# THE GREATER DES MOINES ewish

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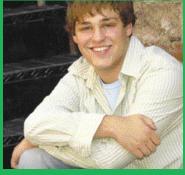
volume 22 number 3

## connect THROUGH E-MAIL

### - see enclosure



Jewish **Federation** Community





**Jessie Svec:** My Trip to Israel

# **Assistant Federation Director**



duties to oversee the Annual Campaign, The Caspe Terrace Programming, and Leadership Development. As the Federation meets the challenges of the new century, and the welcoming of many new individuals and families to the area, Steve's experience will help us extend programs and services which are innovative and creative. His appointment caps a year-long national search, assisted by United Jewish Communities, to fill this new position.

In his capacity as Program Director of the Caspe Terrace, where he will be work-

# **Concerts Feature Israeli**

Prang. 22 of the most exciting vocalists on the East Coast, the young, award-winning Israeli songwriter/singer Michal Cohen of Yemenite extraction.

"Middle Eastern singer Michal Cohen provides the most inspired, dance-floor ready cut with Im Ninalou... Cohen



comes forth with a refreshing purity matched by the rolling percussive backbeat." (Derek Beres for afropop)

Michal Cohen will be with us on Sunday, Jan 22, performing with pianist/vocalist Oded Lev-Ari for two

very different concerts. Enjoy!

• 1 – 4pm: "A Celebration of Israeli and Palestinian Cultures" at Drake

# [inside]

92ND STREET Y SERIES CONTIN UES

5 **UN PROCLAIMS JAN 27 HOLOCAUST** DAY

8 **IN PROFILE: JERRY GELLER** 

# **Steven Reitman Appointed**



Steve will be able to facilitate the vision of the Founders of The Terrace, who saw it to be the center of recreational, cultural and Jewish entertainment life for the community. In addition to the lowa Jewish Historical Society, Camp Shalom, movies, broadcasts from the 92nd Street Y, plays, holiday parties and private events, Caspe Terrace and the Martin Bucksbaum Center will continue to build on its ability to serve as a community center with Steve's presence. Steve ran two Jewish community centers in Dayton, Ohio, and will bring the experience of children's programming, Jewish Cultural Arts, "Lunch and Learns," and adult activities to The Caspe Center. That was the dream of those who gifted The Caspe Terrace and the Bucksbaum Center to this community.

ing out of his office several days a week,

Using the facilities at The Caspe Terrace will enhance the Federation's new leadership programming. The creation of

# **Recording Artist Michal Cohen,**

University's Olmstead Center/Parents Hall. Michal and Oded alternate sets with Palestinian singer Dana Awad, in a program coordinated by the lowa Council for International Understanding with grants from Humanities lowa and the Des Moines Foundation. \$10 admission (age 10 and under, free) includes a Middle Eastern lunch. Tickets available at the door.

7 pm: "The Bubbly Taste of Israel" at The Caspe Terrace. Michal and Oded bring the colorful music of Israel to life in this special concert sponsored by the Jewish Federation's 2006 All-In-One Campaign. Wines presented by Howard Bernstein, owner of Casa di Vino wine shop in Johnston. Tickets \$5 available at the Federation, the Jewish Federation Community School, or at door. the

Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines 910 Polk Boulevard Des Moines, IA 50312-2297

Address Service Requested





Rick Recht, the top-touring artist in Jewish music, will perform an all ages family concert Sunday, on January 29.

The Jewish Federation Community School program, 10:30 am - 12:00 noon at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, 924 Polk Blvd in Des Moines, is free of charge, co-sponsored by Beth El Jacob Synagogue, Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Tifereth Israel Synagogue, and the Jewish Federation.

Recht's high-energy, interactive family concert will appeal to all ages and feature a lot of singing, clapping and jumping from the audience. He will be performing hit songs from his newly released album "Tear Down The Walls."

"One of the things I love about Jewish music is that you can bring together little kids, teens, their parents and their grandparents in the same setting and create a type of musical magic that excites everyone all at once," said Rick Recht. "I look at these community gatherings as an incredible opportunity to get inside each and every person and help them to get loose, open up and connect with each other in a really positive, Jewish way."

Rick Recht Band is the top-touring group in Jewish music today, performing more than 150 concerts each year from coast to coast. Recht's musical contributions mark the birth of a unique blend of pop, radio-friendly music in Hebrew and English based on Jewish text and themes of social responsibility. Recht is known for his powerful, interactive performances that have earned him a strong, loyal national fan base of all



broadcasts from NY's 92nd Street Y<sup>™</sup>

Please join us for a great Winter/Spring '06 line-up of Live Broadcasts from NY's 92nd Street Y<sup>™</sup> at The Caspe Terrace.

Tuesday, January 31 7:15 pm Darfur Genocide:

# What the Media Isn't Telling Us

Gerald Martone, John Prendergast Get an inside look into the Darfur tragedy and learn what you can do to help stop it from experts who have been on the front line.

Wednesday, February 1 7:00 pm

### Mike Wallace

has been co-editor of 60 Minutes, CBS groundbreaking news-magazine, since its premiere in 1968. He has interviewed many major figures and won numerous awards.

Wednesday, February 8 7:00 pm

### **Anti-Semitism and Power**

### Hating America and Hating the Jews

David Brooks, columnist for The New York Times, raises awareness about new forms of anti-Semitism and anti-Americanism and what they do and don't have in common.

Thursday, March 23 7:15 pm

### Mommy Wars: Working vs. Staying Home

### Moderated by Naomi Wolf,

author of The Beauty Myth and The Treehouse

The battle rages in every mother – stay at home or go back to work. Four contributors

### Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 pm

### Harvey and Bob Weinstein

The Weinstein brothers founded Miramax Pictures in 1979. Under their leadership, the company earned 249 Academy Award nominations and collected 60 Oscars, including Best Picture for The English Patient, Shakespeare in Love and Chicago. They speak with New York Times Film Critic Janet Maslin about their upbringing, collaboration, inspirations and goals.

### Thursday, May 11 7:15 pm You Shall Be Holy:

### Personal Character and Integrity

Joseph Telushkin, named one of the 50 best speakers in the U.S. by Talk Magazine, discusses fair speech, gratitude, repentance, humility, judging others fairly, forgiveness, lying and many other aspects of an honorable life.

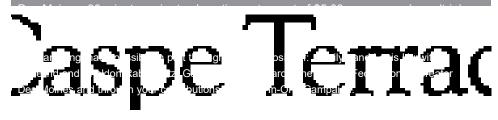
Advance Tickets for all individual shows on sale now at \$10.00 each. Tickets may be purchased at the door the night of each show for \$12.00 each. Student tickets are available for \$5 each.

Special Offer: Purchase a multiple season ticket package now at a discount price of \$48 for 6 tickets. Each set consists of 6 tickets which may be used for any of the shows and can be shared with family and friends. Offer good through January 31, 2006.

To order, call the Jewish Federation at 515-277-6321 x218. For your convenience, tickets may be charged to your Visa or MasterCard for an additional \$2.00 for shipping and handling.

All programs to be held at The Caspe Terrace, 3320 Ute Ave. Waukee, exit 117 on I-80. All programs are subject to change by the 92nd St. Y. If a program is canceled, tickets can be exchanged for another broadcast based on availability. No refunds. Check with the Federation for scheduling changes at www.dmjfed.org or call 277-6321 x218.

Park and Ride Transportation is available with 48 hours notice. Call 277-6321 x218. Rides depart from Beth El Jacob Synagogue, 954 Cummins Parkway,



# **Kate Goldman Children's Theatre To Offer: Number The**

Stopping ation of Lois Lowry's popular and important book about the Danish rescue of its Jewish community r i d u n g the Holocaust, "Number the Stars," will be presented Jan 6 - 22 by the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre.

The story line is as follows: During the German occupation of Denmark in World War II, Danish freedom fighters of all ages risked everything in daring attempts to rescue the country's Jewish population. In this stirring new play, young Annemarie and Kirsti Johansen face soldiers, interrogations, fierce dogs, personal danger, and their own fears as they try to help their friend, Ellen Rosen, escape across the ocean to Sweden and safety. Courage, faith and ingenuity eventually win the day. All the drama, adventure, terror and humor that have made "Number the Stars" a national bestseller and winner of the Newberry Award, come to life in this powerful adaptation by Dr. Douglas W. Larche.

Show Times: Fri at 7:00 PM; Sat at 2:00 PM; Sun at 1:00 PM & 4:00 PM (Sun, Jan. 22, at 1:00 PM only). Tickets: \$16.00 Adults; \$15.00 Seniors (62+); \$12.00 Students. For tickets or additional infor-

# January Thaw: Jan 17-26 Interfaith Adult Education Series offers wide selection of courses

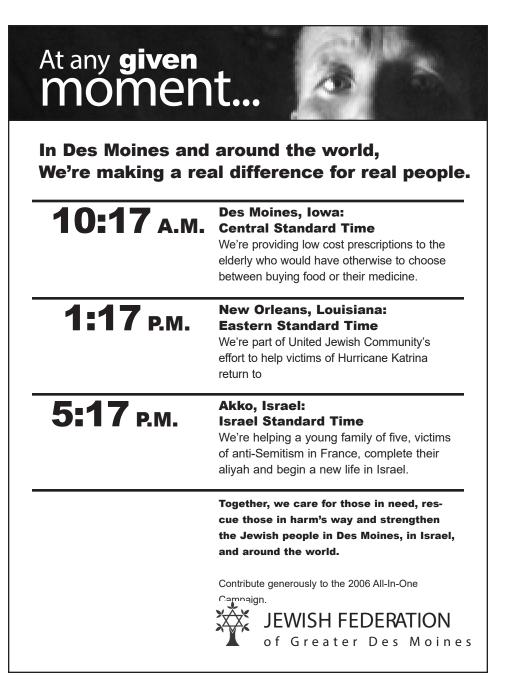
Presented by Jewish Federation, Des Moines Area Religious Council and St. Joseph Educational Center, January Thaw will feature a wide range of mini-courses on religion, health, culture, and politics over a two week period. The programs begin with coffee and entertainment at 6:30 and classes begin at 7 pm on Tuesdays Jan 17 and 24, with Thursday classes on Jan 19 and 26. Courses are \$20 each. The location is Dowling Catholic High School, 1400 Buffalo Road, in West Des Moines.

Among this year's offerings are the following of Judaic content. (For a full brochure and registration materials, see http://www.stjosepheducationalcenter. 0 r g januarythaw.com or call 222-1050):

Jan 17 and 24 (Tues evenings): Judaism and Social Justice - Sally Frank; The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict: A Jewish Perspective - Rabbi David Kaufman and Mark Finkelstein; Sex and Sexuality as Necessary for Redemption - Rabbi Baruch Halevi; The Jewish Origins of Christian Mysticism – Fr. Allyne Smith

Jan 17, 19, 24 and 26: A Taste of Judaism – Rabbis Baruch HaLevi, Aaron Schwarzbaum and David Kaufman.

Jan 19 and 26 (Thurs evenings): A Virtual Tour of the Holy Land - Dr. Manfred Kober; The Palestinian/Israeli Conflict: Exploring Peace - Charlie Day;





### **Dear Friends:**

It is with great pleasure that I welcome Steve Reitman to our community as our new assistant director of the Federation.

Steve comes to us with years of Jewish Federation experience and will take over some of the responsibilities of our present Federation Director, Elaine Steinger, as Elaine becomes more responsible for the activities of the Jewish Foundation.

Steve's expertise is varied, but one of his many strengths is in Jewish Community Center programming and organization. With that in mind we are fulfilling a vision of s o m e o f

Des Moines' most prominent individuals.

Approximately five years ago in Des Moines, Mort Bookey and Lew and Neecy Caspe, Mary Bucksbaum, Stan and Gail Richards, Alvin and Doie Kirsner and Naum Staroselsky had a vision for a piece of property in Waukee, Iowa. A vision of a community Center that would provide cultural, recreational and sports activities for the Des Moines Jewish Community as well as house a facility for Engman Camp Shalom.

As a result of that vision a beautiful center in Waukee, The Caspe Terrace, was built - completely paid for by their generosity and the generosity of many other community members and ENDOWED!!

Steve will fill a void that we have had since the completion of the building – an individual who will have major responsibility for the supervision and organization of crea t i v e programming and planning!

Meet Steve and his family and embrace them as the caring community that we are. You will see Steve at Caspe where he will maintain an office and at the Federation.

Watch as The Caspe Terrace becomes even busier with activities and do join us out West!!

sincereiy,

Toni Urban

### Historic vote hailed by JCPA UN PROCLAIMS JANUARY 27 HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

NEW YORK – Marie Abrams, chair of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA), the national public affairs arm of the organized American Jewish community, recently released the following statement hailing the United Nations General Assembly for adopting an Israelisponsored resolution by consensus that establishes an annual Holocaust Remembrance day.

"The United Nations General Assembly in an historic vote today unanimously passed a resolution declaring an international day of Holocaust remembrance. Initially sponsored by Israel, the United States, Australia, Canada and Russia, this landmark measure marks the first time the General Assembly approved a resolution proposed by Israel.

Today's vote signifies an important step on the road to full rights for Israel at

the United Nations. Too often UN member states, committees and agencies single out and discriminate against Israel."

The worldwide day of recognition will be celebrated on January 27, the day the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp was liberated.

Stressing both 'the duty to remember' and 'the duty to educate' the resolution rejects any denial of the Holocaust, condemns discrimination and violence based on religion or ethnicity, and calls for UN establishment of outreach programs that encourage public engagement in Holocaust remembrance activities.

The UN was formed 60 years ago in the wake of World War II and it bears the responsibility of ensuring that bigotry and hatred are condemned and whenever possible prevented. This resolution [letter]

### ARTICLE ON SCHLOSSBERG MEANINGFUL

Helene and I read the article in the Jewish Press on the great Max Schlossberg with much interest. I studied trumpet in New York City using his book as assigned by my teacher, Frank Venezia, who was a student of Schlossberg. Venezia also played in the NBC Symphony Orchestra under Toscanini until that orchestra was disbanded in the early 1950's. Another student of Schlossberg, Harry Freistadt, became his son-in-law. Freistadt played in the CBS Symphony Orchestra. Your article made a special connection for me, because I have that music book, "Daily Drills and Technical Studies for Trumpet." It was wonderful to read the article.

Published 6 times annually by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines under the auspices of the Jewish Community Communications Pillar

### **Advisory Committee**

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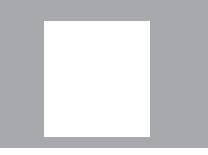
Elaine Steinger, Executive Director of the Federation

The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press 910 Polk Boulevard Des Moines, IA 50312

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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. Unsigned editorials express the opinion of the paper's Editorial Board.

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



### Wanted your Passover recipes for our on-line cook-

**book.** Send us your Passover recipes or Passover recipes of family members or friends that others would enjoy making! Please identify whose recipe it is or where it came from if you know, and your name as the contributor!

Send all recipes to the Federation at JCRC@DMJFED.org or if you are not computer savvy please send the recipe(s) to the Jewish Federation 910 Polk Blvd. Des Moines, Iowa 50312

B'tayavohn! (Bon appetit)

january/february 06

### **JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SCHOOL AND HIGH**

### WHAT A SEMESTER!

We have already accomplished so much this year and we are only part way through. The following is a quick summary of what our students are learning about being Jewish:

Pre-K – Students have experienced a taste of our major Jewish holidays by hearing stories, making crafts, seeing and touching symbols and eating specific foods. In O c t o b e r , Dr. Steve Altman shared the sounds and notes of the Shofar (thank you Steve). Our preschoolers also experienced the sounds and sights of Hebrew by hearing words, seeing letters and tasting foods that start with specific Hebrew letters.

Kindergarten – Our students have been hearing stories and making crafts related to our recent major holidays. We have also had a lot of fun singing with Hazzan and Hazzanet Cohen during our Sunday morning services. They are learning the sounds and sights of Hebrew and are now half way through the Alef-Bet. During the year, students hear and learn about different Bible stories. Students draw and color pictures of these stores. At the end of the year, the pictures are collected to be put together with their next two years of Bible stories to make their own Torah.

First Grade – Students continue to learn about our Jewish holidays and the sounds and sights of Hebrew. During this year, students practice putting Hebrew letters and sounds together. Their favorite Hebrew words are "gliddah" (ice cream) and "ooga" (cake). Bible stories are continued through first grade. Students will learn the stories about Abraham and Sara, Isacc, Rebecca and Leah, Jacob and Esau and the Ten Commandments and Moses. Prayers we will learn this year are: Shema, Bar'chu, Sheheheyanu, and Shabbat Candle Blessing.

Second Grade – The learning of Jewish holidays is continued on an age-appropriate level. For Hebrew, teaching is more intense about understanding the sounds of Hebrew letters and vowels. This prepares them for third grade when they will start learning prayerbook Hebrew and learn to read prayers for their Bar/Bat Mitzvahs. This year students are making their own Jewish Year calendar and learning about "Rosh Chodesh" (name for the new month).

Third Grade – Students are off to a great start this year. Students have been working independently in the Hebrew Primer and are progressing well. For our prayer study, we have completed the Barchu and Shema and have made posters of each prayer in Hebrew and English. Additional prayers we will learn during the year are Shehehyanu, Mi Chamocha and V'ahavta. In addition to reading and reciting these prayers, students have learned how to sign them. Our students learn about the religious and/or historical significance of Jewish holidays by using "A Child's Bible," which depicts major heroes and heroines of the Bible. Students will also sequence and create a timeline from creation through Jacob's return home.

Fourth Grade – During this year, students concentrate on their Hebrew skills and work individually and in groups reading prayers to each other. Students continue using "A Child's Bible" and "Welcome to Israel." For Israel, students will learn about Theodor Herzl, Golda Meir, Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, Jerusalem, create a timeline and look at national symbols. For prayer, our students will review previously learned prayers such as the Shema, Bar'chu, Sheheheyanu, Shabbat Candle Blessing, Mi Chamocha, and Oseh Shalom. This year they will continue to learn the V'ahavtah and be introduced to Avot, G'vurot, V'shamru, the full Kiddush, and the Alenu.

Fifth Grade – Each year students spend more time learning to read Hebrew prayers and basic Hebrew words. When students cover a chapter in their Hebrew Through Prayer Book, they learn not only the prayer but a description of the prayer, vocabulary words related to the prayer, reading, and root words. Prayers learned in this class are: Avot, Gvurot, Kiddusha, Torah & Haftorah Blessings, and Oseh Shalom. Students also learn different life cycle events. So far this year, they have learned about: Brit Milah and Brit Bat and Bar/Bat Mitzvah's. Through "Journey of a Lifetime" class booklet, students will also learn about Jewish Weddings.



I would like to thank the Jewish community and those who support the All-In-One Campaign of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. Your pledge covers over 50% of our budget. Without your support, we would not be able to hire the certified teachers we have, order material that helps our teachers teach and students learn, and we would not be able to make learning fun for our students by offering extra specious watk studied as a cingeing ushdirvoisedyRotshverbedetshe educationobfielse next generation. When caredhuchonderski iththe2006ginAllrig-



# AMES RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

# **A Lesson on Jewish Artists**

### By Robbie Dennis

Last Sunday Professor John Cunnally came to the AJC Religious School to teach the students about Modern Jewish Art. He started off with something interesting. Almost nobody knew that the comic Superman was written by two Jews!

We learned about Chagall who lived in 1918 in Russia. He went to art school and there he faked being Christian so the teachers wouldn't automatically fail him. He is probably the most famous of Jewish artists. Professor Cunnally also told us about Segal who actually took his friends and covered them in plaster to get a human life s i z e s t a t u e .

Dr. Cunnally joked by saying, " that is why he did not have many friends!"

The last artist was a feminist named Judy Chicago. We learned that she changed her name from Judy Cohen. She was famous for her idea of public art where everyone would help make art with an artist supervisor. With this idea she made her most famous piece, The Dinner Party. This is a giant triangle with the names of 36 women who, in her opinion, were not respected enough by the population. Each of these women had a unique dinner place setting at the table in their honor. The hour went really fast. Professor Cunnally will be back next semester. I can't wait for him to visit again.

The students enjoyed learning about how Jews contributed to the Modern Art. We are looking forward to another session about Jewish Art next semester in addition to learning more about the Jewish contribution towards music and literature.

Recently, we welcomed 6 new students to our religious school during a Consecration service led by Rabbi Rosenbloom. We look forward to watching them grow and expand their Jewish education at our school.

### Upcoming religious school events:

January 4th- Hebrew resumes January 8th Jewish Education Resumes

# Engman Camp Shalom

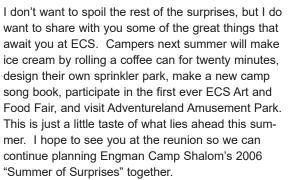
# **Friends:**

After the summer, I received a tremendous amount of positive feedback about camp from both campers and parents. I heard great things about the counselors, the trips, swimming, sports, arts and crafts, Israeli dance, magic and even the bus driver, Leroy. However, the thing I heard the most was how much the campers appreciated that there were always so many things to do and it seemed like there was always a surprise each day at Engman Camp Shalom.

So in response to your feedback Debbie, Lyanna and I have spent the last few months planning ways to build in many more exciting activities into Summer 2006 at Engman Camp Shalom at the Caspe Terrace. We are so excited about the summer we can't wait to get started... so we decided to have a Camp Reunion on February 12 at 2 p.m. at Pump it Up (admission is free). Are you surprised? I hope so! I can't wait to see all of my campers, parents and staff – I'll be in town from Israel in honor of this exciting event! I promise you this will be a day, just like the coming summer, full of wonderful surprises!

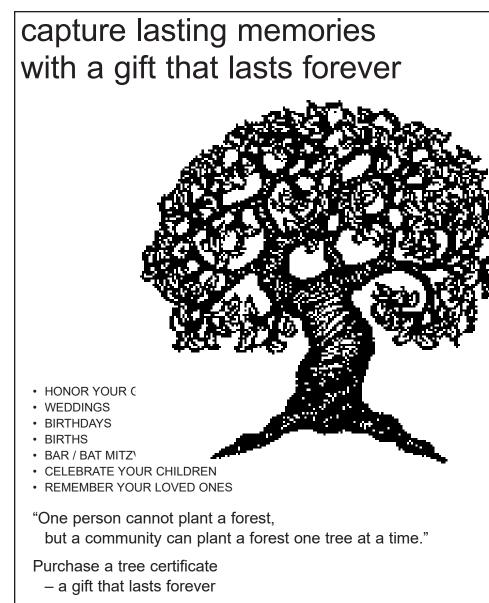
In addition to inviting the whole camp to the Reunion, we want you to invite and bring along all your friends and their parents so they can get a taste of how great Engman Camp Shalom is and then decide to join us this summer. At Pump It Up we will have

a special presentation featuring pictures of campers and staff from last summer. We will also reveal the dates, Special Themes, and trips for each week of camp.





Josh Goldsmith



Jewish Federation Community School - 924 Polk Boulevard - Des Moines, IA 50312 For \$36, a tree certificate will be mailed to the recipient. Your \$36 goes towards the purchase of trees, care and maintenance. The Jewish Federation joins in commemoration of Monday, January 16 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day honoring the life and legacy of a true American hero.

"from slavery to freedom, in every generation"

# Save the Date! Sunday, April 2 3:00 - 5:30 pm.

FOR THE JEWISH FEDERATION'S THIRD ANNUAL WOMEN'S Seder



at The Caspe Terrace Hosted by Jewish Federation Community School

# Iowa College Acknowledges Anti-Semitism At Pro-Palestinian Conference On Campus

### by Mark Finkelstein

With Jewish community leaders nationally having identified Palestinian Christian Rev. Naim Ateek as including anti-Semitism in his pro-Palestinian message, it was likely that there would be a problem when, in mid-October, a conference, headed by Ateek, was to be held at Coe College in Cedar Rapids. To its credit, one of the conference sponsors, the Coe College Department of Philosophy and Religion did issue a letter, after the fact, confirming the presence of some anti-Semitism at the event showcasing Ateek's organization, the Sabeel Liberation Theology Center of Jerusalem and its predominantly like-minded, anti-Israel speakers.

The letter reads, in part: The Dept. of Philosophy and Religion at Coe is aware that some anti-Semitic remarks were made at the recent Sabeel Conference held on our campus and which our department sponsored. We are also aware that there were other breaches of civility during the conference. Let it be known that the members of our department find anti-Semitism of any kind to be deplorable and inexcusable, and that we also object to uncivil behavior."

In issuing its letter repudiating anti-Semitism, Coe's faculty may have been referring to such things as speaker Jeff Halper's on-site reference (according to audience members) to the Hebrew scriptures as "books of genocide," another speaker Professor Marc Ellis' graphics showing an Israeli helicopter gunship emerging from a Torah scroll, and another speaker Mubarak Awad's having accused Jews of controlling the churches (in their stance on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.) The faculty may also have been shocked by Rev. Ateek's refusal to distance himself from his rhetoric previously likening Israeli treatment of Palestinians to deicide and genocide (as evidenced by www.sabeel. org/old/reports/easter01.htm.).

The position that Rev. Ateek intertwines his political message with aspects of anti-Semitism has been put forth by a number of prominent Jewish institutional leaders that work in interreligious affairs. The following is from ADL:

During a September 22 meeting in Jerusalem, Rabbi Bretton-Granatoor [Director of Interfaith Affairs for the Anti-Defamation League (ADL)], along with other Jewish leaders, questioned Rev. Ateek about his position on Israel's legitimate right to exist, citing quotations from his book "Justice and Only Justice: A Palestinian Theology of Liberation" (1989), in which he wrote, "It has taken me years to accept the establishment of the state of Israel and its need – although not its right – to exist."

"We read to him several quotations from his sermons and writings that we believed denied the legitimate right of the Jewish people to live in their land, and echoed medieval anti-Semitic canards," Rabbi Bretton-Granatoor said. He affirmed that he continues to support the suggestion that if Israel had a right to exist, it should have been created somewhere else, but not on the Holy Land.

"We accept it may not be his intent to disseminate anti-Semitism, but we made it clear that was what has been done," added the rabbi. "We hope that he may reconsider his language and imag-

e r y . But the significance of this is that those people and those churches that use Sabeel's writings and theology to support their political point of view potentially may be considered accessories in the advancement of anti-Semitic theology." http://www.adl.org/PresRele/ ChJew\_31/4801\_31.htm

Similar statements, as found on http:// www.thejewishweek.com/news/newscontent.php3?artid=11172, come from Rabbi Eugene Korn, Jewish affairs director for the American Jewish Congress: "What they [Sabeel speakers] are promoting is a return to 'replacement theology... It essentially writes Jews out of the biblical covenant."

On the local level, the issues posed

# Is Your Company A Matching Gift Company?

Every year, many of our donors are able to increase the impact of their donation to Jewish Family Services of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines by participating in their company's Employee Matching Gift Program. Area companies like Wells Fargo, Pioneer, the State of Iowa and the Arthur J. Gallagher Foundation have all generously partnered with their employees to increase the size of employee donations to Jewish Family Services over the past several years.

If you work for one of these companies, or another organization with a matching gift program, complete the appropriate matching gift paperwork from your Human Resources Department and send it to Jewish Family Services with your gift. The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines is located at: 910 Polk Boulevard, Des Moines, Iowa 50312.

We thank those employees of the companies who already participate.

WELLS

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# **Senior Adult Program**

Jewish Family Services Senior Adult Program offers monthly luncheons and enjoyable outings to keep our elderly community members active and connected. We also offer rides to Federation programs at The Caspe Terrace. A monthly newsletter informs about upcoming programs. To have your name placed on this mailing list, or if you know of anyone who might enjoy these programs, please call Dorothea at the Federation office, 277-6321 x218.

### **VOLUNTEER TO HELP SENIORS**

# "Reach out and show someone you care and put meaning back into the lives of others"

Our OASIS/NORC project is underway at three local sites. We are servicing a potential of 90 seniors and have also started a volunteer program. You can join us in our "chessed" (acts of loving kindness) work by volunteering an hour or two a month. Even if it is only by phone, your involvement can help our seniors stay less isolated and more independent in their own home. Call Pat at 277-6321 x 215 for details about joining this volunteer group.

# **United Way Donors**

# Did you know that you can designate part or all of your United Way contribution to Jewish Family Services?

The money received through these designations helps the Federation pay for... Jewish Family Services Counseling - Individuals, families, seniors and children Senior Adult Programs - Senior Adult luncheons and case management

Resettlement Program - Case management and health services to new immigrants Jewish Family Life Education - Operation Good Mensch

Outreach - Baby baskets, welcoming newcomers

Volunteer Opportunities - Numerous volunteer projects

**THANK YOU** to all who have contributed through United Way. Please remember that your gift to Jewish Family Services through United Way has to be re-designated each year.



AL CREATER DES HOT

The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines is a beneficiary of United Way

# Senior News? Feeling out of touch?

- We'd love to call you and keep you in the loop and feeling cared for.

Please call Jewish Family Services and let us know if you would be interested in our keeping in touch on a continuous basis. Call Gloria at 313-8902.

# Is shopping on your own difficult? Need help getting to and from doctor appoint-

### ments?

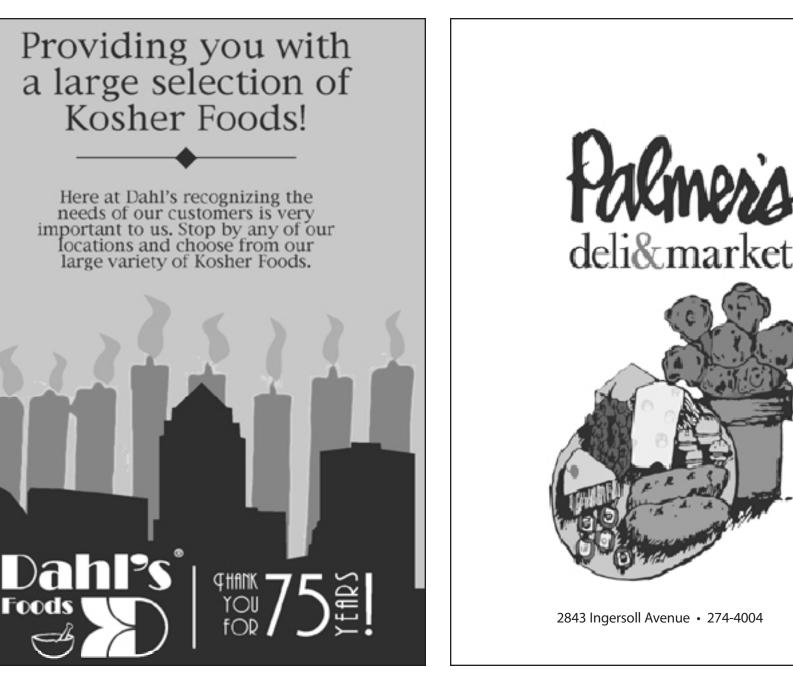
- We offer transportation for grocery shopping and appointments. Jewish Family Services staff is available to assist you. We will provide door-to-door



### Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center and Jewish Family Services Collaborate on Meals Program

The lowa Jewish Senior Life Center and Jewish Family Services have joined together to offer fresh meals for shut-ins, recuperating adults, community members in the hospitals, and others who need a pre-cooked meal. The meals will be offered by the Life Center from their daily menu and will be available for individuals who are ill, snow-bound, without family help, or just wish to have a meal ready at hand.

The meals will be available with a 24-hour notice. Lunches will be \$7.00 and dinners will be \$10.00 each. Food is carryout from the Life Center and will be paid for at pick up. Jewish Family Services can arrange for delivery at \$5.00 per trip.



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# **Jerry Geller: Keeping Veterans In Mind**



An interview with Mr. Jerome (Jerry) Geller, who is presently the representative for Jewish War Veterans Post 637. Jerry and his wife Barbara reside in Windsor Heights and are congre-

gants of Beth El Jacob Synagogue, on whose boards they both have served. The Gellers have two sons, Les and David and three grandchildren.

Jewish Press: Mr. Geller, you are a member of what Tom Brokaw called the Greatest Generation, a generation of people that served our country in the second World War. Permit me to start, on behalf of the community, by thanking you for your service and asking you to recount a bit about your background.

Jerome Geller: Thank you. I came from Fargo, North Dakota. After graduating from high school there, I attended North Dakota State College for a while, but my dad needed me to help him at work. He was in the wrecking business, and I along with my two brothers, helped him until I entered the Army in 1942. I'd have been 24 at the time.

There's somewhat of a funny story about how I entered the Army. Right after [the attack on Pearl Harbor] December 7, they were advertising for air corps mechanics in Texas, and I went down to enlist. So I described my background to the enlistment officer and he surmised I'd make a good mechanic. He then took a lot of information. It was during the physical, however, that I ran into some older regulations that disqualified individuals who had a dental plate. I said, "OK, at least I tried." Then a couple of weeks later, I got a letter that said if I could get a waiver from my draft board, I could enlist. So I took the letter to the draft board and the fellow there said they wouldn't issue the waiver. Why not? "If I let you in," he said, "when your number comes up, I'm going to have to take someone else," because they had so many to take at a time. So I waited till I was drafted. That was in December; in February I was drafted.

JP: What role did you play in the war effort, Jerry?

JG: I was sent to Europe. We landed on the French beaches after D-Day and moved forward to LeMans, to Rheimes and then up to Belgium for the Battle of the Bulge before going to Paris. I was Staff Sergeant in charge of the motor pool in the Signal Construction company. It was an unusual company. I was in no division, no battalion. I had my mechanics and we got our trucks up and going all the time. And we did pole line construction and cable work. In fact, we ran a cable up to the top of the Eiffel Tower. JP: Very good. And then after the war? JG: When I was discharged, I went back to help my father, along with my two brothers. Then in 1948 I came to Des Moines and opened a little glass shop on West Walnut. Barbara and I were married in 1950. Barbara came from Oskaloosa but w a s

living in Des Moines at the time I met her. Shortly after I closed my shop on

Walnut, I went to work for The House of Glass for ten years, followed by several years for Acme Glass and Trim. In 1961, I opened my own store again, Geller's Glass and Upholstery.

JP: It's still in operation, isn't it?

JG: Yes, but now it's called Jerry's Auto Upholstery Supply, on East Walnut, and I still work there.

JP: When did you affiliate with the Jewish War Veterans?

JG: I joined the Jewish War Veterans here in Des Moines in about 1952. Among the events were blood drives, magazine deliveries and Chanukah dinners with latkes for the vets at Veterans Hospital. Over the years there were a number of Post Commanders, the last of which was Milton Zeichik.

The Jewish War Veterans is one of the oldest veterans organizations in the United States. Our post number, 637, would seem to indicate that ours was relatively among the first posts to be established. Much more historical work is needed, how-

### Project Elijah Introduces Website

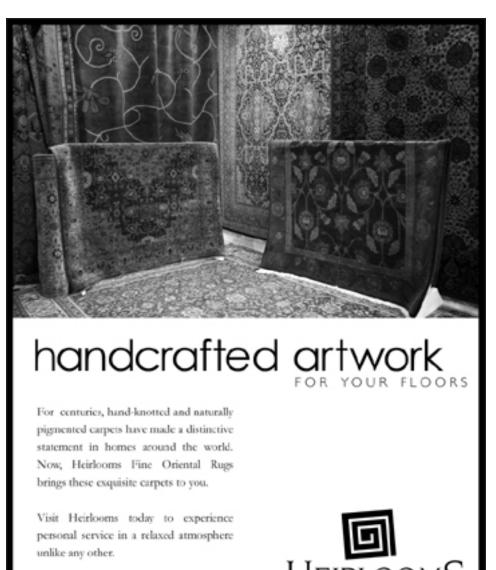
Project Elijah Foundation is pleased to announce it now has a website, http:// www.projectelijah.org/. We can now communicate our mission of aiding disadvantaged youth to a much larger audience.

Here's a sample of what you'll find when you visit http://www.projectelijah. org/:

- Who We Are Our history is given here as well as information about our first project, leladeinu.
- Meet Our Children Click here to meet and share the experiences of some of the children we are assisting through their artwork and bios.
- Kids to Kids One of Project Elijah Foundation's raisons d'etre is to help foster a sense of philanthropy in young people. The Kids to Kids page gives ideas we hope will assist in this endeavor.
- Volunteer Project Elijah can always use volunteers and this page gives opportunities to do just that.
- Ways of Giving In order to sustain our mission, we need help. Our Ways of Giving page offers ideas for this purpose.
- News Learn what Project Elijah Foundation is doing now and what it has done in the recent past.

It took time and talent to get our website up and running. Ramona Gaukel of http://www.thewebconstructor.com is our site's designer. You may contact her at ramonagaukel@mchsi.





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# Torah Talk It's All About Mishpacha



**Family** With this issue of the Jewish Press winter's cold and snow embraces lowa. Our daily routine has settled into mostly indoor activities and the need to bundle up, to keep warm, is never far from our thoughts. In our yearly synagogue Torah-reading cycle we are completing the first of the Five Books of Moses - Bereshit (in Hebrew) - Genesis. The book starts in the Beginning and ends with the death of Jacob; but mostly, this book is about family. The Jewish clan, and in a larger sense, the family of humankind is laid out bare. In every chapter the

reader is led to explore the most intimate of human relations; to see ourselves in all our human glory and frequent shortcomings.

Adam and Eve started it all. Man and woman being initially created together. "And God created man in His image...; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27). In the second chapter we are told how the first human being was androgynous (bi-sexual). It was torn in two, side by side, separated into male and female as "It is not good for man to be alone" (Genesis 1:18). Man and woman later joined and "Hence a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, so that they become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). Each yielded some of their individuality and they became stronger together. The first couple was then given the first commandment, the first mitzvah: "Be fruitful and multiply" (Genesis 1:28) and thus the first family.

From auspicious beginnings ceaseless problems developed. The first couple is expelled from the Garden of Eden; a paradise, or the first jail cell, depending on your point of view. Their son Cain becomes a murderer; and, (as is still true today) each murder of another human being is as though he has murdered his brother. The victim's blood crying out to God from the earth where it was spilled (Genesis 4:10). Noah saves a remnant of all life from overwhelming corruption and is then betrayed by his youngest son Ham. Abraham is forced to send his son Ishmael off to the desert with his mother Hagar in order to protect the harmony of his home. Later he nearly sacrifices his remaining son Isaac and is apparently then estranged from Isaac the rest of his life. Isaac himself struggles with the rivalry of his sons Jacob and Esau. Infirm and near death he is tricked by his wife Rebekah and Jacob into passing his blessing on to the younger son.

Now we come to Jacob's clan. It would be hard to identify a more dysfunctional group. While their father is busy spreading God's message in Canaan, they plot to sell their brother Joseph as a slave and are constantly agitating amongst themselves and their neighbors. At the end of his life Jacob sees his family reunited in Egypt through the benevolence of Joseph. Despite all their problems and shortcomings, when it really matters, when their existence is on the line, the family joins together as a self-supporting **JewistorArbed Day**age 17

# Tu B'Shevat is Monday, Feb 13

On Tu B'Shevat we celebrate a New Year for the Trees, rejoicing in fruit of the tree and fruit of the vine, celebrating the splendid, abundant gifts of the natural world, which give our senses delight and our bodies life.

Tu B'Shevat marks the beginning of spring in Israel. Sustaining rains are at the peak of their power and the world responds, brimming with buds of fragrant life. To mark this moment, school children plant trees. Often these trees have been provided by the contributions of Jewish students abroad through the good offices of the Jewish National Fund.

For Jews outside of Israel, Tu B'Shevat is a celebration of the renewal of vision and awareness, a celebration of connections and connectedness-to our

### Jewish Council for Public Affairs Hails Move to Include Israel's Magen David Adom in International Federation of the Red

**Crescent** Societies, Steve Gutow, Executive Director of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA), the community, issued the following statement:

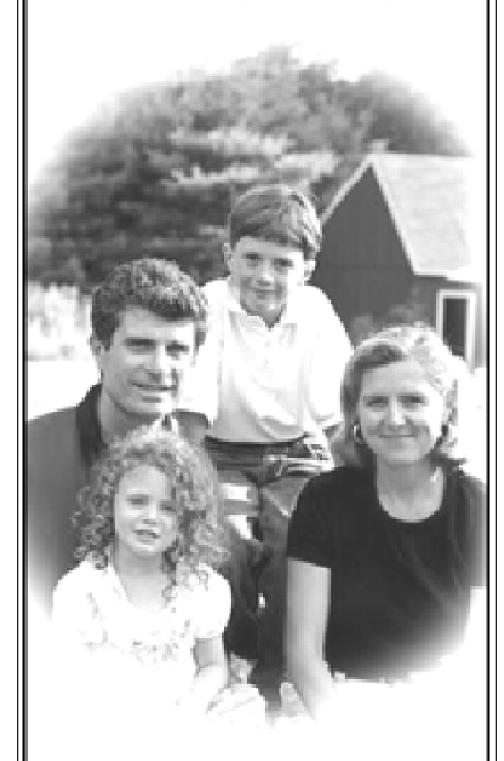
"In recent days and weeks many in the international community took important steps that would right an historic injustice and finally include Magen David Adom as a full member of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

We applaud the adoption of the Third Additional Protocol (creation of a third symbol, a red crystal, which the MDA could be placed inside of, or next to) at this week's Diplomatic Conference in Geneva and hope it will pave the way for a convening of the International Federation General Assembly and a vote on Israel's membership. Success will only come when the full International Federation General Assembly approves Israel's membership.

While many have contributed to this ongoing campaign – members of the American Jewish community, officials from both the U.S. and Israeli governments – the American Red Cross must be recognized for its unwavering efforts over the past 50 years to gain admission for the MDA. Since 2000 the ARC has withheld over \$35 million in dues to the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the hope of spurring the diplomatic process that appears near fruition.

We look forward with optimism to finally being able to celebrate Israel's full inclusion in the International Red

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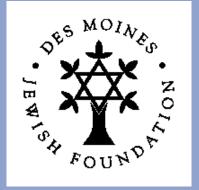


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# january





# Help ensure Des Moines' Jewish Legacy -Include the Federation and your Synagogue or Temple in your estate planning.

- •The Steven Blank Memorial Fund, was created with the intention of being used for the development of young leadership. To date the net earnings have been used to pay for registration for increasing leadership at the General Assembly and other national meetings and missions. The future intent is to use this fund for the development of a complete Young Leadership Development Program.
- •The Nussbaum Adult Lecture Fund was created by Rebecca Nussbaum in memory of her husband, Lou, for programming at Caspe Terrace.
- •**The Abe Clayman Sports Fund,** after making a PACE gift endowment of his annual gift, additionally created a fund to be used for sports programming at Camp Shalom.
- •The David Tobis Fund. This Tzedakah fund created by David Tobis has the intent to serve the needs of people and families in distress in central lowa. Currently, the money supports the Tzedakah fund of Jewish Family Services and some independent funding by the Tobis sub-committee.
- •The Suzanne and Larry Engman Fund has been committed in part to the unrestricted endowment fund, but the principal community commitment has been to endow Engman Camp Shalom and the B'nai Tzedek Program/Youth Philanthropy Project and PACE.
- **Caspe Endowment** holds three funds for 100% maintenance and improvements of the Martin Bucksbaum Building. Those are the Martin Bucksbaum Building Endowment, the Morton and Lois Bookey Building Endowment and the Ksenia Staroselsky Building Endowment. No community funds are used to maintain the buildings at The Caspe Terrace.
- •The Belin Family Federation Outreach and Welcoming Fund was created as an opportunity for non-Jewish partners in inter-faith marriages to benefit from Israel mission experience and other travel programs that offer historical perspectives on Judaism and enrich one's understanding of Jewish life.
- •The David and Hannah Gradwohl Family Endowment was created in 2004 for public programming in lowa Jewish history. The major purpose of this fund is to further the goal of the lowa Jewish Historical Society in telling the story of Jews who have taken up residence in the State of lowa and have contributed to lowa's history since early settlement of Euro-Americans in lowa in the 1930's.
- Shalom Home Funds gives financial assistance to Jewish mentally and physically disabled people living in the greater Des Moines community.
- •The Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment Fund (PACE). The Fund to which many people leave bequests to perpetuate their annual campaign gift and to continue the important and life saving work of the Federation into the future.
- •The Badower/Cohen Fund. A Fund set up by Ann and

Fred Badower for scholarships at Camp Shalom. •The lowa Jewish Senior Life Center.

### •The Iowa Jewish Historical Society.

All of these Designated Funds are managed under the stewardship of the Des Moines Jewish Foundation and its

The Foundation holds three million dollars in what is termed "Unrestricted Endowment Funds." The net assets on an annual basis are available for programming at the request of the Federation for projects in the past such as Melton adult education subsidies, missions to Israel for high schoolers and adults, gifts to projects in Israel, special one-time Holocaust program or special speakers such as Dennis Ross for the community. This Endowment Fund is the smallest fund held by the Foundation. After the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center receives a set-aside fund for "Tzedakah" for residents in need at the Center, the Trustees will manage less than \$2,000,000

investment authority. They are restricted for the uses as designated by their donors. The annual net interest is available only for donor purpose and cannot be used by the Foundation in any other way.

The Philanthropic Fund is operated by the Foundation to facilitate donor tax and charitable planning benefits in a simple format. The Foundation will consider donor's recommendations to disbursements to be made in support of charitable programs and organizations. Such suggested donations must be IRS-approved organizations.

We have always enjoyed a vibrant Jewish community which serves as a model across the United States. We have met the challenges of Jewish life and will continue to follow our predecessors' examples and precepts in living essential Jewish values; to act justly; to love mercy; to behave without arrogance; to be charitable to those less fortunate; to respect learning, and to be a participant in the fabric of Israel. Jews strive to live by these principles. We are recognized and respected for these ideals.

The Des Moines Jewish Foundation makes it possible for individuals to enrich their lives by enriching the entire community. The Foundation is a responsible and intelligent vehicle for Tzedakah. Purposeful giving embraces the best of Jewish values and heritage. Fundraising and sustaining Jewish commitment are not separate. Only through charitable giving will we preserve the tradition of our forefathers, providing our children a Jewish life to perpetuate to their children.

Faced with the serious challenge of the changing demographics of our community, the Foundation is taking a leadership role to ensure that we invest as generously in our future as we have in our past.

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors and concerned members of the Jewish community. It is the responsibility of the Directors to determine policy and raise, manage and distribute funds to ensure continued growth.

### **Outright Gifts**

You may make a lifetime gift and enjoy an immediate income tax charitable deduction. Assets contributed reduce your estate tax obligations. Gifts may take the following forms: cash, securities, real estate, State of Israel Bonds, corporate bonds, etc.

### **Women and Giving**

Women today need estate planning and personal wills as never before. Historically, women as homemakers did not have the opportunity to accumulate independent wealth. But things are changing! Women are working today and accumulating assets from their own efforts in their own names. Furthermore, in our contemporary world, divorce and remarriage are common facts of life. Widows and widowers are remarrying. The changing financial profile of women and the changing nature of estate evaluation mean that women's non-participation and relative isolation from financial and estate planning are no longer appropriate. Financial planning and the strategic use of philanthropic giving are as important to women as they are to men. Women own 63% of today's wealth.

### **Deferred Gifts**

Deferred gifts to the Des Moines Jewish Foundation through bequests or life-income trusts can offer many advantages for contributors interested in providing future support to the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. Des Moines Jewish Foundation volunteers, with expertise in specified areas, will be happy to work with you and your financial advisors to help you fulfill your long-term charitable and financial goals.

### The Importance of a Will

Did you know that seven out of 10 people do not have a valid will? Many have postponed what appears to be an unpleasant task. Others erroneously assume their assets are not large enough to justify a will. Having a will as part of your estate plan provides many benefits:

 You can distribute your property as you wish. If you have no will, your property will be distributed according to the laws of the state in which you live. These laws are inflexible and may not take care of the people and institutions you wish to remember. The only way to ensure your wishes are followed is to have a carefully drafted will.

You have the flexibility in carrying out your wishes. You may have a personal treasure that you'd like someone to receive. Only a will can make this a certainty. A will permits the use of trusts to aid in the financial affairs of your survivors. It also permits you to select the individual who is to administer your estate. Otherwise, the Court appoints an administrator for those who die without a will and he or she may make decisions not based on your choices. In your will y o u may grant

broader powers of administration to your executor than a Court-appointed administrator would have.

 You can carry out your wishes most economically. For example, in your will you may direct your executor to serve without bond. Without a will, a financial bond is required before a Court-appointed administrator can serve, the cost of which comes out of your estate.

### **Bequests to the Des Moines Jewish Foundation**

A bequest through a will is the most frequent form of planned gift, largely because it can be a means of making a substantial gift to the Foundation without diminishing the assets available to contributors during their lifetimes. Important estate tax savings can result from such contributions, since bequests to the Foundation may be deducted entirely from the taxable estate in determining estate taxes. Often such bequests will place the estate in a lower tax bracket.

Although the Foundation has received large bequests, such gifts do not need to be large to have a worthwhile impact. For instance, a \$50,000 bequest will provide a named project designed to maintain a fund, service or project in keeping with your goals of Tzedakah. A \$10,000 gift can provide income for a scholarship for a child at Camp Shalom or for Bar or Bat Mitzhah training.

As mentioned, the drafting of your will is a job for your attorney. Counsel from the Foundation is available upon request to confer with you and/or your advisor in drafting a gift that includes the appropriate terms and conditions, so that both

**Des Moines Jewish Foundation Board:** Don Blumenthal, President Martin Brody, Vice President Marvin Winick, Treasurer

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# [view from Israel]

### Iran's Threats, Israeli Defense By former Areiva to Des Moines, Ayelet Kleinman



Dear friends, I hope you are all well and that the winter weather is not getting you down.

As always, when it comes time to write my bi-monthly column, I cast around for a topic you might find of interest. This month, I was having a hard time coming up with something you might find relevant when I turned on the radio and heard some news.

I heard that Israel's Arrow anti-missile was successfully tested

today against a simulated enemy missile resembling an Iranian nuclear-capable Shehab-3. The simulated 'attack' missile was fired from an airplane over the Mediterranean from the West. The Arrow defensive missile was fired from an Israeli Air Force base in the center of the country and hit the target. This was the 14th test of the Arrow system, developed with the US, and 9th of the missile.

The test launch came as a Russian newspaper reported that Iran has signed a deal to buy Russian tactical surface-to-air missile systems and a day after Prime Minister Ariel Sharon warned of the dangers of a nuclear Iran.

Israel's Defense Ministry said that the successful test will improve the operational capabilities of the Arrow system to cope with future threats. But an unofficial source said that the Arrow is not presently designed to combat missiles more advanced than the Shehab 3.

Prime Minister Sharon said that Israel is watching Iran's efforts to achieve nuclear capabilities with growing concern and that the current situation is unacceptable. He also said that the danger posed by Iran does not relate only to Israel. It puts at risk many countries in the Middle East and elsewhere.

After hearing that, I thought about when Saddam Hussein decided to threaten Israel in 1991. And here again, more than 10 years later, another country literally wants to destroy Israel. I, personally, think that if the international community does not succeed with diplomatic means in blocking Iran's efforts to produce a nuclear bomb, then there will no longer be any reason to continue on the diplomatic track with Iran.

This is all very scary – for all of us. But the threat by Iran is real. The feeling that someone wants to kill you, make you disappear, is not pleasant, to say the least. I trust that the IDF as well as our Ministry of Defense will keep on working to protect the skies over Israel. Knowing that they are vigilant is comforting.

# [next generation] Jake Garland

By Robin Bear



With his school day beginning earlier than most, Jake Garland commences many of his mornings with a choir practice prior to the beginning of class. At the end of his day, evening rehearsals sometimes stretch into the late hours. It makes for a long day but Jake is more than willing to put forth the effort. He has an active role singing tenor in the multiple choirs offered at Johnston High School.

During his freshman year, Jake's parents encouraged him to choose an extracurricular activity, so he chose choir. It was a good fit. Many of his friends were in Show Choir and he found the experience rewarding. This year Jake was one of 6 students chosen from his high school to participate in the Iowa All-State Festival Choir, a festival drawing the best singers from around the state. Jake is also a member of Concert Choir and

Chamber Choir.

During the months of December and January, Jake is involved with Mock Trial, another high school activity. He also works at Garland and Associates, his family's business.

Jake lives in Johnston with his parents, Cheryl and Terry Garland and his younger sister, Alex. Three generations of the Garland family have called Johnston their home with both Jake's father and grandfather attending Johnston High School. Currently, Jake is the only Jewish student attending Johnston High School.

Jake and his family belong to Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Last year Jake was active in Temple Youth group and served on the board as Vice President of Fund Raising and has been named president of the youth group.

He plans to be further involved this year as new plans and activities get underway. Jake enjoys traveling with his family with trips to Hawaii and Palm Springs among his favorites. Last summer Jake traveled to Germany with a program designed for 11th and 12th grade Jewish youth. He talked enthusiastically about the trip and mentioned that one of the highlights for him was the visit to Daniel Libeskind's, The Jewish Museum in Berlin. He described the exhibit as phenomenal.

As Jake moves through his senior year, his thoughts are focused on college. His list of potential schools include universities on the east and west coasts and also in Iowa.

### In the Kitchen With Linda Fishman



Linda recently celebrated her 80th birthday and Linda is sharing her long-time challah recipe with us, perfect for Shabbat and holidays! Linda's recipe is not written

down, but 'passed' down from family.

Linda was born in Poland on September 1, 1925. She was the fifth daughter born to Chana and Yitzhak Ringermacher. Her parents owned a butcher shop in her hometown of approximately 9,000 Jewish residents. She remembers a 'busy' house with her four older sisters and two younger brothers. Shabbat was always observed and her father attended shul every day. Her Bubbe and Zede lived nearby and she 1 е c a S r having beautiful Shabbat dinners and an abundance of food, particularly since her father was a butcher!

In 1938 Linda remembers Poland being overtaken by German soldiers, and at this time many German Jews moved into Linda's hometown. In 1939, her fathers' business was taken over by the Nazis and her father and mother were taken away, leaving the children to take care of themselves. At the age of 14, Linda was taken and forced to work in an ammunition factory. From that day she never saw her parents or her siblings again. Linda spent six years in Bergen-Belsen and other concentration camps throughout Germany. In late May of 1945, after surviving typhoid and the camps, Linda was liberated.

Soon after liberation, Linda met her husband to be, Ansel Fishman. The two were married in December of 1945 in Poland. Linda and her husband came to the United States and settled in Des Moines on July 15, 1950 with their daughter Ann. Ansel and Linda opened

an upholstery shop in 1953 on Harding Road and later in 1960 moved their business to 15th and University in Des Moines. Ansel and Linda were blessed with 3 children, Ann, Morris and Steve. Ansel died in 1970, and Linda raised the children and continued to run the business that they had started together.

Ann, Linda's daughter, is married to Robert Baum and currently lives in a Cincinnati, Ohio suburb. Morris is married to Diane and lives in Florida. Stevie, the youngest son and his wife Wendy live in Los California. Angeles, Today Linda is the proud

# Wanted

your Passover recipes for our on-line cookbook. Send us your Passover recipes or Passover recipes of family members or friends that others would enjoy making! Be certain to identify whose recipe it is or where it came from if you know, and your name as the contributor!

Send all recipes to the Federation at JCRC@DMJFED.org or if you are not computer savvy please send the recipe(s) to the Jewish Federation 910 Polk Boulevard Des Moines, Iowa 50312

B'tayavohn! (Bon appetit)

### Challah

A Recipe from Linda Fishman Parve

3 Cups flour 2 Tablespoons vegetable oil

1 package dry yeast

Pinch salt

2 eggs

2-3 Tablespoons sugar

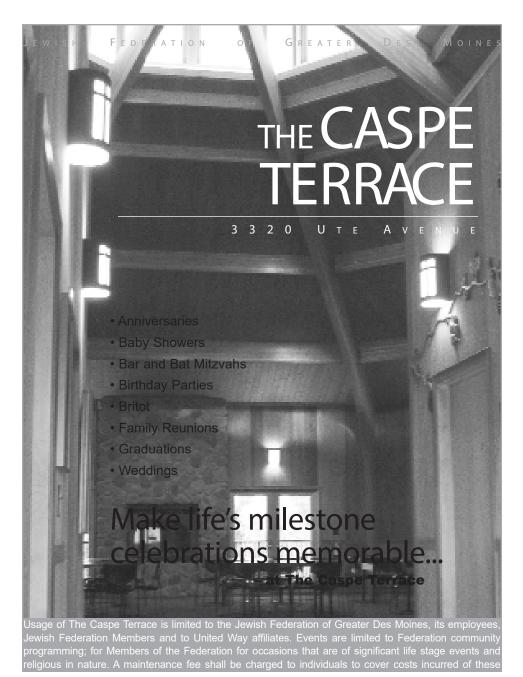
1/2 cup warm water

Mix warm water, dry yeast & sugar in a bowl & let sit for 5-10 minutes.

Mix flour & salt. Add the yeast mixture, beaten eggs & the oil.

Mix & Knead for about 8 minutes. Let rise in a warm place until doubled in size. Braid the challah & let rise again.

Bake in a 350 degree oven for 45 minutes.



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### [focus: middle east]

The Miracle Becomes More So **By Sheldon Rabinowitz** 



When Israel declared independence in 1948, it was thought that it would take a miracle for it to survive. Because of Arab hostility coupled with the arms embargos

by the US, Britain, and other countries-it was at times questionable, but it obviously did survive and eventually flourished. As strange as it may seem now, the French were their primary arms suppliers and supporters in that period.

Additionally, its economic situation was perilous for the first dozen years. German reparations were a key factor in keeping their economy from collapsing in the early years. In the era of Truman and Eisenhower administrations, there was minimal US government support—it was not until Lyndon Johnson was president, that the US government identified at all with Israel's plight and began supporting the Jewish state.

Private Jewish financial support for resettlement of refugees, creating universities, and research institutions dramatically increased after independence. Life in Israel was exceedingly difficult, but they made steady and remarkable improvements. It was never easy on their population, because of their high taxes, disproportionate defense costs, the eternal need for people to serve in the military and the reserves. The costs of settling over 600,000 refugees driven out of the Arab countries, settling hundreds of thousands of penniless European immigrants after WW II, were also tremendous challenges. They also had to overcome trade boycotts, not to mention their own socialist oriented economy that was not as efficient as it needed to be for competitive and objective economic growth. The rise of their economy and growth also had S е r i 0 u S setbacks, such as after the '73 Yom Kippur war and the period around the '91 Gulf war.

Having been in Israel twice in 2005 for Israel Tennis Centers matters and traveling in the country on each trip, I cannot help but be amazed at the continual difference in the country from year to year, let alone compared to when I first traveled there in 1969.

The roads and related infrastructure have vastly improved. Where there were once minimal roads, and trash or junk littered along the highways-today there are modern roadways and boulevards with adjacent landscaping and floral gardens that would be impressive anywhere in the world.

Office buildings, apartment complexes, shopping centers continue to spring up out of the sand that were not there several years ago. I have become eternally amazed at some of the high rise office buildings in

Tel Aviv, the magnificent apartment complexes around Jerusalem, as well as the hotels, condos and marinas on the seashore. The peaceful sight of sailboats on the Mediterranean Sea is a postcard-perfect picture.

While in many respects it has become a modern prosperous country--there is still considerable poverty, inadequate elementary education, lack of enough available space in universities to meet the needs of the population, lack of affordable housing, an endless list of capital needs, and serious social problems. All of these problems are solvable with money, time, and knowhow--except for the major problem of the neighborhood in which they live. Unfortunately, they are not next to peaceful countries, such as Sweden or Canada.

Without elaborating on the endless history of conflict and hostility of their neighbors—the only seemingly insoluble problem threatening them is the Arab world's eternal lack of acceptance and a desire by most to wipe Israel off the map or swallow them in a "one state solution" with the Palestinians. Can that change? Can the terrorism or threats to their existence change? As long as there are Moslems, there will be Islamic fundamentalists. Will Islamic fundamentalists allow infidels or an infidel country to live in their midst? There are no positive signs of it as yet!

Look at the difference in Israel's success compared to its primary neighbors--Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon-skipping the rest of the Arab world for the moment.

Egypt has been overtly hostile toward Israel since the armistice in '48 and has been engaged in several wars with them, including '56, '67, and '73. There was some degree of hope before Sadat was assassinated, but today, at best there is a cold peace. Egypt has little oil resources and remains a poor, backward, and corrupt country. They have a controlled press, a bureaucratic controlled economy, and no real democratic process. They can't feed their own people and need the \$2 billion US aid to survive. They have a large unneeded arms budget, and could readily use the money to improve their educational systems and potentially their economy and quality of life.

Syria has been eternally hostile toward Israel since '48 and has been a major source of terrorism since '48 up to the present day, in addition to the two full-scale wars in '67 and '73. Syria enables Hezbollah terrorists to control southern Lebanon and constant terrorism and provocation with retaliation affecting southern Lebanon as opposed to Syria getting their due. Syria has little oil resources, remains a very poor country, cannot even keep their electricity running daily. It is a totalitarian state in all respects. While their populace is poor and uneducated, they are currently negotiating to buy vast amounts of arms from Russia.

The Kingdom of Jordan currently and historically has the best relationship with Israel of any of the border countries. They have engaged in war and supported ter-





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# **United Jewish Communities' General Assembly 'Inspiring'**

### By Mark Finkelstein

Community members are encouraged to join Federation leadership and staff at a General Assembly (GA) convened annually by the umbrella group of Federations, the United Jewish Communities (www. ujc.org.). The 2005 General Assembly, attended by Federation president Toni Urban, director Elaine Steinger, and myself, was in Toronto. Next year it will be held in Los Angeles.

It is at these General Assemblies that current issues affecting Jewish communities nationally and internationally are studied and where members from various-sized Federations can learn from one another and from people with different types of professional expertise. It is where cutting-edge ideas can be evaluated and ways found in which they may be applied. It is where one can interact with representatives from a wide variety of Jewish organizations, where one gets to know leaders from other communities and where the sense of Jewish community is celebrated. It is where the breadth of diversity among Jews, diversity across many dimensions, is seen as a source of strength.

The General Assemblies are certainly interesting, with something for everyone and some entertainment and food thrown in for good measure. But they are more than that. They can be inspiring. After attending the 2005 conference, I, personally, was inspired to become a better planner, to become a better listener, to become more sensitive in helping people find their niche in the community more easily and to help them share their talents better, to become more collaborative and to be more cost effective.

One cannot help but be affected by what one hears at a GA, the messages are so powerful. An important message of the GA, consistent with our tradition as Jews, is that we must all strive to transcend our own needs and to recognize the ability we have as individuals and as

a community to use our skills and resources to help others. This sense of communal responsibility – a core value in our tradition – has served us well and is, as well, the key to our future.



is, as well, the key **NORC dis**ur future. **cussed at GA** It is my hope that **by a represen**-



Federation Dir. Elaine Steinger and alsoano Brestudytintione Steichin conversione of our Basels Dionom the iMa gene Davidtionalagen chi atom a bioreal by find the time to

# Divesting from Israel is dishonest, hypocritical and anti-Semitic.

### Campus Hypotrisy By THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Menoto professors and students leading the divesticue campaight: Your campaighter divestiture from larget a deeply dishonestandhypocritical and any university that goes along with it does not dearry the tote of institution of higher leaning.

You are disherest because to single or tiknel as the enly party to blame for the ourrent impasse is to perpetate a lie. Historians can debate whether the Camp David and Cinton pasce proposals for a Patestinian state were for 85, 90, or 97 percent of the West Earls and Case Dut what is not debatable is whet the **proper** Patestinian response should have been lit should have been to tell Israel and America that their peace proposals were the first fair offer they had ever put torth, and although they still tell about of what Patestinians tertisa just two-state solution, Patestinians wore now propered to work with listeal and America to adhieve that and. The **proper** response was not a Patestinian initiate and 100 second bombers, which are what brought Ariel Staron to provet. It is shameful that at attime when some Palestinians are writing that they made a historic mistake in not numbering the Dinton process offer pro-Palestinian professors and students in America and Europe **pretend** that the only reason the occupation persists is because of Israeli obstituacy Thistopponech will never gain the Parestinianse state, and these who dealto in it are simply prolonging Palestinian misery.

### You are also hypocrites.

Howish that Egypt imprisons the leading democracy advocate in the Arab world, after a phony trial, and not a single student group in America calls for divestiture nomEgypt?0Im not calling for it, but the silence is selling.)

Howisit that Sylia occupical observators 25 years, chokes the Meowt of Its democracy and not a single student group calls for diversiture from Syra?

 Howisit that Saud Arabia denies its womenths most basic human rights, and bans any other religion from being practiced publicly on its sol, and nota single student group calls for divestitute from Saudi Arabia?

Criticizing largel is not anti-Semitic, and saying so is vile. But singling out largel for opprobrium and international sanction out of all proportion to any other party in the Middle East is anti-Semitic, and not saying so is dishonest.

www.8tandWithUsCampae.com

### The Caspe Terrace



"Love Letters" at The Caspe Terrace: 1. Bravo Phyllis Mumford and Kent Sovern for their humerous and moving performance. 2. Lou and Marilyn Hurwitz and Dr. Glenn Purnell. 3. Kudos to the Caspe Programming Committee, pictured: Judy Blank and Vicki Givant, co-chairs and Gloria Rovner and Susan Seidenfeld. 4. Julie Kaufman and Judy and Larry Deutch 5. Hazzan Jeff and Denise Cohen

# [science] Letting the Spin Loose

Two properties of an electron - its spin and its charge - are generally thought to be inseparable, intrinsic characteristics, no more given to sudden changes or going off on their own than say, the fur on a cat or the paint on a bicycle. But a team of scientists at the Weizmann Institute of Science has recently demonstrated conclusively that, in very specific circumstances, spin can become separated from charge and progress independently down a wire. Their findings appeared in a recent issue of Science. Spin-charge separation was first predicted in the sixties. The idea was based on a theory that electrons with a range of movement limited to one dimension alone would behave differently from those moving in two or three dimensions. This is because when electrons are lined up head to tail, the influence of the repulsive forces between them becomes overridingly significant. But demonstrating the phenomenon had to wait until technology caught up to the theory.

Prof. Amir Yacoby of the Institute's Condensed Matter Physics Department and research students Dr. Ophir Auslaender and Hadar Steinberg set up an experiment with quantum wires - so thin that electrons must go single file down their length, limiting flow to a single dimension and direction.

Up to a certain point, one can think

of these electrons as cars on a narrow, one-lane road: there's no passing, and the slowest car sets the speed for the rest. A block in the road will bring all traffic to a halt. But here the analogy ends. If you increase car density on a road, traffic invariably slows down, while electrons speed along merrily in high-density flow and slow down when the density decreases. It is in these slow-moving, low density electron flows that things become interesting. The separation the team achieved between spin and charge rests on the fact that the spins of electrons in these low density, single dimension flows generally follow a preferred arrangement: alternating between the two possible directions of electron spin - up and down.

In the experiment, single electrons here and there could jump from wire to wire, allowing the scientists to jumble traffic a bit. So when an electron in the middle having, say, a down spin stepped out of the line, the next electron moved up to fill in, creating a situation with two neighboring ups. This non-ideal state of affairs caused one of them to flip its spin to down, which then caused the next electron, also with a down spin, to flip its spin to up, and so on. Thus the spin traveled down the wire independently of the charge, which stayed tied to the electrons.

### AMES JEWISH CONGREGATION

### Services:

| January 13  | 8:00 pm led by Rabbi Rosenbloom                            |
|-------------|--|
| January 14  | 10:00 am led by Rabbi Rosenbloom                           |
| January 20  | lay led  |
| January 2   | lay led  |
| February 3  | lay led  |
| February 10 | 8:00 pm Religious school grades 4-5 will lead this service |
| February 24 | 8:00 pm Rabbi Rosenbloom will lead the service             |
| February 25 | 10:00 am led by Rabbi Rosenbloom                           |
| February 26 | 11:00 am Tu B'Shevat seder (tentative)                     |

# **BETH EL JACOB SYNAGOGUE**

### SERVICE SCHEDULE:

|  | Morning | Evening |  |
|--|---------|---------|--|
| January:   | 7:00 am | 4:30 pm |  |
| Sat & Sun  | 9:00 am |         |  |
| February:  | 7:00 am | 5:00 pm |  |
| Sat & Sun  | 9:00 am |         |  |
| March:   | 7:00 am | 5:30 pm |  |
| Sat & Sun  | 9:00 am |         |  |
| SHABBOS KIDDUSH LUNCHEON FOLLOWING SERVICES EVERY WEEK |         |         |  |

### CLASSES:

| Mondays | 7:00 pm | Weekly Parsha | Rabbi Simpser |
|---------|---------|---------------|---------------|
|         | 8:00 pm | Kabbalah      | Rabbi Klein   |
|         |         |               |               |

### SISTERHOOD:

Sunday, February 12th - Sweetheart Brunch - 11:30 am Sunday, March 12th - Purim Lunch - 12:30 pm

# We have found some great ways to celebrate through these cold months. Please join us!

### January 13, Friday

### **Beth El Community Shabbas Dinner**

A great time to enjoy the Shabbas spirit with family and friends. 5:30 pm \$10.00/adults, \$5.00/children, children under 5 are free

RSVP by January 11 to the office (274-1551)

### January 22, Sunday Family Fun Night

Calling all ages and ability levels. We've got games. We've got fun. We've got ping pong and cards. And if that isn't to your liking, the gym is open for basketball. Join us for an evening of frivolity and dinner. A most excellent Build-Your-Own-Hotdog bar (chicken or beef) will satisfy those who favor the Chicago Dog or the New York Dog. 5:30 pm

\$6.00/adults, \$4.00/children, children under 5 are free RSVP January 20 by 3 pm to the office (274-1551)

February 3, Friday

### **Beth El Community Shabbas Dinner**

The days are starting to grow longer... spend the night with us. We'd love to see you. 5:30  $\rm pm$ 

\$10.00 adults, \$5.00 children, children under 5 are free RSVP by February 1 to the office (274-1551)

### February 12, Sunday Family Fun Night

Calling all ages and ability levels. Ping Pong, basketball, board games, cards, movies, music. And if that isn't enough, we're serving a spaghetti dinner. Don't miss out! 5:30 pm \$4.00/person or \$10.00/family

RSVP February 10 by 3 pm to the office (274-1551)

### February 19, Sunday International Cuisine

This is part of an ongoing series. We like to explore the foods of the world. Because February is cold, we thought we'd spice it up with the foods of Mexico. Join us for an excellent dairy meal. We'll have music and learn a little bit about our neighbor to the South. And for your entertainment:... a pinata decorating competition. Fun for all ages! 5:30 pm appetizers, 6:00 pm dinner

\$8.00 adults, \$5.00 children, \$10.00 at the door Children under 5 are free.

RSVP February 15 by 3 pm to the office (274-1551)

### TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

| January February Events |          |  |  |
|-------------------------|----------|--|--|
| Saturday, January 7     | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:00 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:45 am |  |  |
| Saturday, January 14    | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:00 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:45 am |  |  |
| Sunday, January 15      | 10:00 am |  |  |
| Monday, January 16      | 1:00 pm  |  |  |
| Wednesday, January 18   | 7:00 pm  |  |  |
| Saturday, January 21    | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:00 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:45 am |  |  |
| Saturday, January 21    | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:00 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:45 am |  |  |
| Sunday, January 22      | 10:00 am |  |  |
| Saturday, January 28    | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:45 am |  |  |
| Saturday, February 4    | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:45 am |  |  |
| Saturday, February 11   | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:30 am |  |  |
| Wednesday, February 15  | 7:00 pm  |  |  |
| Saturday, February 18   | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:00 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:45 am |  |  |
| Sunday, February 19     | 10:00 am |  |  |
|                         | 12:00 pm |  |  |
| Monday, February 20     | 1:00 pm  |  |  |
| Saturday, February 25   | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:00 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:45 am |  |  |
| Sunday, February 26     | 10:00 am |  |  |
| Saturday, March 4       | 10:45 am |  |  |
|                         | 11:00 am |  |  |

### [short takes]



11:45 am

Dinner of Israel Partnership devotees at the GA in Toronto



Steven Altman (left) at Israel Partnership meetings in Texas.



From left: Rabbi Aaron Sherman of Temple Judah (Cedar Rapids), Rabbi Stephanie Sherman, Barbara Feller and Dr. Steven Feller (Coe College) at the Slovak dinner

Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Kabbalah/Torah Conversations w/ Rabbi Shabbat Café! Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Kabbalah/Torah Conversations w/ Rabbi Shabbat Café! Investment Club Meeting Book Club Meeting Holistic Mom's Network Meeting Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Kabbalah/Torah Conversations w/ Rabbi Shabbat Café! Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Kabbalah/Torah Conversations w/ Rabbi Shabbat Café! Board of Trustees Meeting Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Shabbat Café! Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Shabbat Café! Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Shabbat Café! Holistic Mom's Network Meeting Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Kabbalah/Torah Conversations w/ Rabbi Shabbat Café! Investment Club Meeting Sisterhood Outing - Not Just Chagall **Book Club Meeting** Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Kabbalah/Torah Conversations w/ Rabbi Shabbat Café! Board of Trustees Meeting Shabbat Schmooze with the Cantor Kabbalah/Torah Conversations w/ Rabbi Shabbat Café!

### COMMUNITY AIDS QUAKE VICTIMS

The American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), a beneficiary agency of United Jewish Communities, has raised over \$115,000 to provide winterized equipment for victims of the October 8th earthquake that devastated parts of Pakistan and India. The quake caused over 73,000 deaths with hundreds of thousands injured. Among the contributors are Beth El Jacob Synagogue, Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Tifereth Israel Synagogue and the Jewish Federation.

### Geller from page 8

JG: Yes. In more recent times, Harold Brody was our Quartermaster. He managed the finances and correspondence with the national, and he and Bill Yeglin placed flags on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day. When it was no longer possible for Harold to continue, Bill and I volunteered and took it upon ourselves to help out. And now, Bill is gone. Most recently Faulk Miller and David Lekowski have helped out.

JP: What would you ask of the community to help the JWV at present?

JG: Well, we would still like to decorate the graves of veterans on Memorial Day. But more than that, we would ask that younger veterans come and affiliate, and even the children of veterans, if they'd be interested. JP: Thank you, Mr. Geller, for sharing your story with us and for informing us about our local Jewish War Veterans

# Visiting Israel is Essential, Meaningful and Inspiring



My name is Jessie Svec. I'm 17 years old and currently in my junior year at Ames High School. This past summer I spent 5 weeks in a very beau-

tiful, interesting and spiritual country. For 37 days I lived, ate, slept, and breathed Israel. I was joined by almost six hundred other Jewish American teens eager to explore the homeland of our ancestors. Every day I woke up early and stayed up late, bonding with my traveling group of forty four kids, half of which I had known for years because we attended Goldman Union Camp together, and the other half from a sister camp, Jacobs, in Mississippi. We said, "Hey you guys" and they said "Hey y'all." But within only days no one could tell who was from which camp, and who had been friends for five years, or just five days.

Our journey began at JFK in New York; we flew for seven hours on a chartered El Al flight to Prague. The entire seven hours no one did anything but visit with old friends and meet new ones. Perhaps you can imagine the energy of six hundred teenagers from all over the United States socializing and getting to know people from across the map.

We landed in Prague and spent the next four days touring this incredible city, enjoying its beauty and seeing historic

**Reitman** from page 1 Steve brings national experience in this capacity and the newest of programs to our community to engage the best of our future leaders. The Des Moines Jewish Foundation holds a designated fund to support this program.

Among his other major duties will be to assist Elaine Steinger with development of new approaches to mobilize the human and financial resources to care for those in need, strengthen Jewish life, and advance the unity, values, and shared purposes of the Jewish people. The ALL-IN-ONE Campaign will reflect the new realities of donor stress from generous participation in all the local and international disasters. However, our objectives are clear and compelling and the capacity to accomplish more for the Jewish people at home and in Israel will be enhanced with Steve in our community.

The Reitmans, Steve, his wife Shari and two children Spencer (7) and Abigail (5) come to us most recently from Dayton, Ohio, where Steve served as Chief Operating Officer (COO) for the Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton since 2002. A s C O O, he was responsible for the planning and administration for financial resource development, Jewish Family Services, and his Federation's Jewish Community Center. Steve arrived on December 1st to begin his work in enhancing current programs and implementing new opportunities.

"Steve Reitman brings to our community a wealth of skills in community organization, leadership development, planning and administration," said Toni Urban, sites. One site was the concentration camp Terezin. Obviously this stop wasn't the most upbeat but I felt it was extremely important. As much as anyone can hear and learn about the Holocaust, there is no way to prepare oneself for walking into the room with the actual furnaces that people were murdered in, and the autopsy tables where the Nazis pried the dead prisoners' gold teeth out. Not surprisingly it was overwhelmingly emotional and difficult. I swear it felt like the wind just got knocked right out of me. Walking up to the camp and its eerie silence on a beautiful day seemed to be mocking everything this horrible place stood for. In no way was this an enjoyable experience but one that was absolutely necessary.

On the fourth evening we said goodbye to Prague and flew to Cyprus. In Cyprus we packed a bag with enough clothes for three days and boarded the Magic One, an enormous cruise ship in which we were going to sail across the Mediterranean Sea to Israel. On the boat we did exercises to reenact the journey the Jews took when first trying to enter the land of Israel at the end of WWII on the ship Exodus. When boarding the ship we were questioned by the "British" and when nearing the dock a boat was sent after us and they sprayed fire hoses at us in an effort to keep us from entering the promised land. After lunch on the last day of "our Exodus" everyone stood up on top deck and watched Israel come into view. We stood in awe as the ship came

President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. "His appointment fills a gap in our communal structure," she continued, "and his work here should add that important impetus to nurturing the unity and potential a community of our stature deserves. We're all very happy he is coming on board."

Steve holds two Masters Degrees: a Master of Social Work from the University of Southern California with a concentration in community development and a Master of Arts in Jewish Communal Service from Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from San Francisco State University.

Among his honors, Steve was selected Brandeis University Sherman Fellow for Outstanding Young Professionals and was awarded a scholarship by the Federation Executive Recruitment Education Program. Prior to his work for the Dayton Federation, Steve held substantive positions with the UJC's Western Area Office and Federations in Palm Beach County, Boston and Central New Jersey.

Executive Director Elaine Steinger will continue in her current role as CEO of the Federation, but will now spend up to 50% of her time in her other position as Executive Director of the Des Moines Jewish Foundation.

**Mishpacha** from page 9 They care for each other and manage to survive.We are taught that in the end you can count on mishpacha (family). The book ends with the future of our people uncertain, perilous in a foreign land. Their underlying closer and closer. It was the perfect way to see the country for the first time; its amazing beauty and power actually took my breath away. It is a mental picture of Israel I know I will always carry with me.

We were greeted by Israeli dancers that performed on the docks for us as we anchored and prepared to unload. Each person was warmly welcomed with a small Israeli flag and a red rose as we stepped off the boat and touched Israel's soil for the first time. We had the next thirty days to squeeze in as much of Israel as we could. Each group of forty or so kids then boarded a charter bus. Every single person sat in silence, open-mouthed as we drove through Haifa, eagerly trying to absorb our homeland.

At the end of our first week in Israel, we went into the Negev desert on a camping adventure for three days. We slept under the stars and bonded hiking up Mt. Shlomo, our four-hour climb directly up the enormous mountain ending with not only a feeling of great accomplishment, but also a killer view. We snorkeled with the fish in the Red Sea, rode camels and stayed at the Beduoin tents and hiked across the desert.

After the Negev we spent a couple of days at a hotel near the Dead Sea. On the first day there we covered ourselves in mud and floated in the salty water for hours. Next we went to spend ten days at Kibbutz Hacokok. From there we traveled to Jerusalem and put our prayers in the Kotel, (the Western Wall) visited Hertzl's grave, toured beautiful syna-

faith however, their family ties and values are strong and unwavering. As a unit they enter the winter of their history, cold and vulnerable, but stronger together. And, we are the result of their commitment.

"May the Lord bless you from Zion; may you share the prosperity of Jerusalem

all the days of your life,

and live to see your children's children.

May all be well with Israel." (Psalms 128:5-6)

**Fishman** from page 13 Linda is very active at Beth El Jacob Synagogue, the Sisterhood, and is an active member of the Jewish Community-Relations Commission. Currently and over the past twenty five years, Linda speaks to Iowa high schools, universities, and churches educating others about the Holocaust. Linda has participated in Steven Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History testimonies.

**Miracle** from page 14 Although they have no oil resources, their per capita income is higher than Egypt or Syria, but less than half of that of Israel.

Lebanon was once considered the Switzerland of the Middle East, and had a stronger economy than any non oil rich country in the Arab world. They have had a great deal of turmoil because of the Palestinian refugees, the PLO, and Hezbollah. They are militarily weak and unable to even begin to control what goes on in their own country. While they have never had a peace treaty with Israel, they have had so much control by Syria that they could have never made that decision gogues, and saw historic sites.

Near the end of our trip we could choose one of three different modules, Archeological digging, Tikun Olam, or Sea to Sea. I chose Sea to Sea. In this adventure we spent four days backpacking from the Sea of Galilee to the Mediterranean. I can honestly say this was my very favorite part of the Israel experience. Physically moving from one end of the county to the other by no means other than my own feet was amazing. And I have to say; not showering for four days of intense hiking i s definitely an interesting change. It was on that trip I really experienced Israel and its beauty.

On our last night before flying home we went to the Kotel one more time. Being at such a powerful place on our last night together was extremely emotional. We said goodbye to each other and Israel that night, knowing full well in e a c h of our hearts we would come back.

"Libi B'mizrach." My heart is in the East.

This experience is so important and essential for every teenage Jew. I strongly recommend everyone to take a trip to Israel because not only will you have the time of your life, you will do it in a country with meaning and importance. I have never felt such a strong bond between people and country like the one I felt in Israel. Learning about how crucial Israel is for the Jewish people is definitely

independently. Until the civil wars between the Moslems and Christians in the late 70's and early 80's they had a relatively large Christian population, higher literacy rate, and higher per capita income than any of the non oil rich Arab world. Their Christian population has materially declined.

Now for the striking comparison-Israel has no oil resources and pretty much the same type of sand and rock that their neighbors dwell on. Israel does receive \$2.2 billion in US aid which is all spent for defense needs due to the neighborhood in which they live. Israel has a democratically elected government, freedom of speech, an independent judiciary, a free press, educates its citizens including girls, has a far higher literacy rate, and promotes higher education-all of which have created a viable economy with all kinds of computer technology, medical science, and agriculture research with resultant economic benefits of high tech companies. Israel exports more dollars worth of nonoil products than all 22 Arab countries combined. They have become an economic miracle without oil resources in the otherwise backward Middle East.

One might think that its neighbors could look across the border and try to emulate what they see to improve their own lives and that of their citizens. Instead, their leadership has never focused on their real problems and sees Zionism and Israel as the source of the problem causing the conflict in the Middle East. Had the UN not exacerbated the refugee problem by allowing the Arab states to avoid resettling their refugees, and had the UN and the

# **First Permanent Jewish House of Worship in**



Dedication of the historical marker for Iowa's first synagogue, B'nai Israel, in Keokuk. Brent Fellows, Keokuk City Councilman; Keokuk Mayor David Gudgel; Jerry Klinger, President, Jewish American **Society for Historic Preservation; David** Gradwohl, Iowa Jewish Historical Society

Jews have been part of the social, economic and cultural life of lowa since the early 19th century. It was not until 1855 that the Jewish population of Keokuk grew large enough to establish a religious community, Congregation B'nai Israel (Children of Israel). The congregation initially rented space for

religious worship at the corner of Main and 7th streets. Through the combined efforts of both Jews and Christians

alike,

were

nent



View of the Hebrew Section of Keokuk's **Oakland Cemetery.** funds Photo courtesy of raised Jerry Klinger and a permasyna-

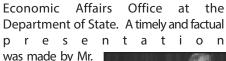
gogue was constructed at 8th and Blondeau streets in 1877. The building was sold in 1938 to the Keokuk Gospel Center to continue as a house of faith until 1957 when it was torn down.

# **The 2005 IJHS Fall Event**



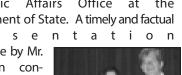
**David, Joyce, and Denise Swartz** 

The 2005 IJHS Fall Event was held on October 23rd in the Bookey Lodge at The Caspe Terrace. The featured speaker for the event was Des Moines native Robert Silverman. Mr. Silverman is the Director of the Iraq Reconstruction and



Silverman concerning the current state of Iraq, politically, economically, and culturally. A question and answer period followed the lecture. and dessert was served in the Bookey Lodge.

Thank you to our Lifetime Members, Patrons,



**Robert Silverman**, wife Young-Mi, and

### **IOWA JEWISH BUSINESS, BIG** AND SMALL IJHS exhibit opened in

October

This exhibit features lowa Jewish business photos and artifacts from the 1880's to the present. Included in this collection is a video of a film made by Younkers in 1939. This archival footage shows a retail clerk strike, display windows, and the arrival of Des Moines' first escalator.

The Caspe Heritage Gallery is open on Sundays, from 1:00 - 3:00 through

-Sioux City,

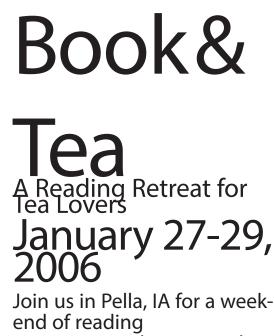




Younkers items dating from the opening of the downtown store to its closing in August of 2005.

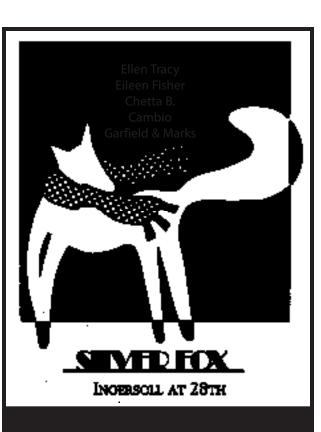
We need your support ipated that the exhibition Please become a member of the lowa Jewish Historical Society. Historical Society at its Caspe lefrace Your annual membership in the IJHS will help thereageved hereaf story land interlacental treasures of the Jews in Iowa. With your membershipsyou will receive the Chaiowan, a bi-annual newsletter packed with information and interesting items concerning the activities of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society and Caspe Gallery and the history of Jews in lowa.

| Name   |         |            |      |            |        |
|--|---------|------------|------|------------|--------|
| Address  |         |            |      |            |        |
| Membership   | Levels: | Individual | \$36 | Patron     | \$100  |
| Sponsor  | \$500   |            |      | Benefactor | \$1000 |
| Lifetime \$5000 (Includes a case in the Caspe Heritage Gallery)                      |         |            |      |            |        |
| Please make checks payable to : Iowa Jewish Historical Society , 910 Polk Boulevard, |         |            |      |            |        |
|  |         |            |      |            |        |



Jane Austen, chatting and tea drinking.





**"The Tragedy of** 

**Exhibit slated for** 

The National Czech & Slovak Museum &

Library in Cedar Rapids is currently dis-

playing an important exhibit detailing

the fate of the Slovakian Jews during the

Holocaust.

It is called "The Tragedy of Slovak Jews:

The Powerful Story of 80,000 Slovak

Jews Lost to Hitler's 'Final Solution'" and

will be showing until Feb 26 at its pres-

The exhibit presents the history of how,

after the Nazis entered, occupied and

divided Czechoslovakia in 1939, 80 per-

cent of Slovak Jews fell prey to the

has been presenting a series of pro-

grams. The remaining programs include:

Jan 21 and Feb 4 – Exploring Czech and

Slovak Cinema; Jan 22 - an account of

the impact of the Holocaust on one

scholar's Slovak Jewish family; Jan 29 -

Anti-Semitic attitudes and discrimina-

tion today; Feb 12 - Book discussion of

"Where She Came from: A Daughter's

Search for her Mother's History"; Feb 16

Evolution of the Holocaust in Public

Memory; Genocide and ethnic cleansing; Feb 26 - Genocide Seminar with Dr.

Information about the exhibit and

programs may be found on www.

NCSML.org or by calling (319) 362 8500.

Stephen Feinstein.

Along with the exhibit the Museum

venue.

**Slovak Jews**"

**IJHS** 

e n t

Holocaust.

| ja | n/feb            |
|----|------------------|
|    | <b>community</b> |

|   | Community             |          |  |
|---|-----------------------|----------|--|
|   | Sunday, January 1     |          | New Year's Day                                   |
|   |                       |          | Hanukkah   |
|   | Monday, January 2     |          | National Holiday                                 |
|   |                       |          | Last Day of Hanukkah                             |
|   | Tuesday, January 3    | 12 Noon  | Temple Worship Committee Meeting                 |
|   | Friday, January 6     | 7:00 pm  | Temple Potluck Dinner                            |
| 1 | Tuesday, January 10   | 12 Noon  | Temple Lunch & Learn with the Rabbi              |
|   |                       | 4:30 pm  | Temple Executive Committee Meeting               |
|   | Thursday, January 12  | 12 Noon  | Senior Adult Lunch at Beth El Jacob Synagogue    |
|   | Thursday, January 18  |          | JFCS Spaghetti Dinner                            |
|   | Sunday, January 22    | 1:00 pm  | Israeli Singer Michal Cohen at Drake             |
|   |                       | 7:00 pm  | Israeli Singer Michal Cohen at The Caspe Terrace |
|   | Monday, January 23    | 7:00 pm  | Federation Board Meeting at The Caspe Terrace    |
|   | Sunday, January 29    | 10:30 am | Rick Recht Concert at Tifereth                   |
|   |                       | 1:00 pm  | Temple Sisterhood Interfaith Roundtable          |
|   | Tuesday, January 31   | 5:00 pm  | Life Center Board Meeting                        |
|   |                       | 7:15 pm  | 92nd Street Y: Darfur Program at Caspe Terrace   |
|   | Wednesday, February 1 | 7:00 pm  | 92nd Street Y: Mike Wallace at Caspe Terrace     |
|   | Friday, February 3    | 7:00 pm  | Temple Potluck Dinner                            |
|   | Tuesday, February 7   | 12 Noon  | Temple Worship Committee Meeting                 |
|   | Wednesday, February 8 | 7:00 pm  | 92nd Street Y: Anti-Semitism and Power at Caspe  |
|   | Terrace               |          |  |
|   | Sunday February 12    | 11:30 am | <b>BEJ Sisterhood Sweetheart Brunch</b>          |
|   |                       |          | JFCS Tu B'shevat Seder                           |
|   | Monday, February 13   |          | Tu B'Shevat                                      |
|   | Tuesday, February 14  | 12 Noon  | Temple Lunch & Learn with the Rabbi              |
|   |                       | 4:30 pm  | Temple Executive Committee Meeting               |
|   |                       |          |  |

# Mazel Tov

**Happy Anniversary** 

Congratulations to **Dorothy and** Alvin Kirsner who celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on October 27.

Kol haKavod to Ben "Babe" Witten, who has been acknowledged as one of the top givers of blood in the nation. Most recently Ben was the recipient of a certificate from the Blood Center of Iowa for having contributed at least 35 gallons of blood to the volunteer donor program.

Toby Stephen Sparks was born on Tuesday, September 13, 2005. Proud parents and brother are new Temple members Laura, George and Nathan Sparks.

Philip Owain Williams was born on Tuesday, November 15, 2005. Proud parents are Laura Belin and Kieran Williams.

Ya'asher kocheich to 10 year old Talia Leman for raising an incredible \$5.2 million with the help of Hy Vee and youngsters nationwide over Halloween

### In Memoriam We note with sorrow

Jacob Barr Rhoda Kreamer Marjorie Levitt Dr. Milton S. Mark Lawrence E. Myers





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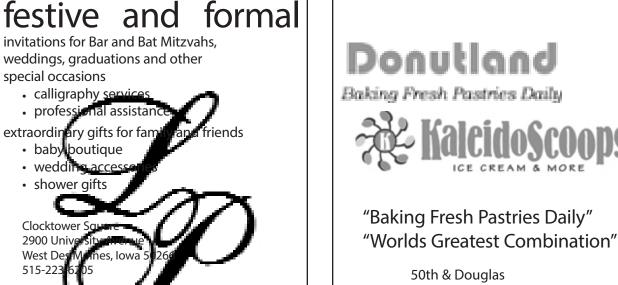
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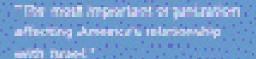
# The AIPAC Policy Conference

Where America and Israel Come Together

March 5–7, 2006 The Washington, D.C. Convention Center







the block Web Times

"The annual conference of AJAC showed once again just have much close the group woolds it both ends of Permissional Ave."

"The associations of ARPC have shorted of Washington's political features."

The Mission day

At a time of dramatic change and challenge, join pro-Israel activists from around the country to help shape the future of America, Israel, and our world.

For more information about how to get involved in Des Moines, or to register for the AIPAC Policy Conference, please contact Rick Woolman at (312) 236-8550, x44 or rwoolman@aipac.org.