



# Jewish Press

Published as a Community Service by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines online at [www.dmjfed.org](http://www.dmjfed.org)

volume 21 number 4

## celebrate Purim

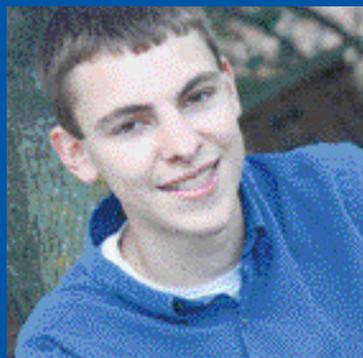
**March 25**  
**Costume Ball**  
**March 24!**  
(see insert inside)

## Happy Passover

Passover begins  
the eve of April  
23



**Tracy Engman Finkelshteyn**  
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## ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY PROGRAM Ambassador Dennis Ross



Ambassador Dennis Ross, Chief Middle East negotiator for Presidents G. H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton, will address the topic: Prospects for Peace After Arafat in a public speech, 8:00 pm Wed. May 11 at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, 924 Polk Boulevard, in Des Moines. Tickets are \$10 each, general admission, available from the Jewish Federation. Call 277-6321 x 218. The program is sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Commission, the Jewish Federation, and the Des Moines Foundation.

Ambassador Dennis Ross is presently Counselor and Ziegler Distinguished Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy (online at [www.washingtoninstitute.org](http://www.washingtoninstitute.org)). For more than twelve years, Ambassador Ross played a leading role in shaping U.S. involvement in the Middle East peace process and dealing directly with the parties in negotiations. A highly skilled diplomat, Ambassador Ross was U.S. point man on the peace process in both the George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations. He was instrumental in assisting Israelis and Palestinians to reach the 1995 Interim Agreement; he also successfully brokered the 1997 Hebron Accord, facilitated the 1994 Israel-Jordan peace treaty, and intensively worked to bring Israel and Syria together.

Since leaving government in 2001, he has published in Foreign Policy, National Interest, and Foreign Affairs. Mr. Ross is also a frequent contributor to the Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, and New York Times. His book *The Missing Peace: The Inside Story of the Fight for the Middle East* (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, August 2004) offers comprehensive analytical and personal insight into the Middle East peace

### Presbyterian Minister Speaks Out Against Divestment From Israel

## "Mending Interfaith Relations with Our Jewish Neighbors"

Reverend Dr. Robert M. Zanicky, guest speaker at Temple Israel, Wilkes Barre, PA Dec. 11, '04. From Temple Israel's Bulletin. My dear friends, once again I am honored to stand before you in this sacred synagogue, [Temple Israel, Wilkes Barre, PA.] For generations Temple Israel and First Presbyterian Church have been good friends and neighbors....

I stand before you this morning as a Presbyterian; upset, angry and ashamed over how my denomination has cavalierly acted toward our Jewish neighbors. I am embarrassed over all of this. And I can assure you, I am not alone, within the ranks of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

How soon we do forget! It has only been 50 years since we Presbyterians and other Christians have begun to own our complicity in the sins of anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism. For most of Christianity's existence anti-Judaism was a given. The Christ killers must pay! Deicide was the charge!

Only because of the horror of the Holocaust did we begin to see, to understand that Christian theology and culture must repent of all forms of anti-Semitism. (Apparently, we are slow learners, forgetting our lessons.)

We have been working on getting to know you, on getting to know Judaism.

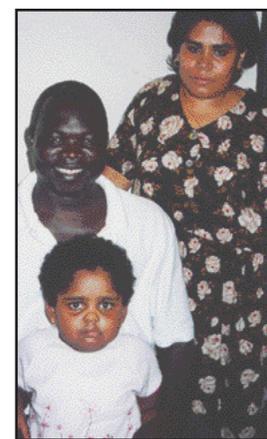
## Genocide in Sudan/Tsunami Disaster Strikes Home

Jewish Family Services is working directly with the Oburaks, a Des Moines family that has been tragically victimized and turned into refugees by the Sudanese genocide and murder of Black Christians in Sudan. Also, the Jewish Federation is playing an instrumental role, through our Jewish Community Relations Commission, in the Des Moines Interfaith Coalition on Sudan, working to end the genocidal practices that still continue.

If dealing with such a difficult past was not enough, this family was recently informed that Mrs. Oburak's parents and two siblings were killed in the devastating Tsunami that hit Sri Lanka.

The Oburak family came to Des Moines via HIAS/Jewish Federation of Tucson, AZ.

The Oburaks are a very fine family and we are honored to have assisted them over the past four



## COMMUNITY HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM MAY 4

The solemn occasion of commemorating the lives lost in the Holocaust, the families torn, and the decimation of European Jewish communal life will be held 7:00 pm Wed., May 4, at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Along with a service conducted by our clergy, a panel discussion will feature and honor our local

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## JEWISH FEDERATION RECEIVES GRANT FROM PRAIRIE MEADOWS



Members of the Jewish Federation staff receiving a \$10,000 check from Prairie Meadows at a Feb. 8th luncheon for recent grantees. Jewish Family Services will be utilizing these funds to start laying the groundwork for our NORC project, scheduled to begin at the end of this summer. (See article on NORC later in this paper.)

**COMMUNITY KOLLEL invites you to a community-wide lecture**

**Transforming Your World from the Inside Out:  
Practical spiritual lessons from the Mussar tradition**



**Dr. Alan Morinis**  
**MARCH 14TH**

**Beth El Jacob Synagogue**  
**Cummins Pkwy**  
**7:30 P.M.**

a t  
9 5 4

Alan Morinis is an anthropologist, filmmaker, writer, and student of spiritual traditions.

He has written books and produced feature films, television dramas and documentaries and has taught at several universities. Although he took a deep journey into Hindu and Buddhist thought and practice, for the past six years the nearly-lost Jewish spiritual discipline of Mussar has been his passion, a journey recorded in the book *Climbing Jacob's Ladder* (Broadway 2002). He is an active interpreter of the teachings and practices of the Mussar tradition and regularly gives lectures and workshops.

Mussar is a powerful traditional approach to self-improvement that has evolved within the Jewish world over the past 1000 years. It provides a step-by-step path to transformation that helps us heal, change and, ultimately, to blossom with the holiness

## live from NY's 92nd Street Y™ at The Caspe Terrace

The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines Proudly Presents  
**LIVE SATELLITE BROADCASTS** from NY's 92nd Street Y  
at The Caspe Terrace, 3320 Ute Avenue, Waukee

**TUESDAY, MARCH 22 • 7:00 P.M.**

## Gene Wilder & Wendy Wasserstein

Gene Wilder is one of the great comic actors of our time. He was nominated for an Academy Award as best supporting actor for his role in *The Producers*, which led to *Blazing Saddles* and another Oscar nomination for *Young Frankenstein*. He is the author of the memoir *Kiss Me Like A Stranger: My Search for Love and Art*.

He discusses the art of acting, the search for love, the experience of marrying Gilda Radner and other personal events that have shaped who he is today. Wendy Wasserstein is a playwright and winner of the Pulitzer Prize and a Tony Award for best play for *The Heidi Chronicles*.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 5 • 7:00 P.M.**

## Thomas Friedman

Thomas L. Friedman won the Pulitzer Prize three times for his work at *The New York Times*, where he serves as the foreign affairs columnist. His most recent book, *The World is Flat*, demystifies the brave new world of globalization, its successes and discontents.

His previous books are *From Beirut to Jerusalem*; *The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization* and *Longitudes and Attitudes: Exploring the World After September 11*.

**MONDAY, MAY 9 • 7:00 P.M.**

## John Irving

"John Irving is an abundantly and even joyfully talented storyteller," *The New York Times Book Review* has said. Irving, whose works include *The World According to Garp* and *The Fourth Hand* and *Imaginary Girlfriend*, returns to the stage of the 92nd Street Y, which he depicted in his novel *A Widow for One Year*.

Tickets \$12.00 each, plus \$2.00 shipping and handling. Seating is limited. Tickets may be purchased at the door the night of each show for \$15.00 each, if available. All programs at **The Caspe Terrace** in Waukee. No reserved seating. No refunds. All programs are subject to change by the 92 St Y. If a program is canceled, tickets can be exchanged for another based on availability. Check with the Federation for scheduling changes at [www.dmjfed.org](http://www.dmjfed.org) or call 515-277-6321 x218. **Park & Ride** transportation is available with 48 hours notice. Call 515-277-6321 x218. Rides depart from Beth El Jacob Synagogue, 954 Cummins Parkway, Des Moines, 30 minutes prior to showtime, at a cost of \$5.00 per person. Programming made available in part through the generosity of: Gail and Stan Richards, Roselind and Sheldon Rabinowitz, The Nussbaum Adult Lecture Fund, The Charles S. Steinger and Milton Liebman Memorial Fund, the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, Des Moines

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER DES MOINES

# THE CASPE TERRACE

3 3 2 0 U T E A V E N U E

- Anniversaries
- Baby Showers
- Bar and Bat Mitzvahs
- Birthday Parties
- Britot
- Family Reunions
- Graduations
- Weddings

Make life's milestone celebrations memorable...  
at The Caspe Terrace

Usage of The Caspe Terrace is limited to the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, its employees, Jewish Federation Members and to United Way affiliates. Events are limited to Federation community programming; for Members of the Federation for occasions that are of significant life stage events and religious in nature. A maintenance fee shall be charged to individuals to cover costs incurred of these

## Letter from the Federation President



Dear Friends,

How wonderful it is when community members get excited about enriching the Jewish culture of Des Moines. We've seen this time and again over the years, but as of late, we've seen more enthusiasm and more examples of events, speakers, and other resources brought to Des Moines – for our benefit – than we have in a very long time.

Certainly, our synagogues and Temple continue to bring in noteworthy and inspiring speakers and musicians, and for that we are appreciative. But as well, there are several special events listed in this edition of the Jewish Press that I'd like to highlight that are the product of folks combining their efforts and resources, transcending the boundaries of our individual congregations.

- The Iowa Jewish Historical Society has mounted an excellent ten-week film festival in celebration of the 350th anniversary of Jewish life in America. There is something for everyone in the film series: documentaries, adaptations of novels, and thematic studies. Some of the films were provided by the Jewish Heritage Video Collection, a superb resource for our community, obtained by the Temple having been the recipient of a grant.
- The "Live from the 92nd Street Y" series of broadcasts has begun its premiere season at The Caspe Terrace. Through the series, a healthy dose of Jewish culture, readily available in New York City, is now available live, right here in Des Moines. It is a breath of fresh air, and I hope that every reader of this periodical has the opportunity to enjoy at least one – if not the entire series – of shows this season. We are very fortunate that ticket prices for these shows are reasonable, underwritten as they have been through the generosity of patrons including, in this go 'round, Gail and Stan Richards, Roselind and Sheldon Rabinowitz, the Nussbaum Adult Lecture Fund, The Charles S. Steinger and Milton Liebman Memorial Fund, the Des Moines Foundation and though your gifts to the All-In-One Campaign.
- The the invitation issued to Ambassador Dennis Ross to speak at public and private engagements on May 11. Ambassador Ross, having served two presidents as Chief Middle East Peace Negotiator, comes to us at a time when the Middle East is again at a crossroads. He is coming to share his expertise, acumen and insights with JCRC's Teachers' Institute, he'll speak to the public (I hope you'll come to hear him), and will speak again to another group within the general community as arranged by JCRC. This could not happen without the collaboration between the JCRC, the Federation, and the Des Moines Jewish Foundation.

We have a lot to be thankful for in our community. We work well together on projects that benefit our entire community, we have respect for the individuality of our synagogues and Temple, we have a wonderful circle of community volunteers – people who contribute their time, energy, financial resources, and good will in building our community. And we have a future here in Des Moines for everybody who wants to identify as Jewish, for everybody who wants to get involved, and for everybody who wants to increase their knowledge about and commitment to being Jewish in a way that makes sense to them.

Let's keep the ball rolling. If you are not yet involved to the extent that you can be, please give us a call. We will help connect you to a congregation and to life within the Jewish Federation. And please remember, too, to contribute to your congregation and to the Jewish community fund, the All-In-One Campaign.

### [letters]

#### Dear Editor,

American Red Magen David for Israel (ARMDI) applauds the efforts of the American Red Cross to support Magen David Adom in Israel. We look forward to the day when the "Federation" will be known as the International Federation of Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Star of David Societies.

American Red Magen David for Israel is the exclusive support arm of Magen David Adom in the United States. Our annual contributions to MDA account for 25% of the annual budget. MDA is privileged to be participating in the relief efforts for victims of the tsunami. Wearing our own uniforms, we are proudly operating field clinics in Sri Lanka. In addition to being responsible for 95% of the blood requirements in Israel, MDA is also currently supplying blood products from the MDA National Blood Services Center to those in need in Sri Lanka.

If you would like to know more about how to support Magen David Adom, please go to our website [www.armdi.org](http://www.armdi.org) or call us at 888-674-4871

**Daniel R. Allen**, Executive Vice President

### [meeting]

#### 'December 2005 Israel Trip' Information Meeting, April 20

Come and learn about the plans! Ask questions!

Information about subsidies from the Jewish Federation- 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm, Wednesday, April 20, @ the Temple

Family Mission Committee: Bev Ellis - Beth El Jacob - [kubanbezz@aol.com](mailto:kubanbezz@aol.com); Barb Hirsch-Giller - Tifereth Israel - [barb@tifereth.org](mailto:barb@tifereth.org); Alan Pearlman - Temple B'nai Jeshurun - [arptb@aol.com](mailto:arptb@aol.com); Federation Trip Consultant: Mark Finkelstein - [jcrc@dmjfed.org](mailto:jcrc@dmjfed.org), 277-6321 x 214

### [congratulations]

**Send us news** of upcoming graduations, plans, engagements and weddings by March 30, 2005, for publication in the May/June Jewish Press.

Mail to: Jewish Press 910 Polk Blvd, Des Moines, IA 50312 or by e-mail: [tom@dmjfed.org](mailto:tom@dmjfed.org)

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Opinions expressed in The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press are not necessarily those of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, its committees, or its staff. Unsigned editorials express the opinion of the paper's Editorial Board.

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

## JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY

Pre-kindergarten has been working on many interesting things this year, like Hebrew letters Lamed, Mem, Final Mem, Nun and Final Nun. They have gone through several words too, like leveevot (latke), Morah (feminine teacher) and Moreh (masculine teacher), and Nerot (candles). These words are commonly associated with the letter of the week. Tu B'Shevat was discussed in class and the children were able to try different kinds of fruits that are traditionally grown in Israel. They ate almonds right out of their shell and some carob, which it was decided, tasted much like a chocolate chip. Due to the fact that their tzedakah box is full to overflowing, it was very important to teach the children about saving money to be given to people or organizations who may be in need of some thing or a service. We also collected non-perishable food items for DMARC Food Pantry.

In Kindergarten, while learning about mitzvot and tzedakah, the children have been challenged to do some extra help around the house or other nice things. When parents see their child doing a "mitzvah," we ask them to make a small donation to the "Do A Mitzvah" pouch that each child received at the beginning of the year. (This is instead of a weekly donation.) The money they collect goes into the class tzedakah box. We hope that starting to learn the relationship between doing good deeds and giving to charity will help the children get a better sense that they make a difference in making the world a better place.

First graders have been spending time learning about some of the main characters in the Torah, such as Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Esau, and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel. We will continue with the story of Joseph, and finish up by making our own coats of many colors.

Second graders have continued reviewing letters of the Alef Bet. Since break, they have studied Resh and Het, with the corresponding Jewish values Rodef Shalom and Havdalah. They have also been learning about Tu B'Shevat, and have completed activity sheets over the holiday. Thanks to the families who donated props for our Chanukah play. Your children did a marvelous job of playing their parts. I am very thankful to have such a hardworking group! Leah and I enjoy working with your children. We would also like to give a special welcome to Cora Egberman, who is new to the JFCS this year.

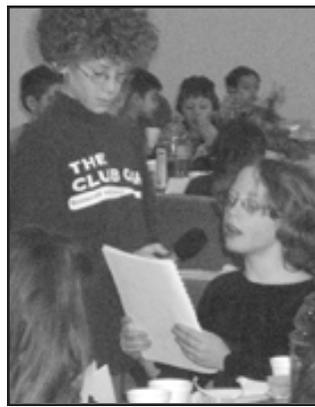
Third graders are finally finished reviewing prayers learned in 2004 (Barchu, Shema, Shehecheyanu) and reviewing consonants and vowels from the Hebrew Primer. In December students completed their Shehecheyanu posters that are now hanging on the wall outside the office. Please stop by to take a look since they all did a GREAT job! In December they also finished discussing the Ten Commandments and have now moved on to studying Torah history using A Child's Bible Lessons from the Torah.

The highlight of December for the fourth graders was a very special trip to the

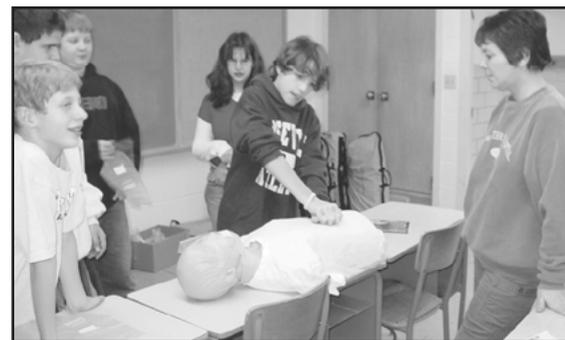
Jewish Senior Life Center. The class entertained the residents with Hanukkah songs and their favorite "Ice Cream" song including real cones for props and, of course, they left an ice cream treat for the residents.

During January, the fifth grade students began a study of Jewish mourning rituals, the last chapter in our life cycle studies. The students learned about many Jewish funeral customs such as taharah (the ritual washing of a body in preparation of burial), shemirah (ritual guarding of a body before burial), Keriah (ritual tearing or cutting of a clothing item or a ribbon), and the use of plain wood coffins. They also learned about Chevrah Kaddisha (Jewish Burial Society) and certain mourning periods after burial including shiva, sheloshim, and the unveiling. They also learned about a yahrzeit (the anniversary of a person's death) and Yizkor (a special service remembering and honoring a person's death). Our Hebrew studies have focused on the practice of the Mourner's Kaddish, a prayer recited by mourners.

Thanks to your donations by JFCS families, we were able to help out the Bidwell-Riverside Center in Des Moines by donating a total of 1,441 diapers. This massive donation filled up two large tables in the back of the center's donation room. Bidwell-Riverside Center helps people by not only collecting diapers, but also clothes, shoes, books, food, and more. They give these things to those in need at no cost to them. If there is anything that you would like to donate to the Bidwell-Riverside Center, please bring it to the Jewish Federation Community School office, and we will see to it that it is delivered. If you and your children would like to collect materials and take it there yourself, the address is: 1203 Hartford Avenue on the south side of Des Moines. There is a building



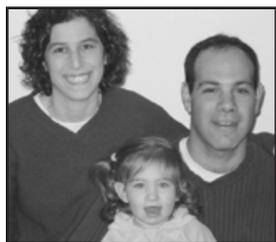
Tommy Swartz and Elyse Alexander participated in our Tu B'Shevat program



7th Graders learning CPR

## Joshua Goldsmith Named Director of Engman Camp Shalom

Des Moines Jewish Federation is proud to announce the appoint-



Joshua, born in Chicago and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, is an experienced Camp Director and Jewish Educator. He

describes himself as having been raised in part by summer camp and explains that he spent almost twenty years as a camper and staff member of Camp Ramah in Canada. Most recently, Joshua worked for the New Jersey YMHA-YWHA Camps as the Director of the Center for Jewish Family Life and the Assistant Director at Cedar Lake Camp, a children's overnight camp hosting 500 campers each session. In the past, Joshua also served as the Director of the Berkshire Hills Emanuel Camps' Adult Vacation Center, a summer retreat center for senior adults, and as the Director of Camp Edward Isaacs, a children's overnight camp sponsored by the Central Queens YM-YWHA in New York. In addition to studying towards master's degrees in Informal Jewish Education at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in New York, prior to embarking on a professional career in Jewish camping, Joshua had his own business as a fitness trainer in Los Angeles and worked in the Jewish com-

munities of Detroit and New York as a synagogue youth director. In fact, it was while working at a youth group convention that he met his wife, Debbie. The two have been married for six years and have a two year old daughter named Yael. Debbie is also no stranger to Jewish camping. She grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, and has spent summers at the Cleveland JCC's Camp Wise and Camp Ramah in Wisconsin and Canada, and of course has been with Josh at each of his posts over the years. She currently works as the Assistant Director of Education for Young Judea's Year Course in Israel program, a nine month study and volunteer program in Israel for recent high school graduates.

The Goldsmiths moved to Israel in 2001 and now live in a small community, called Yishuv Alon, near Jerusalem and on the edge of the Judean Desert. Alon is home to approximately 125 families, both religious and secular. This mix is unique in small communities in Israel and it was precisely one of the reasons the Goldsmiths chose to make Alon their home, so they would be enabled to raise their family in a pluralist environment.

Josh will be visiting Des Moines in March. At that time, Engman Camp Shalom will hold an open house for you to meet Josh and to share our new

friendship  
heritage  
Israel

advocacy  
compassion  
Tzedakah

empowerment  
knowledge  
pride

# legacy

Hadassah's great family of women share these important values. This is our legacy — making a positive change in the world through the volunteer work, resolutions we make, the values we share.

**MAKE HADASSAH YOUR CHOICE FOR TODAY. YOUR LEGACY FOR TOMORROW. LINK YOUR NAME TO OURS.**

Hadassah Life membership is \$200 until May ... save \$100. Support Hadassah's work in Israel and the United States. Make lifelong friends. Contact the Upper Midwest Region at 800.924.2998 or [uppermidwest@hadassah.org](mailto:uppermidwest@hadassah.org)

The Upper Midwest Region is pleased to offer a Hadassah Jewish Holiday Cookbook to the first 50 new life members before May 1, 2002.

## AMES JEWISH COMMUNITY

### A Safe Place - By Elijah Cunnally

Before the beginning of winter break, AJC religious school was visited by a lady from ACCESS (an organization that provides help to battered women and children). She talked about how the people of ACCESS help women and children cope with the bad things that have happened in their lives. ACCESS provides shelter and help in finding jobs and apartments. The kids in AJC religious school collected toiletries that were donated to ACCESS, which is a non-profit organization that does not receive any money from the government, so they rely on donations and grants, like those we provided.

The ACCESS house is in a hidden location. When women and children are abused they can call ACCESS and someone will come and pick them up and take them to a safe place. The address is a secret so that the people who would hurt them cannot find them. The women and children can stay in the ACCESS house as long as they want; the longest anyone has stayed was 9 months.

One story she told was about a boy who beat, yelled and swore at his mother because he thought that was what normal men did, after watching his father behave that way.

At ACCESS he learned that this behavior was wrong and that most normal people did

not behave like that. After learning that this was not normal behavior he stopped beating his mother.

While they are living in the ACCESS house the women and children get counseling to help them cope with their tragic experience. There are a lot of rules while they are living in the ACCESS house to help encourage them to find their own apartments and start living independent lives.

I think that it is good for us to help them because it will help them make better lives for themselves. As members of AJC we lead comfortable, easy lives, and it is good for us to remember and help people who are less fortunate than us.

Elijah, along with all the students of the AJC Religious School, learned a lot about the importance of Mitzvah right here in our own community. Our school contribution of toiletries touched the lives of the many women and children staying at ACCESS.

# 2005 HIAS Scholarship Awards Competition

## Who is Eligible for the Competition?

The HIAS scholarship competition is open to refugees and asylees who were assisted by HIAS to come to the U.S. You must have immigrated after January 1, 1992. Awards are intended for high school seniors (12th graders) planning to attend college or students already enrolled in college, university or graduate school programs who will continue school the following year. Engineering, nursing, computers and other trade programs are all acceptable. You must have completed one full year (2 semesters) of study at any combination of U.S. high school, undergraduate or graduate school at the time of application. The semester in which you are currently enrolled will not be considered by the Scholarship Committee.

## What Criteria are Used to Judge the Applicants?

Applicants will be judged in three areas: academic scholarship, financial need and Jewish communal involvement. Please be aware that applying for a HIAS Scholarship does not guarantee that you will be awarded one.

## What is the Award?

\$1,500 towards your educational expenses.

## How do I Apply?

Applications will be accepted online after December 15th.

Important Note: Tuesday, **March 15, 2005** at midnight EST is the on-line application deadline. Additionally, all mailed materials must be postmarked by March 15, 2005.

For more information, go to <http://www.hias.org/Scholarships/apply.htm>

If you have further questions, e-mail [scholarship@hias.org](mailto:scholarship@hias.org) or call 212 613-1358.

**Good Luck in the Competition!**

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[in profile]

## Tracy Engman Finkelshteyn



Raised in Des Moines, Tracy Engman Finkelshteyn left to pursue her musical studies and recently returned with her two young daughters and a Doctorate in Violin

Performance to make a life in music back here in Des Moines. Tracy, a member of Tifereth Israel Synagogue and a Pomegranate within the Federation's Womens Constituency, is the subject of this edition's In Profile.

Jewish Press: Welcome, Tracy. Many of our community members have seen you perform with the Des Moines Symphony this season, in the First Violin section. And some may have been present when you played and brought warmth to synagogue services at Tifereth Israel in January.

Tracy Engman Finkelshteyn: Thank you.

JP: How did you get into music?

TEF: I started playing the violin in the 4th grade at Clive Elementary through the West Des Moines public school system. I had group violin lessons and beginning string orchestra, just like they have today. While I was in high school, I played in the Des Moines Youth Symphony and participated in All-State Orchestra for several years. When I was a junior at Roosevelt High School, after my family moved to the south side, I auditioned and joined the Des Moines Symphony. At the time, I was the youngest person to have been accepted into the Symphony, which was very exciting.

JP: Where did you study after graduating from Roosevelt?

TEF: I went to Northwestern University as a music major and graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education degree. I then went immediately to the Yale School of Music to get a Master of Music in violin performance. As a music student, I practiced four or five hours a day. I would start my academic classes at 9:00 am and would typically study or practice until midnight or 1:00 am. There wasn't much time for anything outside of school.

JP: And your first real job?

TEF: I accepted a job in "sunny" Winnipeg, Canada, with the Winnipeg Symphony. I also played in the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra. That was from 1987-89. The Symphony offered me tenure and I handed them my resignation. The weather was severe and very depressing. I'm sorry to say that there was not much to do in town. More than that, though, after having spent so much time practicing and having so much passion for my instrument, I felt that the musical climate was not satisfying and that my own performance level was starting to slip.

JP: So you moved...

TEF: Yes. I decided at that point that I wanted to get into University teaching. I figured that a Master's from Yale would at least get me some interviews. Fortunately, I found a temporary position at St. Olaf College, just south of the Twin Cities. The instructor was taking a one semester maternity leave. I was there for one semester, full time, and I loved it. I was teaching violin, coaching chamber music

and conducting the Chamber Orchestra and I just had a ball. I performed several solo and chamber music recitals and was also freelancing in the Twin Cities. I was playing Minnesota Opera and all sorts of chamber ensembles. After the one semester at St. Olaf, I taught part time at Carleton College and started, again, applying for full time university teaching positions. I couldn't even get an interview with only a Master's degree.

JP: You found the competition very stiff for someone with only a Master's degree. So what did you do?

TEF: After applying for positions for about a year, I decided I needed to go back to school and get a Doctorate. At that point, I contacted my violin professor at Northwestern. Because of my university teaching experience, I got a full scholarship and a stipend to return to Northwestern to do my Doctorate, which I started in 1991. During the time I was a student, I was in charge of the string chamber music program, so I was coaching string quartets. I got married in 1992, at the beginning of my second year of school. I finished my course work in the spring of 1993 and joined the faculty the next fall. I was a member of the faculty until March, 1995, when my daughter Becca was born. After my maternity leave, I began studying for the required comprehensive and oral exams for my degree, which I completed one week before Becca's first birthday.

JP: You then moved again.

TEF: In May of 1996, we moved to Raleigh, North Carolina, where my husband had gotten a job as Principal Bass in the North Carolina Symphony. At that point I started teaching at North Carolina State University. I did a lot of playing at Duke University, subbed with the North Carolina Symphony and was concertmaster of the Raleigh Civic Symphony and Chamber Orchestra. I was also slowly chopping away at my degree – working on my dissertation and returning to Chicago to perform recitals. To finish the degree, I had to play three "short" recitals, one major recital and the dissertation. My full recital was in September of 1998 and I graduated the following June.

JP: You then had your doctorate in performance. What next?

TEF: I continued teaching and playing in North Carolina and had another daughter, Anya, in December, 2000. After the termination of my marriage, the girls and I moved back to Des Moines last summer.

JP: What are your hopes for your children?

TEF: Like all parents, I want them to be healthy and happy. It is important to me that they have a life that is filled with laughter, love, music and dance. I try my best to teach them tolerance and understanding of people who are different than they are. Being kind to one another is a big thing in our house. It also is very important to me that they grow up with a very strong Jewish identity.

JP: What is important Jewishly to you?

TEF: I am a member of Tifereth, the synagogue in which I grew up and was Bat Mitzvahed under Cantor Spiro and Rabbi Cytron. I find our current rabbi, Rabbi HaLevi, to have ideas that are very



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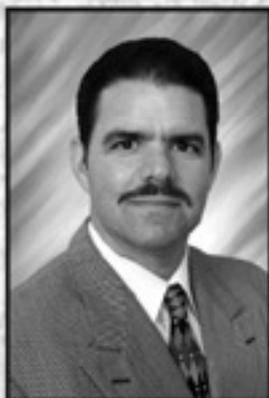
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For more information, call Elaine Steinger at the Des Moines Jewish Foundation, 277-6321.

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# Pomegranate Naomi Mercer to Join Iowa Legal Aid Hall of Fame, March 8



Iowa Legal Aid will honor Des Moines attorney Naomi Mercer for her years of service to the cause of attaining equal justice for her clients and for her years of volunteer work for the Legal Services Corporation of Iowa (Iowa Legal Aid).

Ms. Mercer, along with fellow honorees attorney Robert N. Downer and Senator Tom Harkin, will be inducted into the Iowa Legal Aid Hall of Fame on Tuesday, March 8, 2005, 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Hotel Fort Des Moines. For additional information or to obtain tickets to "Equal Justice After Hours: A Tribute to Friends of Iowa Legal Aid" call 243-2980 x 1646.

Ms. Mercer received her undergraduate education at Drake University and earned her law degree from the Drake University Law School. During her career, she worked for Legal Aid and the Public Defender's Office prior to opening her own office. She specialized in Civil Rights litigation.

Naomi Mercer began her law school

studies and practice after her childrearing duties were over. She was one of three women who survived the 1968 Drake University law school graduate class. She worked for three years with the Legal Aid Society of Polk County, followed by three years as a public defender. While in private practice, she specialized in civil rights law, filing cases to promote diversity in hiring practices in the Des Moines Fire Department, and to defend the rights of lesbian mothers, prisoners, and other vulnerable citizens. She worked with Judge Leo Oxberger, and the Iowa Department of Corrections Director Harry Woods, to launch a work release program for non-violent offenders. In 1998, she received the YWCA Mary Louise Smith Award for her commitment to civil rights causes. In 1977, Naomi was one of the incorporators of the Legal Services Corporation of Iowa (LSCI), a predecessor of Iowa Legal Aid. After retiring, she volunteered for several years at LSCI to help new clients with their legal problems. Naomi was married for 54 years to lawyer and insurance executive, Bernard Mercer. For several years they practiced law together with a focus on community action.

Ms. Mercer is a member of Temple

**Oburak** continued from page 1 Santos Oburak emigrated from Sudan. He fled Sudan because of the war waged against Christians by Al Qaida-trained Muslim rebels. Santos was beaten on many occasions and his family there still lives with great fear of continued persecution by militias controlled by the Arab Islamic government in Khartoum.

Fortunately, the Oburaks have come to America, but life has not been easy. There have been organized Tzedakah drives for Santos, Jante and little Rita Oburak, through the Jewish Federation Community School and the former DSM Jewish Academy, bringing in money, clothing and household items for them. We have assisted with loans and Tzedakah disbursements to help the Oburaks make ends meet.

In addition, Rabbi Simpson, the JFS director, consistently stays in touch with them and has facilitated referrals to courses such as English as a Second Language. They have also been offered funding for vocational training. Santos has only been able to find part time work and Jante needs to drive 45 minutes each way to work in a cold and damp meat packing plant in Pella.

When Jante's family in Sri Lanka were killed by the enormous waves that engulfed their village, we were the first they turned to. Jante's brother was in desperate need of assistance. We are

working with them to try to obtain funds to send Jante to Sri Lanka to visit her brother who survived.

Santos, who is a hard worker and is constantly looking to improve his situation here, has helped in the formation of a group of local Sudanese that formed a coalition - Equatorian Sudanese Community Association - to address their unique cultural, religious and educational needs. Members of the JFS met with the heads of this particular group, and with Rev. Goanor Chol, a local representative for Sudanese refugees and leader within the interfaith coalition, who works closely with JCRC. We are helping to find a place for Santos' group to house their activities.

A key mission of the Federation's Jewish Family Services Committee is to provide Tzedakah assistance to indigent individuals. Our help is offered to Jews and non-Jews alike. Close to \$1,500 per month in emergency assistance is distributed to cover shortfalls in rent, utility bills, food, medicines, and a host of related items. Our ability to help many more individuals and families has recently increased because of a generous contribution from the David Tobis Fund.

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# United Nations Observes Anniversary of Liberation of Nazi Death Camps

By Peter Heinlein, United Nations. 24-January 2005

[Voice of America] The U.N. General Assembly has held a special session marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camps. Foreign ministers and a host of dignitaries joined death camp survivors for the observance.

It was an unprecedented occasion; the first time the General Assembly has held a commemorative session. In his opening remarks, Secretary General Kofi Annan called it fitting that the gathering was dedicated to remembering the evils of the Nazi Holocaust. "The United Nations must never forget that it was created as a response to the evil of Nazism, or that the horror of the Holocaust helped to shape its mission. That response is enshrined in our Charter, and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights," he said.

Death camp survivor and Nobel peace prize winner Elie Wiesel led the list of ministers and dignitaries addressing the session. In a powerful speech, Mr. Wiesel said the horrors of the death camps defy understanding. He reminded the gathering that indifference to suffering only helps the aggressors, never the victims. "I'm convinced if the world had listened to those of us who tried to speak, and nobody listened, but if the world had listened, we may have prevented Darfur, Cambodia, Bosnia, and naturally Rwanda," he said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Sylvan Shalom warned the assembly that, despite efforts to stamp out hatred, anti-Semitism is again on the rise. He pointed in particular to the rise of movements aimed at denying the Holocaust. "Who could have imagined, 60 years after Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen, the Jewish people would be the targets of anti-Semitic attacks, even in the countries that witnessed the Nazi atrocities. Yet this is exactly what is happening," he said.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer said the stain of the Holocaust makes it his country's duty to banish and combat anti-Semitism, as well as racism, xenophobia and intolerance "This barbaric crime will always be a part of German history. For my country it signifies the absolute moral abomination, a denial of all things civilized without precedent or parallel. The new democratic Germany has drawn its conclusions. The historic and moral responsibility for Auschwitz has left an indelible mark on us," he said.

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz led the U.S. delegation. He said the lesson of the Nazi death camps is that peaceful nations cannot sit idly by in the face of genocide.

Without mentioning the U.S.-led military action in Iraq, Mr. Wolfowitz noted that Americans have throughout their history pursued war as a duty when necessary. "Americans have fought often to liberate others from slavery and tyranny in order to protect our own freedom. Cemeteries from France to North Africa, with their rows of Christian crosses and Stars of David, attest to that truth. When Americans have taken up arms, it was believing that, in the end, it is never just about us alone, knowing that woven into our liberty is a mantle of responsibility, knowing that the whole world benefits when people are free to realize their dreams and develop their talents," he said.

A U.N. spokesman said 150 of the 191 member states had written the Secretary-General in support of the unprecedented special assembly session.

Still, there were signs of division. Most Arab countries did not send representatives to the gathering, and the assembly hall was less than half full.

Israel's U.N. Ambassador Dan

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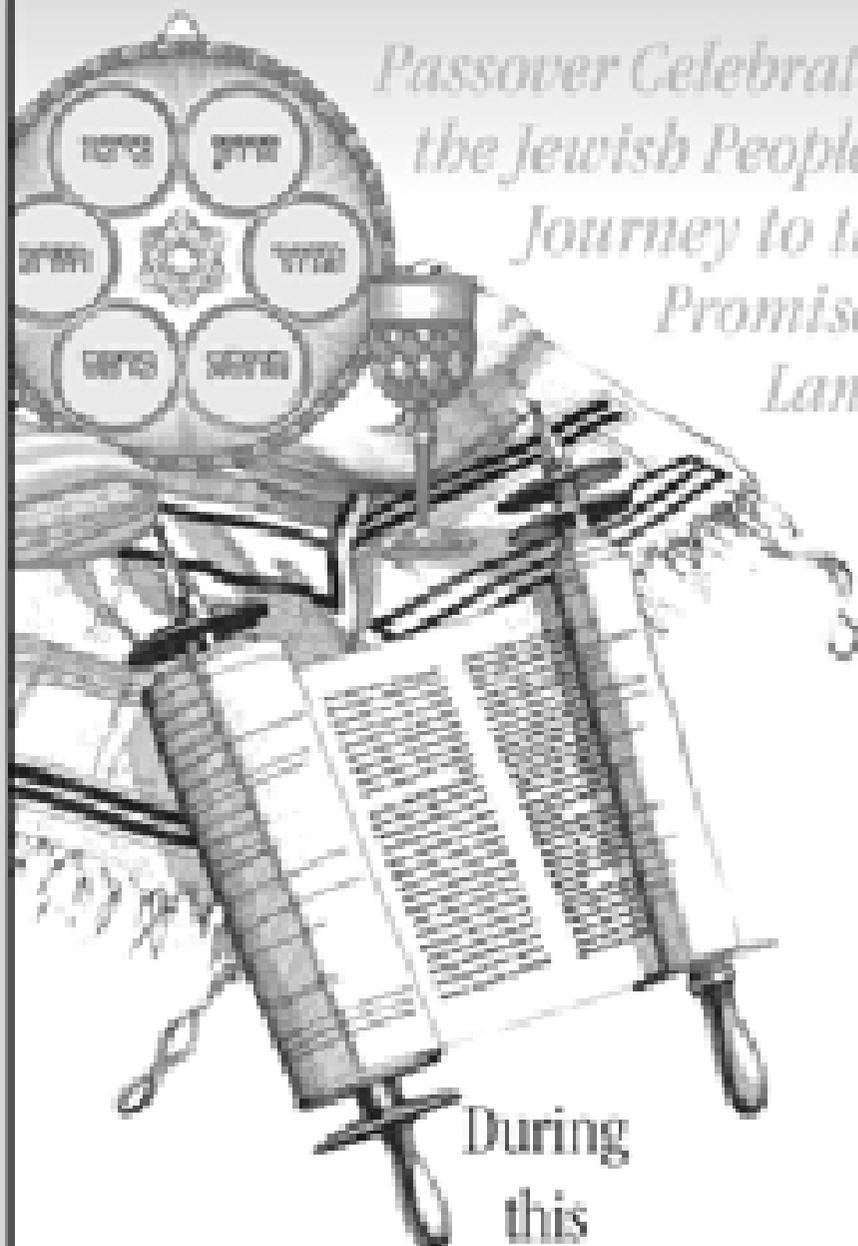
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## Making An Impression: History of the Sioux City Jewish

**"All history becomes subjective; in other words, there is properly no history, only biography."**

When Ralph Waldo Emerson said that, he could have been talking about Sioux City's Jewish community and, in particular, about a colorful character named Jake Shapiro, a Jewish refugee from Russia, who came to Sioux City in 1912, and whose life continues in the stories kept alive by his youngest son, Ben Shapiro, 79.

"They got married June 1, 1917," Ben said of his parents, in a story he was obviously not relating for the first time. "And my mother got pregnant evidently on the wedding night. So he brought her up here to Sioux City and they lived in a small apartment near the synagogue down by Seventh and Iowa streets.

"Well, about the time that she found out she was pregnant, they sat down for breakfast on Sunday morning and she said, 'Well, you know we have to get a bigger place. I'm pregnant.'

"So he went to synagogue that Sunday morning, which was on Seventh and Iowa - they lived in this apartment on Eighth and Iowa. And he met Mr. Seff there, which was the Realtor in that day. And he said, 'Mr. Seff I'd like to buy a piece of property.' He says, 'we want to start having a family.'

"Mr. Seff says, 'I've got just the house for you.' And after the services, he took my dad up to 11th and Iowa streets. He had to go right by the apartment that my mother was in. He goes to 11th and Iowa, and he sees the house. It's a duplex. He buys it on the spot, and they lived in it for their entire lives.

"He thought it was the greatest house in the world, and she hated it every day she lived there. She hated it.

"This is the kind of thing that he would always do," Ben said, chuckling. "I don't think I could get away with that."

His wife Betty's smile confirmed that assessment.

Times have indeed changed in Sioux City.

When the city was founded 150 years ago by pioneer traders and merchants as the designated gateway to the vast Dakota Territory, the founders represented a diverse group of ethnic heritages. There were Dutch and Germans, French and Scandinavian, Irish and westward-leaning colonials; and there were a dozen or more Jews among them, all with their own personal histories.

Like the other rugged individuals who moved West in search of freedom and prosperity in those early days, their ethnic ties were a little weak, according to Susan Marks Conner's history book, "I Remember When... Personal Recollections and Vignettes of the Sioux City Jewish Community, 1869-1984." But they got along well with their fellow pioneers. They had to, just to survive.

Former Journal state editor Ben Shuman, in his book, "A History of the Sioux City Jewish Community (1869-1969)," said there were no overt signs of religious intolerance in Iowa in those days, "with the Iowans welcoming the

Jews who came to settle among them."

Old newspaper statistics showed that Jews lived in 35 different Iowa towns prior to the outbreak of the Civil War. In Sioux City, three names were listed: I. Haas, Godfrey Hattenbach and M. Simon, all with the occupation of dry goods merchant. Hattenbach, in fact, is generally acknowledged as the "father" of the Sioux City Jewish Community.

A German immigrant, Hattenbach arrived with his wife Frances in Sioux City in 1857, three years after Sioux City was incorporated. Then an untamed city on the banks of the Missouri River, its population was about 400 hardy souls.

"His search for freedom and fortune also was a forerunner of countless other Jews who would someday follow his footsteps from the old world to the new.

"It is reported he became a fisherman, a livelihood which gave him enough money to start the first billiard parlor in Sioux City," Shuman wrote.

The threat of an Indian invasion, it was said, may have prompted him to move east to Cincinnati for a while where he stayed in the cigar business until 1869.

"Evidently the spirit of the West was too strong, for he returned that year to Sioux City, where he remained until his death Aug. 12, 1879," Shuman said.

Ten years prior to his death, there were enough Jews living in Sioux City for the heads of 25 families to hold a meeting to acquire land to start a Jewish cemetery. Dating from 1869, Conner wrote, there has been an uninterrupted continuity of organized Jewish life in Sioux City.

But for many years, the only Jewish institution in town was the cemetery.

In 1869, the great mass of the world's Jewish population lived in Eastern European ghettos, with only a small minority living emancipated lives in Western Europe and America, Conner wrote. Israel was just a dream.

The Jews were not migrating anywhere in appreciable numbers. The great Irish and German migrations to the U.S. had been under way for a generation or more, but the massive tide of Eastern Jewish migration that swept across the Atlantic would not begin for another 20 years. Until then, Conner wrote, most Jewish immigrants to the U.S. came as part of the German migration in the years between 1848 and the Civil War.

From 1869 to 1884, the year the Eastern Jewish immigrant tide reached Sioux City, the Jewish community was made up of German-Jewish and Alsatian-Jewish families, nearly all comfortably well-off businessmen living compatibly with their non-Jewish neighbors.

"One earlier entrepreneur," Conner wrote, "was a self-proclaimed Jew and an enigma, a clothier and dry-goods dealer who regularly advertised in the Sioux City Journal and Times as "Old Kirk, King of the Jews."

He could have been a real Jew or just a non-Jew capitalizing on a marketing gimmick. Nobody knows. According to Conner's history, Sioux City in those early days saw no regular Jewish worship and

no religious education except for what might have been provided in individual homes. Some of the Jewish families attended Protestant churches and sent their children to Christian Sunday schools. A few joined the Unitarian congregation.

Except for the cemetery and the Mount Sinai Cemetery Association, which was formed in 1884, there was little real organization in Sioux City's Jewish society.

Then, early in the 1880s, the women formed a Hebrew Ladies Aid Society which sewed, visited the poor and engaged in other charitable efforts.

And once the women were organized, there was no question that change was in the air. The men really had no choice.

The Hebrew Ladies Aid Society pressed for the organization of a Jewish congregation, and they wanted it to be affiliated with the Reform movement which then, at least, well removed from the Orthodox tradition, was considered extremely liberal, Westernized Judaism. For many years, these women conducted the only Sabbath school in the community, meeting in various members' homes, and they assisted the men in securing student rabbis for the High Holy Days and later helped raise the money to build Mount Sinai Temple. The Mount

Sinai Temple congregation was organized in 1898.

Conner noted that the husbands of these women were evidently not as zealous as their wives about creating Jewish institutions. There is no record of any men's meeting on communal matters between 1869 and 1888.

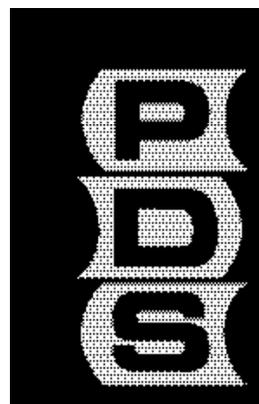
Eventually, on Sept. 1, 1901, Mount Sinai Temple was dedicated at 14th and Nebraska streets. By then there were already two thriving Orthodox synagogues on the east side of the city, and a third and fourth were started soon afterward on Sioux City's west side.

Political events in Europe by then had triggered a mass migration of Jews to the U.S. and eventually into Sioux City. The first eastern European Jewish immigrants arrived in Sioux City in 1882, and the migration continued steadily until World War I, when all immigration was

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**March 20 - 2pm**

### • THE CHOSEN

Starring Maximilian Schell and Rod Steiger. This film examines the differences among Orthodox Jews and conflicts between fathers and sons. Set in Brooklyn in the 1940's, the story focuses on two sons and two fathers: Danny, the brilliant scion of a Hassidic dynasty in training to succeed his formidable father as Grand Rabbi; Reuven, the son of a worldly progressive scholar. The boys develop a strong friendship. When the fathers enter into a bitter, passionate conflict over the issue of Zionism, their sons must part ways-until one makes the painful choice to

**March 27 - 2pm**

### • The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg

As Hitler invaded Europe, a young Jewish baseball player challenged Babe Ruth's homerun record. This is the story of how he became an American hero.

A humorous and nostalgic documentary about an extraordinary baseball player who transcended religious prejudice to become an American icon. Detroit Tiger Hammerin' Hank's accomplishments during the Golden Age of Baseball rivaled those of Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig.

This compelling documentary examines how America's first Jewish baseball star was a beacon of hope to American Jews who faced bigotry during the Depression and World War II. Includes interviews with Ira Berkow, Ernie Harwell, Joe Falls, Dick Schaap, Bob Feller, Charlie Gehringer, Ralph Kiner, Alan Dershowitz, Congressman Sander Levin and Senator Carl Levin, Walter Matthau, Michael Moriarty, and Maury Povich.

[science]

## HIV/AIDS BREAKTHROUGH AT HADASSAH:

### A Therapeutic Vaccine That Complements The Cocktail

Jerusalem, January 6, 2005 - A Hadassah University Medical Center research team has developed a vaccine that significantly strengthens the body's immune system against the autoimmune pathological conditions resulting from HIV infection, a breakthrough that could have a dramatic and positive impact on the treatment of AIDS patients. The results of this study were published in the latest issue of the Journal of Clinical Virology.

HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus, causes damage several ways. First, it attacks and destroys white blood cells called CD4, which are an integral component of the body's immune system. Second, it confuses the autoimmune system, so that, even after the cocktail of drugs commonly used to kill the virus does its job, the immune system turns inward against itself. Newly recruited "killer cells" continue to do damage by destroying more CD4 cells, leaving patients prone to additional infections, the worst stage of which is AIDS. Hadassah scientists have successfully identified the "killer cells" as CD8 white blood cells. Researchers remove them, reproduce them in large numbers in the lab, kill them, and finally re-inject them as a vaccine that will stimulate the immune system to destroy the remaining "killer cells" in the blood stream.

The research group is headed by Dr. Rivka Abulafia-Lapid and assisted by Yael Keren-Zur, at the Human Biology Research Center, directed by Prof. Henri Atlan, who is also associated with the Department of

Biophysics and Nuclear Medicine, Ein Kerem, Jerusalem. This study was done in collaboration with Prof. Zvi Bentwich and Prof. Irun Cohen from the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Seven patients were treated with the new therapeutic vaccine. Each received between three and four injections over a six-month period. Following treatment, the patients' CD4 cell count was monitored for another two years. In five of the seven vaccinated patients, the CD4 cells increased by more than 50 percent.

Said Dr. Rivka Abulafia-Lapid: "Our aim was to strengthen the immune system. The vaccination treatment complements the antiviral by stopping the body from continuing to destroy itself."

Researchers are continuing their development of the vaccine funded by a grant from Hadasit, the Hadassah subsidiary that promotes and commercializes the intellectual properties generated at Hadassah and by the Center for the Study of Emerging Diseases. Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, is the largest women's, largest Jewish and largest Zionist organization in the U.S., and supports the Hadassah Medical Organization in Israel. HMO is the most advanced medical and research center in the Middle East: Nearly one million patients from all over the world are treated each year at the two hospitals, a community health center, and more than 100 outpatient clinics. In the U.S., Hadassah programs also include health education and services, social action and advocacy,

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## coping with life's emotional milestones

**Gail Saltz, MD • 2:30pm-3:45pm**

Certain developmental milestones occur throughout women's lifetimes due both to emotional responses to external events (empty nest, aging parents, illness) and to internal adjustments to the aging process (loss of youth, mortality issues). While potentially stressful, these changes can lead to fulfilling and enhanced new phases of life. Discover the psychological and hormonal contributors to depression and anxiety, how they differ from normal feelings of sadness and fear and when professional evaluation and treatment is appropriate. Learn coping strategies for dealing with the inherent difficulties of later life to increase pleasure and fulfillment. Dr. Saltz is a psychoanalyst, an associate professor of psychiatry at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, a regular health contributor to the

# Holocaust Testimonies To Be Added to Des Moines Public Library Collection

The Des Moines Public Library has been selected by the Shoah Foundation to participate in its Testimony to Tolerance Initiative. The Testimony to Tolerance Initiative is a new program designed by the Shoah Foundation to bring anti-bias education—in partnership with local public libraries—to mid-sized communities in the United States and address the need for Holocaust and tolerance education. The program includes a regional collection of testimonies from the Shoah Foundation archive along with extensive outreach and training to the community and its educators.

After filming Schindler's List back in 1994, film producer Steven Spielberg established the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation to videotape and preserve testimonies of Holocaust survivors and other witnesses before it was too late. Having collected nearly 52,000 videotaped testimonies in fifty-six countries and thirty-two languages, the mission of the Shoah Foundation today is to overcome prejudice, intolerance, and bigotry—and the suffering they cause—through the educational use of the Foundation's visual history testimonies. The Shoah Foundation is currently working to develop global partnerships to achieve three strategic goals: to preserve and provide access to the archive; to

build and support educational programs; and to develop educational products based on the Foundation's testimonies.

With funding from Andrea and James Gordon, the Des Moines Public Library will now house a collection of videotaped testimonies given by survivors and witnesses conducted in Iowa, that are now in the Shoah Foundation archive.

By participating in the Testimony to Tolerance Initiative, the city of Des Moines will both advance the existing tolerance education initiatives that are already in place and be able to proudly serve the entire state of Iowa with this unique collection of first person testimonies. The Des Moines Visual History Collection will include seventeen English-language testimonies that were conducted in Iowa. Each of the seventeen testimonies in the collection is a unique life story that includes personal memories of pre-war life, the struggle to survive, and the aftermath of the war. Materials are expected to arrive later this spring and they will be available for viewing on computers at the library, and for checkout on DVD.

The Testimony to Tolerance Initiative is a community-driven, tolerance education program for implementation in cities across the United States. Des Moines

is one of the first of just a few communities to have been selected to date. The Shoah Foundation hopes to assist communities around the country in advancing their own efforts towards tolerance education by providing a local site such as the public library with Shoah Foundation testimonies for its permanent collection; sponsoring programs to involve the entire community and inspire students; and distributing free educational materials to every middle and high school in the district.

The Initiative is a comprehensive plan designed to engage all of the stakeholders in the community. In the first phase, the Shoah Foundation provides a Visual History collection of first-person testimonies to the library. During the second phase, a site coordinator provided by the Initiative will work with faculty at both the library and in local schools to help librarians, parents and teachers incorporate Shoah Foundation materials into existing curricula, local activities, and community events. In the third phase, the foundation will work with middle and high school faculty advisors from the local school district to establish Shoah Foundation-sponsored Diversity Clubs to encourage local schools and students to promote tolerance in their local neighborhoods.

## ANOLIK SUBJECT OF IPTV



In January, Iowa Public Television's "Living in Iowa" re-broadcast an interview with Des Moines resident and Holocaust survivor

Charles Anolik. The interview brought out the following information, as summarized by IPTV.

Charles Anolik was born in 1917 in Kovno, Lithuania to a middle-class Jewish family. When the Germans invaded Kovno in 1941, he and his family were taken to a ghetto and then eventually to the Dachau concentration camp.

By the time World War II had ended, Charles, his mother Mina, his brother Ben and Ben's wife were the only members of the family who survived. Charles' father, younger brother, four-year-old nephew, and cousins were all murdered.

Today, Charles lives in America, Des Moines, Iowa to be exact, with his wife Adele. They have three children and four grandchildren. And, for fifty years, Charles has been a hairdresser.

In the '50's, he owned Salon Charles and styled hair for the socialites of the city. Now, even though he is retired, he continues to do hair for a few women.

Through a loving family and rewarding career, he has learned to find

## HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SPEAKS IN INDIANOLA, COVERED BY RECORD-HERALD

Staff Writer for the Indianola Record-Herald, wrote the following piece last year, entitled "Des Moines Man Talks About Surviving Concentration Camps." The article was augmented by a photo of the speaker, Jacob Waizman.

Holocaust survivor Jacob Waizman recently spoke to students in Indianola about his experiences in Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

Waizman, who lives in Des Moines, spoke to middle school and high school students during a youth program at the First United Methodist Church.

Member of the church and area attorney Mark Schlenker first met Waizman while working with Holocaust survivors in Des Moines. Schlenker, who serves as honorary consul for Germany for Iowa and Nebraska, said Waizman was willing to come to the church to share his story with the young people.

"It was an opportunity for kids to meet someone locally who is a Holocaust survivor," said Schlenker. "There are very few survivors left and even fewer who are willing to talk about it."

Waizman, who grew up in Poland, was separated from his family when he was 17 years old. He worked in concen-

tration camps such as Auschwitz and Buchenwald.

Waizman endured many hardships – he experienced the death of his family, escaped his own death several times and was even ordered to dig his own grave. In April of 1945, the day Waizman, weighing only 60 pounds, was ordered to be shot, the camp was liberated.

Five years later, Waizman came to Des Moines where he served as an engineer for the Des Moines Schools.

Waizman frequently speaks to youth and church groups on the topic, and also took part in a memorial program at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.

While at the museum he saw a picture of his father in a display of many photos, and recalls shedding tears over seeing the photo.

Waizman said he sat with a stranger at the museum who began reminiscing about a young woman who risked her life smuggling food inside milk cans to the other prisoners. That young woman is another survivor – Jacob's wife, Paula.

Schlenker said Waizman's presentation is something the children will remember as they grow up and be something they can share with future children.

## Visit the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Please notify JCRC whenever you have an opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. and would like to visit the U S

Holocaust Memorial Museum. We can help you with arrangements. Contact 277-6321 x 214. The Museum is online at

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## Holocaust-Era Swiss Bank

### Claims

newly available of Swiss bank account holders who were probably or possibly victims of Nazi persecution. The list, resulting from further negotiations with Swiss banks, is part of the claims process under the Settlement of the Holocaust Victim Assets class action litigation in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York, Chief Judge Edward R. Korman presiding. To date, the Court has authorized repayment of more than \$220 million from the Settlement Fund to bank account owners or their heirs.

The new list of Swiss bank account holders is on the website of the Claims Resolution Tribunal, [www.crt-ii.org](http://www.crt-ii.org). Applications are also available on this website. Please call the telephone number below if you are unable to view this new list of bank account holders.

- Individuals who believe that they are

owners, or heirs of owners, of the accounts included in the new list must file an application.

- Applications may only be submitted for the accounts appearing on the new list.
- If you previously filed an application with the Claims Resolution Tribunal for another account and you now want to claim an account on the new list, you must submit a new application.
- There is no fee or other charge for filing and processing claims.
- Deadline for filing new applications: July 13, 2005.

A list of organizations that will assist individuals with the applications is included with the claim forms and is available at [www.crt-ii.org](http://www.crt-ii.org). Please check the website of the Claims Resolution Tribunal, [www.crt-ii.org](http://www.crt-ii.org) periodically for updates regarding the Settlement. For more information

## National Museum of American Jewish Military History

When in Washington D.C., you might consider visiting the National Museum of American Jewish Military History. Located near Dupont Circle, the museum is at 118 R Street. Admission is free. Their hours are 9-5 Monday-Friday.

Their current exhibit is entitled "Reconnaissance and Recollection: Military and Civilian photographs from WWII" by Sy Weinstein, an official military

photographer assigned to the European theater. In addition, their exhibition gallery features a number of displays, among them "Women in the Military: A Jewish Perspective." In all, the museum contains 6,000 square feet devoted to exhibits, plus archival space. The museum was chartered by an act of Congress in 1958. Information about their present and past exhibits may be viewed on their



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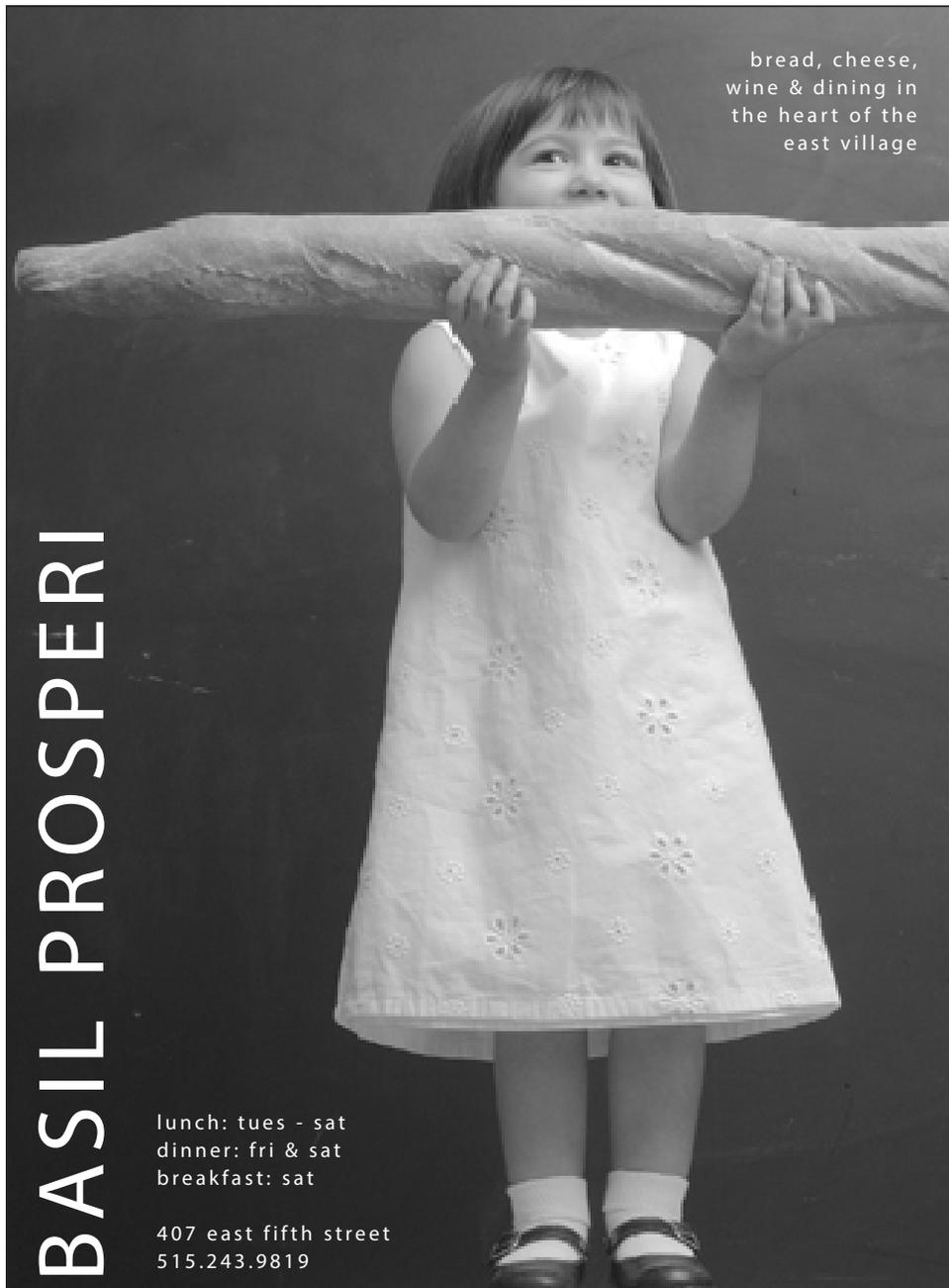
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[view from Israel]

## A Current Controversy in Israel

By former Areiva to Des Moines, Ayelet Kleinman



Shalom to all my friends!

In this month's column, I'd like to do something slightly different. Instead of focusing on family issues or holidays, let me present a case of domestic political interest and I'll share my thoughts about it with you.

The case involves a woman named Tali Fahima. Her story has been playing in the media since December. Tali Fahima is a left-wing activist and Israeli citizen indicted by the Tel Aviv District Court on multiple charges. They include: aiding the enemy in a time of war, interfering with IDF [Army] counter-terrorism operations and membership in a terrorist organization.

Fahima is alleged to have translated documents and furnished information that foiled IDF missions and prevented the capture of Jenin [West Bank]-based terrorists.

She is not charged with perpetrating an attack, but she is linked to terrorist activities. The indictment follows her serving five months in administrative detention. Fahima will be released from administrative detention and placed under house arrest. The Judge delayed the implementation of the court decision for 24 hours, in order to allow the state to file an appeal.

The Judge ruled that, without mitigating the acts attributed to the accused, reading from a document that falls into the hands of activists in a terror organization, and translated by the accused, does not present a level of risk requiring someone to be incarcerated until the end of proceedings. The judge noted that the serious thing was that the document had come into the enemy's possession.

My opinion? I just can't believe that in war-time someone can actually do what she did. And even if she is not entirely guilty, I still think she should be sentenced.

I heard her lawyer talking this morning on the radio. The attorney was blaming the Army for not keeping their documents secure, and said that Fahima is not the one to blame for obtaining them and translating them. I can understand Fahima's point of view: she wanted to help for the people in need (as she saw it.) But helping terrorists won't benefit the Palestinian people. I don't consider Fahima a hero. Israel is a democracy; therefore if you want to protest, there are legitimate ways to do it.

We'll see what happens. If you're interested, feel free to write to me with your thoughts on this case. My e-mail is klayelet@hotmail.com

I wish you all a very happy Purim and a wonderful Passover!

Till next time, take care - Yours, Ayelet.

### Israel Partnership 2000 News

## Israel Director for Western Galilee and P2K Staff to Visit

Damon Rose, the Jewish Agency's Director for the Western Galilee, our partnership region in Israel, and our Partnership 2000 (P2K) staff person, Beth Zuriel will visit Des Moines on March 29 and 30. Our visitors will be involved in a variety of activities while they are here in Des Moines, learning more about our community and speaking about the partnership program and the Western Galilee, perhaps the most diverse area in Israel in terms of its population. If you would like to meet our guests, please contact JCRC at 277-6321 x214.



The Jewish Agency for Israel is the organization that transforms financial resources into action. The Jewish Agency, with funds raised in Diaspora communities, absorbs new immigrants, creates Jewish educational materials and strengthens the ties among Jews all over

the world.

In the Western Galilee Region, in addition to P2K, the Jewish Agency operates:

- The Tapuz Absorption Center in Nahariya, home to 300 immigrants from Ethiopia.
- First Home in the Homeland, a program for immigrant families from the Former Soviet Union who wish to live on kibbutz.
- Kibbutz Ulpan, a program to help newcomers learn Hebrew and to facilitate their absorption into Israeli Society.

Partnership 2000 (P2K) and The Jewish Agency for Israel

Partnership 2000 (P2K) is a program of the Jewish Federations and the Jewish Agency for Israel that promotes regional development in Israel and forges relationships between these regions and Jewish communities in the Diaspora. P2K supports education, twinning and coexistence programs, leadership development, economic and tourism initiatives. The Central Region Consortium to

## ISRAEL HOLDS NATIONAL FUNDRAISING DAY FOR TSUNAMI VICTIMS

On Tuesday, February 1, IsraAid members, through the Israel Campaign for South East Asia Relief, held a National Fundraising Day for Tsunami Victims. Radio and television stations have prepared programming to assist in the fundraising while showing Israel's efforts to aid the Tsunami victims thus

far. Israeli President Moshe Katsav stated, "We, members of the Jewish people who saw such painful things in the history of our people, cannot stand by when we see the terrible suffering of the tsunami disaster. Israel extends a warm hand of friendship to those whose lives have been destroyed." [From JCPA]

## In the Kitchen With Neil Salowitz



Although a newcomer to Des Moines in 1999, it took Neil Salowitz a very short time to determine that Des Moines was the kind of community he would enjoy living in for years to come. He has become an active participant in the community with his wife, Debra, and two daughters, Shoshana and Rachel, and raves about all that Des Moines has to offer.

Neil was born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1951 to Morris and Lola Salowitz who now reside in Del Ray Beach, Florida. Neil describes their household as conservative and, although he did not consider his family religious, they shared Friday night services as a family. Neil and his only sister participated in an archeological dig in 1971 in Israel, which reinforced Neil's Judaism and desire to return to Israel. For his sister, Hanna, who now lives in Worcester, Massachusetts, it was a life changing event. She stayed in Israel for several years and later married a Hassid and brought her own family up orthodox.

Neil received his undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University in Connecticut and majored in psychology. It was also at Wesleyan that Neil met Debra and it was after Debra's graduation

that they married. Neil received his MA in elementary education in 1975 from the University of Connecticut and taught first and second grade for five years before returning to the New York University School of Law for a degree in 1980.

In Hartford, Connecticut, Neil practiced bankruptcy and real estate law and it was in Hartford that both Shoshana and Rachel were born. Neil eventually left the practice of law to become involved in the financing of large shopping centers.

In 1999 Neil was lured to Des Moines by the Principal Financial Group to do similar work on their behalf. After a year with Principal Neil moved to the Principal Global Investors division and began managing assets for insurance companies, pension funds, endowments and so forth. He was involved with offering these companies alternative ways to invest their money.

For a year after his move to Des Moines, Neil commuted to Hartford so that Debra could stay behind while their daughter finished high school. But shortly after Debra's move to

Des Moines she too got involved in the Des Moines community and started a business, Salowitz Relocation Solutions, LLC which provides services and consulting to the families who have relocated to Des Moines. Helping new families feel welcome, hopefully, insures the families' commitment to remain in Des Moines. Debra has recently been named Executive Director of Winefest Des Moines as well. Rachel is a sophomore at Wesleyan University, following in the footsteps of her parents, and Shoshana is working in

Des Moines and will be a junior at Drake University in the fall.

Neil is a very talented and interesting individual and his interests have no bounds.

Neil has developed his own business also, TYCS, LLC, Telling Your Company Story, which has allowed him to work with businesses to develop stories about who they are – a story beyond their mission statement!

Fascinated by the power of story telling, Neil has become a professional

## Passover Doughnuts

Recipes from Neil Salowitz

2/3 cup of water	1 cup matzoh cake meal
1/4 tsp salt	3 eggs
1 tbsp sugar	sugar, cinnamon (nuts optional)
1/2 cup oil	

In saucepan, bring first four ingredients to a boil. Stir in matzoh meal, then remove from heat. Cool slightly. Vigorously beat in eggs one at a time. Grease hands, roll the dough into small balls, then roll the balls in sugar, cinnamon and nuts. Dip finger in cold water, and press hole into the center of the ball.

Place doughnuts on greased cookie sheet and bake in 375 degree oven for one hour.

## Passover Popovers

(These are good with brisket gravy)

1/2 cup of oil	2 cups matzoh meal
1 Tbsp coarse salt	6 eggs
2 cups boiling water	

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine first three ingredients in saucepan. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and quickly add matzoh meal, stirring constantly to prevent lumping. Remove from heat and cool

## [book review]

### OUTWITTING HISTORY BY AARON LANSKY

Reviewed by Tom Urban  
 Outwitting History: The Amazing Adventures of A Man Who Rescued A Million Yiddish Books by Aaron Lansky, Algonquin Press. 328 pages.

Every once in a while it is a pleasure to read a book that chronicles history yet is refreshingly delightful. Such is the book my son, Jonathan, gave me for Chanukah.

Outwitting History is the story of a young man in 1980 who, after taking Yiddish classes in college, has decided to save what he believes to be the 70,000 Yiddish books still in existence. He puts

out a call worldwide for the books and is overwhelmed from the response.

Aaron Lansky's escapades collecting the books over a decade and the eventual reality of 1.5 million books existing are wonderful. But more powerful and even sometimes humorous are the stories of those he meets. He meets the families of an era gone by whose compelling stories of the past can bring you to tears. But the stories are balanced by humor in Aaron's experience in each house and the stories of more gefilte fish and kugel than he can possibly eat.

Outwitting History is an easy read. It

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**Interfaith** from page 1 It has been difficult, on our part, for so much "baggage" has been brought with us. I still see it today. Christians define Judaism from a Christian template. It's like you have been frozen in time, back two millennia. We Christians have so much to learn about you, our neighbors! And then we Presbyterians, in one fell swoop, hurt and betray you, our precious neighbors! Please, know this: not all Presbyterians support these actions. By no means!

Time magazine recently addressed this hurtful and harmful action. Its first sentence, I believe, truly reflects the Presbyterian Church's true passion toward Judaism. It begins: "For nearly half a century, few interfaith relationships have been sturdier than that between Jews and the Presbyterian Church (USA)."

This has been true!

This will continue to be true, as we vocal Presbyterians work toward reversing what has been set in motion at our General Assembly this past summer. I recently began a sermon at First Presbyterian Church with the words of a New Testament figure, John the Baptist. He was one of those strong, prophetic Jewish boys of the first century of the common era. He knew his Jewish scriptures, and standing at the Jordan River, began castigating those who needed to repent. I declared then, what I declare now, in good company with that Jewish young man. I'm adding the first two words:

"Presbyterian leaders, repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Developing a plan to selectively divest in companies doing business with Israel, re: the West Bank, Gaza and the fence, and

continuing to fund a "Messianic" church in Philadelphia, are sins which we Presbyterians must repent of, seek the forgiveness of our Jewish neighbors, and get back to building a more just and humane world to live in.

(Please understand, no divestment is taking place at this time. If ever implemented, 2006 is the earliest. Also, most Presbyterians were surprised and shocked over this action. Only 500 representative votes were cast. The whole denomination of almost 3 million was not polled.)

We Presbyterians have sinned against our Jewish neighbors! Hopefully we will not become known as "stiff necked," or "Perfidious Presbyterians." Hopefully we will not actually earn such titles! Although, to date, some of our leadership appears to me to be circling the wagons.

Allow me to read from the Torah, Lev. 19:17-18: "You shall not hate your kinsfolk (neighbor) in your heart. Reprove your neighbor, but incur no guilt because of him ... you shall love your neighbor as yourself..." According to a Rabbinic source, you are not to allow ill feelings to fester toward a neighbor. Instead you are to confront and admonish your neighbor directly.

"Reprove your neighbor!" Out of concern for the whole community, neighbors are required to admonish their neighbors. A powerful text, correct in its concern for the health of God's community, God's world! But, we Presbyterians, my good neighbors, have not earned the right to reprove Judaism via Israel.

We have shamed ourselves in unilat-

erally making such hurtful and harmful decisions, without coming together with you, our Jewish neighbors, to discuss concerns. We have not earned the right to do what we did, via Israel! For two millennia we Christians have persecuted our Lord's family! And after only a 50-year start, we are so pompous and self-assured that we know "justice," and Judaism and Israel do not!

Shameful! Neighbors - you reprove us!

We Presbyterians need to repent! And we already have a wonderful tool to help us. In 1987 we produced a paper, titled "A Theological Understanding of the Relationship Between Christians and Jews." Would to God, the leaders would have read it, or remembered it, this last summer. In this paper, we Presbyterians recognize "... that Jews are in covenant relationship with God and the consideration of the implications of this reality for evangelism and witness."

Now, this study doesn't go far enough (for me), but at least it began to face the reality that Judaism is and always had been in covenant relationship with God. Christians need to be reminded over and over, again and again, we are the late comers, being grafted into the Jewish olive tree. (That's a Christian understanding that too often is neglected.) This Messianic Church is wrong! Presbyterians should not fund it!

But please understand, the Christian faith has been universalistic almost from its beginnings. Christianity has been nurtured on the "given", the "mindset" that all people must become Christians in order to please God. But, my neighbors, there

are those of us who deny such and celebrate the integrity of other faiths, certainly including Judaism! Know this, Christianity must develop Christologies (beliefs about Jesus Christ) that address Judaism's and other religions' integrity! Work is being done, but it's slow. More and more pulpits must proclaim that "Jews do not need to become Christians!" From a Christian perspective, a radical proclamation!

Our study paper also declares "a willingness to investigate the continuing significance of the promise of 'land,' and its associated obligations and to explore the implications for Christian theology."

First, the Presbyterian Church (USA) has historically stated its commitment to the right of Israel to exist. But this divestment issue, along with other critical stances toward Israel under the tent of "justice", betrays a lack of true engagement with our Jewish neighbors. The Stated Clerk of my denomination, after the fact, regrets not having engaged our Jewish neighbors before all of this transpired in the summer. How true!

When I was in Israel, a Jewish friend handed me the Jerusalem Post. In it was an article describing that a Presbyterian delegation had met with the terrorist group Hezbollah in Lebanon. Hezbollah, committed to the destruction of Israel, denounced America as an enemy of Islam, and has been linked to the 1983 truck bombing in Beirut that killed 241 US Marines! Thankfully, our denomination's Stated Clerk denounced this meeting, and two officials were fired!

I know the Israeli/Palestinian conflict is complicated. But, for many Presbyterians



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## Ben Weiss - Visionary By Robin Bear



Ben Weiss applies his creativity to his passions in photography and videography. Throughout high school he has earned numerous awards. Last summer two of Ben's photographs were displayed at the Iowa State Fair and his photo "Runway Vogue" won him a Merit Award.

Last July when the AAU Junior Olympics came to town, Ben and his friend, Jake Carpenter, were hired as free-lance photographers. Ben and Jake work together on many projects through a business they've co-created called CW Digital Visuals, a video production and website development company. One of their upcoming projects involves preserving the old Des Moines Library on videotape while the city works towards the completion of a new library.

Ben was born in Chicago and although his family moved to Sioux City for several years, most of his life has been spent in West Des Moines with his parents, Steve and Karen Weiss, and brother, Daniel. He attended the Des Moines Jewish Academy throughout elementary school and afterwards Stilwell Jr. High School. He describes the switch to public school as "a big life change" as his class of six classmates at the DMJA swelled to 300 at Stilwell.

Ben has been active in many activities throughout his four years at Valley Southwoods and Valley High School. Among his favorites: Mock Trial and the Iowa High School Speech Association (IHSSA). IHSSA offers the students opportunities for competition and requires a large time commitment. Ben participates in the Television and Newscast division and handles the videotaping and technical aspects of the newscast. Ben currently interns at KCCI-TV and utilizes his knowledge to perfect the IHSSA newscast.

Last year Wells Fargo sponsored a student essay competition in conjunction with the Allianz Golf tournament. The prize was a round of pro-am golf with the senior players. Ben entered the contest writing about his grandfather and how their close relationship developed around the game of golf. Ben's essay was one of the selected winners and he played a round with senior professional, Jose Maria Canizares.

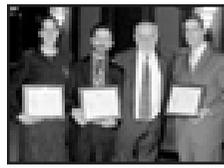
Ben's travel plans this summer include a trip to Germany with the 11th and 12th grade classes at the Jewish Federation Community School. This rare and wonderful opportunity is being provided through a program called Bridge of Understanding.

Last summer Ben traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina with Project Elijah for what he called "a cultural awakening" in which he learned about a Jewish orphanage in need of support.

With both a Presidential and Leadership scholarship in hand, Ben plans to attend Lake Forest College in Chicago this fall.

## Community News

**News from the University of Iowa Hillel** Mazal Tov to Dr. Gerald Sorokin on



attaining Senior Status as Hillel Director. Jerry is pictured left along with President of the Hillel International, Abraham Infeld, and two colleagues.

U Iowa Hillel was accorded the William Haber Award for quality programming in recognition of "Did You Hear the One About the Bigot?"

**Jewish student finds purpose at World Congress** (from the Quad City Times, 1/25/05) By Jacquie Wallner (Co-President U Iowa Hillel) The World Jewish Congress (WJC) met Jan. 9-11, in Brussels, Belgium. I was part of a delegation of American students attending the assembly. The WJC's anti-Semitism presentation began with the quote: "The two most dangerous human threats to Judaism today are ignorance and apathy. One, they don't know. And two, they don't care." Never has a statement induced such clarity in my life. The more I consider its meaning and how it applies to the Jewish community, the deeper I come to concurrence with it.

Having returned home to the Quad-Cities and onward to Iowa City, I find myself in a unique position to share the gains of my experience in Brussels with my campus and hometown community. As co-president of University of Iowa Hillel, I have the remainder of my college career to fight the ignorance and apathy so clearly a threat to the Jewish world.

I would like to credit the assembly and the statement on ignorance and apathy to being the single greatest clarification of my identity as a Jew.

### Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Program

Rabbi Baruch HaLevi spoke at the community program honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The program was held this year at Tifereth Israel Synagogue.



## University of Wisconsin-Madison Offers Institute on Teaching Israel

The Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is offering its first Summer Institute for educators.

This year's Institute will focus on teaching about Israel. The program runs June 19-25, 2005. For more information, contact [sschweber@wisc.edu](mailto:sschweber@wisc.edu) or call 608/263-5856.

## B'nai Mitzvah

### Jillian Claire Shkolnick



Saturday, April 2, 2005

Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Please join us as our daughter, Jillian, celebrates her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, April 2nd, 2005, at 10:00 AM at

Temple B'nai Jeshurun. The community is cordially invited to a Kiddush Luncheon following services.

Stuart and Judy Shkolnick

### Leah Kreamer Swartz



April 9, 2005

Tifereth Israel Synagogue

The community is invited to share the joy of the

Bat Mitzvah of our daughter, Leah Kreamer Swartz, on Saturday, April 9, 9:15 am at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. A Kiddush lunch will follow.

Rebecca Kreamer Swartz and Martin Swartz



### Jacob Aaron Grund

Saturday April 16, 2005

Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Please join us as Jacob Aaron Grund, son of Bill Grund and Lyanna Grund, celebrates his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 16, 2005 at

**Interfaith** continued from page 18 I'll confess, they will be of two mind-sets. The liberals will tend to remove legitimacy for the Messianic Church. The evangelicals will work for the removal of the Israeli divestment issue. I'll suggest, accept the help from both sides. There are few of us (I think) that see a consistency in rebuking both the divestment and Messianic issues. Strange bedfellows perhaps, but the goal is worthy and necessary.

My precious neighbors, you deserve much better treatment! I and others will work hard to mend this damage. Pray for us Presbyterians, that we will develop longer memories, and stop being perfidious, faithless, disloyal Presbyterians. And after being reproved, may Presbyterians live out the Torah's injunction, "to love 'our neighbors'"

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## AMES JEWISH CONGREGATION

### Services:

- Friday, March 4th** 8:00 p.m. Services led by Rabbi Rosenbloom
- Saturday, March 5th** 10:00 a.m. Services including Torah Study led by Rabbi Rosenbloom
- Friday March 11-March 19th** No services: Spring break
- Friday, March 25th** 8:00 p.m. Services lay led
- Friday, April 1st 8:00 p.m.** Services led by Rabbi Rosenbloom
- Saturday, April 2nd** 10:00 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Elijah Cunnally. A kiddush luncheon will follow the service.
- Friday, April 8th** 8:00 p.m. Services lay led
- Friday, April 15th** 7:30 p.m. Services led by Levels 2 and 3 (Grades 2-5) of the religious school.
- Friday, April 22nd** 8:00 p.m. Services lay led
- Saturday, April 23rd** 1st Seder Happy Passover!
- Sunday, April 24th** Community Seder
- Friday, April 29th** 8:00 p.m. Services lay led

### Adult Education

- Saturday, March 5th** 2:00-3:30 p.m led by Rabbi Rosenbloom
- Saturday, April 2nd** 2:00-3:30 p.m. led by Rabbi Rosenbloom
- Saturday, March 26th Purim**

### The AJC Israel Education Committee

The Israel Education Committee (IEC) was formed in Fall 2004 to help educate and inform the AJC, ISU community, and the broader Ames community about Israel within a global context. The committee hopes that as a result of its efforts AJC members and other residents of Ames will be more sympathetic to Israel as a result of an improved understanding of Israel's history and the Arab-Israeli conflict. "Sympathetic to Israel," is not meant to suggest uncritical acceptance of Israeli government positions on all issues but rather the understanding that Israel serves a vital need for the Jewish people and that Israel's actions should be understood on the same basis as the other nations of the world. The IEC has contributed articles to the AJC newsletter discussing common misconceptions of Israel and has sponsored a showing of an Israeli film. The IEC has a member representing the ISU Jewish student population and hopes to combat misconceptions about Israel on the ISU campus. Questions about the committee and its future programs can be addressed to the Chairman, Martin Edelson, at mce1@mac.com.

## BETH EL JACOB

**PRE TU B'SHEVAT CELEBRATION** Tu B'Shevav heegeeah Chag Lah-eelanot. Tu B'Shevav is here, Happy Birthday to the trees. A wonderful informative morning was enjoyed by over 50 people who attended our Pre Tu B'Shevav celebration, presented by our very own Mr. Tivon Feeley, on Sunday, January 23, 2005. It was such a pleasure to greet everyone who lent their support to this program. Starting with a picturesque slide show that kept young and older involved, we continued with a question-and-answer period that had everyone eager to answer and receive a prize for fun and learning. There was much to do, much to see and much to talk about. Grand prizes were awarded for the best tree builder, Master Avi Lekowsky and secret box winner, Miss Sophie Baresch. We thank Mrs. Charlotte Raush and Mrs. Ruth Rapaport for their help with our Raffle.

**HAMENTASCHEN HONEYS READY TO ROLL** The "Holy Rollers" are getting ready to roll into action for our annual hamentaschen fundraiser. Purim brunch is March 20th, including our famous hamentaschen for dessert. Hamentaschen orders may be called to the Office (274-1551) in advance. Fruit will be \$8.00 per dozen and poppy seed/walnut or "Peanut butter cup" can be special ordered for \$9.00 per dozen. Sisterhood will also be creating bountiful Shalach Manot boxes for Purim, which can be ordered in advance by calling the Office at 274-1551. Boxes can be picked up the day of our Purim Brunch, March 20th. The boxes are overstuffed with two huge fruit - filled hamentachen, along with lots of yummy snacks, nuts, assorted chocolates and other candy. At only \$8.50 per box or in multiples of 2 for \$15.00, these are a mitzvah to give and also a welcome gift to receive. Look for a flyer and order form coming soon by mail.

**Pre-Passover Extravaganza** Sunday April 10, 2005 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.  
Prepay - \$6.00 per person. Come join us for an interactive hands-on experience. Explore the many aspects of Pesach while experiencing the journey for yourself. Participate in our "Get a feel for the 10 plagues" while transporting yourself back in time through our interactive journey. You can observe or participate in the frog jumping contests, crawl through our lice chamber, guess the animal sounds to win prizes or create your very own plague bag for use at your own Seder.

### Save the Dates

- Sunday, March 13th - Israeli Dinner Night, 7:30 P.M.
- Sunday, March 20th - Sisterhood Purim Brunch
- Sunday, March 27th - SHLOCK ROCK CONCERT
- Saturday, April 2nd - Game Night, 8:00 P.M.
- Saturday, April 9th - New Member Shabbos Kiddush Luncheon






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## TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN

**Saturday, March 12, The Temple's Purimspiel Players present "That (60's and) 70's Spiel"** Shushan Dinner Theater performance at 7:30pm, preceded by a dinner at 6:00pm. Dinner reservations required by March 4, \$8/adult and \$5/children under 12. For those who wish to attend only the performance, doors open at 7:15pm.

**Sunday, March 13, Second Performance**, at the Temple's Shushan Brown Bag Cabaret (bring your own lunch) between noon and 1pm, and enjoy the spiel performance at 1:00pm. No reservations.

**Come in costume!** Prizes for best 60's, 70's and Purim-related costume, and more!

**Friday, March 25** at 6:00 pm. Celebrate Shabbat and Purim together as we read Megillat Esther and celebrate with songs, costumes, graggers and hamantashen.

**Cantor Linda Hirschhorn and Vocolot, Artists in Residence at the Temple April 8-10.**

**Friday, April 8** at 6:00pm, Cantor Hirschhorn is Director, founder and primary composer for Vocolot, a six-woman a cappella vocal and percussion ensemble based in the San Francisco Bay Area. Linda will be guest speaker and participant in the Temple's erev Shabbat service, during which the incoming Sisterhood Board will be installed.

**Saturday April 9**, 3:00-5:00pm, Linda will lead a choral workshop at the Temple, to adults and students in grades 8 and older, and singers of all levels of ability are invited to learn songs and rounds that weave rich harmonies with traditional and contemporary texts, and blend modern insights with ancient wisdom. \$10/adult and \$5/student. Register for the workshop through April 1.

**Sunday, April 10** at 2:30pm performance by award-winning ensemble Vocolot at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Tickets: \$10/adults, \$5/children under 12. Participants in the choral workshop may be invited to join Vocolot for a song during the concert.

A special workshop/concert package may be purchased by April 1 for \$18/adult or \$10/student. For more information call Laura Berkson at 274-4679. For more information about Vocolot, visit [www.vocolot.com](http://www.vocolot.com).

**Sunday, April 24, Second Night Seder** at 6:00 p.m. Member Prices: Adults - \$22.00; 6-12 Years old - \$12.00; Under 6 years old - \$6.00. Non-member Prices: Adults - \$26.00; 6 - 12 Years old - 14.00; Under 6 years old - \$8.00. Reservations with advance payment are required. RSVP with payment no later than Wednesday, April 20, 2005, to the Temple office, 5101 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312.

## TIFEREETH

**Beginning** - a place, a time, an event of quiet reflection, meditation and prayer. Supporting one another with gentle, healing words and silence, facilitated by Barb Hirsch-Giller. Tuesday mornings 7:15 to 7:45.

**Women's New Moon Circle** - Ariela HaLevi will lead women in a spiritually refreshing Rosh Chodesh (Jewish celebration of the New Moon) gathering. This group will invigorate the body, mind and soul with feminine rituals, song, meditation and more.

We will meet March 13 and April 3 at 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Tifereth.

**Shabbis Café** - Beginning February 26 at 11:30 am - A catered lunch will be served for those who attend Services and those who do not.

**Yoga** - Come awaken your body, relax your soul and tone your muscles with Yoga classes beginning Sunday, February 20 at 9:00 am. Led by Bruria Kaufman.

### Upcoming Events for Tifereth

**March 11, 2005** YAD Family Shabbat - 5:45 pm Ha'Motzi and 6:15 pm Dinner - Family Service with a focus on children birth to 8th grade.

**March 13, 2005** 10:00 am Women's League Meeting

**March 20, 2005** 10:00 am Investment Club Meeting

**March 22, 2005** 10:00 am Book Club Meeting

- Rabbi HaLevi will review Heaven's Witness by Joseph Telushkin and Allen Estrin. A gripping novel of murder, past life regression and the possibility of a voice crying out from the grave. Join us for this interesting review from a Jewish perspective and a discussion of our beliefs about life after death.

**March 29, 2005** 7:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting

**April 1, 2005** 5:45 pm YAD Family Shabbat - 5:45 pm Ha'Motzi

6:15 pm Dinner - Family Service with a focus on children birth to 8th grade.

**April 2, 2005** USY Fashion Show

**April 17, 2005** 9:00 am Women's League Meeting

10:00 am Tifereth Investment Club

**April 18, 2005** 12:00 pm Book Club Meeting

**April 19, 2005** 7:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting

**April 24, 2005** 2nd Night Seder



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Chapters in American Jewish History:

# Arthur Szyk: His Brush Was His Sword

During World War II, readers of Life, Time, Esquire, and other American magazines enjoyed the vivid anti-Nazi cartoons of Arthur Szyk (1894-1951), a Polish-born Jewish artist and illustrator. Szyk's witty and dramatic style packed a fiery political punch. Szyk was a fierce advocate for justice.

One of his wartime cartoons was so liberal that it proved too hot for any publisher to handle. Veering away from his usual Axis targets, Szyk depicted two GIs, one white and one black, escorting German prisoners. The white soldier asks his comrade, "And what would you do with Hitler?" The black soldier replies: "I would have made him a Negro and dropped him somewhere in the US!" Not one American magazine or newspaper printed it.

A soldier in the Polish army during World War I, Szyk fell prisoner to the Germans but received lenient treatment because his captors admired his artistic talents. After the war, Szyk traveled to Ukraine, where he witnessed pogroms that devastated Jewish communities. Deeply moved, Szyk returned throughout his career to Jewish themes and struggles for freedom.

In 1934, Szyk created a series of 38 paintings depicting the American Revolution that were exhibited at the Paris World's Fair. They caught the eye of visiting Polish officials, who purchased and presented them as a gift to President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Szyk's most famous work was his illuminated Haggadah (1939), found to this day on Seder tables throughout the world. Although hailed by the Times of London as "among the most beautiful books that the hand of man has produced," intimidated European publishers refused to print it, fearing that his graphic allusions to the Nazis might provoke German wrath. Finally, Szyk found an English publisher who agreed to publish the work if Szyk whittled down the anti-Nazi content to only two depictions of Hitler as the "wicked son."

When the Nazis overran Poland in September 1939, Szyk was

in London. He immediately began contributing illustrations to the war propaganda campaign. A colleague described Szyk's political art as "powerful as a bomb, clear in conception, definite and deadly in its execution." The British authorities dispatched Szyk to the United States in 1940, hoping his work would sway American public opinion to join the struggle against Hitler.

Living in Connecticut, Szyk became the editorial cartoonist for the New York Post and contributed a steady stream of anti-Nazi cartoons and illustrations to major magazines. He also designed military badges and "Buy War Bonds" billboards. Szyk thought of himself as "Roosevelt's soldier with a pen." He wrote, "I consider myself as being on duty in my cartoons." While he would have preferred to continue doing illuminated manuscripts and other forms of art, he observed, "We are not entitled to do the things we like today." Eleanor Roosevelt once remarked, "This is a personal war of Szyk against Hitler, and I do not think that Mr. Szyk will lose this war!"



Szyk's devotion to the Allied war effort was matched by his growing concern for Jews trapped in Nazi-occupied Europe. In 1941, Szyk joined forces with the Bergson Group, a band of Jewish activists who lobbied the Roosevelt Administration to rescue endangered Jews. After the war, the Bergsonites rallied American public support for the Jewish underground's revolt against the British in Palestine. Szyk's dramatic illustrations were featured in the full-page advertisements in American newspapers.

Ben Hecht, who wrote the text for many of the Bergson group's newspapers ads, called Szyk "our one-man art department."

Arthur Szyk . . . worked for eight years without a pause. Nobody paid him anything and nobody thought of thanking him...Szyk's art lent nobility to the Irgun cause. His Hebrews under fire, under torture, exterminated in lime pits and bonfires . . . remained a people to be loved and admired. Their faces fleeing from massacre now, were tense and still beautiful. There was never slovenly despair or hysterical agony in Szyk's dying Jews, but only courage and beauty. If there was ever an artist who believed that an hour of valor was better than a lifetime of furtiveness and cringe, it was Szyk.

Salowitz continued from page 19

As a passionate fan of the New York Yankees, Neil seeks out baseball games on his travels, enjoys riding his motorcycle, is a fly fisherman and has recently renewed his interest in skiing. Neil participated in the Jewish Federation Mission to Israel last year and has actively become involved in the Jewish Community serving on the boards of both Tifereth Israel Synagogue and the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines.

His mother was ahead of the times when she taught Neil to cook, clean, and iron his own shirts. Since childhood he has enjoyed cooking and his entire family today shares that interest. Pies and cakes are truly Neil's forte.

So, it is not implausible that Neil would share with us a favorite Passover Recipes for Doughnuts and Popovers which came from his mother

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We note with sorrow  
the recent passing of

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Bessie Green  
Jerry Karbeling  
Max Lasky  
Floyd Nadel  
Judge Joel Pasternak  
Anna Pshonik  
Delores Robinson  
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Friday, March 4  
 Saturday, March 5  
 Sunday, March 6  
 Tuesday, March 8

Thursday, March 10  
 Saturday, March 12  
 Sunday, March 13

Monday, March 14  
 Thursday, March 17  
 Sunday, March 20

Monday, March 21  
 Tuesday, March 22

Thursday, March 24  
 Friday, March 25 - PURIM  
 Sunday, March 27  
 Tuesday, March 29  
 Thursday, March 31  
 Friday, April 1  
 Saturday, April 2

Sunday, April 3  
 Tuesday, April 5

Thursday, April 7  
 Saturday, April 9  
 Sunday, April 10

Tuesday, April 12

Wednesday, April 13  
 Thursday, April 14  
 Saturday, April 16  
 Sunday, April 17

Monday, April 18

Tuesday, April 19

Thursday, April 21  
 Friday, April 22  
 Saturday, April 23  
 Sunday, April 24 - PASSOVER

7:00pm - 8:00pm Temple Family Potluck  
 9:15am - 11:15am Eli Wolnerman Bar Mitzvah at Tifereth  
 2:00pm - 3:00pm Mamadrama- IJHS Film  
 12:00pm - 1:00pm Temple: Lunch with the Rabbi  
 4:30pm - 5:30pm Temple Exec. Bd Mtg  
 5:30pm - 6:30pm Temple Bd of Trustees Mtg  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Melton Classes  
 6:00pm - 10:00pm Temple:Purimspiel  
 10:00am - 12:00pm Tifereth Women's League Meeting  
 1:00pm - 3:00pm Temple:Purimspiel  
 4:00pm - 6:00pm IJHS Film Series  
 7:30pm - 9:00pm Kollel: Alan Morinis Lecture  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Melton Classes  
 10:00am - 12:00pm Tifereth Investment Club Meeting  
 11:30am - 12:30pm BEJ Sisterhood Purim Brunch  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm AIPAC Council Meeting  
 12:00pm - 1:30pm Tifereth Book Club Meeting  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Live From the Y: Gene Wilder  
 Spring Recess - NO Melton

2:00pm - 3:30pm IJHS Film Series  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Tifereth Board Meeting  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Melton Classes  
 7:00pm - 8:00pm Temple Family Potluck  
 10:00am - 11:00am Elijah Cunnally Bar Mitzvah in Ames  
 10:00am - 11:00am Jillian Shkolnick Bat Mitzvah at the Temple  
 10:30:00am - 5:00pm Women's Program at The Caspe Terrace  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Live from the Y: Tom Friedman  
 7:00pm - 8:30pm Temple Intro to Judaism Class  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Melton Classes  
 9:15am - 10:15am Leah Swartz Bat Mitzvah at Tifereth  
 11:30am - 1:30pm BEJ Sisterhood Brunch  
 2:30pm - 4:30pm Temple: VOCOLOT performs  
 12:00pm - 1:00pm Temple: Lunch with the Rabbi  
 4:30pm - 5:30pm Temple Exec. Bd Mtg  
 5:30pm - 6:30pm Temple Bd of Trustees Mtg  
 7:00pm - 8:00pm AIPAC Educational Program  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Melton Classes  
 10:00am - 11:00am Jacob Grund Bar Mitzvah at the Temple  
 10:00am - 12:00pm Tifereth Investment Club  
 10:00am - 12:00pm Tifereth Women's League Meeting  
 12:00pm - 1:30pm Tifereth Book Club Meeting  
 6:00pm - 8:00pm Federation Exec. Comm. Meeting  
 7:00pm - 8:30pm Temple Intro to Judaism  
 7:00pm - 9:00pm Tifereth Board Meeting  
 Passover - NO Melton  
 6:00pm - 9:00pm Temple Intro to Judaism & Learning Passover Seder  
 1st Seder tonight  
 6:00pm - 8:00pm Temple: Congregational Seder  
 6:00pm - 9:00pm Tifereth - Congregational Passover Seder

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