University. She originally met her husband Bob Duitch at USY events, started dated him at Iowa and married before her senior year. They moved to Des Moines in 1969 where Andi would finish her degree, student teach and substitute for several years. She worked full time at Iowa Des Moines National Bank (now Wells Fargo) for seven years. After her son Jeff (39) was born, she began working with her brother Gary Shindler in his catering business. She was a natural since she loved to cook and she became quite well known for her pastries. Daughter Marni (34) was born as her catering career continued.

Andi has been an active volunteer for both the Autism Society and Tifereth Israel Synagogue. She has been active on both the Women's League Board and the synagogue's Board of Directors, fundraising, cooking and serving as liaison to the USY and Kadima youth groups. She is best known for her management of the Tifereth gift shop. For over 40 years, Andi has done all the buying, selling, and book keeping for the shop. She considers it a labor of love! She also has done the Honors for the High Holy Days services for the past 10 years.

Some of her hobbies are knitting, cooking, reading and doing Sudoku puzzles. She especially loves her Wednesday Mah Jongg games.

The Jewish Press thanks Andi for sharing her Chanukah cookie recipes with our readers.

Remember, if you have a recipe to share or a cooking question I can research, please call Karen Engman (515-274-3300) or aengmandsm@yahoo.com

continued on page 17

Dairy Sugar Cookies for Chanukah

A recipe from Andi Duitch

Dairy

- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 ¼ tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp salt
- 2/3 cup unsalted butter, softened
- ¾ cup granulated sugar

- 1 egg
- 1 tbsp whole milk
- ½ tsp pure vanilla extract
- ½ pure almond extract

Beat butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Mix egg, milk and extracts and add to butter mixture. Whisk together dry ingredients and then add to butter mixture by ½ cupfuls until completely incorporated. Form into a ball and flatten into a round disc. Wrap in clear plastic wrap and refrigerate for 2 hours. Divide in half. roll out on floured surface until ¼" thick. Cut with cookie cutters. (Andi prefers the star, dreidel and menorah shapes for Chanukah). Place on parchment paper covered cookie sheets and bake at 375 degrees for 8-10 minutes until lightly browned on the bottoms. remove and cool.

Decorative Icing

- ½ cup unsalted butter, softened
- ½ tsp pure almond extract
- ½ tsp pure vanilla extract
- 2 ½ cups powder sugar

Mix ingredients together until smooth. Divide into separate bowls and add gel food coloring. (Andi says gel coloring has a better selection of colors than the liquid food colors).

Andi: "It's great to make Chanukah cookies with your kids. Icing is fun and the menorah cookies look great with different color candles and their flames iced in orange!"

Powder Sugar Glaze

- 1 cup powder sugar
 - ½ tsp almond extract
 - 1 ½ tbsp milk
- Mix above ingredients together until smooth and then spread on cookies and let harden.

Parve Sugar Cookies for Chanukah

A recipe from Andi Duitch

Parve

- ¾ cup vegetable shortening
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract

- ½ tsp salt
- 3 tsp baking powder
- 3 cups flour

Cream the shortening and sugar together, add the eggs one at a time and vanilla. Whisk dry ingredients together and add to sugar mixture. Form into flattened disc, wrap in plastic wrap and chill one hour. Divide in half and roll out on floured surface until ¼" thick. Cut out shapes with cookie cutters and place on parchment covered cookie sheets. Bake 350 degrees for 12 minutes. Cool and ice with powder sugar glaze and decorative icing from the Dairy Sugar Cookie recipe, substituting rich's non-dairy creamer for milk and parve margarine for butter.



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HOME FOR THE HOMESICK By Jorie Slodki



The beginning of freshman year is possibly the most exhilarating, confusing, and busy week in a young adult's life. At any given university, several hundred young adults are acclimating to a new class schedule, exchanging phone numbers with every dorm neighbor, being wooed by scores of student organizations, and maybe even rushing a Greek Organization. It is a non-stop process of forming a new identity, one that is excited for a future of the next four years.

For Jewish freshmen, this process might come to a screeching halt when Rosh Hashanah arrives—and for University of Iowa students, it arrived during the second week of class. This is likely the first time that they have celebrated a major Jewish holiday away from their families. While there might not be anything “wrong” with services at schools, there are certain differences that can be hard for a newly-minted freshman to ignore. The cantor uses different tunes. Siblings, cousins, and lifelong friends aren't sitting nearby. All of these changes can bring the first bout of homesickness.

In spite of the risk, students take the opportunity to go to High Holiday services. At the Shulman Hillel of University of Iowa, we had over 60 students attend our Erev Rosh Hashanah dinner, and 25 students took a shuttle bus to services at Agudas Achim Congregation in Coralville. Before the holiday, students gathered for a Lunch 'n' Learn discussion on the nature of forgiveness. Even in a new and different environment, students have a craving for Jewish connection on the High Holidays.

At Hillel, we understand that college is the time of life when community can play the role of a student's “family.” It can never replace a student's family of origin, but can provide the same sense of closeness and belonging. It also provides a student's first opportunity to take ownership over how their community functions. They can run services, blow the shofar, make aliyot, read Torah, and fulfill all the important roles that, until now, were determined by adults. Now they are the adults. They can retain the tunes and foods that make the High Holidays comforting, while also pioneering innovative projects to make the holidays resonate with their generation.

Across the country, students are trying new ideas that, until now, would be unheard of in synagogues. Do you not find services fulfilling? Students at one Hillel might host a discussion about the New Year as an alternative to an evening service, while students at another Hillel might plan a day of community service on Yom Kippur. These alternatives will likely not spread to synagogues, or even last more than a few years in a row, but they are a powerful sign that college students are looking for ways to affiliate with the Jewish community. Our goal is to help students find that community, whether through traditional or unconventional means.

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Homonoff from page 4

I remember Rabbi Cytron at Tifereth Israel, and his daughter Naomi and I were good friends. I was bat mitzvahed at Tifereth Israel under Rabbi Sandler. I loved my Jewish upbringing in Des Moines.

JP: You were raised in Des Moines. When did you leave?

SH: I left in 1995 to attend college and was in the Washington, D.C. area until 2011 and loved it. I was teaching elementary school in several of the local school districts

JP: Tell us a bit more about your family, please.

SH: I met my husband Matt in college. Matt is from Rhode Island and he was working in D.C. for DC United, the professional soccer team there. My brother Saul currently lives in Santa Monica, CA, but he was living in D.C. for many years while we were there, which was a lot of fun.

Just after my son was born in November of 2011, we spent a year in Edmonton, Alberta. It was really great. The Jewish community there was so welcoming and Hailey, our daughter who is now seven, was able to go to a Jewish day school – which was part of the public school system. It was fabulous and we made a lot of great friends. We loved being there, but the job that my husband had didn't work out the way that we wanted it to.

Then when an opportunity became available for us to come back to the States, specifically Des Moines, we felt that we couldn't pass that up. So in November of 2012, we came back to Des Moines, with Hailey and our one and a half year old son, Lester.

Matt is now working for the Des Moines Menace, the local professional soccer team in town, and we're thrilled to be home, near Mimi and Papa, as we call them and old friends in this wonderful community.

JP: With being so busy, do you have any hobbies?

SH: Well, I spend most of my time with my children, but certainly I love music, sports – all sports, watching them, playing them. We keep active.

JP: Again, it looks very much like you have found a welcoming home both personally and professionally here in Des Moines. We wish you great success in your new position.

SH: Thank you. ■

Law from page 7

Through faith, instinct, and religious belief, we know that some behaviors are wrong in any civilized society. There is a unified destiny for all people; for men and women of all races and religious persuasions. There are many paths to the truth, and room for differences in opinion and practice, but there remains a rigid standard for acceptable behavior. Rules and laws are needed to protect the vulnerable. Every human being has inalienable rights endowed by the creator of us all. With these rights come certain basic obligations. These were first delineated by religious tradition, as outlined in our Bible. “For thus said the LORD, The Creator of heaven who alone is God, Who formatted the earth and made it, Who alone established it – He did not create it a waste, But formed it

for habitation:

I am the LORD, and there is none else... Come, gather together, Draw nigh you remnants of the nations!” (Isaiah 45:18-20) ■

Wanting from page 18

Lavigne writes about what is in a young teenage girl's head with a style that is perfectly believable for her age. She writes about waiting for her father to come home as he promised, to go with her to a school assembly where she will receive a third place award for the green Israel project with which he had helped her. But he never shows up. She writes, “Everybody else's father was there. Most kids had two parents there, even the divorced ones. I don't care if he is a terrorist victim. I hate him.” Anna needs him now, more than even he knows. She has been befriended by a rabbi and his extremist followers who are teaching her to memorize portions of the Talmud. But they also are developing a plan to build the third temple that leads her to be one of their child helpers in an act of violence.

Lavigne deftly threads into his novel a flashback into Roman's past as a young single man in Moscow, when Jews struggled under the brutal dictatorship of the Soviet regime, living second class lives and trying to emigrate to Israel and the West. We learn about Anna's mother, a refusenik, with whom he is hopelessly in love, and how he came to emigrate to Israel with their baby daughter.

If you decide to read this book, and I hope you will, the graphic symbols I mentioned at the beginning will make it easy to know which of the three first-person stories you are about to read. These small graphic symbols are at the beginning and sometimes in the middle of a chapter. Right under the words “Chapter One,” for example, there is a small six-pointed Jewish star that lets the reader know that this section is being told by Roman Guttman. When Amir is telling his part of the story, the Islamic symbol of the crescent moon with a 5-pointed star inside is at the beginning of his sections. Anna's story is identified with the yin-yang symbol, but her section is also unique because it almost always begins in the form of her journal with “Dear You.” Without knowing about these symbols before I started reading “The Wanting,” I thought they were just simple decorative elements. A few chapters into the book I realized why they were there and how helpful they were to follow the three stories.

These symbols will guide you through a complex, fascinating story of three beautifully developed characters. Roman, Amir and Anna's stories are woven together in a historically complicated part of the world where the people of Palestine and Israel are coveting the same land while their individual struggles blur the love and civility they all want. ■

Magic from page 18

One by one we were introduced to the President. I actually shook hands with this powerfully good looking, charismatic man. The leader of the free world. Jackie was beautiful in a long pastel strapless gown, and gloves that went up to her elbows. This attire was set off by a tasteful application of diamonds.

Once again, I was part of history. My life is all so incredibly wonderful. It is magic, and continues to be magical. ■

Honoring Iowa's Jewish Veterans: An Update and a Request for Help

Two years ago, the Iowa Jewish Historical Society began a project to identify and recognize Iowa's Jewish veterans. The search started with a short list of 25-30 names garnered from an early Federation survey. Soon, that list was expanded with a much longer list of Jewish veterans who had served in wartime and peacetime and were buried in Des Moines' Jewish cemeteries. The search then expanded across the state, asking help from Jewish congregations and Federations as well as families and friends to tell us the names and stories of hundreds more Jewish men and women who served our country during World Wars, police actions, our own Civil War, in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and during peacetime. By April 2012, when Governor Branstad praised the patriotism, bravery, and self-sacrifice of Iowa's Jewish veterans and signed a Proclamation declaring April 22 - 29 *Iowa Jewish Veterans Week*, we had identified more than 600 veterans for the "Book of Honor."

But the search did not end with last year's event. This month, as we celebrate Veterans Day 2013, we are proud to report that not only have we identified more than 1,300 Jewish men and women who served to keep our country free and strong, but we have also collected pictures, facts about where they served, what honors they were awarded, and the stories of many of these men and women!

We have gathered these names from cemetery records, reference books, research on the Internet, but most importantly, from friends and families across the state and throughout the nation. This is a very impressive list but we know that it is still far from complete and we need your help. If you or a loved one is not included on the list please contact us at ijhs@dmjfed.org or by phone at 515-987-0899 ext. 216. A copy of the most recently published list is available on our website at <http://jewishdesmoines.org/our-work/ijhs>.



Lt. Samuel Lipsman, Army Air Corps, Quartermaster during WWII



Staff Sergeant Darrell Weinstein, U.S. Army, WWII



Pvt. First Class, Jerry Friedman, U.S. Army, Gun Crewman



Dorothy Mezvinsky Smith, U.S. Navy



Major Joseph Katz, U.S. Army, currently serving



Lt. Victor Pomerantz, U. S. Army, WWII

It's Time to Renew Your Membership in the Iowa Jewish Historical Society

Become a New Member or r enew Your Membership and help preserve the history of the Jews of Iowa.

Your membership dues support our programs, events, and exhibits as well as the staff and volunteers who work so very hard to preserve Iowa's Jewish heritage. Your membership makes you a vital partner in preserving our history for all to enjoy for years to come.

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Membership includes a subscription to IJh S newsletter – The Ch Alowan filled with fascinating original articles and photographs on all aspects of Jewish life in Iowa, updates on programs and events, and so much more.

Your application form is below or you may join online at www.jewishdesmoines.org.

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In addition, I want to make a donation to the Iowa Jewish h istorical Society \$ _____. Please make your check payable to the IJh S and send it to 33158 Ute Ave., Waukee, IA 50263. For more information: (515) 987-0899 ext. 216 or ijhs@dmjfed.org

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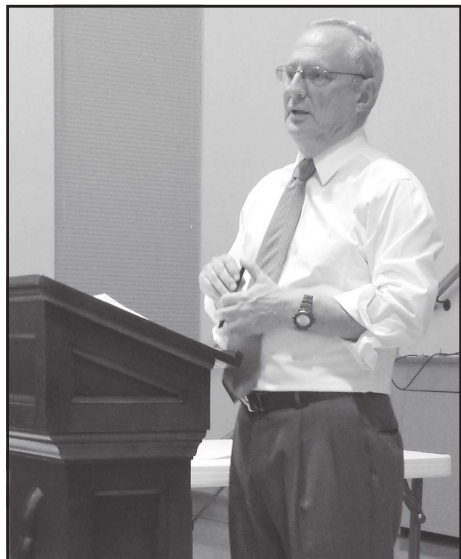
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Saperstein: Middle East Conflicts Convolutd, Peace Elusive



Rabbi David Saperstein, Director and Counsel for the Religious Action Center (RAC) of Reform Judaism, spoke at Temple B'nai Jeshurun on the topic of "Finding Peace in the Middle East," presented by the Temple and the JCRC on September 16. Saperstein, who has served for more than 30 years as a leader of the RAC, a highly influential social justice organization in Washington, D.C., presented a comprehensive and thoughtful overview of the extraordinarily complex set of conflicts besetting the Middle East at present - including the dilemmas of the day facing the American

administration in dealing with the Assad regime in Syria having used chemical weapons against their own people.

A strong supporter of a safe, secure and pluralistic Israel allied closely with the United States, Rabbi Saperstein voiced cautious optimism about the Israeli-Palestinian peace initiative launched by Secretary of State John Kerry.

At the conclusion of the program, he fielded questions from the audience, which was composed of a broad cross section of both the Jewish community and the general community.

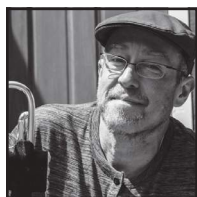
At a meeting the next day with social activists from Des Moines, Rabbi Saperstein outlined the RAC's position on a number of important domestic issues and legislative initiatives. Among the issues, he discussed the RAC's participation in The Coalition to Preserve Religious Liberty, which strongly opposes any lifting of the ban of political endorsements by houses of worship, clergy in their professional capacities, and non-profit organizations.

A prolific writer and speaker, Rabbi Saperstein has appeared on a number of television news and talk shows. His articles have appeared in the Washington Post and the New York Times. His latest book is Jewish Dimensions of Social Justice: Tough Moral Choices of Our Time.

Jazz At The Caspe Terrace

Nov 5: Lee Shaw Celebrates The Music of Billy Strayhorn

Lee Shaw and bassist rich Syracuse explore the music of Duke Ellington's favorite composer/arranger - Billy Strayhorn. For a preview <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lr7BM-61OJg>



Dec 5: The Dave Douglas Quintet

Trumpeter Dave Douglas was named Downbeat Magazine's Top Trumpeter for more than ten years. Check out a cut from Dave's recent album: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qw0BeSvKWlw>.

Advance tickets for Lee Shaw concert are \$25 each. Advance tickets for Dave Douglas are \$30. (Student prices are available.) r eserve tickets now by contacting Abe g oldstien at abe@trilixgroup.com or 515.279.6452. Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. And stick around after the show for a meet-the-artist dessert reception hosted by the Waukee Area Arts Council.



KRISTALLNACHT CONCERT NOV 10

Kristallnacht, The Night of Broken Glass, a Commemorative Concert November 10, 3:00 pm at the Gallagher Bludorn Performing Arts Center at UNI.

The 75th Anniversary of Kristallnacht is this year. Many scholars view Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass, as the beginning of what we now call the Holocaust. Kristallnacht refers to the shards of shattered glass from the windows of synagogues, homes, and Jewish-owned businesses that lined German streets and were plundered and destroyed during a night of violence on November 9th, 1938.

The Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra will collaborate with local groups to present a program including works by Bloch, Prokofiev, and Shostakovich.

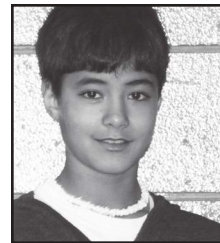
Tickets available online at www.gbpcac.com and at the door. For additional information, contact Gaies@uni.edu.

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Gerald Goldberg
Stephen Gross
Gerry Gruen
Jack Horowitz
Thelma Kardon
Eleanor Mahler
Robert (Ben) Seipman
Sharon Stein
Ronni Villarroel

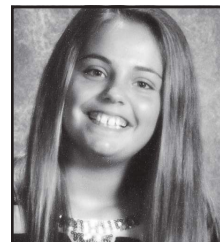
B'nai Mitzvah



Jacob Aaron Schnobelen's Bar Mitzvah is 10:00a.m. on November 23, 2013, at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. The family invites

the community to share the Kiddush Luncheon following the service.

Jami & Pete Schnobelen



Hanna Marcus, daughter of Andy & Nicci Marcus, will be called to the Torah for the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, November 2, 2013 at Temple

B'nai Jeshurun at 4:30pm.

hanna is in the 7th grade at Indian hills Junior high and enjoys many activities including soccer and Violin. She is active in her school and hebrew School studies.

Mazel Tov



Susan and David Brown are proud to announce that their son, **Jacob Fisher Brown**, was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on October

19 at 10:00 A.M. at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Jake is a seventh grader at Bergman Academy.

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Sharon & Dennis Goldford



Don & Margo Blumenthal



Shelley & Marty Brody



Jon Fleming, The Life Center's Board President



Dennis Goldford & Debbie Gitchell



Gloria & Allan Rovner

The Life Center would like to extend a very sincere thank you to the community for their continued support of our Annual Celebration of The Home. The brunch held on Sunday, August 18th at The Life Center was a tremendous success. Through the generous support of our donors, we raised almost \$60,000!

Over the past six years, the Life Center has seen an almost complete renovation. Project Transformation has allowed The Life Center to revitalize the Resident bathing spas, resident rooms, dining area, and atrium. The focus for this year's Annual Celebration of The Home is to renovate our therapy area, allowing our skilled residents to have a more pleasant rehabilitation experience. The Life Center will also expand the services that Boulevard Children's Center can provide to our residents, and the community.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Residents, and staff, we would like to thank each of our donors and attendees for their continued support of The Home. None of these renovations would have been possible without your generous support. The Life Center would also like to thank the Embassy Club for the delicious brunch, Michael Kroloff for his photography services, and Mary Foss for the musical entertainment.