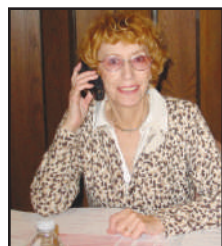


THE GREATER DES MOINES
Jewish PressPublished as a Community Service by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines online at jewishdesmoines.org • volume 24 number 3**Participate
in the Iowa
Caucus Jan 3****Packaging
Kosher Manna**
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- page 8**Sam Engman -
Next Generation -**
page 10**A time to grow ...A time to build ...And a time to thank you!****Join the Conversation on
SuperSunday, January 27****Milla Verkhov**
co-chair

In every season there is an opportunity to strengthen our Jewish community. All year 'round your Jewish Federation works with children, young families, community members at-large, and senior citizens, building relationships, sharing our knowledge and living our Jewish heritage.

The SuperSunday Telethon comes once a year. Marvelous Jewish Federation volunteers take time from their busy schedules to call and ask you to consider – and reconsider – your gift to the All-In-One Campaign. It's the way that you can help your community grow.

Take this opportunity to strengthen your Jewish community. Please keep in mind some of the current challenges faced by the community: There are 10% more children to be educated in the Jewish

Federation Community School; More people than ever before are applying to Jewish Family Services for help with increasing heating bills over the winter; Our seniors are hard pressed to come up with additional funds to purchase medications not covered by Medicare; We struggle to keep younger members of the community and their families in Des Moines as the employment market declines; There are those who are unable to pay their mortgages and who need our help; Your Jewish Community Relations Commission is challenged to keep the lessons of the Holocaust part of the education of American youth and to combat the continuing deligitimation and demonization of Israel on college campuses; And we cannot turn our backs to the basic needs of our Jewish brothers and sisters in Israel and in communities worldwide.

The SuperSunday crew this year will be led by some of our most talented and dedicated leadership. Our co-chairs are **David Adelman, Jake Jacobs, Cynthia Shulman** and **Milla Verkhov**. In every season there is an opportunity to strengthen the Jewish community. Join the conversation when you are called on January 27 and the days following and help grow the potential of our community. Help meet its challenges, and accept our heartfelt thanks.

Celebrate Israel at 60**Israeli Jazz Band Jams Jan 19**

Come enjoy the leading Israeli jazz ensemble in North America, *Seeds of Sun*, in concert 7:00 pm, Saturday, January 19th at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. It's free and open to the public.

Seeds of Sun is part of the World Music scene. They've played at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., at the 92nd Street Y in New York and across Vietnam, Hong Kong and the Philippines, introducing their exciting Israeli-inflected jazz to new audiences.

You may have heard their flutist Mattan Klein perform here in Des Moines with *Crossroads Ensemble*, the band featured at the Jewish Federation's Annual Meeting in June of 2006. We are thrilled that Mattan will return to Des Moines with *Seeds of Sun* to celebrate Israel's 60th Anniversary and Shabbat Shirah, the Sabbath of Song. Learn more about the band from their website: www.seedsofsun.com.

The event is co-sponsored by Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Tifereth Israel Synagogue, Ames Jewish Congregation, Beth El Jacob Synagogue and the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines.

Commentary**Iran is Still
a Threat**

By Barry Rubin, director of the Global Research in International Affairs Center

The Iranian nuclear issue is too important and dangerous to be miscomprehended. So here are some life-and-death factors to keep in mind about it:

First, Iran is not about to obtain nuclear weapons, certainly not ones that it could use. That dreadful outcome is still several years away. Despite all the bragging going on by Iranian leaders in Persian-language statements about how they are getting closer to atomic bombs—coupled with denials of any such intention in English-language ones—it just isn't that easy to do.

Second, neither Israel nor the United States is about to attack Iran. There are lots of reasons why this is so but they can be boiled down to the following: it is hard militarily to carry out such an attack, it is politically dangerous, and can lead to very serious consequences. An attack is something better to avoid, if possible. And it is certainly too early for such a high-risk, potentially high-cost venture.

Third, why then are Israel, the United States and others making such a big fuss about Iran right now, since it is neither the last moment nor a prelude to an attack soon? The answer is that it is the last moment for three other things:

- In international terms, if diplomatic and economic pressure is going to stop Iran from getting nuclear weapons it has to be intensified right now or it will be too late to generate the needed non-military threat to Tehran.
- In technological terms, Iran is right on the verge of being able to build nuclear weapons all by itself without any more foreign help or equipment.
- In political terms, if Iranian leaders and people aren't worried about the country's isolation and the nuclear program's high costs, they will more likely keep in power the regime's most extreme faction—and the ones most likely to use nuclear weapons in the future. *continued on page 13*

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Frank Marcovis Reflects on G&L Clothing on its 90th Anniversary



The year was 1917. In that year, World War I came to an end, John F. Kennedy was born, and the G&L Clothing store was founded. Here to tell us the history of G&L Clothing is Frank Marcovis, who works for the company his family owns. Frank is a past president of Tifereth Israel Synagogue. He and his wife Janel live in Clive.

Jewish Press: Hi, Frank. Congratulations to G&L Clothing on its 90th Anniversary, a wonderful milestone. The store, which primarily sells men's clothing for workers and a full array of other goods, is currently located at 1801 Ingersoll. Many people will think of the catchy jingle when they think of the store. So the big question, Frank, is who is G&L Clothing named after?

Frank Marcovis: Well, way back in 1917 the store was named for its original owners, Lou Garsh and Meyer Levine, who I believe, were related in some fashion. They formed the store. But Garsh moved out of the store fairly quickly. So Meyer Levine was the main founder and operator of the store.

JP: Are you aware if anyone locally is still related to either of the original owners?

FM: I don't think so; although a couple of years ago I was contacted by a gentleman from Denver who is a step-grandson of Mr. Levine. He stopped in the store on a business trip to Des Moines.

JP: Where was the store originally?

FM: The original store was on 7th and Mulberry, where the Employers Mutual building is now.

JP: What did they carry in those days?

FM: They carried working men's clothes.

JP: So how long was the store in that particular location?

FM: The store, over its 90 years, has moved about every seven or eight years, for one reason or another. (Most recently, in the 1990s we were at 9th and Locust, but in 1995 there was a fire. Because of urban renewal projects, we moved away from the center of downtown. After relocating to a temporary location, we built the store on Ingersoll and moved in, in 1996.)

JP: Meyer Levine had a great deal to do with the success of the store.

FM: Yes, he built up the business and in fact some of the families he served way back then are still customers of G&L some three generations later. But in addition, Meyer Levine made some important personnel decisions. One was that in 1947 he hired an employee named Art Nizzi. Remarkably, Art is still with us, some 60 years later. He still comes to work five days a week; every day is a great day. We love him.

Also, Meyer had hired a man named Harry Winner, and when Meyer Levine died, Harry actually took over the store, and that's who my father (Jim) bought the store from. In 1981, Harry approached my father to see if he had any interest in buying the store. He didn't want to see it close, and he knew my father and my grandfather. They had been

friendly competitors over the years.

JP: So your family had been in the clothing business in Des Moines?

FM: Yes, my grandfather Leo opened a store during the 1920's. The Marcovis Store for Men catered to "big and tall men." They also sold military supplies and uniforms. My dad got into that business in the late 1960s. He had worked prior to that for the Pidgeon's furniture stores as their comptroller. He bought out my grandfather and operated several different stores (The Loft, the Jean Scene) until 1981, when he bought G&L.

JP: And the name G&L stayed.

FM: Yes, my dad didn't change the name of the store because it had name recognition. G&L was a larger store than the old Marcovis clothing store.

JP: How did you get into the business? And are other members of the family employed at G&L?

FM: Well, originally I was trust officer at several local banks. After three bank mergers in the year 2000, I decided that if my family wanted me to work for G&L, I would come and join the business. My brother David and brother-in-law Nashi Khalastchi both agreed to that. Nashi is married to my sister, Bobbi. Nashi grew up in the Jewish community in Iraq, when there still was a Jewish community there. Nashi and David have been working about 30 years with our father. Bobbi has also worked in the store off and on, but is a teacher and now teaches full time.

Some of our children have worked at G&L off and on, through high school and

college. My son Mike is working here now, (Mike is a luthier; he makes guitars, which is an interesting story in itself). And readers might be interested to know that Justin Schoen, a homegrown talent, is now with G&L. Justin manages our relatively new internet operations. He started working at the store in high school with Danny Khalastchi, so he's like family.

JP: You note that G&L has recently ventured into the internet to attract sales. Have you ever sent salesmen out into the field?

FM: We have always had at least one person who does go out, mostly for what we call commercial sales, and still today, we have a full time employee who is out making calls.

JP: What's the largest brand you carry?

FM: Carhartt is our largest vendor. They're actually an older company than G&L; they produce work and outdoor clothing, with their famous brown color, identifiable on workers out there on the street. We also sell a lot of Levi, Wrangler and Dickies clothing as well as LaCrosse and Timberland Pro footwear.

JP: Do you get a lot of walk-ins or does G&L do basically contract sales?

FM: We are primarily a retail store, so we rely on walk-ins, but we are also a destination. We are not in the mall, nor are we in the middle of downtown anymore. We have a loyal clientele; families, as you've mentioned, that have shopped with us for three or four generations, because we carry sort of bread and butter things: everyday clothes -- from socks and underwear to jeans and sweatshirts. *continued on page 13*

Jewish Family Services

senior news

Upcoming Luncheons:

Thursday, January 10th, 12:00
Noon at Beth El Jacob Synagogue. Neil Salowitz will entertain us with his delightful storytelling talent. Come join us for an enjoyable time.

Thursday, February 7th, 12:00
Noon at Beth El Jacob Synagogue. Join us for the David's "Music Show Experience!" featuring David Wattier. Guaranteed to put joy in your heart and a twinkle in your eyes.

Thursday, March 6th, 12:00 Noon
at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. We are very fortunate to have Stanley Miller from the Des Moines Art Center to enlighten us with his presentation on Mary Cassatt and the Impressionists. He has been a Docent at the Des Moines Art Center for 10 years. He teaches Adult Charcoal Drawing and Painting at the Des Moines Art Center School and was a recipient of the 2007 Starlight Award honoring senior citizen volunteers from Humana.

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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES



We had an outstanding performance presented to us by the Roosevelt Chamber Chorale! We greatly appreciated the talented young ladies and gentlemen who shared their time and beautiful voices at our November Senior Luncheon.



The Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet was an event that will be remembered! Don't miss the full story in the next Jewish press.

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 - Individuals, families, seniors and children

Senior Adult Programs - Senior Adult luncheons and case management

Resettlement Program - Case management and health services to immigrants

Jewish Family Life Education

Volunteer Opportunities - Numerous volunteer projects

Tzedakah - last year assisted 180 community members in need

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.



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

ADL's Holocaust Curriculum Training Impacts Des Moines Teachers

Sixty teachers participated in two training sessions in November to familiarize teachers with a new multimedia curriculum on the Holocaust entitled *Echoes and Reflections*, a curriculum produced cooperatively by The Anti-Defamation League, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education, and Yad Vashem: The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority. The sessions were held at the Central Branch of the Des Moines Public Library and conducted by Beth Seldin Dotan, Director of ADL's Institute for Holocaust Education in Omaha, and guest clinician Deborah Batiste, curriculum writer for *Echoes and Reflections*. The program was supported by generous grant funds from Humanities Iowa, Marvin Pomerantz, the Plains States Region of the Anti-Defamation League and the Des Moines Jewish Federation. Thanks are due to David Johns of the Des Moines Public Schools for his kind assistance. Detailed information about the curriculum is available at www.echoesandreflections.org.

One teacher expressed her appreciation for the training in the letter below.

I am a substitute teacher for the Des Moines Public Schools and therefore had to take the day for no pay to attend the workshop about "Echoes and Reflections." Even though I wasn't paid to attend, I want you to know that I would do it all over again. I've also mentioned it to other teachers and strongly suggested that if you had it again they should attend. I told them if I were to see it advertised as coming again, I would let them know. I had e-mailed the teachers from my school about this when I had found out this was being offered and that's why they came. They enjoyed it as much as I did. Many of my grandparents' friends and relatives were involved in the Holocaust. This is very dear to my heart. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Carla L. H.

Interreligious Thanksgiving Service Held at Tifereth

A moving service in thanksgiving for religious freedom – the first of its kind locally – was conducted by clergy from a spectrum of faith groups, on November 18th. The program, held at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, was a collaboration between the Jewish Community Relations Commission of the Jewish Federation, our Jewish clergy, and clergy and lay leadership from Faith Lutheran Church of Clive. Music was performed by both a Jewish community choir and the choral group from Faith Lutheran Church. The Jewish choir was conducted by Cantorial Soloist Laura Berkson, from Temple B'nai Jeshurun, and featuring Cantor Deborah Bletstein, from Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Faith Lutheran Church Chorale was conducted by Tom Sletto, Musical Director from Faith Lutheran Church. A freewill offering was taken at the service to benefit the Des Moines Area Religious Council's Emergency Food Pantry. A reception followed.

Participating clergy included: Cantorial Soloist Laura Berkson, Temple B'nai Jeshurun; Cantor Deborah Bletstein, Tifereth Israel Synagogue; Rev. Gonar Chol, Des Moines Presbytery, Sudanese Congregants; Rev. Mark Davis, Heartland Presbyterian Church; Rev. Faith Ferre, DMARC President Plymouth Church; Rev. Angela Gafford, Smith Chapel, Simpson College; Rev. Chet Guinn, Trinity United Methodist Church; Rev. Susan Guy, Walnut Hills United Methodist Church; Fr. Mike Hess, Sacred Heart Church; Rabbi David Kaufman, Temple B'nai Jeshurun; Rev. Dave Nerdig, Faith Lutheran Church; Rabbi Beryl Padorr, Tifereth Israel Synagogue; Peter Pintus, Para-Rabbinic Fellow, Temple B'nai Jeshurun; Tom Sletto, AIM Music Director, Faith Lutheran Church.

Participants included: Mark Finkelstein, Dir. of Jewish Community Relations; Sean Fredregill, congregant at Faith Lutheran Church; Marshall Grabau, Des Moines Area Religious Council; Julie Kaufman, congregant of Temple B'nai Jeshurun; Michael Libbie, President, Beth El Jacob Synagogue; Neil Salowitz, President, Jewish Federation

Thanks to those who participated in the program, and to Tifereth Israel Synagogue for the kind use of its facilities.

[upcoming events]

JELI - Jewish Education Learning Institute Classes Jan 13, Feb 28

• **Recipe for Shabbat Shalom** In partnership with JFCS (Jewish Federation Community School) we are excited to offer this five-week course that will guide participants through the key ingredients of Shabbat: Kedusha, Menucha, and Oneg! Discover new ways to make Shabbat time – family time as we study Erev Shabbat, Shabbat Morning, Shabbat Afternoon, and Havdalah. Each family will receive a Shabbat kit that may be decorated and used at the culmination of this course during a mock Shabbat dinner.

Classes will meet at Temple B'nai Jeshurun in the Redstone Room on Sundays: **January 13, 20, 27** and **February 3, and 10**. Class times will be 10 – 11:45 am. Light refreshments and ruach at 9:15. A \$36.00 course fee (includes materials, Shabbat box and mock Shabbat dinner) can be made payable to the Jewish Federation. To register contact Julie at 277-6321 x217, or register on-line: jewishdesmoines.org

• **The Israeli State: A Century in the Making**

As we celebrate Israel at 60, join us for a fascinating two-part course taught by Mark Finkelstein discussing Israel in the making. Look at the history of how Israel was re-established in 1948 and its' constant struggle for continued existence. Session One will discuss pre-state Israel and its turbulent road to statehood. Session Two will discuss perspectives on current issues that face Israel today and in the future. Class will be held at the Senior Life Center **February 28** and **March 6** from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. An \$18.00 course fee can be made payable to the Jewish Federation. To register contact Julie at 277-6321 x217, or register on-line: jewishdesmoines.org.

Des Moines Art Center Winter Classes at the Caspe Terrace

With two very successful semesters of art classes completed, we happily announce the Winter/Spring 2007/08 Art Class Directory.

• **Modern Artists and Glass**

Learn the many techniques of glass fusion to create objects inspired by the colors and designs of Gustav Klimt, Pablo Picasso, Piet Mondrian, Georgia O'Keeffe, Wassily Kandinsky, and Mark Rothko. A new project is introduced weekly to expand your skills at manipulating glass through various techniques as you learn more about these artists.

***A565 Tuesday 6:30 – 9 pm (6 weeks)**

January 22 – February 22

Cynthia Shulman

Tuition \$73 (\$58) Limit 12 students

Material fee \$40 – \$60 per project, due at class

• **Watercolor Workshop**

Though watercolor is sometimes viewed as a demanding medium, it also is a very flexible, even forgiving tool. Plunge in with a big dose of daring to see what marvelous results can be obtained when you are willing to experiment.

***A529 Thursday 6:30 – 9 pm (6 weeks)**

March 13 – April 24

(No class March 20)

Kathy Glenn

Tuition \$73 (\$58) Limit 12 students

For more information call Julie at 277-6321 x-217

THE GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish Press

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Paid advertising by candidates for elective office is welcome but does not constitute endorsement by agencies affiliated with the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. Inserts to the Jewish Press may not necessarily bear endorsement of the Jewish Federation

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

Vol. 24 No. 3, Jan/Feb 2008



celebrate
ISRAEL at
5708-5768

Across the nation and around the world, celebrations are planned to commemorate Israel's 60th year of independence. In Central Iowa, the Jewish Federation invites you to join in the year-long celebration – including concerts, a film series, discussions, a birthday party, and a family Mission to Israel scheduled for June 08. The fun starts now!

JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SCHOOL

60 TREES FOR ISRAEL'S 60TH BIRTHDAY

In partnership with JNF (the Jewish National Fund) and in celebration of Israel at 60, the start of a new forest in the Negev began in December. Our school, along with over 100 other schools, are participating in raising funds to purchase 60 or more trees for this forest.

If at least 100 schools commit to 60 trees each, then together we will plant a forest of 6,000 trees, which will, upon maturity, offset over 132 tons of carbon emissions each year while providing Israel with shade, clean air, enriched soil, protection from erosion, and renewable resources like wood and paper. Each school who has met this goal will receive a framed certificate crafted specifically for this project.

Look for additional information to be mailed out to the entire community. It is said that it takes a community to raise a child. I think as a community, we can help build a forest.

BARTON'S CHOCOLATES FOR PASSOVER

JFCS will once again sell Barton's Kosher for Passover chocolates this year. In order for the candy to be here for Passover, our sales will begin in February. Look for additional information in the mail. First Seder is Saturday evening, April 19, 2008.

JFCS ANNUAL BOOK FAIR

The JFCS Annual Book Fair was again, a big success. We sold over \$2,500 worth of books. This amounts to over 200 books. A big "thank you" to our volunteers and committee members: Wendy Adato, Lisa Baxter, Wendi Harris Oser, Rachael Hill, and Krista Pearl. I apologize if I have missed someone. All money raised will be put back into our JFCS library to purchase, organize and catalogue our books.

JFCS COMMUNITY CHANUKAH PROGRAM

Our community Chanukah program was a smash! Over 250 people lit candles, sang songs, ate latkes, listened to the Java Jews, and did some crafts. If you weren't there, you missed a great second evening of Chanukah.

MACCABEE READERS

Starting in January, Jewish Federation Community School students are being invited to begin a new Maccabee Readers program, "Investigate Your Jewish World...READ!" The Winter/Spring Reading program is open to preschooler through 5th grade students with a focus on Jewish themes and authors, with new reading logs, incentives and more. Families of younger children are invited to participate in the Read-to-Me portion of the program. Older students will be encouraged to not only read on a wide range of subjects, but also to share their newfound knowledge and opinions with fellow students through written reviews to be posted at the school. Students will have regular opportunities to visit the school library, but there will also be lists available either at the school or online to help with selecting books from public and other libraries as well.

ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM



DISCOVER THE FUN AT ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM!

There is something very magical about Engman Camp Shalom. I'm not sure I can explain why - it is something you just have to experience to know the feeling! The magic and fun just doesn't happen either - we work very hard at it all summer! The best way to describe this much fun is:

- It is the combination of our special children, our wonderful staff, and the great outdoors!
- It is the structure of each day and the chaos of having 75-80 children and over a dozen staff all together for flag-raising and flag-lowering!
- It is playing GaGa and the variety of other games, activities and field trips!
- It is swimming lessons and free swim!
- It is singing Hamotzi and eating lunch together each day!
- It is renewing friendships, making new friends, and creating memories!
- It is celebrating being Jewish and celebrating life together at Engman Camp Shalom!
- It is all of this and more...you have to experience it to know the feeling! Come on and join us this summer between June 23 through August 15, 2008. Can you handle this much fun? It's where summer fun begins! See you there.


ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM 3RD ANNUAL REUNION

We will once again have our annual camp reunion in February 2008. Additional information with the date, place and time will be mailed along with our brochure and registration dates. Feel free to call me if you have any questions. - Lyanna Grund 277-5566.

LOOKING FOR A GREAT SUMMER JOB?

IF YOU....are a college or high school student; want to be a part of the best Jewish camp in Iowa; love working with children; want to work as a team with other counselors; enjoy the outdoors; and want to make a difference in the lives of youth, ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM is where you belong this summer!

We are now accepting applications for counselors/jr. counselors for summer positions. For an application or more information, contact Lyanna Grund at 277-5566 or email jcsllkg@aol.com. All staff from last year will automatically receive an application.



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35	9.17	8.90	11.57	10.90	14.69	13.80	20.92	19.14
40	9.97	9.70	13.57	12.91	18.69	17.80	28.04	26.26
45	12.28	11.30	19.36	16.91	31.15	26.26	51.18	42.28
50	15.13	13.53	26.48	22.47	45.39	37.38	82.33	64.53
55	21.18	17.53	41.61	32.49	75.65	57.41	136.62	101.91
60	30.79	22.78	65.64	45.61	123.71	83.66	219.39	151.75
65	50.64	33.46	115.26	72.31	222.95	137.06	394.72	253.21
70	86.06	53.04	203.81	121.26	400.06	234.96	724.02	438.33
75	178.27	105.55	434.32	252.54	861.08	497.51	1531.25	938.51
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PROJECT ELIJAH

Kosher Manna Packaging Event

A Letter from Janice Rosenberg, Project Elijah Foundation



The Project Elijah Foundation Kosher Manna packaging event was not only an enormous success, it was an incredible experience. The stars of the evening were all the community members who came. Bravo!

Over 200 people came to help package nutritious kosher meals to send to hungry Jewish Families. We packaged over 24,000 meals and had a great time as well. What a crowd, everyone in silly hairnets with bright smiles on their faces. I am still smiling. Special thanks to:

- Alan Zuckert for creating the Project Elijah Foundation and supporting this noble effort.
- The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines for underwriting the ingredients and shipping for 50,000 meals.
- Julie Kaufman our new Project Director.
- Joyce Dainty our bookkeeping and administrative pro.
- Marty Rosenfeld for sounding the call to action.
- Rabbi Yossi Jacobson for overseeing the koshering process.
- Lyanna Grund for organizing the Hebrew School families.
- Cantor Bletstein for organizing the Jr. High and High school kids.
- Floyd and Kathy Hammer, Max Holmes, John Neisen, and Gary Carlstead from Kids Against Hunger, who showed us the way and continue to work by our side.
- David and Mary Bradley and Scott and Sarah Wolfwinkle who built the facility and help us daily.
- Bruce Sherman and Dave Lettween from PDS for donating our boxes.
- Sean Buchsbaum, Jared Farber, Aaron Rosenberg, and Kent Rosenberg for helping set up and clean up.

I understand that some who wanted t-shirts did not get them. Please call me at 246-8001 and we will get you one. And for all 200 of you who asked, YES WE WILL DO IT AGAIN!

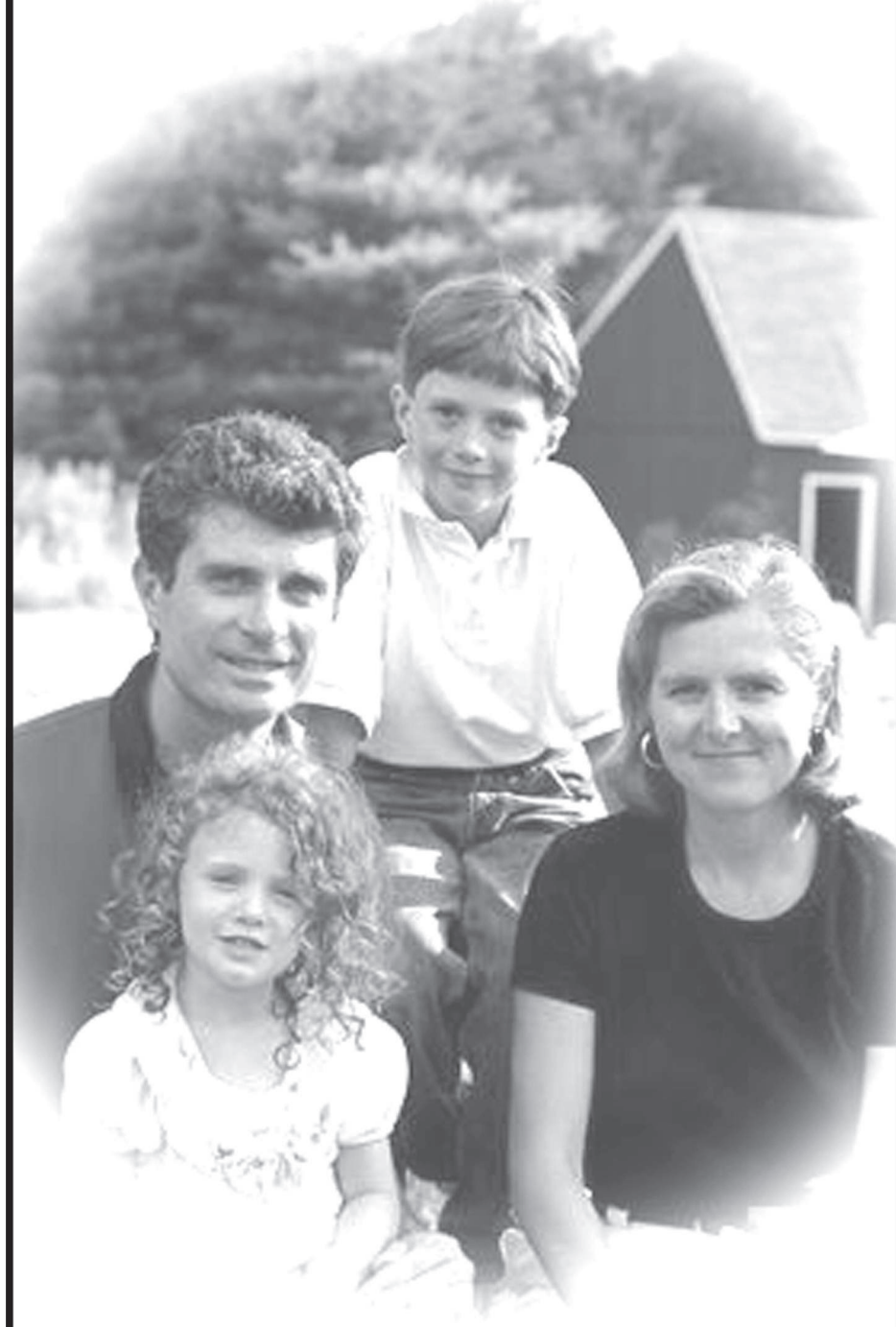
Bravo to you all,
Janice

P.S. Many asked what you can do to help: We will need a team of strong people to fill containers and move food product to keep the process going. We hope to have many volunteers so that each person would only work a couple times a year. Please keep those great donations coming in, as they are used for Kosher Manna and for our great kids at Ieladeinu.



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Isaac's Legacy by David Friedgood



Isaac, son of Abraham, is the 2nd of our three Patriarchs - Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He is very much the man in the middle. Although he lived longer than his father and son (180 years) the Bible records less information about his life than for the other forefathers. He is the only one of the three to have never left the holy land, though he wanted to during a famine. He lived a pastoral life and was the only Patriarch not to have his name changed by God. The Biblical reader is left with a sense that Isaac's life was less interesting than the other two. He seems to be a bridge between the revolutionary ideas of Abraham - the first to recognize the majesty of the supreme lord of the universe; and, the bold initiatives of Jacob who forged a new destiny for his family and followers. A closer reading of his story however, reveals a heroic figure in whose life there are lessons for us today.

Isaac (Hebrew = Yitzhak) was born to elderly parents. Sarah, his mother, was 90 and Abraham 100 at his birth. His name is derived from the Hebrew verb 'to laugh' (tzahak) as Sarah laughed at the thought she could conceive at her advanced age. The child Isaac was abused by his older brother

Ishmael prompting the exile of Ishmael and his mother Hagar (Abraham's concubine) from the family home. The two brothers reunited at their father's funeral, but never completely reconciled. Ishmael became progenitor of the Arab nation. To this day the descendants of Isaac and Ishmael have not put aside ancient hatred and animosity; and Jews have still not reconciled with their Arab brothers.

As a young man (age 40) Isaac was brought to the sacrificial altar by his father. God seemed to be testing Abraham's commitment by asking for his favorite son as an offering. But, Isaac also knew he was being tested in the wilderness. "Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he answered, "Yes my son." And he said, "Here are the firestone and the wood; but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?" And Abraham said, "God will see to the sheep for His burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together." (Genesis 22:7-8) Isaac was spared by divine intervention as his father raised the knife to slaughter him. Father and son left Mt. Moriah separately and apparently never spoke again. Abraham died 35 years later. Isaac was at his funeral.

After his father died, Isaac inherited the mantle of Abraham. He lived a life

of devotion to God's law, generally honest and forthright with those with whom he dealt. Isaac was blessed with a beloved wife - Rebekah. Tragically she was barren (like Sarah) and Isaac pleaded with God on her behalf. Eventually she bore him twin sons - Esau and Jacob. The boys struggled in her womb and when born Jacob was grasping the heel of the first-born Esau as if to pull him back. (Jacob in Hebrew = Yaakov, from the word akev = heel.) Esau was wild, preferring the active life of a hunter, and Isaac favored him over the pastoral Jacob (who was more like his father). Famished after a long day hunting, Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of soup and afterwards the two brothers never did get along. As Isaac aged his vision faded - he was physically blind and seemed to be losing his way spiritually as well. When the time came for him to pass on the blessing inherited from Abraham, Rebekah was fearful he would give it to Esau. She saw Jacob as the son who would carry on the legacy of Abraham and Isaac. Rebekah arranged for Isaac to be tricked into blessing Jacob as his heir, leader of the Hebrew tribe. Esau was enraged and Jacob had to flee home for years. Jacob prospered in exile and did briefly reconcile with Esau on his return to Canaan. True to Isaac's

blessing however, Esau and his offspring remained an unsettled people living in the land of Edom (east of the Dead Sea). They forever maintained a deep-seated hatred of Jacob's offspring. Our tradition sees the Roman Empire and eventually Christianity as Esau's heirs. Jews throughout the millennia have struggled with their Christian brothers to breach the divide of sibling rivalry wrought by Isaac's twin sons.

The life of Isaac then, was not a placid one. He was a man with the faith to overcome being nearly murdered by his father. He dealt with difficult family matters - the exile of his brother Ishmael, and the intense rivalry of his sons. Isaac maintained a loving relationship with his forceful wife Rebekah and did value her counsel. Through it all he maintained his dignity and stature as a man of intense virtue and faith in the ultimate destiny of mankind. Isaac was a quiet man who spoke loudly. His is a life worthy of emulation in these difficult times.

*"Yet I was always with You,
You held my right hand;
You guided me by Your counsel
And led me toward honor...
The LORD is my shepherd;
I lack nothing."
(Psalms 74:23-24, 23:1)*



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Mom, Dad, We Need to Talk



Elaine Steinger
Executive Director

Certain topics may be difficult for parents and their children to discuss, but with the population aging, one subject may be more important than ever: the older generation's estate plan.

Adult children often hesitate to ask their parents about their wills or life insurance coverage for fear of appearing greedy or nosy. Parents sometimes fear they will lose control of their assets by divulging too much. But failing to have this talk may be an injustice to both the parent and child.

In many cases, the child will be handling, or at least assisting with, the arrangements following the death of a parent. Knowing where the parent had a bank account can make the job much easier. Knowing what resources are available is also helpful if the child must assume responsibility for the parent's finances.

Parents and their adult children should discuss wills and living trust arrangements. It's important to know where the will and trust are located and whether the parent has reviewed it recently. A living will - stating a person's wishes concerning the use of life-sustaining medical procedures - is also recommended. Existence of a health care power of attorney, or proxy, also needs to be discussed - especially with those entrusted with health care decisions.

What else should parent and child discuss?

- Are there personal items that the parent wants to pass down to a particular loved one?
- What funeral arrangements would the parent like? Have cemetery plots already been purchased? Are there special requests for the services?
- Where are insurance policies, deeds and other important papers kept?

If all parties understand the valid reasons for sharing the information, it may make the discussion a little less strained.

Using the Buddy System for Estate Planning

Lots of activities are more fun (traveling), or at least less of a chore (exercising), when done with a buddy. Having a buddy can also be a good idea when planning your estate. You can give your estate planning "partner" a list of all your important papers (will, deed to your house, trust documents, insurance policies) and where they can be located. Your friend can give you the same information. Update the lists regularly. And when you review your will or trust, it's a good reminder for your partner to do the same.

A Time for Bonding

Suppose you've just discovered some old U.S. Savings Bonds. Before running to the bank to redeem them and booking that vacation with your newfound wealth, visit the Treasury Department's website (www.savingsbonds.gov). While some bonds may no longer be earning interest, some may still be increasing in value.

On older bonds, redemption values are increased only twice a year - the month of issue and six months later. It's important to know exactly when bond interest is compounded. You could be cheating yourself out of six months' interest if you redeem the bonds just prior to a revaluation date. You can check with a bank or the Treasury's web-site to determine what the bonds are worth and the best time to redeem them. EE bonds issued after April 1997 increase in value every month rather than every six months.

Keep in mind that bonds held at death are subject to tax in the estate or the hands of the recipients. Bonds are a good asset to bequeath to charity, which completely avoids any tax.

Fill Up Your Estate Planning Toolbox

Every adult needs a well-planned will, but there are other estate planning tools - implements for distributing one's estate, minimizing taxes, providing for special beneficiaries and making health care decisions.

- **A revocable living trust** - Your trust will hold assets such as your home, investments, vacation property and personal property. You will be taxed on income earned by the trust and the value will be included in your gross estate. But at death, the trust can lower the cost of probate, provide for quicker distribution of assets, keep details of your estate confidential and consolidate the distribution of your estate. Even with a living trust, you'll still need at least a simple will to dispose of assets not included in the trust and to name a personal representative.
- **Letter of instruction** - Most people have special items - antiques, jewelry, artwork - that they wish to pass to certain family members. A will may not be the best way to dispose of these assets, because any change requires a new will or at least a codicil (amendment). A letter of instruction to your executor, while not a binding legal document, expresses your wishes regarding particular assets from your estate. It can be modified as needed without the formalities required of a will and may avoid disputes among family members.
- **A living will /power of attorney for health care** - You need one or the other (or both) to implement your preferences on life-sustaining medical treatment.
- **A durable power of attorney** - Ask your advisers how you can empower a friend or relative to handle your financial affairs in time of disability. A power of attorney can avoid cumbersome guardianship arrangements.
- **Life insurance and other beneficiary designations** - Remember to coordinate all your beneficiary arrangements, including insurance, pensions and IRAs and joint property with your will or living trust.

Leave Assets Where They Will Do the Most Good

Suppose you owned an asset labeled: "70% tax due upon death." Impossible? Not if the asset is your IRA or other retirement account. A combination of estate and income taxes can nearly confiscate the retirement savings accounts of many people.

For example, one can leave their retirement account to The Des Moines Jewish Foundation and preserve most or all of the funds free from tax.



Des Moines Jewish Foundation Board:

Don Blumenthal, President; Martin Brody, Vice President; Marvin Winick, Treasurer; Elaine Steinger, Executive Director

Harry Bookey, Suzanne Engman, Debbie Gitchell, Alvin Kirsner, Fred Lorber, John Mandelbaum, Polly Oxley, Sheldon Rabinowitz, Stanley Richards, Ron Rosenblatt, Mary Bucksbaum Scanlan, Don Schoen, Toni Urban

2008 Women's All-In-One Campaign



“got guilt?”

Women's All-In-One Campaign Gala Luncheon

guest speaker: Ruth Andrew Ellenson, editor of “The Modern Jewish Girl's Guide to Guilt”



Over 80 central Iowa women gathered at the Des Moines Golf and Country Club for the 2008 Women's All-In-One Campaign Gala Luncheon held Thursday, October 18, 2007. Ruth Andrew Ellenson, editor of “The Modern Jewish Girl's Guide to Guilt,” delighted women of all ages speaking on what it means – culturally, spiritually and emotionally – to be a Jewish woman in today's world. She recounted many of her personal stories, as well as told the many laugh-out-loud stories by the many well-known Jewish women writers whose essays were included in the book.

The event raised over \$100,000, with a 16% card-for-card increase over last year, for the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines' All-in-One Campaign. Suzanne Engman renewed her Ruby Lion, Mary Seidler became a Lion of Judah and Tammy Abdulghani and Karen Engman became Pomegranates. The All-In-One Campaign raises money to provide quality programs, education, community relations, outreach and services for the Jewish community locally, in Israel and around the world.

As the Des Moines Jewish community ages, Jewish Family Services is constantly involved in making life for elderly Jewish community members better, by arranging transportation, supplying money for food and medications and by providing senior programming. Ettabelle Rosenbaum addressed the women at the luncheon, expressing her gratefulness and appreciation for the senior program, OASIS. She said that after her knee surgery, getting around was difficult and if it wasn't for the caring staff and volunteers that work with the Jewish Family Services' senior program her recovery would have been much more difficult.

With your help, the Federation annually educates approximately 180 Jewish children, from pre-school through 12th grade. A Leadership Forum, made up of approximately 40 individuals between the ages of 25 and 40 are participating in an 18 month program, full of events and speakers, panels and discussion groups, and social opportunities, all geared toward fostering our roles as potential future leaders of this community.

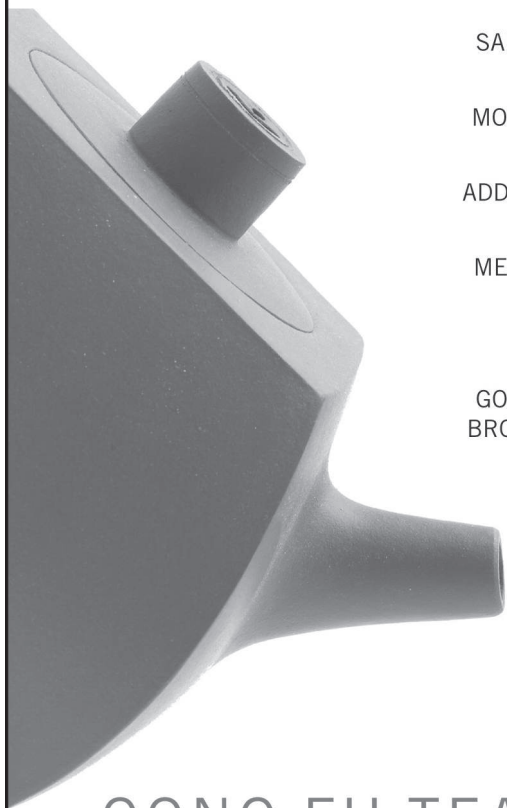
Laura Sparks, a Leadership Forum participant, said, “George and I are so grateful to be offered this opportunity. This is a remarkable group of people from the Temple, Tifereth and Beth El, committed to strengthening and supporting our community, whom we otherwise might not have gotten to know.”

Sparks continued by saying, “All of this has been made possible through grants and your gifts to the Federation. We are your future directors, presidents and board members of your Federation and synagogues, and maybe one day I will be soliciting funds for another leadership group made up of your own children, or mine. I sincerely hope so, and I look forward to that day.”

“This is a caring community,” stated Toni Urban, past-president as she addressed the women. “This is a Jewish community that is providing for the needs of many, from our children to our elderly. And, I might add, that all of these activities and all of these classes and programs are paid for by the generous support of people like you. Let there be no mistake, without all of you and your generous gifts, we could not be the Jewish community we are today.”

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[next generation]

Sam Engman by Robin Bear



Sam Engman remembers his first run very well. It was during spring break of his 7th grade year. It was a tough run and he stopped frequently during the 2 ½ mile run but he promised his dad they'd run together during the break from school and Sam intended to keep his promise. Afterwards, he felt really good so he ran each day that week. By the time his vacation ended, Sam was running the distance almost without stopping. He continued running, and the following year in 8th grade, Sam joined the cross country team at Indian Hills Junior High where he consistently placed first when he ran.

Now a junior at Valley High School, Sam is part of the Cross Country team. He has worked through some injuries but remains a strong member of the team. His personal best for the 5 kilometer run is an impressive 17 minutes, 34 seconds. His goal is to break 17 minutes.

Sam has many goals for his running career and he plans to run marathons, ultra marathons, and ironman races in the future. He explains that his running has evolved into more than just exercise. He has developed an appreciation for his health; he eats nutritiously and he works hard to stay in excellent physical shape. Sam has run Dam-to-Dam, the Living History Farm Road Race and this summer he completed his first triathlon with his father, who is also a runner.

In addition to Cross Country, Sam is on the Valley Swim team, and he belongs to the Ping Pong Club. He has dedicated 100 volunteer hours to the Jewish Community School and the Animal Rescue League and has earned the Presidential Award for community service. Sam enjoys putting effort into activities that make him feel good and gives him a sense of accomplishment, and in spite of a challenging course load he currently has a 4.0 grade point average.

Sam lives in Clive with his parents, Sharon and Josh Engman. He has two older sisters: Emily, a 24 year-old elementary school teacher and Danielle, a 22 year-old communications major at the University of Iowa. Sam enjoys spending time with his grandmothers, Sally Nagorner, who lives in Des Moines and Ruth Engman, who lives in Florida. Sam says he enjoys being with family and he sometimes accompanies his mom and grandmother when they go to lunch. But his favorite family get-togethers happen when his two cousins, who live in Minneapolis and are close to his age, come to Des Moines for a visit.

Sam feels a strong connection to Judaism. He remembers that a lot of hard work went into the preparation of his Bar Mitzvah when he was thirteen. Now Sam can chant haftorah and conduct the torah service at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, his family's congregation. Recently, Sam read torah during the USY-led Shabbat Service. He says he enjoys the feeling he gets from leading and participating in the service.

During the past three summers, Camp Shalom has been lucky to recruit Sam as a camp counselor. Last summer he worked with 5th and 6th graders. "Camp Shalom has really evolved," says Sam "and parents really appreciate when older Jewish kids (teens) work with their children." Parents have let Sam know what an asset he is to the community and how much they appreciate his dedication.

Sam knows already that he is interested in pursuing a career as a physical therapist working primarily with runners. He knows firsthand what it's like to be injured and he wants to help runners get back to what they love to do.

Young Violin Virtuosi Captivated Audience at the Caspe Terrace

Having advertised the concert widely, and with Maestro Joe Giunta on hand to introduce the ensemble, the "Keshet Eilon Trio" from our partnership region in Israel, performed brilliantly to a full house at The Caspe Terrace in November. Comments, after the performance, reflected the audience's pleasure in having heard the two young violinists, Semion Gavrikov and Hed Yaron-Meirson demonstrate such technical mastery and expressivity in a program where each violinist was showcased individually, accompanied adeptly by their piano accompanist Julia Gurvitch, before joining in duet for the finale. The repertoire consisted of gems from the romantic and modern eras, the most modern work coming from an Israeli composer.

The concert was part of the Keshet Eilon tour of American communities sponsored locally by the Jewish Federation and regionally by the Central Area Consortium of Jewish Federations in Partnership with Israel's Western Galilee. The Keshet Eilon Music Center and Violin Masterclass was founded in 1990 at Kibbutz Keshet Eilon, in our partnership district of Israel.

Accompanying the musicians were Gilad Sheba, General Director of the Keshet

Eilon Music Center and Shlomit Dagan-Deri, staff member from our Consortium with the Jewish Agency for Israel.

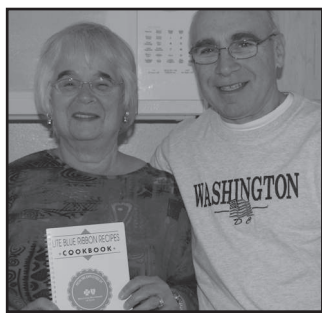
Thanks are extended to Norman Mandelbaum, treasurer of the Jewish Federation, who delivered welcoming remarks on behalf of the Federation; Maestro Joe Giunta, Musical Director and Conductor of the Des Moines Symphony; Audrey and Harlan Rosenberg for enabling our Israeli guests to attend a performance of the Des Moines Symphony, and to our wonderful host families: Elana and Phil Schneider, Tracy Finkelshteyn, Olga and Bill Sparks, and Marshall and Jerry Grabau.



More information about the Des Moines/Israel Partnership may be found online at www.jewish-desmoines.org. To get involved in the Partnership, contact the Jewish Federation at 277-6321 x 214 or write to [jrcrc@dmjfed.org](mailto:jcrc@dmjfed.org).

In the Kitchen With Gwen Griger

by Karen Engman



When I approached Gwen Griger about sharing a recipe with the Jewish Press, she immediately launched into a recitation

of the ingredients for Applesauce Brownies. She said it came from the Lite Blue Ribbon Recipe Cook Book compiled in 1993 by the employees of Blue Cross. Gwen started with Blue Cross in 1978 doing clerical work in the underwriting department.

Gwen Rosen was born in 1940 in Cedar Rapids. She was a member of the first senior class to graduate from Washington High School in 1958. She attended the University of Iowa, majoring in Spanish and English and graduating with a degree in secondary education. She spent the summer of her freshman year at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, taking Art and English. Gwen stayed in a sorority house on Lake Mendota and just loved it. Meanwhile her future husband, Harry Griger, was also in Iowa City, but he was in the fraternity AE Pi while she lived in the dorms all four of her college years so their paths never crossed.

Her first teaching jobs were eighth grade

Spanish and ninth grade English in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Her next move was to Cleveland in 1964, where she took the Civil Service Exam so she could become a social worker doing in-home interviews. From there she moved to Chicago to teach elementary school and take classes at Loyola University.

In 1971, Gwen moved into the Hampton Apartments on 42nd and Grand Avenue in Des Moines. Her aunt introduced her to Harry Griger on April 16, he proposed on June 15 and they were married August 29, 1971. Gwen thinks that chronology is pretty cool!

In fact, she says the best years of her life have been the more than 36 years she and Harry have been married. Harry and Gwen don't have any children but they are very close to their nieces and nephews and their families who live in Denver, Colorado.

Harry graduated from North High School in 1959. He served as assistant attorney general and headed the department that represented the Department of Revenue. He retired in 2002. Gwen retired from Blue Cross after 18 years in 1996 and said they are having a great retirement. They try to walk outdoors an hour everyday, weather permitting. Otherwise,

they walk at nearby Jordan Creek Mall.

They moved from their Windsor Heights home of 26 years to a new ranch style townhouse in West Des Moines. They enjoy their new home and are active members of the social committee of their town home association.

Gwen is an active member of Tifereth Israel Synagogue, serving as Torah Fund Chair and Women's League liaison to the board of directors.

She is a member of a Franklin Library book group that meets every month but

December. Recently, she and Harry both attended the Downtown Library for a series of discussions on the Jewish graphic novel.

Harry told me, "In over 36 years of marriage, Gwen hasn't made a bad meal!" That sounds like an endorsement for this recipe. Gwen admits she likes to experiment when cooking. She said these brownies are more like a chiffon type cake and very delicious.

The JEWISH PRESS thanks Gwen for sharing this recipe with our readers. If you have a recipe to share, call (274-3300) or email (aengmandsm@yahoo.com).

Applesauce Brownies

A Recipe from Gwen Griger

Dairy

Applesauce Brownies

Combine:

1 cup sugar
1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
2 egg whites
1/2 tsp vanilla extract

Combine:

1/4 cup cocoa (Dutch processed variety)
1/8 tsp salt (optional)
3/4 cup flour
1/4 tsp baking powder

Mix the wet and dry ingredients together and pour in 8" x 8" pan that has been generously greased with 2 Tbsp butter. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes. Immediately pour icing on the hot brownies and let cool thoroughly before cutting.

Icing

Bring to boil:

2 Tbsp butter
2 Tbsp whole milk
3/4 cup sugar

Stir while boiling for 45 more seconds

Remove from heat and add 1/4 cup semi sweet chocolate chips

Stir until smooth

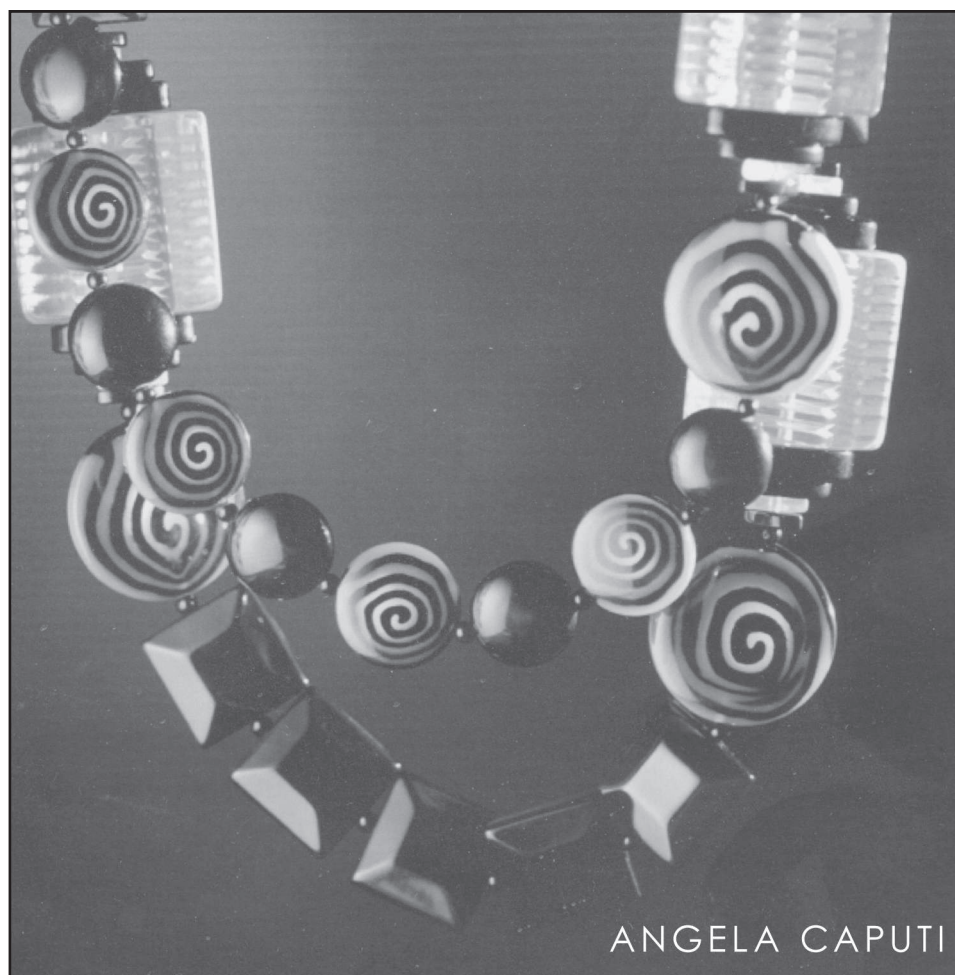
These are relatively low fat if you don't add the icing.

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TEMPLE B’NAI JESHURUN

TBJ’S INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM COURSE STARTS JANUARY 17
Temple B’nai Jeshurun will offer an Introduction to Judaism course taught by Rabbi David Kaufman, primarily on Thursday evenings beginning January 17th. The schedule includes several sessions introducing students to Shabbat services. Class times vary, with Thursday classes starting at 7:30 pm.

Topics include: Modern Judaism; The Jewish Calendar; Jewish History to 200 CE.; The Meaning of Shabbat; God and Revelation; The Afterlife; The Jewish Life Cycle; Jewish History to 1947; Judaism and Christianity; Jewish Texts and Jewish Law; Israel; and All about the Passover Seder

The cost for this year’s class will be \$25. To register or for further information, contact the Temple at 271-4679.

BETH EL JACOB SYNAGOGUE

For Updated Events and News: BethElJacob.org

Daily Minyan:	7am (Monday – Friday) 9am Shabbat & Sunday 4:30pm (Sunday – Friday) 4:15pm Shabbat
BEJ School:	Pre-School – 3rd Grade: 9am M – F
January 1:	Contemporary Issues & The Torah – 7:00PM
January 4:	Friday Night Congregational Dinner – Following Services Social Hall Adults \$10 / Children \$6 Call for Reservations – 274-1551
January 5:	Shabbat Vaera – Rabbi Schwarzbaum – Services – 9:00AM
January 8:	Rosh Chodesh Shevat Contemporary Issues & The Torah – 7:00PM
January 9:	Board of Trustees Meeting – 7:00PM Pruce Library
January 12:	Shabbat Bo – Reyna Lekowsky Bat Mitzvah – 9:00AM
January 15:	Contemporary Issues & The Torah – 7:00PM
January 19:	Shabbat Beshalach – Rabbi Berg
January 22:	Tu B’Shevat Experience – Interactive & Free – 6:30PM
January 26:	Shabbat Yitro – Rabbi Schwarzbaum
January 29:	Contemporary Issues & The Torah – 7:00PM
February 1:	Friday Night Congregational Dinner – Following Services Social Hall Adults \$10 / Children \$6 Call for Reservations – 274-1551
February 2:	Shabbat Mishpatim – Rabbi Schwarzbaum
February 5:	Contemporary Issues & The Torah – 7:00PM
February 6:	First Day Rosh Chodesh Adar I
February 9:	Shabbat Terumah – Rabbi Schwarzbaum
February 10:	International Dinner – It’s Back! \$10 adults / \$6 Kids Call 274-1551 for Reservations
February 12:	Contemporary Issues & The Torah – 7:00PM
February 13:	Board of Trustees Meeting – 7:00PM
February 16:	Shabbat Tetzaveh – Rabbi Schwarzbaum
February 19:	Contemporary Issues & The Torah – 7:00PM
February 23:	Shabbat Ki Tissa – Rabbi Schwarzbaum

Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center
MEMORY CARE AT BOULEVARD PLACE
CELEBRATES 1ST ANNIVERSARY

In October of 2006, almost 200 community members attended an Open House and Grand Opening Celebration for The Life Center’s new dementia-care unit. On May 6th, 2007, Memory Care at Boulevard Place held its formal dedication, in conjunction with the Center’s annual donor recognition ceremonies. And now, Boulevard Place has celebrated its 1st Anniversary.

Every day of the past year has brought a reaffirmation of the decision to start down the road to the development of this unique care environment. To see the beautiful, smiling faces of the residents and the appreciative and comforted expressions of their families, vividly tells everyone involved in the development and daily operation of this very special place that they did, and are doing, a “very good thing.”

“Each resident comes to us as an individual with unique needs. Our goal is to ensure that they are living the most enriched life possible,” says Karel Roush, R.N., Memory Care Director. “For some, it’s only a matter of weeks. For others,

it can take a little bit longer, but eventually, for each individual, we have seen remarkable positive changes in their quality of life.”

We know that we can speak for every resident and their family when we say ‘thank you’ to each person who had a hand in the making of this special “Home.”

From the earliest days of the Strategic Planning, to the hard-working Life Center Board, to the tireless fund-raisers whose involvement was crucial—we thank you. To our wonderful and generous donors, whose commitment of their resources made Boulevard Place a reality—we thank you. To our staff of exceptional professionals, whose daily commitment to exceptional quality of care makes Boulevard Place unique—we thank you.

Without any one of you, we would be less than we are together. Your vision and energy has, and will, lead the way for new and innovative programming which will meet the changing needs of our evolving Community. We are forever grateful.

From Beth El Jacob Synagogue

“Re-Kindle” the Friday Night Light

Beth ElJacob – The Orthodox Congregation of Des Moines – recently launched a public relations and community education program encouraging Jewish families, no matter their tradition, to “Re-Kindle” the Friday Night Lights.

“We’re doing this to promote an observance that we believe builds strong families,” says Rabbi Aaron Schwarzbaum of Beth El Jacob. “Far too often we hear how families become ‘disconnected’ with each other. We are told there is no time to sit down to a meal, to have a conversation, to engage each other. Our culture, our jobs, our lives, even with all the benefits of technology, have become crowded and busy to the point that observing even this mitzvah of lighting the candles of Shabbat is sadly overlooked.”

“Friday Night Lights – Re-Kindle the

Tradition” encourages families to engage in this time-honored practice by offering a visual message along with directions for the observance, some thoughts about family time and even a Shabbat planner. All of the items are available online at BethElJacob.org. The images have also been placed on postcards and other media available to the general public.

“We’re not attempting in any way to convert anybody to an ‘Orthodox policy.’ We are, however, attempting to show families how meaningful life can be by simply fulfilling this one mitzvah. The Sabbath creates what the rabbis have called an “island in time.” We’re telling families how important it is to carve out that time and re-connect with each other. Shabbat can do just that.”

CHRISTIANS UNITED FOR ISRAEL RAISES
OVER \$6,000 FOR OUR PROJECT IN ISRAEL

By Mark Finkelstein “A Night to Honor Israel” has found a home in Des Moines, assisted by the clergy of First Assembly of God Church and Christians United for Israel, led ably by CUFI’s state chairperson, Tom McGovern of the Quad Cities.

The program, an initial effort, drew a mixed audience of 300 Christians and Jews. It included a highly spirited selection of music, dance, and speeches. Among the speakers were First Assembly’s principal pastor, Dave Beroth, CUFI-Iowa chairman Tom McGovern, Senior Policy Advisor for the Israel Consulate in Chicago Robert Schwartz, and Rabbi David Kaufman, who delivered the invocation. All of the local congregational rabbis were present. The keynote speaker was Executive Director of Christians United for Israel, David Brog, who outlined the reasons behind Christian support for Israel. Messages were delivered on behalf of Senator Charles Grassley and Neil Salowitz, president of the Jewish Federation. Toward the conclusion of the event, over \$6,000 in contributions were taken for the Western Galilee Hospital, a facility in the Jewish Federation’s Partnership region. The facility was hit by Hizballah missiles in the war of 2006. Plans are in motion for next year’s program.

In support of the goals of Christians United For Israel, Senator Grassley has circulated a letter to the 2008 Presidential Candidates, asking each to state his position on several important issues pertaining to Israel. Senator Grassley prefaced his letter, as follows: “It can’t be repeated enough that during the Holocaust, too many of us were silent, including Christians, and we were left to mourn the slaughter of 6 million Jews. Israel and Jews are still under constant attack. The President of Iran has threatened to wipe Israel off the map and is rapidly acquiring the nuclear technology with which to make good on this threat. In the meantime, Hizbollah and Hamas are arming themselves at an alarming rate, and their missiles firing into Israel has become an all too common occurrence.” Later in his letter, Senator Grassley requests the candidates outline, “Your general thoughts on Israel, what role

you believe the United States should take to ensure a strong and lasting Israel, and what if any specific actions or policies you would advocate should you be elected President of the United States towards Israel and the Middle East.” In due course, information returned by the candidates will be provided to members of Christians United For Israel. Presumably the positions articulated by the candidates will help members of the organization decide on which candidate to support. It is noted, however, that Christians United For Israel as an organization does not endorse candidates.

Pastor John Hagee, founder of Christians United for Israel, spoke at the 2007 AIPAC Conference in Washington, D.C, assuring the Jewish community that there were neither theological nor political strings attached to his organization’s support for a safe and secure Israel. His speech elicited many outbursts of appreciative support prior to a final, standing ovation

Having been involved in pro-Israel



church-work for the past twenty-five years, Pastor Hagee, whose church is located in San Antonio, founded Christians United for Israel in 2006 to give a political voice to Christian supporters of Israel. The organization draws support from among the 25 million Evangelical and Charismatic Christians in the United States, people who admire the Jewish state.

Even prior to founding CUFI, Pastor Hagee has organized “A Night to Honor Israel” in over 60 cities in the United States. A fourth annual “Night to Honor Israel” was held in the Quad Cities this year. Sponsored by the Quad Cities Association of Evangelicals, the programs include the participation of Jewish community leadership and have raised significant funds for humanitarian projects in Israel proper.

Mazel Tov



Sarit Luban, daughter of Phina and Marshall Luban, graduated from Ames High School in May 2007. She is now enrolled as a freshman at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. Sarit is one of four incoming freshmen recipients of Brandeis' Leonard Bern-

stein Chamber Music Scholarship. She is the first violinist of the Scholarship String Quartet as well as the concertmaster of the combined orchestra of Brandeis University and Wellesley College. The Luban family are members of Tifereth Israel Synagogue and the Ames Jewish Congregation.

Mazel Tov to **Stan (Sunny) Miller**, brother of Ettabelle Rosenbaum. Sunny received **The Humana Senior Volunteer Award** presented in Des Moines.



Nathan Frederick Buchsbaum celebrated his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 10, 2007 at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. His Mitzvah project

was collecting items for the Animal Rescue League of Iowa. He is also volunteering his time at one of their shelters.



Grant Oser celebrated his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 22, 2007 at Temple B'nai Jeshurun.

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Sam Cohen
Judith Farber
Claude Gruen
Madelyn Levitt
Bernice Rudston
Sylvia Siegel

CASPE TERRACE RECEIVES DECORATED BENCHES AND RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT

Employees of FBL Financial Group, Inc. and the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation built, painted, and decorated 39 benches during United Way's Week of Caring and donated them to United Way agencies. Jewish Family Services received two beautiful adult-size benches along with a box of recreational equipment. The benches will be used at The Caspe Terrace.

Our Jewish Federation receives money each year from United Way. When you make a pledge to United Way you can specify Jewish Family Services as the recipient of your gift.

Special thanks to Judy Deutch who co-chaired the United Way Committee at FBL this year, for recommending Jewish Family Services as a recipient.

The Call of Memory:

**Learning About the Holocaust Through Narrative~
An Anthology & A Teacher's Guide**

Karen Shawn and Keren Goldfrad, Editors; William Younglove, Associate Editor

These two complementary volumes are designed for students and teachers in high school, college, and university. Practical and highly readable, they are intended for use in history, social studies, literature, religion, and humanities classes, and for anyone interested in learning about the Holocaust through literary narratives.

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The Call of Memory: An Anthology ISBN 0-9789980-0-6

COMPREHENSIVE TEACHER'S GUIDE

The Guide offers 43 essays divided into 10 units of study. University professors from Israel, the United States, and Australia provide incisive and detailed literary analyses of each story, along with scholarly resources.

American master teachers, representing public, private, Catholic, and Jewish high schools and resource centers, field-tested the stories, and in highly engaging, first-person essays, share their classroom experiences and offer immediately useful suggestions for making these narratives accessible to learners of all backgrounds and levels.

Geared to state standards are goals and objectives, vocabulary, classroom activities and discussion suggestions, writing prompts and rubrics, assessment advice, and extensive citations for research and individualized instruction, including up-to-date Web sites.

The Call of Memory: A Teacher's Guide ISBN 0-9789980-1-4

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Iran from page 1 So in several real ways it is truly a moment of now or never, not because of an imminent attack but due to the fact that this era gives the last chance to avoid one.

But there is a fourth set of factors extremely important yet hardly ever mentioned. True, the most horrifying outcome would be if Iran used these weapons against Israel, possibly triggering a region-wide nuclear and conventional war which will make previous conflicts look like a picnic.

Yet while this risk alone justifies decisive action to stop Iran's nuclear success, this may not happen, you could argue. Or perhaps you don't mind seeing Israel incinerated or think it can take care of itself. Why, then, should Iran having nuclear weapons bother you?

The reason is that even more likely to take place than an Iranian attack on Israel are a number of other dire circumstances that would be devastating for everyone in the region and the world in general. Briefly, these include the following disasters:

- **Appeasement:** Frightened by Iran's possession of nuclear weapons and uncertain of Western protection, Arabic-speaking states will rush to meet Iran's demands.
- This means they will be afraid to cooperate with U.S. policy or provide facilities for Western efforts to contain Iran. And that development will make them even less able to protect themselves against Tehran, further reinforcing the effect.
- Given Iran's rejectionist stance, no Arab state or the Palestinian Authority would dare move toward peace with Israel. Even if you believe such a thing is possible now, forget about it for 20 or 30 years.
- Since Iran always favors higher oil prices (with Saudi Arabia, which already has lots of money, holding them down), the combination of Iranian pressure and heightened regional insecurity will send the cost of petroleum sky-high, far above anything hitherto dreamed.
- Intoxicated with a belief that Islamism is on the march to victory, tens and perhaps hundreds of thousands will join radical Islamist groups, either clients of Iran or independent ones.
- It is quite conceivable that even if the Iranian government makes no decision to give nuclear weapons to terrorists, super-extremist elements in the regime will do it on their own.
- With the regime having nuclear weapons, any opposition will be too intimidated to try to change it, no matter how much support dissidents have.

• Nobody in the region will be willing to oppose greater Iranian influence in Iraq, Lebanon and elsewhere. And even if you believe this is possible now—though I don't—it is certainly obvious that Syria, nestled under Iran's nuclear protection, will never move away from its alliance with Tehran.

• In fact, new members may join the current radical HISH alliance (Hamas-Iran-Syria-Hizballah), thus further building the extremist forces. The result could be a turning point with Islamists toppling one Arab nationalist regime after another.

• Of course, all of the above would escalate regional instability.

Does the above sound exaggerated? I don't think so but even if you want to reduce such dire predictions to a lower level the prospects are still quite harrowing. Remember that even if Iran never uses nuclear weapons to make mushroom clouds it will quite effectively use them for strategic and economic leverage.

Barry Rubin is director of the Global Research in International Affairs (GLORIA) Center <http://gloria.idc.ac.il> and editor of the Middle East Review of International Affairs (GLORIA) Center <http://meria.idc.ac.il>.

Marcovis from page 2

JP: You carry everything in every size...

FM: Yes, and also people often come in to buy a quantity of items at one time. So we do have to carry a lot of stock. In our business, where people have to go out of their way to shop with us, we owe them the courtesy of providing better service and a fuller selection than they can get at the chain stores, and we're happy to do so.

JP: When did you pick up the radio jingle? (I'm internally singing the jingle right now. It's impossible not to.)

FM: The radio jingle came in 2001. This year, we had a contest for our 90th Anniversary and crowned the G&L Idol. (You know, like American Idol?) Once a month we had people come in and sing part of the jingle and we chose a winner. The winners came back in October and we selected a grand prize winner. It was a lot of fun.

JP: How would you sum things up, Frank?

FM: We continue to look for different avenues to reach our customers and to reach new customers, because that's how you grow. And we like being near downtown and especially where we are located; there is a lot of resurgence on Ingersoll Avenue.

JP: Thank you for the interview. We wish you continued success.

FM: Thank you.

The Jewish Federation joins in commemoration
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
honoring the life and legacy of a true American hero
Monday, January 21, 2008.



Jewish Dreams of Mexico

The oldest documents in the American Jewish Historical Society's collections are trial transcripts of the Mexican Inquisition of the 1570s. For centuries, Mexico had a reputation for trying to purge Jews and Jewish influence from its culture. With the creation of the Mexican Republic in 1856, however, the Mexican government ended official discrimination against religious minorities and separated the Catholic Church from affairs of state. In 1887, while thousands in the Jewish communities of Russia were killed in pogroms and the ports of northern Europe filled with Jewish families hoping to escape to America, Mexican president Porfirio Diaz announced that his administration would welcome 5,000 Russian Jews if they would settle terrenos baldios – government owned, uncultivated lands. A Mexican newspaper, El Partido Liberal, editorialized, "Would Jewish colonization increase the wealth of the Mexican nation? If so, let them come."

Concerned for the plight of Russia's Jews and thinking it urgent to divert European Jewish emigrants from the tenement districts of great cities to agricultural settlements in less populated areas, America's leading Jewish philanthropist, Jacob Schiff, and the Baron Maurice de Hirsch of France viewed Mexico as a promising site for Russian Jewish resettlement. De Hirsch had already created a fund to bring European Jewish immigrants to American ports such as Galveston, Texas, from which they departed to rural homes in Arkansas, Kansas, North Dakota and other states. The fund also encouraged Jewish settlements in Argentina. De Hirsch wrote, "I must admit that the proportions which the emigration of Russian Jews has assumed, and the excessive immigration which begins to make itself felt in the United States, makes it incumbent upon us to look around for new outlets for the colonists."

Because of its government's welcoming attitude, de Hirsch and Schiff grew optimistic about Mexico. Remarkably, de Hirsch contemplated resettling every Russian Jew to Mexico. He wrote:

"No doubt if it were only a question of transporting a limited number of colonists, the moneys needed would be found . . . but having to face eventually a colonization scheme which may embrace a population of five million souls (distributed, I must admit, over a great number of years), we must take care so that capital which is in good faith invested [will receive a good return]."

Schiff agreed with de Hirsch on the need to assure the viability of Mexico as a refuge and personally hired two investigators to assess the practicality of massive Jewish immigration to that nation. Three months later, Schiff received the results of the research and wrote to de Hirsch:

"Just received information on wages and labor conditions which do not seem very satisfactory. All wages are very low and the competition for [jobs as] skilled

labor in the lower strata of the population is rather keen. This rather speaks against Mexico."

Schiff and de Hirsch then turned their attention back to resettling Jews in the American West and Argentina.

Despite Schiff's negative assessment, the Diaz government persisted in its hope to attract Jewish settlement to Mexico. Diaz offered to donate an island off the coast of Mexico as a semi-autonomous Jewish colony. Writing in his newspaper, *El Sabado*, in 1889, Professor Fernando Rivas reflected his nation's official position:

"We do not know why Jews would remain in any country where they are suspected, hated and persecuted. Why not emigrate to this generous America where hospitality invites them . . . Mexico opens its ports to European, Asiatic or African immigration with neither racial nor religious distinction. Here the Church is independent of the State and there is absolute liberty of religion . . . Let the persecuted leave the inhumane lands and come to the land where the Eternal has planted the Tree of Liberty."

Despite such generous offers, the organized North American Jewish community expressed continuing reservations about Mexico as a place for resettlement. Rabbi Martin Zielonka of El Paso, Texas, on the Mexican border, wrote, "The establishment of a [Jewish] colony in this desert territory would be the same as exile . . . [and] I question very much whether the Jews of Europe could readily adapt themselves to the agricultural conditions of the eastern lowlands." Social worker Maurice Hexter thought Jewish immigrants would face "the impossibility and danger of competing with peon labor" and "the danger of banditry in the countryside."

Equally tellingly, Jewish hesitation arose in response to the Mexican Catholic Church's open hostility to a massive influx of Jews. In 1889, a Catholic political party representative characterized the possible introduction of non-Catholic immigrants from Europe "a social crime." Rabbi Zielonka observed, "The hand of the Inquisition still hangs heavy over Mexico and the word 'Jew' is only whispered here and there."

Despite these concerns and impediments, some 9,000 Eastern European and German-speaking Jews emigrated to Mexico between 1887 and the 1930s, where they and their descendants have lived in peace and relative prosperity. One can wonder, with the wisdom of hindsight, whether Schiff, de Hirsch and other organizers of Jewish rescue – had they been able to predict the fate awaiting Russian Jewry in the 1920s and 1930s – might have accepted the Mexican government's offers and taken their chances with Mexico's weak economy and its church's attitude toward Jews.

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IJHS Fall Event A Great Success!

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society's Fall Event was a great success. After a wonderful meal prepared by Mary Miller, we were treated to stories from Des Moines native and professional musician Frank Perowsky. We heard some wonderful stories by Frank of his times spent at Julliard and of his life as a professional musician in New York including his work on Broadway. Frank also brought Stu Calhoun and the two "wowed" us with their incredible music.

Frank donated his mother, Elizabeth Perowsky's scrapbook of dance to the Iowa Jewish Historical Society. We are in the process of having it preserved so that we can share the contents with our community.

We would like to thank past President Joyce Swartz for planning this event, Charlotte Elmetts and Karen Engman for planning our lovely flowers and dinner. We are grateful to Mark Finkelstein for running our auditorium and to Tom Wolff for preparing the facility. We give our special thanks to Dorothea Gamel for her work on our program and invitation.



IJHS BULLETIN

On the sad occasion of the death of Bernie Kilberg, his daughter and IJHS member, Jan Hockenberg, sent this letter to thank the IJHS for our memorial contribution in his name. I think her letter says a lot. –President, Janice Rosenberg

Dear IJHS Board,

Thank you for your contribution to the Iowa Jewish Historical Society in memory of my father.

As a Russian immigrant, my dad was among many who came to this country and formed a foundation for our Jewish American community. So I have long thought about my personal connection to our past. But, my participation on the IJHS board has made me more aware of the need to preserve our Iowa Jewish historical legacy.

I do feel our organization makes a wonderful contribution and I appreciate the opportunity to be involved.

Thanks again for thinking of my family and me during this difficult time.

Sincerely,
Jan (Hockenberg)

[the calendar]

january • february

Thursday, January 10	12:00 Noon	Sr. Luncheon at Beth El Jacob Synagogue
Sunday, January 13	10-11:45 am	JELI Shabbat Class at the Temple
Saturday, January 19	7:00 pm	Seeds of Sun Concert at the Temple
Sunday, January 20	10-11:45 am	JELI Shabbat Class at the Temple
Monday, January 21		Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
	7 pm	Federation Board of Governors at The Caspe Terrace
Tuesday, January 22	5:00 pm	Senior Life Center Board Meeting
Sunday, January 27	10-11:45 am	JELI Shabbat Class at the Temple
		Federation's SuperSunday
Sunday, February 3	10-11:45 am	JELI Shabbat Class at the Temple
Saturday, February 9	9:00 am	Tifereth Women's League Shabbat & Kiddush Lunch
Sunday, February 10	10-11:45 am	JELI Shabbat Class at the Temple
Monday, February 18	7:00 pm	Exec. Committee Meeting at the Federation
Thursday, February 28	7:00 pm	JELI Israeli State Class at the Life Center
Saturday, March 1	10:00 am	Tali Lerner Bat Mitzvah at the Temple
Thursday, March 6	7:00 pm	JELI Israeli State Class at the Life Center

Leadership Forum Trolley Tour of Jewish Des Moines



What do a parking lot, a cemetery, and an old fort have in common? They are all important places in Des Moines' Jewish history. On October 28, members of the Leadership Forum took a trolley tour around Des Moines to see the landmarks of the Jewish community. The tour, led by Elaine Steinger, started at Fort Des Moines in the parking lot of Principal Park, which was where the first residents of Des Moines settled. Other stops included the cemetery at Easton Blvd. and Delaware Ave., the original site of Temple B'Nai Jeshurun at 2nd and Court, and the Holocaust memorial in Glendale Cemetery. While there were many more places that could have been visited, the tour gave a broad overview of Des Moines' Jewish history and reminded us of the past as we prepare to plan for the future. The evening ended with dinner at the beautiful home of Frank and Kerty Levy and included a discussion, facilitated by Brian Pearl, about the ongoing conversations between TI and TBJ. - Emily Kruse



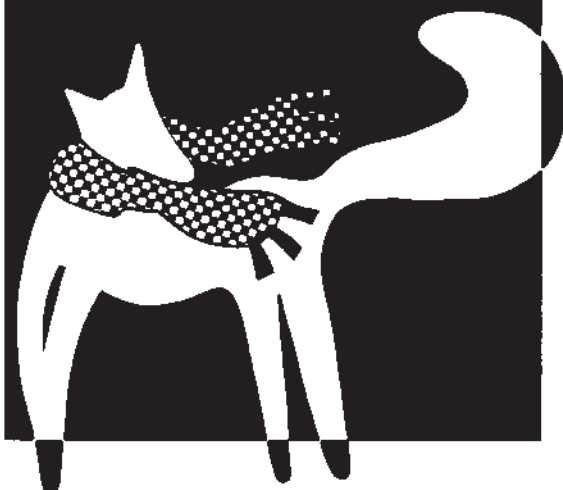
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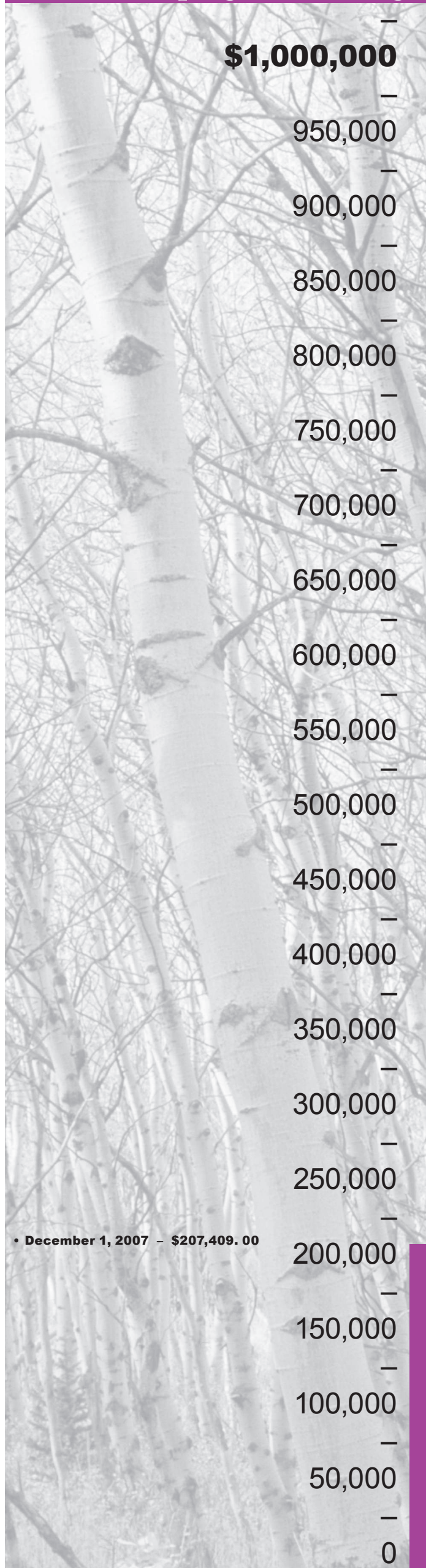
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2008 Campaign Challenge



this month...

Your All-In-One Campaign donation made possible a \$15,000 grant to the Kosher Manna food packing program of The Project Elijah Foundation.

At the first packaging project, sponsored by you, 200 community members packaged 24,000 meals in only 4 hours! The Federation donated enough supplies to package 50,000 meals of Kosher Manna. This food will feed hungry children and the elderly in Argentina, Russia and wherever else they might be.

(See article on page 5.)

imagine what we can do together next month!

THE 2008 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

– chaired by Neil Salowitz and Judy Deutch



Don't forget, you can designate Jewish Family Services when you donate to United Way!