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Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines 33158 Ute Avenue Waukee, IA 50263-7538

Address Service Requested

West Des Moines partners with its first Sister City - Mateh Asher, Israel

On the recommendation of the West Des Moines Sister Cities Commission, the West Des Moines City Council has approved moving forward with engaging Mateh Asher, Israel as its first Sister City.

Thanks are extended to Tim Urban, Jeff Lipman, and Matt Rosen for their work on this important project.

Located in the Western Galilee, the northern-most region of Israel on the Mediterranean, Match Asher is comprised of 32 communities with a population of about 26,000 people.

The communities –including 19 kibbutzim, 8 moshavim, 3 planned residential communities and 2 Arab villages – are each represented within the Mateh Asher Regional Council headed by Mayor Yoram Israeli.

Continued on pg. 19



At the West Des Moines City Council reception for the Mateh Asher Delegation

Engman Camp Shalom Summer Camp Registration Begins in January



Engman Camp Shalom is gearing up for another incredible summer of fun and adventure! This year camp will be running from June 8th through August 7th. There will be nine one-week sessions. Activities include swimming lessons, field trips, and exciting themes.

Some of our exciting field trips this summer include Sleepy Hollow Sports Park, Sky Zone, Adventureland, and so much more! See advertisement on page 4

Special Kibitz and Kids January 11th on Raising Jewish Children in an Interfaith Family

We would like to invite you to join us for a special Kibitz and Kids session Sunday, January 11th at 11:00-12:00 in Bookey Lodge at Caspe Terrace.

Patrick Courtney will be facilitating a discussion on raising Jewish children in an interfaith marriage. Patrick is the Lay Cantor from Tifereth Israel Synagogue and his wife Kara is the Minister at Highland Park Christian Church. Be prepared with questions or topics you would like to discuss with the group!

Kibitz and Kids will run for an hour and will include time for snacks, socializing, and discussion. For children not in Beit Sefer Shalom, childcare will be available in the downstairs activity room. Please note that ANY parent may attend, regardless of the age of your child.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mollie Giller at mollie@dmjfed.org or 515.987.0899 ext. 230.

Kibitz and Kids is sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Beit Sefer Shalom.

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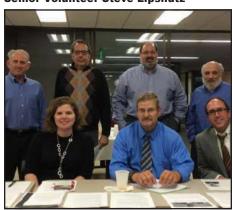
Hanukkah Carnival Games



Global Day of Jewish Learning



Jewish Family Services
Senior Volunteer Steve Lipshutz



Iowa Council for Holocaust Education



Iowa Jewish Historical Society

Community Report November / December Education

Beit Sefer Shalom

- Global Day of Jewish Learning was a huge success with over 150 people in attendance
- Beit Sefer Shalom led Friday night services at Tifereth Israel Synagogue on December 12th
- · Western Galilee Visionaries Delegation spoke to 3rd 12th graders about what it is like to live in Israel
- Kibitz and Kids continues to meet monthly in Bookey Lodge.
- Celebrated Hanukkah with a carnival and games for BSS students.

Engman Camp Shalom

- Attended American Camping Association Conference.
- Winter Camp was a huge success.
- Summer camp themes and dates are scheduled.
- Met with other local day camp to discuss ideas for increased numbers.

Gan Shalom

- On November 13th our Childcare Consultant, Michelle Greenough, from Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral completed a Safety Car Seat Check for Gan Shalom's Transportation Van.
- 2 year old preschool program teacher, Nicole Hayes had her last day November 21st. Raizel Small is the new teacher for the 2 year old's program.
- Department of Iowa Human Services made their unannounced inspection on December 17th. After the visit, Gan Shalom's licensed capacity has been increased to 50 children from 40 children.
- Gan Shalom is marketing with the Waukee, Urbandale, West Des Moines and Des Moines Public Libraries. Online marketing is in development with purchases of domain names.

Senior Care & Family Outreach

Jewish Family Services and Outreach

- To date we have enrolled 134 children in PJ Library! This puts us well ahead of our enrollment goals, even though we are only a couple months into our second year.
- We held two PJ Library events. In November we celebrated Global Day of Jewish Learning with over 150 people from our community, and in December had a Hanukkah Lego Party with over 100 people in attendance, including 60 kids.
- Co-hosted monthly "Kibitz and Kids." In November we held a special adult education session in conjunction with the Global Day of Jewish Learning, and in December held an open forum for parents.
- Held monthly senior luncheons, which included speakers on a range of healthy living topics and a chair yoga session.
- Delivered over 20 Hanukkah bags to area community members.

Community

Jewish Community Relations Commission

- JCRC advocated with lowa congressmen for passage of several legislative items pertaining to protecting the safety and security of Israeli citizens. The measures were passed by Congress.
- JCRC assisted in support of the West Des Moines Sister Cities Commission's recommendation to the WDM City Council that Mateh Asher be welcomed as the city's first Sister City. The recommendation was accepted by the WDM City Council. Subsequently, JCRC accompanied a Partnership2Gether delegation to its meeting with the WDM City Council.
- JCRC participated in a meeting with a local school superintendent to discuss diversity matters.
- JCRC assisted in organization of the program to honor the late Fred Lorber on the occasion of publication of a book for young readers about Mr. Lorber's escape from Nazi persecution.
- · JCRC participated in meetings with interfaith leaders.

History

Iowa Jewish Historical Society

- Collections: The Historical Society continues to receive a variety of donations each month, including new information about Iowa Jewish veterans (we now have more than 1,300 servicemen and women listed), family histories and photos, etc. Restoration work is also continuing on the Marshalltown Yahrzeit Boards at the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center. The work is expected to be completed in January 2015.
- Planning continues on the digitization of the Society's collection of more than 700 audio and video tapes and for raising the funds needed to complete this project, which is estimated to cost between \$60,000 \$70,000.
- Cookbook: The first draft of the recipes has been completed. The book is scheduled to be available for purchase in April 2015.
- Visitors: IJHS staff served as guest speakers for a Drake University class studying museums—mission, displays/ display techniques, collections / collections storage, challenges, etc.
- The museum was open for the Day of Global Jewish Learning on November 16
- Events: The IJHS will be serving food prepared from recipes in our new cookbook at an event at the Windsor Heights Community Center on Tuesday, June 16. The dinner will be available prior to the Java Jews concert that night at 7 p.m.

On the Art of Saying Yes...and No



Standing for the first time at the helm of a nonprofit community agency, I can see firsthand the immense role that volunteers play in keeping the Federation functioning in so many ways. Drivers quietly transport our seniors to their doctor appointments, returning them to their apartments and carrying bags of groceries for their week in hand. Doors swing open on Sunday mornings to the Iowa Jewish Historical Society where a warm smile welcomes in new visitors. Our preschoolers say Ha'motzi over the lunches prepared lovingly (and sometimes laboriously) by moms in the kitchen across the bridge.

Jule Goldstein, President

Learning about all of the different activities Federation volunteers do to help our community members in large and small ways has made me reflective of my own experiences as a volunteer and of how I landed in the position I hold today. I remembered going to visit a senior in her home. What was, for me, a moment of my day before returning home was the personal connection for her that would make such a significant impact on her week. I loved knowing that I truly was making a difference in someone's life for that day, that my time was spent easing someone's pain or loneliness.

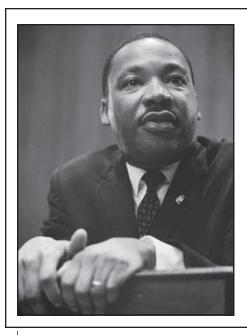
It was possibly because I had volunteered in the past in a capacity that seemed less rewarding, both to the community and to me that I recognized how very special it was to find this sort of connection. As the holiday season passes and the January chill seems to almost literally slow things down until spring, I would ask you to stop and consider what you might be willing to do to help brighten someone's day.

It's ok to say no to what doesn't interest you. But saying yes to that one hour, to the one moment of time that will brighten a senior's day with your voice, that will teach our preschoolers' a new activity or story, might change the story line of your life. It did for me.

"If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else." - Booker T. Washington

Fred Lorber and his family would like to thank everyone who attended the beautiful dinner held in his honor at the Temple on November 14. Thank you to those who participated in the program. Thank you all for your love and support! It is also, now, our sad duty to thank those who have expressed their condolences upon Fred's passing on Dececember 9.

- The Lorber and Polden families



The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines honors the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

> Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 19, 2015

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THE GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish Press

Published 6 times annually by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines under the auspices of the Jewish Community Relations Committee

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

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

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We reserve the right to edit submissions.

The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press 33158 Ute Avenue Waukee, IA 50263-7538 515-987-0899 jcrc@dmjfed.org Volume 31, No. 3

January/February 2015 Tevet/Shevat/Adar 5775

BEIT SEFER SHALOM GOES TO NEW YORK

On a Friday afternoon a couple of weeks ago Engman Camp Shalom Director Yonatan "Dorf" Dorfberger had the wonderful opportunity to travel with a group of five students from Beit Sefer Shalom to New YorkCity. Slated as a Heritage Trip to the city where so many of our families first started their lives as Jewish Americans, we were truly able to experience many aspects of Jewish New York.

Our trip started with a tour of the Tenement Museum on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Afterwards we met with an Orthodox Rabbi and discussed what it is like to be Jewish in New York, and enjoyed a various aspects of celebrating Shabbat in the city, including a traditional Shabbat dinner lunch at the Columbia/Barnard Hillel with current students. We were also able to tour the regular NYC mainstays...a stroll through Central Park, attending the brand-new Broadway Production of The Curious

Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime, and experiencing the wonder that is Times Square.

Summing it up was a tour of the Jewish Museum on the Upper East Side. It was an amazing trip for all those involved and one that we are looking forward to making happen again next year!





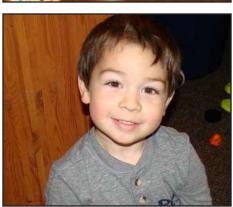
LEGOS GALORE AT PJ LIBRARY HANUKKAH LEGO PARTY

We had so much fun on Sunday, December 14th building and playing with our Lego dreidels, adding to the giant Lego menorah, and hanging out with friends at the PJ Library party at Caspe Terrace! We had over 60 children attend with their parents and grandparents, and everyone enjoyed learning (or for some relearning) the rules of playing dreidel, with M&M game pieces for betting.

Be sure to keep an eye on your emails for our next PJ Library activity coming up in the next couple months! Thanks to Jake Lederman and all of our parent volunteers for a wonderful event.

If you have a child ages 6 months to 8 years old who is not signed up to receive PJ Library books, you can sign him/her up at www.pjlibrary.org/communities/desmoines or contact Mollie at mollie@dmjfed.org or 515.987.0899 ext. 230 for more information.









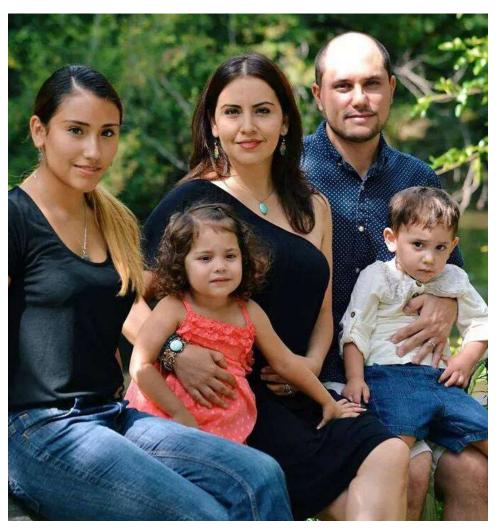






CLEMENCIA SPIZZIRRI - PARENT OF GAN SHALOM PRESCHOOL SUDENTS - NAMED 2015 IOWA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Gan Shalom Preschool would like to congratulate Clemencia Spizzirri and her family. Clemencia was named the 2015 Iowa Teacher of the Year by Governor Terry Branstad. She teaches Spanish at Merrill Middle School for Des Moines Public Schools. Clemencia has three beautiful children, two attending Gan Shalom: The Jewish Center for Early Childhood Development.



GAN SHALOM TEACHERS PARTICIPATE IN SER-VICE PROJECT

Gan Shalom Preschool Teachers participated in a service project for Des Moines University Free Medical Clinic with Mid Iowa of Iowa AEYC. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Kits were created for children visiting the free clinic. STEM for early learners is investigating the natural world around them by touching with tiny fingers, watching changes, listening to its sounds, and feeling textures. The children at Gan Shalom investigated the large bale in the field and collected some corn on the cob. They discussed animal hibernation and winter acclimation. The children are hoping to catch a glimpse of the resident eagle in the woods south of the Caspe Terrace campus.



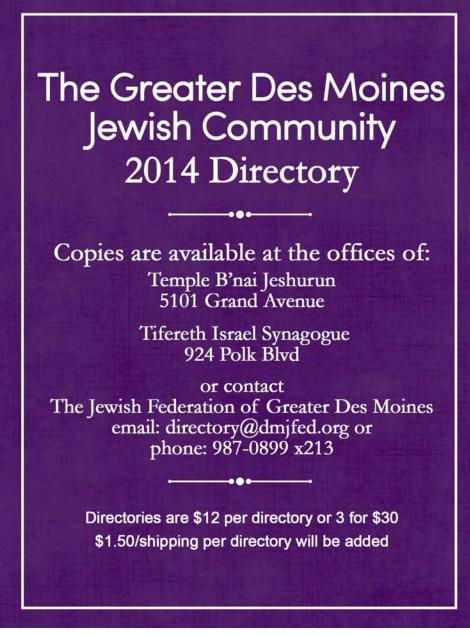
Borax Crystal Snowflakes

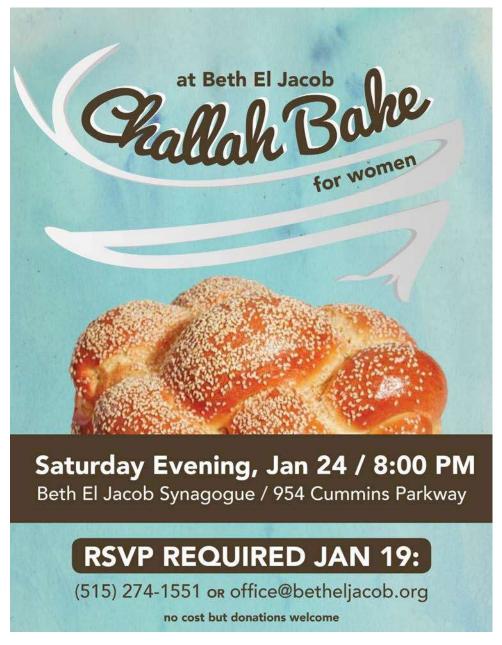
Materials: Borax detergent Hot Water Mason Jars Pipe Cleaners String

Preparation:

Use a pipe cleaner to make the shape of a snow flake. Tie a string to the snowflake shape. Fill the jar with hot water. Add three tablespoons of Borax to each jar of water. Lower the snowflake shape so that it is completely submerged in the mixture, then tie the string around the open jar to keep it in place and leave overnight. The next day, the Borax will have crystallized in the water and become attached to the pipe cleaner.







Upcoming Events:

- Thursday, January 8th: Senior Luncheon at Beth El Jacob from 12:00-1:30
- Sunday, January 11th: Kibitz and Kids from 11:00-12:00
- Sunday, February 8th: Kibitz and Kids from 11:00-12:00
- Monday, February 9th:
 Book Discussion of "I Survived Hitler:
 The Story of Linda Ryngermacher
 Fishman" at 7:00 at Beth El Jacob
 Synagogue
- Thursday, February 12th: Senior Luncheon at Temple B'nai Jeshurun from 12:00-1:30
- Tuesday, February 26th: Senior Trip to the Des Moines Botanical Gardens



Senior Trip to The World Food Prize Building

On Tuesday, November 4th we had the opportunity to tour the World Food Prize Building, formerly the Des Moines Public Library, at 100 Locust Street. Though you may have passed it before, many people do not know that you can tour the impressive building.

The building was designed as a special tribute to Nobel Peace Prize winner and World Food Prize founder Dr. Norman Borlaug to provide an enduring foundation for all of the programs he created. We were all overwhelmed not only with the detail of the restoration of the building, but with all of the information that the museum holds about Dr. Borlaug, the foundation of the city of Des Moines, and the role that Iowa plays in feeding the world.

If you have ideas or suggestions of other outings in or around Des Moines, please contact Jody at 515.987.0899 ext. 210 or jody@dmjfed.org.





Meet Our Senior Volunteer: Steve Lipshutz



Steve is originally from Philadelphia and moved to Iowa twenty years ago. He has been married to Kimberly for the past twelve years. Steve says that Kim is working on "teaching him to be an Iowan" and perhaps he'll be ready for the "Iowa quiz" before long.

Steve spent his career working in technology—more specifically in software programming and management. When Steve retired early he gave some thought on how to best fill his time. His mother had moved here from Philadelphia and Steve would take her to the senior luncheons. At the luncheons, he learned that lots of our seniors needed help with computers and he thought this would be a good volunteer match for him. Steve connected with the Federation and his volunteer service began.

Steve is also known as "wings"-a

nickname bestowed on him by the security staff at General Electric in Philadelphia when he worked there. Steve rode his bicycle to work and wore a baseball cap with a wing motif on it, which lead to the nickname.

In Steve's spare time he enjoys bicycling, walking, tennis, and skiing—Steve is on the board of the Iowa Ski Club. Steve recently had a hip replaced and is hopeful that his recovery will be complete by spring. Steve is a wonderful resource for our seniors, and is willing to assist with computer selection, set up, and troubleshooting.

The Federation would like to thank Steve for his support and assistance to our senior population. It is greatly appreciated.

If you have a hobby or skill like Steve you think you could share with our seniors, please contact Jody at jody@dmjfed.org

Senior Yoga at Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Thank you to Donna Morgan for leading our seniors in chair yoga at our last luncheon in November. We had wonderful feedback from the event and are planning to schedule more yoga exercise times in the future.

Senior yoga is for ANYONE of ANY ability level! Donna specializes in leading groups with mobility issues, and is able to adapt her classes to those who are in wheelchairs, use walkers, or have other physical needs. Yoga is proven to improve flexibility, increase strength to prevent falls and other accidents, build bone health, and improve mental health as well! If you are interested in getting together for monthly yoga, please contact Jody at 515.987.0899 ext. 210 or jody@dmifed.org.



Wages of a Laborer by David Friedgood

As human beings we work for our living and for the things we need. But, who decides what our labor is worth and what our wages should be? Do we still get paid if our work is deficient? Problems with workplace compensation have occurred throughout history and are addressed in our Bible: "You shall not abuse a needy and destitute laborer... You shall pay him his wages on the same day, before the sun sets..." (Deuteronomy 24:14-15) Even our mighty Patriarchs, protected by God's Providence, had to work for their daily fare, as labor has been part of our lives since the expulsion from Gan Eden (Garden of Eden). Our forefather Jacob provides us an example of the life-changing nature of work when he labored in a hostile land.

Jacob came to the house of his Uncle Laban in Padan-Aram as a refugee with limited assets, but was sheltered by his Almighty God: "Remember, I am with you: I will protect you wherever you go..." (Genesis 28:15) Jacob had to flee his home after tricking his father Isaac into giving him the birthright blessing of the first-born son, which was supposed to go to Esau. Esau was furious and threatened Jacob's life. In Aram, Jacob fell in love with his cousin Rachel and she returned his affection. "Leah had weak eyes; Rachel was shapely and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel..." (Gen 29:17) Lacking financial resources, Jacob agreed to work 7 years as a bride-price for Rachel. On the wedding night Laban switched his older daughter Leah for Rachel; a fact unknown to Jacob until the next morning. A furious Jacob is told: "It is not the practice in our place to marry off the younger before the older". (Gen 29:26) Still his love was strong and one week later Jacob took Rachel as his second wife, agreeing to work another

7 years for Laban. Jacob was blessed with many sons, and one daughter; but he remained penniless. Laban, however, benefited significantly from Jacob's labor, essentially keeping Jacob as an indentured servant. After paying off the 14 years, Jacob is ready to return home: "Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served you, that I may go; for well you know what services I have rendered you." (Gen 30:26) Laban is not anxious to lose Jacob's services and he senses an ownership over Jacob's family: "The daughters are my daughters, the children are my children..; All that you see is mine." (Gen 31:43) So, Laban began to haggle (in good Mideastern fashion). Jacob is understandingly reluctant to bargain with his Uncle and proposes another option. Jacob will take all the dark-colored sheep and every spotted and speckled goat from Laban's flock as his wage. (Most sheep in that region where white and most goats dark.) Jacob would separate the animals and start his own herd, in the meantime shepherding Laban's flock. Anybody looking at Jacob's flock would know they where not part of Laban's possessions. Laban agrees, but that same day, removes the few animals that are to be Jacob's, and sends them away with his sons. Not to be outdone, Jacob arranges for new lambs and baby goats to be born with his markings. Laban tries to change the rules, but God is with Jacob and he quickly enlarged his holdings: "So the man grew exceedingly prosperous, and came to own large flocks, maidservants and menservants, camels, and asses." (Gen 30:43)

Laban was not a man to lose gracefully; and, Jacob was threatened by his Uncle and cousins (Laban's sons). Jacob asks Rachel and Leah to leave Padan-Aram with him and they readily agree.



They recognize the poor treatment Jacob received working for their father, and they felt deprived of any benefit that a dowry is supposed to offer brides at their marriage: "Rachel and Leah answered him, saying, "Have we still a share in the inheritance of our father's house? Surely, he regards us as outsiders, now that he has sold us and has used up our purchase price. Truly, all the wealth that God has taken away from our father belongs to us and to our children: Now then, do just as God has told you." (Gen 31:14-16) The wives also shared with Jacob an expanded view of the world that awaited them and their families. Jacob escapes Aram with his family and his possessions. He then returns to his father's house in Canaan, after another brief encounter with Laban.

Jacob confronts an Angel of the LORD on his way back home, and is renamed Israel. He is literally a man who 'wrestles with his God'. (Yisrael = to wrestle with the Almighty.) This was a man who made mistakes. He was deceitful

and ironically suffered from the trickery of others. He and his family went through hard times, but through it all they knew that God was with them. They believed they were working towards a higher purpose, as a great future awaited them in the Promised Land. With hard work, some luck, and God's Providence this family developed into a Nation, fulfilling the Biblical prophecy: "All the families of the earth shall bless themselves by you and your descendents." (Gen 28:14) Ultimately, what were the wages of Jacob, the immigrant laborer in a hostile land? The answer is in our history as we continue to be blessed by the fruits of his toil. Was he well compensated? Was it worth his effort? This answer, my friend, is for you to decide.

"He who is wise will consider these words, He who is prudent will take note of them. For the paths of the LORD are smooth; The righteous can walk on them, While sinners stumble on them." (Hosea 14:10)

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Fred Lorber, Cyril Mandelbaum and Roselind Rabinowitz



Jule Goldstein and Dennis Goldford



Marvin and Robbie Winick



Rabbi David Kaufman blessing The Lorbers



Toni and Tim Urban with Fred Lorber

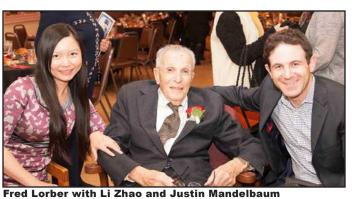


David Goldman, Sam Miller, Jeneice Dickey and Dick Kirsner





Mickey and Fred Lorber





David Wolnerman and Tara Starr



Hawkins and wife Georgia



Karen, Shari and Stan Engman



Friends of Fred Lorber

Ruthanne Silverstein, Ted Block and BJ



Steven Lorber



Stuart Oxer



Larry and Judy Deutch



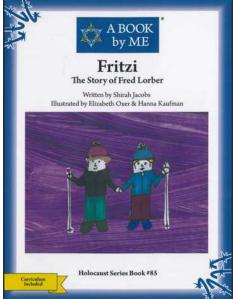


Fred Lorber with Lou & Marilyn Hurwitz



Rabbi David Kaufman and **Sharon Goldford**





Cover of "Fritzi"



Crowd gathered at Temple B'nai Jeshurun to honor Fred Lorber



Fritzi contributors Elizabeth Oxer, Hanna Kaufman, Sheila Hudson, Gail Klearman (representing Shirah Jacobs) and Mark Finkelstein



The Community Honors Fred Lorber

"Fritzi" was the name by which he was known as a youth in Vienna. We know him as Fred. And now, having just turned 91, everyone can know him once again as Fritzi through the story of how he and his family experienced persecution by the Nazis, came to the United States in 1944, and moved with his new family to Des Moines in 1950.

Fred Lorber's story has been told in a book entitled, Fritzi, authored by students for young readers for Never Forget Publishing Company. Written by Shirah Jacobs and illustrated by Elizabeth Oxer and Hanna Kaufman, the book, with a teacher's curriculum included, is #85 in the Holocaust Series published as A Book by Me by Quad Cities resident Deb Bowen and funded by the Jewish Federation. The book will be distributed to public libraries across Iowa.

To commemorate its publication and to honor the man behind the story, the Jewish Federation and Temple B'nai Jeshurun held a dinner at the Temple for Fred Lorber following Shabbat services on November 14. This beautiful evening was attended by 200 people including Mrs. "Mickey" Lorber, their children and a grandson along with his wife. Speakers recounting the many ways Fred has served the Jewish Federation, his Temple, and the Des Moines community. Those who spoke at the event were Debbie Gitchell, Sharon Goldford, Rabbi David Kaufman, Stuart Oxer, Mark Finkelstein, and Deb Bowen. At the dinner, the work of the young author and illustrators, along with their writing coach, Sheila Hudson, was acknowledged as well.

Of the occasion, Sharon Goldford, President of Temple B'nai Jeshurun commented: "The Temple was privileged to hold this wonderful event for Fred, Mickey and the other honorees. It was a beautiful evening of appreciation of one of the pillars of our Temple, Fred Lorber. We are grateful for all who made the book, "Fritzi" possible.

We are saddened by the passing of Fred Lorber on December 9

Hanukkah in Des Moines

Everyone had a fantastic Hanukkah this year.



Temple B'nai Jeshurun Youth Group Hanukkah Lock-in



Latkes and Brass at Beth El Jacob Synagogue



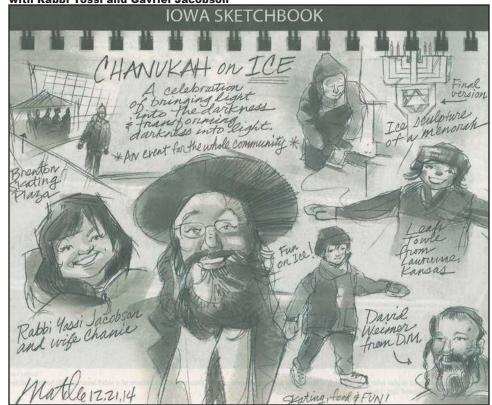
Car Menorah Parade in front of the Iowa Capitol



with Rabbi Yossi and Gavriel Jacobson



Rabbi Leib Bolel lighting Hanukkah Candles



Chanukah on Ice in the Des Moines Register

january/february 2015 10 The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin

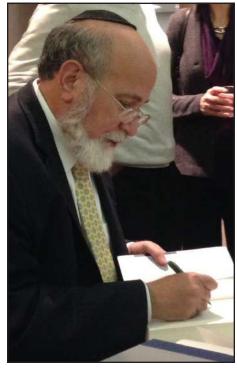
Scholar delivered two important lectures in Greater Des Moines

Sponsored by the Jewish Federation as part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration, Joseph Telushkin, rabbi of the Los Angeles-based Synagogue for the Performing Arts, a prolific author named by Talk Magazine as one of the 50 best speakers in the United States, presented lectures at both Iowa State University and Tifereth Israel Synagogue during his October visit to Greater Des Moines.

At a particularly well-attended lecture at Iowa State University, coordinated by the ISU Hillel and theAmes Jewish Congregation, Rabbi Telushkin spoke on "Being a Good Person in a Morally Complicated World." His presentation focused on religious perspectives on forgiveness, self-esteem, and why it's so hard for people to change.

To a diverse audience at

Tifereth Israel Synagogue on the following evening, Rabbi addressed two topics: "The Twenty-First Century: A Jewish Vision, One Day at a Time," and highlighted insights from his new book, Rebbe: The Life and Teachings of Menachem M. Schneerson, the Most Influential



Rabbi Joseph Telushkin

Rabbi in Modern History.

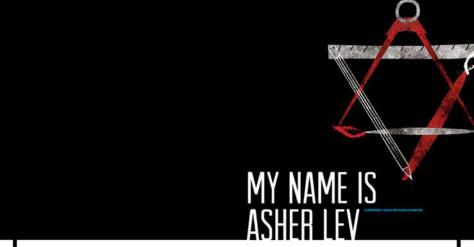
Both the Ames and Des Moines presentations were thoroughly engaging. In addition, Rabbi

Telushkin had the opportunity to meet and discuss spiritual issues over breakfast with our rabbis. All six of our community's rabbis were present at this special occasion.



Rabbis Steven Edelman - Blank, Levi Goldstein, Joseph Telushkin, David Kaufman, Leib Bolel, Marshall Berg and Yossi Jacobson





The Jewish community will be partnering with StageWest to produce "MY NAME IS ASHER LEV" in March. Adapted from the novel by Chaim Potok, we follow the journey of a young Jewish painter torn between his Hasidic upbringings and his desperate need to fulfill his artistic promise.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

KUM & GO THEATER 900 Mulberry Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309

\$100 per person

(Will help sponsor the show, provide a ticket to the performance and include dinner beforehand. A discussion will follow the show.)

More information to follow.

Questions? Please contact Jody Caswell at the Federation Office - 515-987-0899 x 210

Second-Annual Celebration of Global Day of J

Ames. Des Moines. Waukee. Everyone in between! Generations learning, eating, creating together.

On Sunday, November 16th, over 150 people from our greater Des Moines Jewish community came together to learn about heroes, both in the Torah and in our own lives. This event was hosted by Jewish Family Services, PJ Library and Beit Sefer Shalom. Highlights of the morning included educational sessions on the themes of courage, Abraham as a trailblazer, and Esther and Moses.

Internationally, this was the fifth annual Global Day of Jewish Learning, and Des Moines's second. We joined with over 500 other communities in 43 countries to celebrate this year's theme of "Heroes and Villains, Saints and Fools: The People in the Book." The overall goal each year is to celebrate our shared Jewish text through community-based learning.

This event included activities for all ages, from our PJ Library Reading and Craft Room to the special Melton Course for Adult Learning. There was something for everyone. The morning started with breakfast catered by the Tangerine Food Company and ended with a community Tikkun Olam project where everyone helped to make bagged lunches for the residents at Central Iowa Shelter Services.

A special thanks to everyone who helped make this event a success!



High School Activity



3rd Grade Activity



Elementary and High School students participating



Beit Sefer Shalom Teachers Samantha Brenner and Dori Hauser



Rabbi Leib and Yair Bolel



David Goldman in adult torah discussion



Pre-K music Activity



Parents participating



David and Susan Brown

Jewish Learning Brings Community Together



Rabbi David Kaufman and Wendy Beckerman



Director of Education Sophie Homonoff



Students transporting meals to the



Pre-K Global Day of Jewish Learning activities



In line for brunch



Pre-K Teacher Cynthia Shulman



Ayal and Asher Naggar



Students making meals



Stacie Franklin leading music

P2G Visionaries Visit Iowa

P2G's "Women Visionaries" brought a bit of Israel to town!

On December 10th, the Jewish Federation had the pleasure of hosting a delegation of four remarkable women professionals from our Israel partnership region, the Western Galilee. As participants in Partnership2Gether, each brought a world of professional experience, love of Israel, and her own dedication to promoting collaborative co-existence and understanding among the diversity of citizens in their home communities.

Dr. Farraj-Falah, an Israeli Druze, is a researcher in the Jewish-Arab Center at Haifa University; Diana Bletter is a writer based in Mateh Asher whose work appears in the New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and The Huffington Post; Galit

Aviram-Cohen, who resides in the Ghetto Fighers' House kibbutz in Mateh Asher, is manager for the Western Galilee village of Gita, and Kinneret Hadar is the legal advisor of the Akko municipality and the Akko Economic Corporation.

During their brief visit, the "Women Visionaries," as they are called, lunched with Federation leadership and staff, met with the West Des Moines City Council, and conversed about their lives, their families, and Israel with students from Beit Sefer Shalom and community members. Professor Sally Frank moderated the discussion for the school's upper grade students and community members.

The visit of the "Women Visionaries" was sponsored by the Jewish Federation, which is a participant in the P2G Central Consortium, along with The Western Galilee P2G, and the Temple B'nai Jeshurun Sisterhood.

Partnership2Gether with the Western Galilee is a project of 13 Jewish Federations, the people of Mateh Asher and Acco. There is also a P2G relationship with the Jewish community Budapest. To get involved with Federation's P2G, contact jcrc@dmjfed.org. Our Partnership is online at www.jewishagency.org/partnership2gether/program/5066



High School Students in presentation



At West Des Moines City Hall



The panelists with moderator, Prof. Sally Frank

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!

Bruce Sherman
Dave Lettween
and families



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Even in Our Digital Age, Early Parental Writing Support Is Key to Children's Literacy

Tel Aviv University study says caregivers should promote correct writing habits among preschoolers

Children of the Information Age are inundated with written words streaming across smartphone, tablet, and laptop screens. A new Tel Aviv University study says that preschoolers should be encouraged to write at a young age — even before they make their first step into a classroom.

A new study published in the Early Childhood Research Quarterly explains why early writing, preceding any formal education, plays an instrumental role in improving a child's literacy level, vocabulary, and fine motor skills. The research, conducted by Prof. Dorit Aram of TAU's Jaime and Joan Constantiner School of Education in collaboration with Prof. Samantha W. Bindman of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and other colleagues in the US, assessed the merits of early parental mediation of children's literacy and language in English, and recommended useful techniques to that end.

"Parents in the U.S. are obsessed with teaching their kids the ABCs," said Prof. Aram. "Probably because English is an 'opaque' language. Words do not sound the way they are spelled, unlike 'transparent' Spanish or Italian. Parents are using letters as their main resource of teaching early

literacy, but what they should be doing is 'scaffolding' their children's writing, helping their children relate sounds to letters on the page even though the letters are not transparent."

"Grapho-phonemic mediation"

Prof. Aram has spent the last 15 years studying adult support of young children's writing. A major component of this support is what she calls "grapho-phonemic mediation." Through this method, a caregiver is actively involved in helping a child break down a word into segments to connect sounds to corresponding letters. For example, parents using a high level of grapho-phonemic mediation will assist their children by asking them to "sound out" a word as they put it to paper. This contradicts the traditional model of telling children precisely which letters to print on a page, spelling it out for them as they go.

"Early writing is an important but understudied skill set," said Prof. Aram. "Adults tend to view writing as associated with school, as 'torture.' My experience in the field indicates that it's quite the opposite — children are very interested in written language. Writing, unlike reading, is a real activity. continued on pg. 19

Legislative Report from the Jewish Federations of North America

The following two pieces of important legislation were passed in December of 2014. Both were listed as among the key legislative priorities for the umbrella group of Jewish Federations, JFNA.

ABLE Act

IFNA was a lead advocate in the effort to enact the Achieving a Better Life Experience, or ABLE, Act, widely viewed as the most important disability legislation to pass Congress since the Americans with Disabilities Act nearly 25 years ago. The law permits the creation of tax-free savings accounts for millions with disabilities to cover their qualified expenses such as medical, post-secondary education, housing and transportation, without their having to forfeit Social Security and Medicare benefits. Earlier laws discouraged people with disabilities from saving for the future, as those with more than \$2,000 in assets were ineligible to receive these government benefits.

United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014

By declaring in legislation that Israel is a "major strategic partner" of the United States (a unique status), this bill lays the foundation for expanded U.S.-Israel cooperation in a wide variety of spheres, including defense, intelligence, homeland security, cyber security, energy, water, agriculture and alternative fuel technologies. The bill passed both chambers unanimously and was signed into law by President Obama.

Check Out Our E-Newsletter!

As many of you may have noticed, we have a new weekly e-newsletter that keeps the community informed of what's going on at The Caspe Terrace as well as our upcoming events. If you would like to receive our emails, please contact Gayle at gayle@dmjfed.org to subscribe.





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Come Join Our Growing Synagogue www.tifereth.org Recurring Events:

Minyan: Thursdays 7:00 am

Services: Fridays- 6:00 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturdays- 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

Special Events for January and February 2015

January 2015

Saturday, January 3rd 5:45 pm - Havdalah, Potluck & Game Night

Saturday, January 10th 9:30 am - Experience Shabbat!

Saturday, January 10th, 6:00 pm - YAD Havdalah, Dinner and Disco Party

Sunday, January 11th, 2:00 pm - Kadima

February 2015

Friday, February 6th, 6:00 pm - Mishpacha Service and Potluck

Saturday, February 7th 6:15 pm - Havdalah Saturday, February 14th 9:30 am - Experience Shabbat! Saturday, February 14th, 6:00 pm - Women's League Night Out for Parents

Friday, February 20th & Saturday, February 21st - Contemporary Service with

Robbie Sherwin of Sababa

Adult Education:

Rabbi Edelman-Blank:

Introduction to Judaism -

Contact the Tifereth office for more information 515-255-1137

Patrick Courtney:

Spirituality Study and Discussion Group:

Tuesdays at 5:30 pm

Michael Kuperman:

S.T.E.P. (Sunday Torah Education Program)

Sundays at 10:00 am

Tifereth Book Club

Sunday, January 18th, 2:00 pm



Recurring Events

Morning Minyan Times:

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Monday: 6:45 a.m.

Tuesday: 7:00 a.m.

Wednesday: 7:00 a.m.

Thursday: 6:45 a.m.

Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Shabbat: 9:00 a.m.

Daily after morning minyan: Two study groups to choose from that will study a range of Jewish topics, from the Weekly Torah portion to Mishna & Talmud and JewishLaw.

Tuesdays: The "Shiur" at 7:00 p.m. - covers Jewish learning on self-improvement, interpersonal relationships, weekly portion and current events. Please contact office

Thursdays: RIE Family Hebrew Supplement Program 4:30pm January 2015

Thursday, January 8th: Federation Senior Luncheon at BEJ

Saturday Evening, Jan 24 7:00pm CHALLAH BAKING EVENING

Learn how to make delicious homemade Challah with other women for Shabbat and Holidays and why this Mitzvah was given to women. You will be taking home your very own Challah. RSVP required by January 15th

Friday, January 30th 6:00pm Shabbat Ruach - Caribbean Style

A family service followed by Shabbat dinner with incredible food. There will be a short children's service and babysitting provided. RSVP by January 22.

February 2015

Monday, February 8th 7:00pm:

Book discussion about the new biography of Linda Fishman

March 2015

Thursday, March 5th: Purim & Pooches:

A "Pooched" themed Purim celebration with a special acts dog show, megillah reading and meal.



Adult Education Classes at Temple B'nai Jeshurun Spring 2015

Thursday Evenings in the Spring, we will have three sets of classes. The first set, taking place from Jan 8 through Feb 26, will focus on the history of Jews in relation to other nations. The second set Mar 5, Mar 12, and Apr 2 look at Purim, Passover, and the concept of the Messiah in the Jewish tradition. The third set of classes examines the history of the modern nation of Israel beginning with the Zionist movement of the late 19th Century and focuses not on Israel's wars, but on the origins of the people who came to call the modern nation home.

These classes are open to anyone interested and are free. Donations supporting the Temple and its programs are always appreciated. All classes will be taught by Rabbi David Kaufman and take place from 7:00-8:30 pm at Temple B'nai Jeshurun, 5101 Grand Ave in Des Moines. Do to winter weather, the schedule is subject to change, so please call the Temple Office at 515-274-4679 to confirm the schedule or with any questions that you may

The Jews Among The Nations
1. Israel and Judah - Through the 4th Century BCE - Jan 8

- Alexander, the Hasmoneans (aka Maccabees), and the Romans Jan 15
- Rise of Rabbinic Judaism [2nd Century BCE 7th Century CE] Jan 22
- The Jewish Christian Division [1st7TH Centuries CE] Jan 29 The Jews and The Muslims [7th-15th Centuries CE] - Feb 5
- Turbulent Times [From the Plague to Shabbatai Tsevi] Feb 12
- Fallout of the Failed Messiah [Directions in Modern Judaism] Feb 19
- Modern Antisemitism [1881-Present] Feb 26

Holidays and Messianic Fervor

- Purim Mar 5
- The Jewish Concept of Messiah and the Messianic Age Mar 12
- Passover Apr 2

A Brief History of Zionism

- Zionism Reimagining The Jewish State Apr 9
- The Shoah Apr 16
- Jews in the Arab World [Show Rehov's Exodus] Apr 23
- The Reality of Israel Today Apr 30

A separate set of classes will take place on Shabbat Mornings. There will be monthly Study Programs from February through April that will take place from 10:00-11:00 am. These programs taught by Rabbi Kaufman are also free. Please RSVP to the Temple office as all programs are subject to scheduling changes. The Saturday morning classes are called the "Rabbi's Tish," meaning "Rabbi's Table," and include bagels and coffee.

February 7 - Welcoming the Stranger March 28 - Passover in the Christian Tradition

April 25 - Jews and Angels

TBJ Youth Group

Hello, Temple B'nai Jeshurun,

Brrrr, it sure is chilly outside. That isn't stopping the Youth Group from participating in several fun events. This is sure to be the best winter yet for the Youth Group. Speaking of winter... let's go to a segment I like to call "Corny Joke:"

Q: Why don't mountains get cold in the winter?

A: They wear snowcaps!

How cute and relevant! Back to the Youth Group, though: our first fun, winter event was the Temple Lock-in. We met on Saturday, December 6, at 7pm. Along with delicious dinner; the famous Game Truck was at the Temple from 8-10pm for the Youth Group's enjoyment. Of course, we also set up for Hanukkah Happening, which comes the next day.

At 8:00 the next morning, the Lock-In was officially over, but Hanukkah Happening was a go. Youth Group members helped man the games for our future Youth Groupers. Plus, there was Hanukkah food, crafts, and spirit.

Coming up soon is National Pie Day on Friday, January 23. Each Youth Grouper's family is invited to bring their favorite pie to share, and we will have dessert for dinner!

Finally, on Sunday, January 25, we will be preparing and serving a meal at Central Iowa Shelter and Services. I promise, this is an extremely fun and rewarding activity. I encourage all Youth Groupers, families, and other TBJ members to participate. We will prepare and serve the meal at the shelter. We will start prepping the meal at and serving time is 5:45. If interested, please sign up for a shift now by contacting Wendy Beckerman.

Well, that's all for now. Meanwhile, I'll be keeping warm under a blanket until it's time for those Youth Group events.

Julia Anderson

TBJ Youth Group Scribe

AN ISRAELI SOLDIER TO AMERICAN JEWS: WAKE UP! BY HEN MAZZIG

As a young Israeli who had just completed five years of service in the IDF, I looked forward to my new job educating people in the Pacific Northwest about Israel. I was shocked, however, by the anti-Israel bigotry and hostility I encountered, especially in the greater Seattle area, Oregon, and Berkeley. I had been very liberal, a member of the leftist Zionist party, Meretz, but the anti-Semitism and hatred for Israel that I have seen in the U.S. has changed my outlook personally and politically.

As part of my work as an educator at StandWithUs, between January and May of this year, I traveled to college campuses, high schools and churches, sharing the history of modern Israel. I also shared personal stories about growing up in the Jewish state, and about my family. I always spoke about my military service as an officer in an IDF COGAT unit that attends to the needs of Palestinian civilians who are not involved in the conflict and promotes Palestinian civil society. Each time I would speak and take questions for an hour or more. I have shared my personal story with over 16,000 people at many, many college campuses and high schools, including UC Berkeley, Stanford, the University of Washington, Seattle University and many others. Many of those to whom I spoke were supportive, friendly, and open to hearing about my Israel. But, sadly, far too many were not.

When I served as a soldier in the West Bank, I got used to having ugly things said to me, but nothing prepared me for the misinformation, demonization of Israel, and the gut-wrenching, anti-Israel, anti-Semitic hostility expressed by many students, professors, church members, and even some high school students right here in the Pacific Northwest.

I was further shocked by how

unaware the organized Jewish community is and how little they are actually doing to counter this rising anti-Semitism, which motivated me to write this article.

This new form of bigotry against Israel has been called the "new anti-Semitism," with "Israel" replacing "Jew" in traditional anti-Semitic imagery and canards, singling out and discriminating against the Jewish state, and denying the Jewish people alone the right to selfdetermination. The new anti-Semitism is packaged in the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign (BDS), which claims to champion Palestinian rights though its real goal is to erode American support for Israel, discredit Jews who support Israel, and pave the way for eliminating the Jewish state. One of BDS' central demands is the "complete right of return" for all the descendants of the original Palestinian refugees, subtle language that means the end of Israel as the Jewish homeland because it would turn Israel into a Palestinian-Arab majority state.

It is surprising that an extremist group like BDS is ever taken seriously, but BDS advocates have found receptive audiences in some circles. Their campaigns are well organized and in many cases, well financed. They have lobbied universities, corporations, food co-ops, churches, performing artists, labor unions, and other organizations to boycott Israel and companies that do business with Israel. But even if these groups don't agree to treat Israel as a pariah state, the BDS activists manage to spread their anti-Israel misinformation, lies and prejudice simply by forcing a debate based on their false claims about Israel.

To give you a taste of the viciousness of the BDS attacks, let me cite just a few of the many shocking experiences I have had. At a BDS event in Portland, a professor continued on pg. 20

STUDENTS SUPPORTING ISRAEL: PRO-ISRAEL NETWORK LINKS 24 COLLEGE CHAPTERS WAKE UP!



Students Supporting Israel [SSI] is a Pro-Israel international campus movement that supports the Jewish Democratic State of Israel. They are an independent, bipartisan, grassroots campus movement that was created by students for students,

in order to organize a strong, united, pro-Israel front on college campuses.

The organization was founded at the University of Minnesota in March 2012 when Valeria

Chazin and Ilan Sinelnikov registered its first chapter within the university student union. Currently Students Supporting Israel is a growing international movement with 24 chapters across the United States and Canada, including the University of Iowa

Director.

Its mission is to create a clear and confident Pro-Israel voice on college campuses, and to support students in grassroots Pro-Israel advocacy.

SSI seeks to provide students on college campuses and universities with the opportunity to support the position of Israel in the Middle East, and to reassure students who opposed the demonization of the state of Israel on campus that they are not alone. The individual chapters are changing the anti-Israel climate many students encounter on campus. By being part of a strong and thriving national movement, students are empowered to express their views in support of Israel.

Students Supporting Israel is committed to promoting a better understanding of Israel throughout North America as a member of the family of nations, with a fundamental right to exist within secure and recognize borders. The organization believes that familiarizing students with current events and Israeli

"Israel's detractors are well-organized,

coordinated, and share the same name under one

umbrella organization. Pro-Israel activists ... are

not collaborating regarding the grassroots efforts on

campuses. However, things are starting to change.

For the first time in decades, a coordinated pro-

Israel student grassroots movement is gaining

Naor Bitton, Students Supporting Israel

momentum in American Universities"

culture, and providing access to knowledge of Israel's history and its day to day reality will promote a better understanding of the State of Israel.

Students

Supporting Israel is online at www. ssimovement.org/ and the University of Iowa's Chapter has a page at www. facebook.com/SSI.Iowa. In addition to the Iowa chapter, there are three chapters at colleges in Illinois, three in Minnesota, two in Indiana, and one each in Nebraska and Kansas.

Israeli pianist to perform at Drake University, February 22

Dr. Asaf Zohar, concert pianist and faculty member at the Tel Aviv Academy of Music will perform 7:30 pm, Sunday February 22 at Drake's Sheslow Auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public.

This classial concert is part of the Keys to Excellence concert series, created to raise awareness of the university's fundraising efforts to purchase seventy new Yamaha pianos for the Music Department. The series brings internationally acclaimed artists to perform on the Yamaha CFX concert grand at Drake University. For additional information, contact Aaron Jaco at aaron.jaco@drake.edu.

ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM: WINTER EDITION

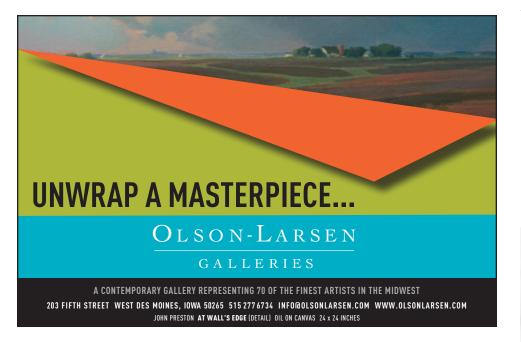
Engman Camp Shalom: Winter Edition has been a great success. We had field trips to Skate West, Glow Golf, Monkey Joe's, and The Jordan Creek Cinema. We also had two days of indoor sports and crafts at Beth El Jacob Synagogue's gym, which was great for our indoor activities. This was an awesome start to a successful new yearly program! We'll see you this summer and next winter!!! Remember to check the ad on page 4 for all of the Engman Camp Shalom Summer Camp details.

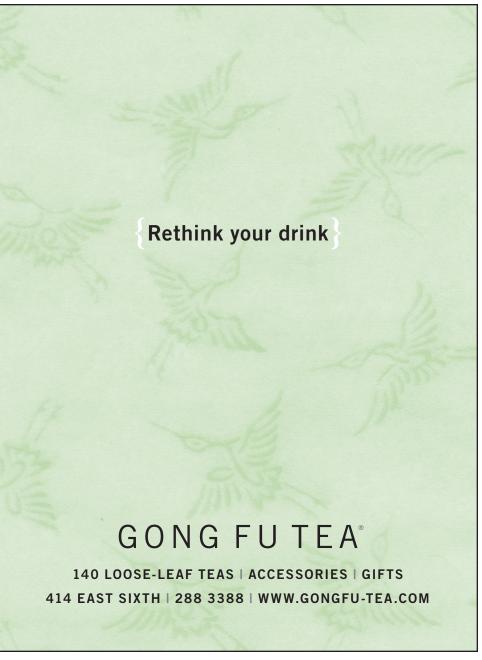






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[culture]

Thomas Kuhn Changed Science

Thomas Samuel Kuhn (1922 – 1996) was an American physicist, historian, and philosopher of science whose 1962 book The Structure of Scientific Revolutions was influential in both academic and popular circles, introducing the term "paradigm shift", which has since become an English-language staple.

Kuhn made several notable claims concerning the progress of scientific knowledge: that scientific fields undergo periodic "paradigm shifts" rather than solely progressing in a linear and continuous way; that these paradigm shifts open up new approaches to understanding what scientists would never have considered valid before; and that the notion of scientific truth, at any given moment, cannot be established solely by objective criteria but is defined by a consensus of a scientific community.

Kuhn was born into a Jewish family in Cincinnati, Ohio. His father was Samuel L. Kuhn, an industrial engineer, and his mother was Minette Stroock Kuhn. He graduated from The Taft School in Watertown, CT, in 1940, where he became aware of his serious interest in mathematics and physics. He obtained his B.S. degree in physics from Harvard University in 1943, where he also obtained M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physics in 1946 and 1949 and later taught a course in the history of science there. After leaving Harvard, Kuhn taught at the University of California, Berkeley, in both the philosophy department and the history department, being named Professor of the History of Science in 1961. At Berkeley, he wrote and published (in 1962) his best known and most influential work: The Structure of Scientific Revolutions. In 1964, he joined Princeton University and in 1979 he joined the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) as the Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Philosophy, remaining there until 1991. In 1994 Kuhn was diagnosed with lung cancer. He died in 1996.



The enormous impact of Kuhn's work can be measured in the changes it brought about in the vocabulary of the philosophy of science: besides "paradigm shift", Kuhn popularized the word "paradigm" itself from a term used in certain forms of linguistics, coined the term "normal science" to refer to the relatively routine, day-to-day work of scientists working within a paradigm, and was largely responsible for the use of the term "scientific revolutions" in the plural, taking place at widely different periods of time and in different disciplines, as opposed to a single "Scientific Revolution" in the late Renaissance. The frequent use of the phrase "paradigm shift" has made scientists more aware of and in many cases more receptive to paradigm changes, so that Kuhn's analysis of the evolution of scientific views has by itself influenced that evolution.

Kuhn's work has been extensively used in social science, and the Arts and Humanities. Moreover, his notions of paradigms and paradigm shifts have been influential in understanding the history of economic thought, for example the Keynesian revolution, and in debates in political science.

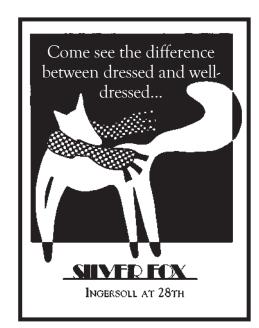
from pg. 1 Sister City Mate Asher The region is noted for its diversity of cultures and peaceful coexistence. Among its institutions are a renowned international modern dance company, a superb music center devoted to training young violinists from around the world, a Christian community dedicated to promoting interfaith dialogue, a superb regional medical center, an influential Center for Humanistic Education applying the lessons of the Holocaust, a college serving a wide diversity of students and offering a women's empowerment project in the fields of economics and management, and a high school focused on environmental education. Geographically, the region features a shoreline promontory and grottoes, natural forests, caves, nature preserves and parks, and beaches.

Both the City of West Des Moines and Mateh Asher are interested in economic development, promoting entrepreneurism, and in conducting educational and cultural exchanges, as well as developing medical technologies and methods.

Mateh Asher and the municipality of Acco comprise the two districts within the Jewish Federation's Israel Partnership program. The Federation's long-standing P2G committee can serve to facilitate the new relationship between West Des Moines and Mateh Asher, but the Sister Cities project is conducted between their

respective governments.

As part of its visit on December 10, the P2G "Women of Vision" delegation met with members of the West Des Moines City Council and other guests. The meeting, (or mifgash, in Hebrew) bringing together the West Des Moines officials with cultural representatives from the Western Galilee, drew smiles and expressions of appreciation from both sides. This was but a first step in a process that will be developed over the years, a process that bears tremendous potential for everyone involved.



from pg. 15 Children and Tech Children watch their parents writing and typing, and they want to imitate them. It is my goal to assist adults in helping their children enter the world of writing by showing them all the lovely things they can communicate through writing, whether it's 'mommy, I love you' or even just 'I want chocolate."

Building a scaffold

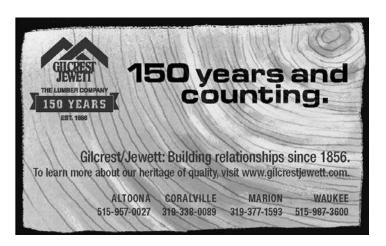
In the study, 135 preschool children (72 girls and 63 boys) and their parents (primarily mothers) in an ethnically-diverse, middle-income US community were observed writing a semi-structured invitation for a birthday party. The researchers analyzed the degree of parental support and assessed the children's phonological awareness, alphabet knowledge, word decoding, vocabulary, and fine motor skills. Overall grapho-phonemic support was most positively linked to children's decoding and fine motor skills.

Prof. Aram and her counterparts found

that "scaffolding," or parental support, was most useful in developing early literacy skills. "The thing is to encourage children to write, but to remember that in writing, there is a right and a wrong," said Prof. Aram. "We have found that scaffolding is a particularly beneficial activity, because the parent guides the child. And, if that parent guides the child and also demands precision in a sensitive and thoughtful way — i.e. 'what did you mean to write here? Let me help you' — this definitely develops the child's literary skill set."

Prof. Aram is currently researching interventions to promote the early writing of children from low socio-economic backgrounds, parental writing mediation for a digital world, and different schools of thought on parental writing mediation.

Source: American Friends of Tel Aviv University (www.aftau.org) ■









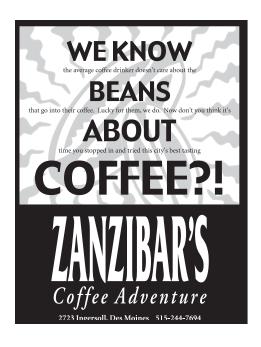
from pg. 17 Wake Up from a Seattle university told the assembled crowd that the Jews of Israel have no national rights and should be forced out of the country. When I asked, "Where do you want them to go?" she calmly answered, "I don't care. I don't care if they don't have any place else to go. They should not be there." When I responded that she was calling for ethnic cleansing, both she and her supporters denied it. And during a presentation in Seattle, I spoke about my longing for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. When I was done, a woman in her 60's stood up and yelled at me, "You are worse than the Nazis. You are just like the Nazi youth!" A number of times I was repeatedly accused of being a killer, though I have never hurt anyone in my life. On other occasions, anti-Israel activists called me a rapist. The claims go beyond being absurd - in one case, a professor asked me if I knew how many Palestinians have been raped by IDF forces. I answered that as far as I knew, none. She triumphantly responded that I was right, because, she said, "You IDF soldiers don't rape Palestinians because Israelis are so racist and disgusted by them that you won't touch them."

Such irrational accusations are symptomatic of dangerous anti-Semitism. Yet, alarmingly, most mainstream American Jews are completely oblivious to this ugly movement and the threat it poses. They seem to be asleep, unaware that this anti-Jewish bigotry is peddled

on campuses, by speakers in high schools, churches, and communities, and is often deceptively camouflaged in the rhetoric of human rights.

The American Jewish community and its leaders are not providing a united front to combat this latest threat. Unfortunately, this repeats a pattern of Jewish communal groups failing to unite in a timely way to counter threats against us individually and as a community.

Hen Mazzig is Campus Coordinator for StandWithUs' Pacific Northwest chapter in the United States and was in the IDF for five years. This article originally appeared as a blog submission in timesofisrael.com.■







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Jewish Family Services

Each year Jewish Family Services donates money to area agencies that help to improve the lives of families in the Greater Des Moines area. It is because of your donations that we are able to work together to make our community a better place. This year we provided tzedukah to the following agencies, and we look forward to finding more opportunities in 2015!

BLANK CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF CENTRAL IOWA
CHILDREN AND FAMILY URBAN MOVEMENT
DES MOINES COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE
DES MOINES MUSIC COALITION
DES MOINES PASTORAL COUNSELING CENTER
FAITH TABERNACLE CHURCH OF GOD
FREE TO BREATHE
JUSTIFI: JEWISH SOCIAL JUSTICE
LEUKEMIA AND LYMPHOMA SOCIETY

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL IOWA

Beit Sefer Shalom

The Jewish Federation Community School

Sunday, January 4th—NO SCHOOL (winter break)

Wednesday, January 7th

Sunday, January 11th— FAMILY BREAKFAST and Kibitz and Kids

Wednesday, January 14th

Sunday, January 18th---NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, January 21st

Sunday, January 25th

Wednesday, January 28th

Sunday, February 1st— FAMILY BREAKFAST

Wednesday, February 4th

Sunday February 8th

Kibitz and Kids

Wednesday, February 11th

Sunday, February 15th

Wednesday, February 18th

Sunday, February 22nd – NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, February 25th

Sunday, March 1st – FAMILY BREAKFAST and Kibitz and Kids

Wednesday, March 4th
--NO SCHOOL (PURIM)

Sunday, March 8th

Wednesday, March 11th

Sunday, March 15th—NO SCHOOL (Spring Break)

Wednesday, March 18th— NO SCHOOL (Spring Break) Sunday, March 22nd—NO SCHOOL (Spring Break)

Wednesday, March 25th

Sunday, March 29th

Wednesday, April 1st

Sunday, April 5th—NO SCHOOL (Passover)

Wednesday, April 8th

Sunday, April 12th— FAMILY BREAKFAST, Spring Open House, and Kibitz & Kids

Wednesday, April 15th

Sunday, April 19th

Wednesday, April 22nd

Sunday, April 26th

Wednesday, April 29th

Sunday, May 3rd FAMILY BREAKFAST and LAST DAY OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION

Kibitz and Kids
Get to know other parents
and discuss the topic of raising
self-reliant children. Each
session will cover an aspect
of everyday parenting through
the lens of important Jewish
teachings.

This is a free program for parents and children of any age. The hour will allow for the planned discussion, snacks, and socializing. During the program, childcare services for kids 0-3 are provided.





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Behind-the-Scenes at the Iowa Jewish Historical Society

Can you help us identify these artifacts?

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society (IJHS) has more than 10,000 items in our collection. These artifacts—photos, newspapers, manuscripts, religious artifacts,

furniture, clothing, etc.—bring the history of the Jewish people in Iowa to life. But, in order to make our history come alive, we need to know as much as we can about each artifact in our collection. Unfortunately, numerous artifacts came to us without in-depth documentation.

We need YOUR help and the help of the entire Jewish community in trying to learn more about these items. Over the coming months, we will be sharing pictures of artifacts in the Jewish Press and online on our web page http://www.jewishdesmoines.org/our-pillars/iowa-jewish-historical-society in the hope that you can help us learn more about the history of the object and the history of Iowa's Jewish community.

So, please put on your detective cap and help us ferret out the background and meaning of these pieces of Iowa's Jewish history!

This picture to the right was included in a box of miscellaneous artifacts donated by Tifereth Israel Synagogue. We think the picture was taken in the late 1940s at a community-wide event, not a religious ceremony. There is a flag of Israel on the right so the event may have had something to do with the founding of Israel or it could be an event that took place after Israel was founded. The staff at Tifereth are looking but haven't yet found any programs for events in this period that would help us pinpoint the event. Can you help us identify the event and/or people in the picture?

These two cases below were donated to the IJHS many years ago. We need to know if they came from a Jewishowned business or not. Do you recognize the cases? Can you tell us the name of the business where they were used?

If you have any information about the items, please contact us by e-mail at ijhs@dmjfed.org or call Sandi Yoder or Sarah Carlson at 515-987-0899 ext. 216.









JRC Calendar

Monthly series of JLI (Jewish learning institute) classes in memory of Rabbi Bezalel Jacobson OBM

Sunday, January 11th 12:30 pm. Lecturer: Rabbi Levi Goldstein Wednesday, January 14th 6:00 pm. Lecturer: Rabbi Yossi Jacobson

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In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Jeanette Bear

Lois G. Binenkorb

Michael Gershowitz

Irene Shapiro Kaufman

Ingeborg "Ines" Neumann de Klein

Fred Lorber

Jerry Matulef

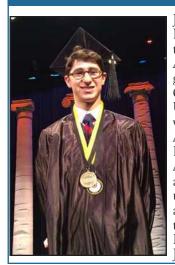
David Queller

Rozia "Rose" Szneler

Leroy Wolins

In Celebration

We note with joy the recent celebration of



Jerry and Karen Borowick are proud to announce their son Andrew Borowick graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Missouri with a Masters of Accountancy on December 20, 2014. Andrew recently passed all four parts of the uniform CPA Exam averaging a 94. He plans to begin his career with PwC in Denver this January 2015.

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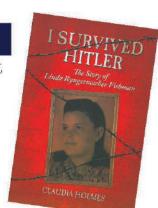
2015 Jewish Family Services and JCRC LECTURE SERIES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH AT 7PM: BETH EL JACOB

Book Discussion of 'I Survived Hitler: The Story of Linda Ryngermacher Fishman'

Join us for our second book discussion where we will be leading a conversation about "I Survived Hitler: The Story of Linda Ryngermacher Fishman" by Claudia Holmes. A longtime resident of Des Moines, Mrs. Fishman regularly spoke about her experiences surviving the Holocaust. Books are available for purchase either on Amazon or through the Jewish Federation.

RSVP to jcrc@dmjfed.org if you plan on attending or if you would like to order the book for \$9.00.



MONDAY, MARCH 2ND AT 7PM: TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

"Building the Neighborhood: Jewish Des Moines up to the 1930s"

We welcome you to a presentation on the history of Jewish Des Moines. Led by John Zeller, local Des Moines historian, we will be looking at the developments of Jewish neighborhoods around the city, including the historical factors that drove the evolution of many of these Jewish enclaves. We will also be reviewing the Iowa State Census of 1925, which was the last to examine and map residents of the state based on religion. Mr. Zeller has a great familiarity with the history of Jewish Des Moines and was the lead in creating the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines's 100th Anniversary Book.

RSVP to mollie@dmjfed.org or 515.987.0899 ext. 230.



What do you hold close to your heart?

Special moments in time create lifetime memories. You can honor one of life's simchas or remember a loved one through the Tribute Program offered by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. An acknowledgment card in your name will be sent to those being honored or family member being celebrated. You can designate how the Jewish Federation will use the gift or you can contribute to an existing fund managed by the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. Let someone know that you are thinking of him or her while supporting what's close to your heart.

Education

Our youth is our future. It is our responsibility to provide opportunities for them to develop into responsible Jewish adults. Many educational opportunities are available through the Federation and Foundation.

Consider designating your gift to: Engman Camp Shalom, Hebrew Tutoring Scholarships, Community School Book Fees,

the Student Scholarship for

Trips to Israel or the Jewish

Learning Institute.

Senior Care

Our seniors are the threads that weave the tapestry of our history and rich traditions. You can earmark your gift to offer social activities or help ease the burden of many of the challenges our seniors face: Social Outings (movies, plays, community events), Transportation to Doctor or Pharmacy co-pay, Groceries for a Week, In-home Safety Modifications, Adult Programming or the lowa Jewish Senior Life Center.*

Community

Our Community's boundaries extend to faraway places such as Israel, Darfur and Russia. You can provide needed funds locally and abroad for programs such as: Partnership 2Gether, Birthright, Iowa Jewish Historical Society, The Caspe Terrace Tree Fund, World ORT, General Community Tzedakah Fund, Aliber Holocaust Education Funds, Des Moines Jewish Foundation's Various Funds or Community Interfaith Relations.

History

The lowa Jewish Historical Society preserves Jewish heritage through its collection of thousands of books, artifacts, photos, and personal papers. These items are important to an understanding of the lives and contributions of the Jewish people in lowa. The Society also develops and joins in exhibitions showcasing some of these treasures. Some of these items, including oral histories, are being used in 100th anniversary projects.

For more information call Gayle at 515-987-0899 ext 222 or gayle@dmjfed.org.
*Independent organizations