



THE GREATER DES MOINES Jewish Press

Published as a Community Service by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines online at jewishdesmoines.org • volume 23 number 4

happy passover!

FIRST SEDER IS APRIL 2



Art Classes at The Caspe Terrace

- page 2



Senior News

- page 6



Alice Friedgood Chef du Jour

- page 17

March 11, A Day for All-Things-Passover

The favorite Jewish holiday of Passover is right around the corner and everyone is beginning to plan for their annual seders with family and friends. To assist with the preparations, both physically and spiritually, a unique type of community celebration is planned for Sunday, March 11 from 9 AM-2:30 PM at The Caspe Terrace. **All are invited!** The extravaganza is co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation Community School and its annual Ohringer Family Education Day, and The Caspe Terrace Programming Committee, in cooperation with area congregations. The day will feature children's crafts and activities, Passover workshops and demonstrations, and the opportunity for all to conveniently purchase Kosher for Passover foods, ritual objects and gifts.

The community is invited to spend as much of the day as possible. There will be activities for everyone! The day will kick off with a festive community assembly of Passover music and storytelling. Following the assembly, children will rotate among a variety of special crafts and activities, while the adults are able to select from workshops presented by the best local Jewish communal professionals and resources, including all Rabbis, some teachers and specialists. While children will be exploring the mitzvah of making, baking and tasting Matzah, decorating Matzah covers and reclining pillows, organizing a "bag of plagues" and more to use at the seder, the adults in the community will be able to explore topics such as: The Last Supper and the Passover Seder; Preserving Memories of Your Passover Celebration; Creativity in the Passover Seder; Freedom and the Message of Passover; A Psycho-Kabbalistic Journey through the Seder Night; A Passover Cooking Demonstration; How to Set A Beautiful Seder Table; and Songs for your Passover Seder.

For all the Passover chefs, there will be a recipe exchange and members of the community are invited to send in their favorite Passover recipes to be included in the collection. Submissions should be sent to Lyanna Grund by e-mail at jcsllkg@aol.com or mailed to the Federation office.

continued on page 21

Holocaust Remembrance Day Service and Film Screening Planned for April 15

The twenty-seventh day of Nisan is commemorated as Holocaust Day (Yom HaShoah) to perpetuate the memory of the six million Jews who were murdered by the Nazis during the Second World War.

On Sunday, April 15, the community will gather at the Holocaust Memorial in the Jewish section of Glendale Cemetery at 10:30 am for the solemn Kever Avot memorial service led by our rabbis and cantorial soloist. A brief program for students from the Jewish Federation Community School will be conducted by the rabbis prior to recitation of the memorial service. In case of inclement weather, the program will be held at Temple B'nai Jeshurun.

At 1:00 pm, a special Holocaust Remembrance Day program will take place at the Des Moines Art Center (4700 Grand Avenue) in the Levitt Auditorium. Guest speaker will be Mr. Robert Edsel, author of *Saving DaVinci*, the story of the rescue of a precious art work during World War II. Mr. Edsel will introduce the film, *The Rape of Europa*, which addresses the plundering of art by the Nazis and the efforts expended to protect what could be protected, and locate and return missing art. After the film, Mr. Edsel will answer questions from the audience and will do a book signing.

continued on page 21

Jewish Community Relations Commission Forum: Media Coverage of Israel, April 16



Alex Safian

JCRC has invited media analyst Alex Safian of CAMERA (Committee on Accuracy of Middle East Reporting in America) to speak the evening of April 16 at Drake University about the media's coverage of the Middle East,

with particular focus on Israel. Safian is Associate Director and Research Director at CAMERA, the independent media-monitoring agency whose critique in 1998 of a four-part series in the Des Moines Register was published by the Register, highlighting historical inaccuracies in its presentation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Safian has published articles in academic journals and newspapers and has been a frequent guest on radio and television programs across the country, including PBS's Newshour. He holds a doctorate from Harvard. His detailed commentaries and analyses of media coverage may be viewed online at camera.org.

The program will be co-sponsored by the Drake University Hillel and held in the Olmsted Center's Bulldog Theater at 7:30 pm. The program will be free of charge. For additional information, contact jcrc@dmjfed.org

Summer '08 Israel Family Mission Meeting Over Dinner Rock Band, Dinner for Israel's Birthday Party on April 23

What better way to celebrate Israel's birthday than with some delicious Israeli food and colorful Israeli music? That's what we have in store for you on Monday evening, April 23, starting at 6:00 pm at The Caspe Terrace. Following the buffet sway with the sounds of "Atar, Revital and Roslin," a band whose lite rock renditions of Israeli and Jewish favorites come directly from our sister city in the Western Galilee!

continued on page 9

[inside]

- 2 **JELI ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES**
- 4 **ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM REGISTRATION**
- 4 **JFS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**
- 10 **IN PROFILE: PHIL SCHNEIDER**
- 17 **NEXT GENERATION: JONAH SLOVEN**

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

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Des Moines, IA
Permit No. 2506

NEW ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY OFFERED

jeli Jewish Learning Institute

**Thursday evenings:
April 19, April 26 and May 3
at the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

**Course fee is \$36.00 per 3 session class
Most reading material is included in the course fee**
A minimum of five participants will be needed for each class.

class information:

- **Now That I'm Jewish...What Do I Do?
A Guide for Recent Converts to Judaism**
Instructors: Kryss Phillips, Jody Hramits & Lyanna Grund
- **Israel – Past, Present & Future**
Instructor: Rabbi David Kaufman
- **Women in Jewish Literature
Throughout the Centuries**
Instructor: Rabbi Beryl Padorr
- **Kaballah Light**
Instructor: Rabbi Meir Klein
- **Jewish Messianism**
Instructor: Rabbi Aaron Schwarzbaum

Class sizes are limited. For more information call Cathie at 515-277-6321 x224
Sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. Childcare is available for \$5.00 per child, per evening.

Jazz Returns To The Caspe Terrace On April 22



In early October 2006, local jazz enthusiast and leader of the Java Jews, Abe Goldstien, introduced Central Iowans to the sounds of avant-garde jazz in the intimate setting of the Bucksbaum Stage at The Caspe Terrace. On April 22, Goldstien presents his second in a series of "Jazz at The Caspe Terrace" concerts, this time featuring a solo performance from world-class pianist Jessica Williams.

Recognized as one of today's most original solo pianists, Ms. Williams will play an afternoon recital of jazz classics and original compositions in a style that is all her own. Her solo performances move from ballads to stride piano, blues to bebop, contemplation to excitement, and it all unfolds right before your eyes. "I've never heard her play the same tune the same way twice," says Goldstien, who has been a fan of Ms. Williams since the late 1980s; so much so that he invited her to Des Moines in 2001 to play a 50th birthday concert for him and his friends.

This time around, he is pleased to share

this incredible talent with the community.

"One Woman/One Piano/One Incredible Afternoon of Jazz," is how Goldstien is promoting this performance. "You have never heard or seen a piano player quite like Jessica Williams," comments Goldstien. "She is truly one-of-a-kind in the way she approaches each tune, dominates the piano and holds a crowd's attention every note along the way." "The atmosphere of Caspe Terrace and the wonderful Steinway piano is sure to please Ms. Williams and I guarantee she'll have the same impact on the audience," he concludes.

The concert, which is being co-hosted by the Waukee Area Arts Council, will start at 2:00 p.m. on April 22. Tickets will be limited to the capacity of the theatre, so if you are interested in attending, call Abe at 515-279-6452 soon. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for students.

Based on the response to the Trio-X concert in October and the anticipated success of the Jessica Williams recital, Goldstien hopes to continue sponsoring "Jazz at The Caspe Terrace" concerts.

U of I Hillel Presents Israel Advocacy Workshop April 22

Organized By: Shulman Hillel at the University of Iowa and the Israel on Campus Coalition, the workshop is open to students from colleges and universities in Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska,

Kansas, Illinois and the Dakotas. (www.israeloncampuscoalition.org)

For more information, contact Tali Ariav, tali@iowahillel.org, 319-338-0778 or jrcr@dmjfed.org, 515-277-6321 x214.

A documentary that will challenge the way you look at the world.

OBSESSION

RADICAL ISLAM'S WAR AGAINST THE WEST

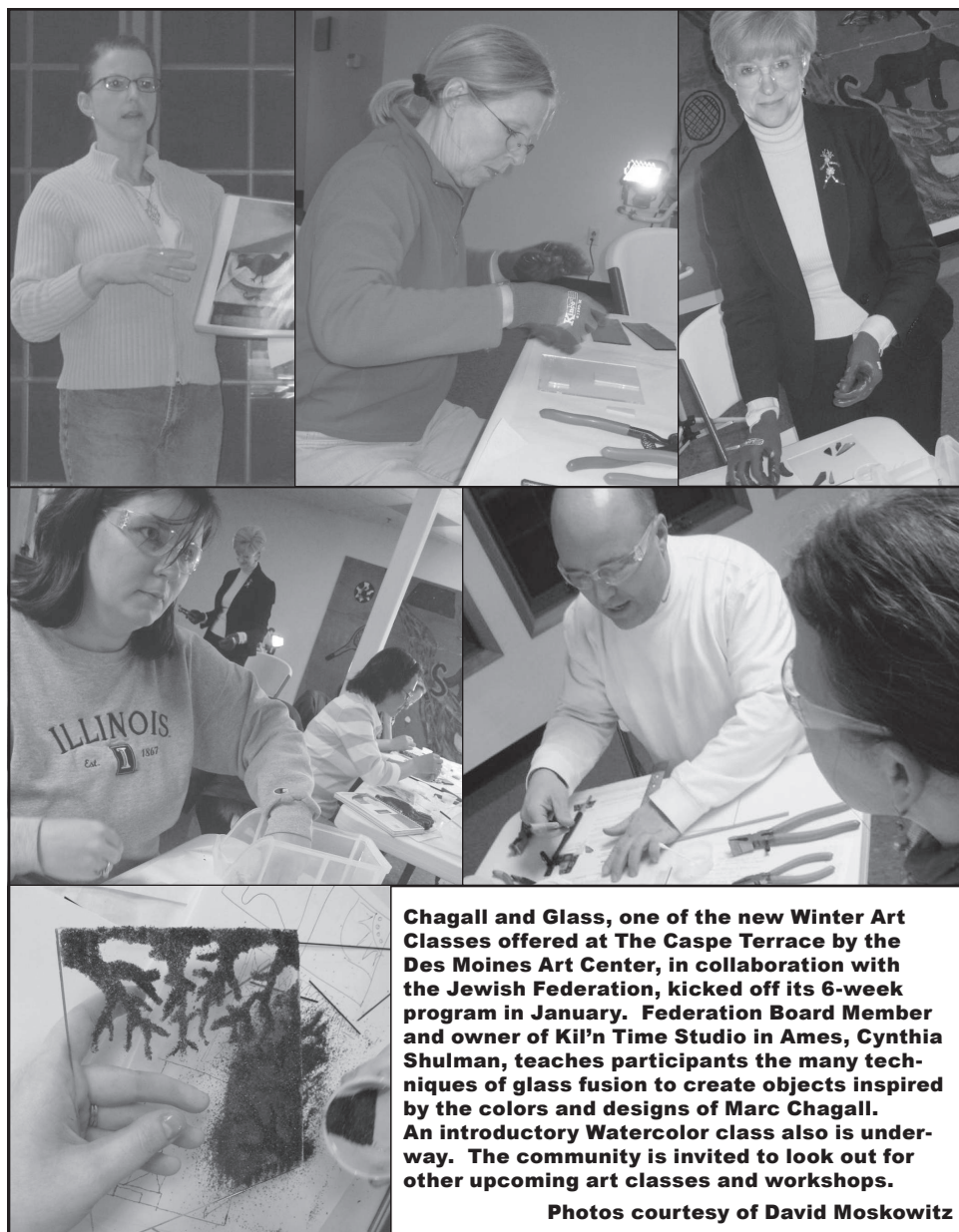
**Thursday, March 15
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm followed by discussion**

**The Caspe Terrace
33158 Ute Avenue**

Using images from Arab TV, rarely seen in the West, **Obsession** reveals an 'insider's view' of the hatred that Radical Islamists are teaching, their incitement of global jihad, and their goal of world domination.

Sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Commission of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines.
For more information, contact 277-6321 x 214 or jrcr@dmjfed.org

Art Classes Off to a Great Start!



Chagall and Glass, one of the new Winter Art Classes offered at The Caspe Terrace by the Des Moines Art Center, in collaboration with the Jewish Federation, kicked off its 6-week program in January. Federation Board Member and owner of Kil'n Time Studio in Ames, Cynthia Shulman, teaches participants the many techniques of glass fusion to create objects inspired by the colors and designs of Marc Chagall. An introductory Watercolor class also is underway. The community is invited to look out for other upcoming art classes and workshops.

Photos courtesy of David Moskowitz



Dear Friends:

In another month the Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Jewish Federation will begin the arduous process of allocating funds to our various pillars and overseeing the funding of our central services and employee salaries. While the task may sound routine to some, it is wrought with extensive discussion about competing priorities and many compromises are sought.

The committee is made up of the President, Vice President and Treasurer of the Federation, other board members including the past President and carefully selected members of the community who have played an active role in the Federation and are familiar with its workings.

It is a task that takes a week or more to complete, reviewing the constituent agencies or pillar budgets, and then presenting a comprehensive budget for the following year for the Federation with the information provided to us. The pillars and their committees need to have taken several months to carefully fine-tune their budgets hoping to meet their needs and their goals. During the allocations discussions, the process requires tremendous dedication from the Committee members, including staff, who often work late hours over that period of a week.

In the end, the process is intended to do the most honest and credible job for our Jewish community, building upon the existing strengths of our congregations. While the Synagogues and the Temple in Des Moines and Ames provide the spiritual support and congregational affiliation we all need in our lives, the Jewish Federation provides, even to those unaffiliated, an umbrella of community-wide educational, social and cultural services that allows the Synagogues and Temple to concentrate their efforts on the important work they do.

Let me outline for you, just briefly, some of the essential services provided by the Jewish Federation.

The Jewish Community Relations Commission (JCRC) tends to issues confronting us from the larger general community, often issues of intolerance, diversity and anti-Semitism. The JCRC is there to advise, to educate and to soothe. As part of this process we hold an annual Teachers' Institute with a speaker to educate our teachers about the Middle East and the Holocaust. It has been, and will remain, an important function of the Federation.

Our Education Pillar provides classes in our Community School (JFCS) for our children to learn Jewish customs, traditions and Hebrew. In a small community we are fortunate that religious institutions can come together to jointly provide for our youths' education through the Federation. To minimize financial stress on parents, the Federation provides the funding necessary to supplement the tuition which the parents pay. And the Jewish Federation, in cooperation and consultation with the Synagogues and the Temple, will also be providing adult education programming this spring with the establishment of the Jewish Learning Institute. (see article on page 2)

Jewish Family Services (JFS) is expanding its programming. We have recently completed a Federal NORC grant that allowed us the opportunity to study the needs of individuals who wish to remain independent in their homes for as long as possible and not go prematurely to nursing homes. From that study and our own outreach we have recognized the tremendous need in our community for the aging population to be attended to with activities, meals and with loving attention. In 2007 we will initiate new Senior Adult programming to supplement our present program for seniors with additional outings, luncheons and rides to doctors and appointments. Our Russians who are aging have a program director who cares for their needs and can speak to them in their native tongue. We presently have twenty-one frail individuals in the Senior Adult program for Russians and are hopeful that that program can be expanded. We continue with our Tzedakah programs for individuals and families in need, aided by the David Tobis Tzedakah Fund and Shalom Home Fund.

continued on page 19

THANKS

Iowa Jewish Historical Society:

I had a wonderful time on the tour at Caspe Terrace. You seemed to know about everything we were talking about and you had an answer to every one of our questions. That was probably the most informational field trip I had ever been on. What I really thought was cool that you showed us was the ghost letter. Also I thought it was kind of cool when you told us that a man cared about his top hat more than a lot of things when he was leaving the country because that was one of the things he took with him. Well, I was just writing to say thank you and that I actually learned something.

Sincerely,
Skyler

From a class of Body Middle School students who toured the Caspe Heritage Gallery.

STAR SEARCH

Are you interested in Children's Drama workshops and productions?

Do you have children interested in learning theater fundamentals, building their confidence, enhancing their imagination... and having a good time? The Caspe Terrace Program Committee is identifying community interest in offering on-going theater opportunities at our beautiful Waukee facility.

Please indicate your interest by calling Steve Reitman at the Jewish Federation, 277-6321 x230.

APOLOGY

The Jewish Federation accidentally left off the name of the **Judaic Resource Center** from the afikoman bag it produced. We are truly sorry for the omission.

APRIL 23 ISRAEL MISSION MEETING

To Learn more about the Jewish Federation's Summer 2008 Family Mission to Israel come to the Israel Independence Day Dinner and Concert at The Caspe Terrace on Monday April 23 at 6:00pm.

For more information call Mark Finkelstein at the Jewish Federation, 277-6321 x214.

THE GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish Press

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

Advisory Committee

Heidi Moskowitz, Chair*
Gil Cranberg*
Debbie Gitchell*
Harlan Hockenberg*
Robert E. Mannheimer
Sheldon Rabinowitz*
Mark S. Finkelstein,* Editor
Thomas Wolff, Art/Marketing Director

*Editorial Board

Toni Urban,
President, Jewish Federation

Polly Oxley*
Communications Pillar Chair

Elaine Steinger,
Executive Director, Jewish Federation

Steve Reitman,
Assistant Director, Jewish Federation

The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press
910 Polk Blvd. Des Moines, IA 50312
515-277-6321 jcrc@dmjfed.org

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.

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

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

Vol. 23 No. 4, March/April 2007



JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SCHOOL

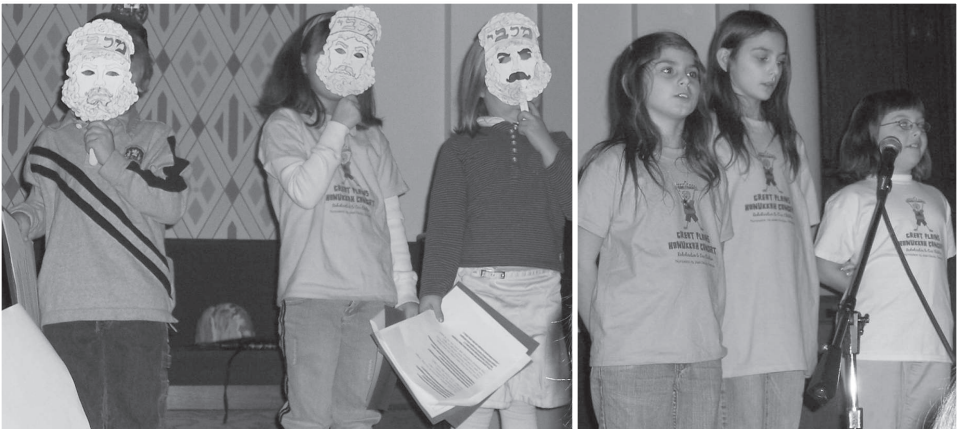
Since the beginning of the religious school year, students have been busy learning many interesting facts about our faith. In our lower elementary grades (preK-2nd) students learn about Hebrew, prayers, bible stories, and holidays. In our upper elementary grades (3rd-6th) students take their knowledge of the Hebrew alef-bet and turn it into reading prayers, learning prayer book sight words, special prayers that belong to life cycle events, our commandments, and portions of parsha of the week.

In our upper elementary grades, students have been learning to read, recite and chant prayers that are necessary for them to be prepared for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Starting in third grade, students begin to work towards this special life cycle event. We are fortunate to have the wonderful staff that we do to help guide our students to be fully prepared for this family simcha. Along the way, our students learn and discuss the 10 commandments, the history and ceremony of life cycle events, and the importance of Israel and how we, as Jews, are tied to this Jewish state.

On December 17, we had our school Chanukah program. It was a wonderful family event where our students participated in a candle lighting ceremony and performed for their family and friends followed with crafts and a special Chanukah gift bag.

JFCS OHRINGER FAMILY EDUCATION DAY - Passover Expo

On Sunday, March 11, we will hold this annual event which will be co-sponsored with The Caspe Terrace Programming Committee. We will not be meeting at the Temple for regular class but will meet at The Caspe Terrace. See page 1 for more information. If you have not yet put in your RSVP for lunch or some of the sessions, please contact Lyanna - 277-5566/jcslkg@aol.com. We are also sharing Passover recipes to give out at this program. Don't forget to send at least one of your favorite recipes in to Lyanna. You can mail it to the Federation office, hand it to Lyanna at religious school, or email it. See you there!



In December, JFCS students and parents attended our Chanukah Program. At left is Mrs. Margolin's 1st grade class telling a "Chanukah Story." Directed by Laura Berkson, in November, several of our students volunteered to participate in a Midwest Chanukah Program in Omaha, Nebraska. These students spent many Sunday afternoons preparing for this concert. At right are some of the students singing at our Chanukah Program.

Mark your calendars for the JFCS Purim Program on Sunday, March 4, 10 AM - Noon at Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Israel ID Program '07 & '08 Connecting Jewish Youth with Israel and the Jewish People

The Israel ID Program has been in existence in Des Moines for over 40 years. This program was designed to increase the number of Jewish teens visiting Israel by reducing the family's cost. This program gives our local Jewish teens the opportunity to have a valuable cultural and religious encounter, an exciting adventure, a reinforcement of Jewish identity during the formative teen years, and an experience which will truly last a lifetime. Israel awakens feelings and emotions deep inside every Jew; this awakening is a major step toward cementing one's commitment to our shared future. It inextricably ties our young people to Judaism, Israel, and the Jewish people.

This program is open to every Jewish child living in the greater Des Moines/Ames area who is involved in the Jewish community through their synagogue or religious school.

Here's how this program works: the Des Moines Jewish Foundation will subsidize students for an approved trip to Israel based on their Jewish participation in the community. The maximum subsidy is \$2,100. The Director of the Jewish Federation Community School oversees this program. All students are required to take the "Israel ID" class before going on their trip. This class is only offered through the Jewish Federation Community High School program and is taught in ninth grade.

In the last 10 years, we have had anywhere from 5 to 13 students per year taking advantage of this program. This program has no direct cost for the Jewish Federation. If your child is planning to participate in an approved trip to Israel either this summer (2007) or next summer (2008), please contact Lyanna Grund at 277-5566 or jcslkg@aol.com for the appropriate application.

ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM Discover the Fun!

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

It is the combination of our special children, our wonderful staff, and the great outdoors!

It is the structure of each day and the chaos of having 50-60 children and over a dozen staff all together for flag-raising and flag-lowering!

It is playing GaGa and the variety of other games, activities and field trips!

It is swimming lessons and free swim!

It is singing Hamotzi and eating lunch together each day!

It is renewing friendships, making new friends, and creating memories!

It is celebrating being Jewish and celebrating life together at Engman Camp Shalom!

It is all of this and more...you have to experience it to know the feeling! Come on and join us this summer between June 17 through August 10 for children entering Kindergarten through 8th grade. It's where summer fun begins! See you there!

Camp Registration Day - April 1, 12:30-2:00 pm at Temple B'nai Jeshurun, School Wing, 5101 Grand Avenue, Redstone Room

LOOKING FOR A GREAT SUMMER JOB?

Engman Camp Shalom is now accepting applications for CITs, Jr. Counselors, and Counselors for Summer 07. If you love children and the outdoors, this is the perfect summer job or training for you! If you are a college student or at least 18, you can become a Counselor. If you are entering 9th through 12th grade, you can become a Jr. Counselor. If you are entering 7th or 8th grade, you can become a CIT (counselor in training).

For more information, contact Lyanna at 277-5566 or jcslkg@aol.com. Camp runs June 18 - August 10. Counselor training begins June 11 - June 15.

College Scholarships Available Through Jewish Family Services

Jewish Family Services [JFS] has applications and information for high school students seeking college scholarships. Within the Des Moines community, there are scholarships available with specific guidelines. Should you qualify for any of the scholarships listed below, you may request an application from JFS, 910 Polk Blvd., Des Moines, IA 50312, 515-277-6321. The applications are due by May 15, 2007. All applications will be forwarded to scholarship committees that are independent of the Jewish Community Services pillar and the Jewish Federation. Check with your synagogue for other scholarships.

Sidney Pruce Memorial Scholarships	Jewish students who have completed high school in Polk County and plan to attend an institution of higher learning in Iowa	Academic Achievement Leadership. Interested in Jewish Affairs. Financial need.
Abe and Libby Pruce Memorial Scholarship	Meritorious students of the Jewish faith in Iowa	Must pursue course of education in field of Jewish interest. May be used for institutions within the State of Iowa, the U.S. or abroad.

capture lasting memories with a gift that lasts forever...

HONOR YOUR GRANDPARENTS
WEDDINGS
BIRTHDAYS
BIRTHS
BAR / BAT MITZVAHS
CELEBRATE YOUR CHILDREN
REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

"One person cannot plant a forest, but a community can plant a forest one tree at a time."

Purchase a tree certificate - a gift that lasts forever.
Jewish Federation Community School - 924 Polk Boulevard - Des Moines, IA 50312
For \$36, a tree certificate will be mailed to the recipient. Your \$36 goes towards the purchase of trees, care and maintenance.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER DES MOINES

THE CASPE TERRACE



33158 UTE AVENUE

- 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 events.

Jewish Day School

Montessori Based Methodology

For more information and enrollment
Tel: 515-274-1551
e-mail: TAGjewishacademy@gmail.com

TAG admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights and privileges, programs and activities made available to all students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of educational and admissions policies, scholarship, and loan programs.

PROJECT ELIJAH



A Letter from Janice Rosenberg
Executive Director, Project Elijah Foundation

Dear Jewish community members and friends,

I have a fabulous film to show you! But, more about that later.

I recently took a position with the Project Elijah Foundation, chaired by Alan Zuckert who underwrites the entire expenses of the Foundation. The mission of the Foundation is to provide resources to help Jewish children who are victims of domestic abuse, family violence and poverty. Our current and only focus right now is an orphanage and shelter for Jewish Children in Buenos Aires, Argentina called Ieladeinu (Our Children).

I have learned that Ieladeinu is home to over 50 Jewish children who have been permanently separated from their parents due to horrendous abuse and neglect. In addition, due to the crash of the economy in Argentina, Ieladeinu feeds and counsels over 150 impoverished, hungry Jewish children each day.

There are actually Jewish street children in Buenos Aires that Ieladeinu is trying to reach.

Ieladeinu has been recognized by Unicef for their outstanding model of care for these children. Ieladeinu manages to successfully treat most of those children who were abused and traumatized without the use of medications. There soon will be a book about Ieladeinu and the successes there.

That said, I have been asked by Karina Pincever, the director of Ieladeinu, why it is, that most American Jews do not know about Ieladeinu, and the situation in Argentina? Much help from Jewish communities is needed.

Ieladeinu is very short of funding. Often, the staff is paid late. The operation is always struggling to make payments for food and necessities.

I am touched by the generosity of many in Des Moines who are familiar with Ieladeinu due to the work done by Alan and others in the community. The dollars sent to the Project Elijah Foundation by donors in Des Moines have saved lives at Ieladeinu. It is as simple as that.

I have a new 11-minute video produced to tell the story of Ieladeinu. It is fabulous, and you can see the faces of the precious children we are saving. If you would like to see this video please call me at 246-8001.

The Project Elijah Foundation cannot do this alone. We thank donors for sending checks. We thank Youth Groups for having fundraising events. We thank people who have offered their assistance and expertise. But sadly, we need more help.

I am currently working with foundations across the country. I am trying to contact youth groups and Hillel programs. I am contacting Jewish groups in many places. There are groups around the country that I have asked to have fundraisers. In future letters, I will let you know some of our specific projects and successes.

We lost many children during the Holocaust. Here is a chance to save children. I could use your help in so many ways. If you would like to donate some hours, I have a desk in my office and would enjoy your company. If you would like to write a check, GREAT! If you have some contacts or ideas, I would love to hear them.

The Prophet Elijah protects Jewish people in distress, especially women and children. This Passover, won't you open the door for Elijah, and find a way to help these children? Our website is www.projectelijahfoundation.org.

Thank you so much and have a blessed Passover,

Janice
janicerosenberg@projectelijahfoundation.org

PS. Your tax deductible donations can be sent to:
Project Elijah Foundation, 1515 Linden Street, Suite 205
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-3131

High School Students:

SUMMER JAM

Judaism, Activism, Mitzvah & Work
June 25-July 22, 2007

Change the way you think about the world, Judaism and yourself through an intensive program based on a leading college campus in the nation's capital. Participants will engage in 42 hours of hands-on service projects. Go to www.dccjam.org for more information and to download an application. The program is open to high school rising juniors, rising seniors and graduating seniors.

For more info check out: www.dccjam.org.
Contact: Pamela Grutman 301-770-5070, ext. 221 SummerJAM@panim.org

PANIMWORKS:

Live and work in an entirely new culture this summer!

Live in rustic accommodations on a Native-American reservation in the Navajo, Hopi or Zuni Nation and work with the local community to promote positive change. This trip in the majestic Southwest includes hands-on service projects and outdoor recreational activities. Earn up to 60 community service hours. PanimWorks is open to rising high school sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduating seniors.

For more info check out: www.panimworks.org
Contact: Anna Levy 301-770-5070, ext. 209 or PanimWorks@panim.org

senior news

**Wanting to get out more and socialize?
Needing assistance with transportation to senior luncheons,
doctor appointments, grocery store, and other appointments?
Seeking information regarding services you need in the home?**

Give us a call at Jewish Family Services and a staff member or volunteer will assist you with these services. Please call Lois Brown, Transportation Coordinator, at 313-8902 or Pat Nawrocki, OASIS Project Services Manager, at 515-277-6321 x215.

Outreach, Activities and Services for Independent Seniors



1. We celebrated Hanukkah with the Fat Cat, Jim Wangemann, back by popular demand, who delighted us with his Jewish songs and music from Lawrence Welk!

2. In January we had a thought provoking and informative guest speaker, Karel Roush, the Memory Care Director at the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center.

3. What a great, swinging time we all had at Prairie Meadows! Everyone enjoyed a free buffet style lunch, live band music and dancing, table games and slot machines.

Upcoming Senior Luncheons:

March 15 at Tifereth featuring Laura Berkson with a wonderful musical program.

April 19 at Beth El Jacob with Patrice Webber, Nursing Coordinator, Older Adult Services presenting "Routine Body Maintenance".

Providing Care for Our Russian Seniors



They told me it would not be easy.

But you never realize completely until you learn it first hand. And as I started to work, I immediately learned it.

Senile infirmity, helplessness, pains, and more - those are unavoidable concomitants of seniors. Every day and every hour they are facing these things and have to live with them.

My assignment is to help them to withstand, support them both physically and morally. It is important to be sympathetic and tolerant when listening to all their challenges, complicated histories and pre-histories. But this is the right way; the only policy to be stuck to if you took upon yourself a responsibility of working with

elderly people. You will have to put yourself in their shoes and be a mediator between them and their doctors.

It won't be easy, and it has never been. In the end, you will see the results of your work in their trusting eyes, and you will feel that they appreciate your efforts and rely upon you.

It is always good to be good to people - however hard this work may turn out.

The Jewish Federation is making great efforts to help seniors to resolve their problems, alleviate their sufferings, and make their lives more purposeful and valuable.

It is a great humane mission and I am proud to be the part of this mission.

-Milla Verkhov-Karno
Outreach Worker for the Jewish Federation
Milla, herself, immigrated to the United States from the former Soviet Union.

United Way Donors

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

The money received through these designations helps the Federation pay for...
Jewish Family Services Counseling - Individuals, families, seniors and children
Senior Adult Programs - Senior Adult luncheons and case management
Resettlement Program - Case management and health services to new immigrants
Jewish Family Life Education - Operation Good Mensch
Outreach - Baby baskets, welcoming newcomers
Volunteer Opportunities - Numerous volunteer projects

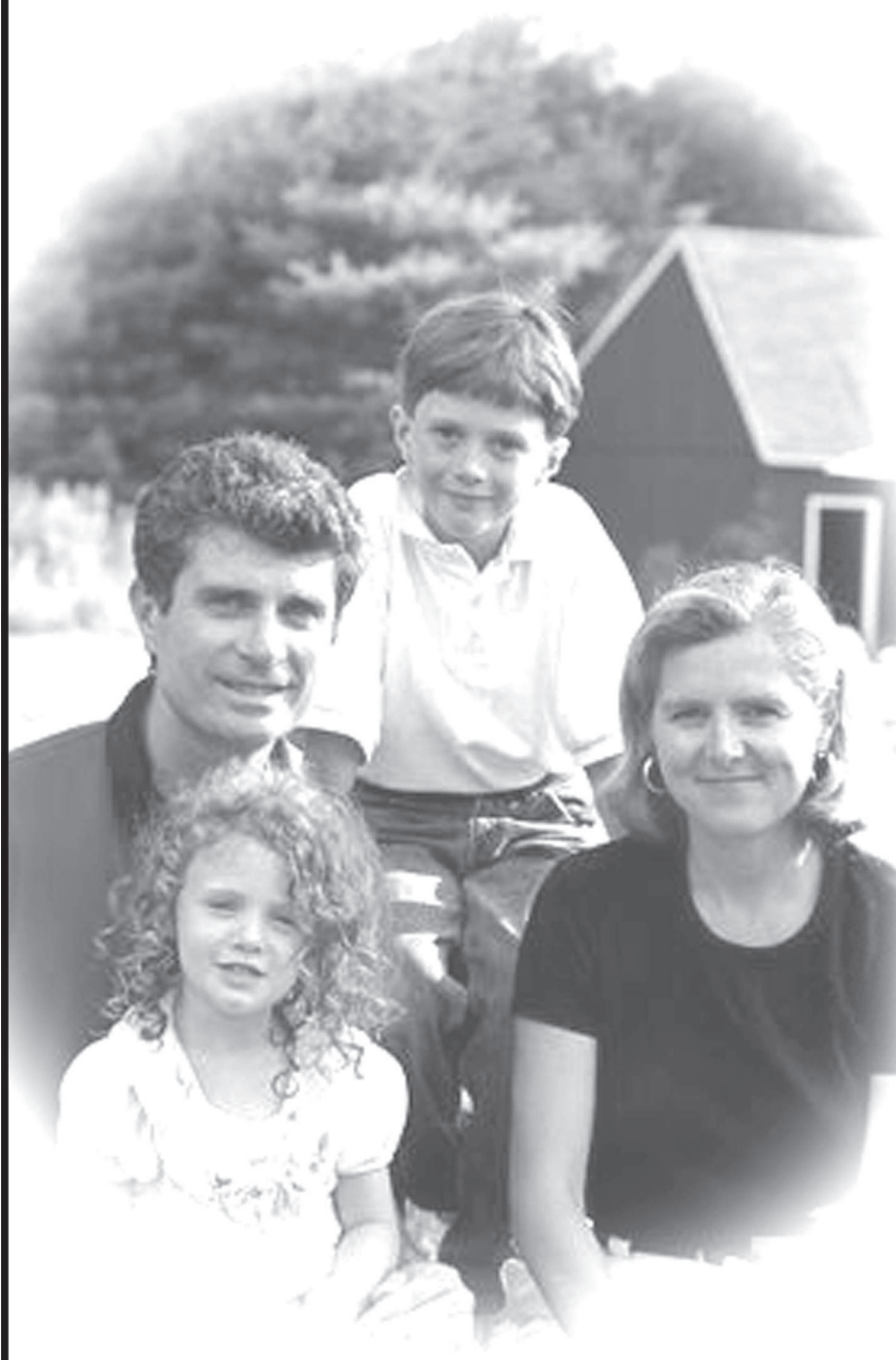
THANK YOU to all who have contributed through United Way.
Please remember that your gift to Jewish Family Services through United Way has to be re-designated each year.



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

"Bankers Trust"

A Name We Guarantee!



In these times of financial uncertainty - mergers, acquisitions, and a never ending stream of new faces - more people than ever are moving their complete banking relationships to Bankers Trust.

We've been here for nearly a century - we'll be here for you tomorrow. We're Bankers Trust. We guarantee it!

Bankers Trust

It's our name . . . and our promise.

www.bankerstrust.com



Leave the Bottle Full for Others



Dear Friend,

Bruce Larson, in his book **Dare to Live Now**, retells the legend of Desert Pete, a humanitarian who became a legend in the desert Southwest. Travelers across a long and seldom-used trail in the Amargosa Desert would come across an old pump that offered the only hope of fresh drinking water along their journey. Wired to the pump handle was a can and inside the can was a hand-written note, shown below.

“This pump is all right as of June 1932. But the washer dries out and the pump has got to be primed. Under the white rock I buried a bottle of water out of the sun, the cork end up. There’s enough water in it to prime the pump, but not if you drink some first. Pour about one fourth and let her soak to wet the leather. Then pour in the rest medium fast and pump like crazy. You’ll git water. The well has never run dry. Have faith. When you git watered up, fill the bottle and put it back like you found it for the next feller.”

Desert Pete’s story provides abundant food for thought. Travelers had several options available. They reasonably might choose to drink the water in the bottle. After all, why should they trust the word of a stranger that the pump really worked? Even if Desert Pete were telling the truth, the well might have dried up since he left his note.

But people in the desert operated on faith and trust. They used the bottled water to prime the pump ... and were rewarded with all the water they could drink. Having quenched their own thirsts, the travelers then had to decide whether to honor Desert Pete’s final instructions to “fill the bottle and put it back like you found it for the next feller.”

Fortunately, most people recognize that they must depend on one another - and act accordingly. We know that if we stop trusting in the fundamental goodness and decency of fellow human beings, the fabric of society will unravel. So, we are glad to provide anonymous help to a stranger, hoping and expecting that other strangers will do the same for us in the future.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines has been the beneficiary of many “Desert Petes” over the years. Often, these have been men and women who benefited from our work and wanted to pass these benefits on to others. They were people who could not imagine taking and not giving back. They left the bottle full for others.

We invite you to join these thoughtful people who have included our Federation or Foundation in their wills or made some other form of planned gift.

Elaine Steinger, Executive Director
Des Moines Jewish Foundation

The views expressed in this letter are not intended, nor may they be relied upon, as legal, accounting or other professional advice. Before making a gift decision, you should consult your own professional advisor.

Take Advantage of Tax Savings on Long-Term Care Insurance

With the aging of the Baby Boomers, more people are looking at long-term care insurance as a way to help ease the potential burden of nursing home costs. When exploring the various options, remember that there are tax breaks available to make insurance premiums more affordable.

- If an employer provides long-term care coverage, the cost is generally excluded from your income, similar to health insurance, unless the coverage is selected under the company’s cafeteria or flexible spending plan.
- Individuals who purchase their own policies can deduct the premiums as a medical expense. The amount deductible depends upon the taxpayer’s age. For example, those older than age 50 but not more than 60 can deduct up to \$1,100 in 2007. Those older than 60 but not more than 70 can deduct up to \$2,950.
- Self-employed individuals can include the premiums in their health insurance costs, deductible as an above-the-line expense.

Those who receive benefits from a long-term care policy can exclude up to \$260 per day from income in 2007, an amount that is adjusted annually for inflation.

Time for Another Look

Starting this year, children, grandchildren and other beneficiaries will have an option previously available only to spouses: the ability to do a tax-free rollover of qualified retirement plans at the owner’s death. Prior to 2007, only a surviving spouse could roll the funds tax free into an IRA; for all other beneficiaries, the entire account would have to be distributed within a short period of time, with income taxes due on the full amount. Now, distributions and taxes can be spread over the IRA owner’s life.

It’s a good idea to regularly review beneficiary designations on retirement plans, life insurance policies and brokerage accounts, to see that they are coordinated with your entire estate plan. The new rules on rollovers by nonspouse beneficiaries may create opportunities to pass wealth to younger family members. Ask your financial adviser about how you can take advantage of this tax law change.

It’s also possible to name a charity as a beneficiary of all or part of your retirement accounts, in which case taxes will be avoided entirely.



Des Moines Jewish Foundation Board:

Don Blumenthal, President; Martin Brody, Vice President; Marvin Winick, Treasurer; Elaine Steinger, Executive Director
Harry Bookey, Suzanne Engman, Debbie Gitchell, Alvin Kirsner, Fred Lorber, John Mandelbaum, Robert E. Mannheimer, Polly Oxley, Sheldon Rabinowitz, Stanley Richards, Mary Bucksbaum Scanlan, Don Schoen, Toni Urban

Bible Stories by David Friedgood



I have always loved stories. Some of my fondest, earliest recollections are of my Bubbe telling me stories about her childhood, thus connecting me to the

rest of my family. She would detail her life in Czarist Russia, describing the wonder and joy of growing up in a tight-knit Jewish Shtetl; and the horror of confronting the brutal anti-Semitism of that time. The stories were often repeated, but never quite the same, and always wonderful. In them, a young boy learned important life lessons. My Bubbe taught the value of family, tradition, and perseverance. Her lessons, always sweetened with samples of her wonderful cooking, were her intuitive way of teaching her grandson that which she knew was of ultimate importance. I learned her sense of right and wrong and was taught that I was but a link in a long chain whose tradition I would one day pass on to the next generation.

By age five, I was in a Jewish day school, a yeshiva. When I met my first grade teacher she told me that the English name I had answered to my whole life was no longer valid (I now had to respond to a Hebrew name I hardly recognized). Next, she began to tell stories. Beautifully detailed, involved stories with many characters, plots and subplots; all presented in a reverent tone. Our class of first graders hushed immediately and focused intently on our Morah (teacher) each time she presented another

tale. Eventually we learned to read the stories ourselves, both in English and Hebrew - their original written form. The material was presented over and over again. In short order our young brains knew these stories in detail. We had no sense that we were being taught the lessons of life, similar to the information passed on by my Bubbe. It was the stories, with their sense of wonder, that made school fun.

I still read and listen to stories. In fact, many of the plots are the same as those of my childhood. Despite their familiarity the stories remain fascinating and each time I am presented with one a new meaning emerges. In Shul (synagogue) we have just finished the Joseph stories. One of these stories in particular has new significance for me today.

Joseph was one of my boyhood heroes. As a young man he was his father's favorite and therefore preyed upon by jealous older brothers. Eventually he is sold into slavery and exiled to Egypt. There he is falsely accused of abusing his master's wife and left to languish in jail. His superiority is finally recognized when he interprets Pharaoh's dreams. Joseph saves Egypt from the devastation of famine. He becomes Viceroy of all Egypt, second only to Pharaoh. Despite this he never loses his Jewish identity. Joseph is referred to by Egyptians as *Ivrei* (the Hebrew). They will not eat with him as it is abhorrent for Egyptians to dine with 'others' no matter their status (Genesis 43:32). In spite of these difficult circumstances Joseph maintains his core values and we

learn that it is difficult to take the 'Jew' out of the man. Still Joseph is filled with anger at what his brothers did to him. His anger is all consuming and at times distorts his judgment. It is also reflected towards Jacob, his father, whom he makes no effort to contact all his years in Egypt. Eventually the brothers are forced to come to Joseph to buy rations because the famine which spared Egypt is severe in Canaan. They do not recognize their brother when he appears before them in royal garb and Joseph begins to take revenge. The brothers are accused of spying. Simeon is jailed. Joseph demands the appearance of his youngest brother Benjamin knowing full well the distress this brings his father. When Benjamin finally appears, Joseph has him framed for thievery. It is only when Judah makes an impassioned plea for the young Benjamin's life that Joseph relents. Judah offers to substitute himself as a slave in Benjamin's place. "Therefore, please let your servant remain as a slave to my lord instead of the boy, and let the boy go back with his brothers. For how can I go back to my father unless the boy is with me? Let me not be witness to the woe that would overtake my father!" (Genesis 44:33-34)

The Talmud tells us that the test of true repentance is placing the perpetrator in the same position again and observing his behavior. The true penitent will behave differently. Years earlier Judah had abandoned his brother Joseph, selling him into slavery. Now, repentant, he is willing to sacrifice his own life for his brother Benjamin. Judah passes the test;

he is truly repentant. My hero Joseph cannot bear the sight of Judah's contrition. He dismisses his Egyptian servants and breaks down in tears. Approaching the brothers he says: "I am Joseph. Is my father still well?" (Genesis 45:3) And later as they are dumfounded: "I am your brother Joseph, he whom you sold into Egypt." (Genesis 45:4) Joseph forgives the wrong committed by the brothers. He is no longer a man consumed by hate and revenge. With this act of grace he saves his people and his own soul. It can be argued that without Joseph's act of forgiveness there would be no Judaism today. As Cantor Spiro recently reminded me, we refer to Joseph today as Joseph the Zaddik (the righteous).

This is a familiar story but one whose meaning changes with the telling. How many modern day conflicts could be solved if people would only learn the value of forgiveness? To paraphrase Gandhi: 'An eye for an eye means we will all be blind'. This is the beauty of our stories, of our tradition. They teach, as my Bubbe did, important life lessons to the student often unaware that a message is being departed. These are the truths we believe. Truth is in the meaning, the effect the story has on us and our children, not in the facts. These stories nurture and sustain us. They serve as the eternal gift of Judaism to mankind.

And these words, which I command you this day, you shall take to heart. Teach them, diligently, to your children, and recite them at home and away, night and day. (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

All the ingredients for a well-crafted financial future.



Your Source for:

- Professional Money Management
- Financial Planning
- Business Retirement Planning
- Stock & Bond Trading
- Equity Research
- Mutual Funds
- Hedging & Monetizing
- Fixed and Variable Annuities
- Life Insurance

Investment and Insurance Products:

- ▶ Are NOT insured by the FDIC or any other federal government agency *
- ▶ Are NOT deposits of or guaranteed by the Bank or any Bank affiliate
- ▶ May Lose Value

* With the exception of brokered certificates of deposit, which are FDIC insured up to applicable limits.

Private Client Services provides financial products and services through various banks and brokerage affiliates of Wells Fargo & Company. Financial Consultants are registered representatives of Wells Fargo Investments, LLC (member SIPC), a non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.



Matt Fryar
Financial Consultant
Wells Fargo Investments, LLC
666 Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50309
Ph. 515-245-3120
800-501-6474

Purim, the 14th of Adar

Holiday begins the Evening of March 3

Purim, or the Feast of Lots, is a joyous holiday that recounts the saving of the Jews from a threatened massacre during the Persian period (539-330 BCE). The story of Purim is recounted in the Book of Esther, whose eponymous heroine plays the leading role in saving her people. The holiday is traditionally celebrated with wild abandon and with the giving of gifts to friends and the poor.

History: While the origins of Purim appear clear from the Book of Esther, historians have looked in vain for any sort of extra-biblical corroboration of the events of the story. Be that as it may, it is a tale that purports to take place during the Persian period. A young Jewish woman, Esther, rises to be Queen of Persia under the tutelage of her guardian Mordecai. All, however, is not right. The Jews have enemies, and a certain Haman, the grand vizier, plots the Jews' destruction. Even though Esther has hidden her Jewish identity from all, Mordecai prevails on her to risk her life by revealing her true identity to the king. She does this and denounces the evil Haman's plot. At the end of the story, the Jews are able to turn the tables on their enemies, who are then punished in place of the intended victims. This story is one of the most beloved in the Jewish community, because of the hope that it gives a minority living in an oftentimes hostile majority culture.

In Megillah (scroll), the Talmudic trac-

tate devoted to Purim observances, Rabbi Akiva declares the Book of Esther to be divinely inspired. Some commentators believe this eventually led to the inclusion of Esther in the Hebrew Bible, despite the omission of God from the book. The Greek versions of Esther contain a number of additions-including God's name-not found in the Hebrew story.

At Home: In distinction to various other holidays, such as Pesach (Passover), Purim is the quintessential community holiday. Nonetheless, there are a number of activities that are centered in the home. One of the favorite activities in preparation for the holiday is the baking of hamantaschen, the triangular filled pastries that are the traditional food at Purim time. In addition, following the commandment to give gifts to friends and the poor, the preparation of so-called mishloah manot baskets is a fun activity to engage in, as is their distribution on the holiday. The centerpiece of Purim's home celebration is the seudah, a festive meal accompanied by alcoholic beverages.

In the Community: Purim is a community holiday of joyful celebration. The centerpiece of the communal celebration is the reading of the Scroll of Esther, the Megillah, in the synagogue. This is a raucous affair, with whoops, hollers, and noise being made every time that Haman's name is mentioned, so no one can hear the name of this horrible evildoer. Another

tradition is the Purim shpiel, the Purim play, during which fun is poked at community leaders and members. Purim has often been called the Jewish carnival, and dressing in costume and taking part in a Purim carnival heighten the levity of the day, on which one is encouraged to engage in activities that at other times of the year would be somewhat more restricted in scope, such as drinking.

Themes and Theology: The overriding theme of Purim is the saving of the Jews from a mortal threat. Even though God is not mentioned at all in the Book of Esther, from a Jewish perspective, God is the one who is pulling the strings of redemption behind the scenes. The holiday of Purim has become one of the best-loved holidays of the Jewish year. The reasons for this are easy to see. It is a joyous holiday on which everyone just lets go. Most significant, however, is the paradigmatic nature of the story of Purim. It is not difficult to see how a story in which a small and threatened Jewish community in exile is able to triumph over its foes would prove to be a powerful image for a Diaspora community faced over the centuries with threats from many different sources. The story of Purim, however, holds out the hope that no matter how bad the circumstances, things will turn out well in the end.

Courtesy of My Jewish Learning, online at www.myJewishLearning.com

• Israel's Birthday from page 1

Included in the program will be special tributes to Israel to commemorate the 1948 declaration by David Ben-Gurion of the birth of a modern Jewish state, ending 2,000 years of homelessness. There will be a brief memorial service to commemorate Yom HaZikaron, Israel's Memorial Day, to remember that the state's existence was fought for by soldiers who gave their lives.

The cost for dinner and concert will be \$10 for adults, free with pre-registration for children and teens through age 17. (By the way, we'll have pizza for the kids, if they'd prefer!) Reservations are greatly appreciated. Call the Jewish Federation at 277-6321 x224 or by e-mailing cathie@dmjfed.org. Reservations and payments can be made on-line at jewishdesmoines.org.

Last summer, Israel was bombarded by rockets from Lebanon. It was our sister region that was hit the hardest! Come celebrate the renewal of the Israeli communities made possible by your personal support of the Israel Emergency Fund. Come say hello, Shalom, to the Israeli musicians who are bringing the vitality of the Western Galilee to Des Moines! Come say happy 59th birthday to Israel! This community-wide program is sponsored by the Jewish Federation and our local congregations. To learn more about our Israel/Des Moines Partnership, select Israel/World Jewry on www.jewishdesmoines.org



Passover

A Journey of Faith

Mercy Medical Center—Des Moines
wishes a blessed Passover
to our friends in the
Jewish community.



A member of Mercy Health Network

Palmer's

deli&market



2843 Ingersoll Avenue • 274-4004

West Des Moines Urbandale Kaleidoscope Ingersoll

In Profile Des Moines Business Leader:

Phil Schneider



Phil and Elana Schneider

It is our pleasure, in this edition, to present our interview with Phil Schneider, a business leader in the community. Phil and Elana Schneider are members of Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Their daughter, Staci, now resides with her husband Chris and children (Riley, and twins, Tyler and Zach) in Chicago. Their oldest son, Steve, and his wife, Tiffany, and children, (Emma, Lilly and Drew) reside in Chicago. Youngest son, Brian, lives in New York City. Elana is a member of the Federation's Jewish Community Relations Commission and a Lion of Judah.

Jewish Press: Thank you for chatting with us Phil. I see that you were born, raised and educated in Des Moines. How did your family get here?

Phil Schneider: In the 1930s, my mother came to Des Moines from Freeport, Illinois when her sister (Rose) and her new hus-

band, Isador Givant, moved here. Their mother, who was by then widowed, then came to Des Moines, and they all lived together. The family had immigrated to Freeport from Minsk, Belarus.

JP: Where did they live and under what circumstances?

PS: They lived on East 7th Street by Iowa Lutheran Hospital and were members of Children of Israel Congregation, which was on East 6th Street. My uncle, Isadore Givant was in the automobile salvage business. My grandmother could speak English but could not read or write, and so my mother had to quit high school to help support the family.

JP: Your mother then was single when she moved here.

PS: Yes. My mother married late in life, by the standards of those days. She was 36 when she married my father, who was a stock broker in Chicago. We had relatives in Chicago who played matchmaker for my mother and father. I was born in 1943 and my brother, Al, who is now deceased, was born in 1947.

JP: Where did you go to school?

PS: We went to Longfellow Elementary and then to Amos Hyatt Junior High on East 14th and University. I started East High School and then my family moved to Urbandale where my mother and her sister, Rose Givant, purchased homes right next to each other. My cousin Alan Givant, who is a year older than myself, and I were the only two Jewish students at Urbandale High School. Urbandale was a small town, one might say, a non-tolerant community at the time, with no exposure

to Jewish people. It was rough.

JP: And through this time you still were part of the Jewish community, even though you lived in Urbandale?

PS: Yes. I belonged to USY (a synagogue youth group) and AZA which was a young men's club. I was Treasurer of AZA which gave me the interest in accounting.

JP: What did you want to be when you grew up?

PS: At the time, I had an interest in science and math, but was very squeamish towards blood. [chuckling.] Really, I wanted to be in business for myself, from a young age.

I graduated high school in 1960, and then the choice was either to go to college in Iowa City or to live at home and go to Drake University. In those days, the tuition at Drake was less expensive than room and board in Iowa City. So essentially, it was an economic decision: I went to Drake University and lived at home. And my cousin went to Drake, as well, and majored in accounting and I too majored in accounting. I loved it.

After I graduated in 1964, Elana and I got married and we moved to Chicago where I went to work at a CPA firm. But they traveled me so much, as a newlywed in a new city; it was not the life for me. So, after a year, we decided that we would go back to Des Moines and that I would go to Drake Law School.

My father had died when I was a freshman in college, and so when Elana and I moved back to Des Moines, we lived with my mother and my brother. After law

school, I went to work for the local office in Des Moines of the CPA firm I worked at in Chicago. Sheldon Rabinowitz was the partner in charge of the Des Moines office. I worked for Sheldon for six years and he was very good to me. Sheldon knew how to run a professional practice and I learned a great deal from him. I look back and feel very indebted to him and Roselind. Elana and I love them dearly. They were both very involved in the Jewish community and taught us that, whatever your income level, you need to make room for charity.

Then I took a position as a tax attorney for North American operations with Massey Ferguson, the farm implement manufacturer. The two years I worked for Massey Ferguson gave me some "think time" to figure out what I wanted to do. (At that time I was about 33 years old.) When I worked for Sheldon, he had given me the opportunity to specialize in real estate tax law and real estate syndications. I then decided to try that for a living.

JP: You are an entrepreneur. How did you know that you had that capability?

PS: I had clients who encouraged me to go on my own. I'm not a politician at all. What you see is what you get. I like the feeling of not being indebted to anyone. I wasn't into that. So Elana and I thought about it for the two years I was at Massey Ferguson and then decided to go out on our own. Elana, by the way, is a really good partner, very supportive and very encouraging, and that's what I needed to get started.

continued on page 21

For memories that last a lifetime~

The professional staff at the
Embassy Suites on the River is here to serve you.

Beautiful two room suites for guests,
Gorgeous Event Space for all your celebrations~
Comfortably accommodating 10- 1,300 guests.

Call to set up an appointment for your next Bar/Bat Mitzvah,

wedding or any engagement.

515-244-1700

Ask for the sales and catering office!

Mazel Tov!!



EMBASSY SUITES
HOTEL®

On The River
Des Moines, Iowa

Best Wishes for a Happy Passover!

Bruce Sherman
Dave Lettween
and families



*"Packaging
for
all
your
needs..."*

PACKAGING DISTRIBUTION SERVICES, INC.

Portrait Of A Hero

Melaku (Moshe) Ambau

I flew to Israel on August 7, 2006, during the Lebanon war. I don't know where I was - in an airport, on a plane, over land or above the ocean - when Staff Sergeant Melaku Ambau died in the battle of Bint Jbeil in southern Lebanon.

He died fighting to protect his comrades, even after he had been shot. He was 22 years old, an Ethiopian-Israeli hero.

When I went to his funeral, under a scorching August sky in Lod, I knew that he had been in our Limudiah (after-school education) in the Ha'Meiri elementary school in Lod, and that the whole NACOEJ Israel staff was coming from Jerusalem to attend.

I didn't know till later that our paths had crossed briefly in Ethiopia. Both of us had been in Operation Solomon back in 1991 - I as a volunteer worker, and he as a six-year-old child on his way to Israel with his family. Perhaps I patted his head. I will never know.

But I have learned a lot from those who knew Melaku well in our classes in Lod, when he was in the process of becoming "Moshe" Ambau, liking to be called by the new Israeli name he had been given.

It's amazing how clearly people remember Moshe, eight years after he graduated from elementary school.

The Ha'Meiri school principal, Asher Hadad, for example, remembers a little boy who distinguished himself very early by a ready smile, a joke to tell, and a reverence for

his parents that stood out even in a community as elder-centered as the Ethiopian Jews.

His parents were uneducated and so poor that they would have gone without food for Shabbat if the school had not sent over meals - but Moshe saw only how much they cared about giving their children the education they themselves had never been able to obtain.

He wasn't embarrassed by their poverty, but proud that they often came to school to see how their children were doing, that they spent precious money on school supplies, attended every parent-child event, and never missed a NACOEJ model seder - that they were people the community called on to help out at a wedding - or a funeral.

The NACOEJ school coordinator, Ahuva De'i - herself a strong woman - remembers that Moshe impressed her with his strength and ambition. His older brother Avi, whom he admired, was a founder of a Lod youth group, providing activities and guidance to young Ethiopian-Israelis. And child though he was, Moshe decided he would grow up to help troubled Ethiopian youngsters find their way into Israeli society.

That he himself would accomplish that transition, he had no doubt.

His younger siblings, like his older brother, remember him with tremendous love and admiration. He was a support to Avi, and a mentor to younger brothers Gabi and Yehuda, and to sister Yisraela, all

of whom have followed Melaku into our NACOEJ after-school programs.

Principal Asher Hadad remembers Moshe, long out of elementary school, visiting him for advice and support when he was concerned about his siblings.

Gabi is now doing a pre-army prep course, Yehuda is finishing elementary school, and Yisraela - described by Asher as "a genius" - is a leader in a youth group by no means confined to Ethiopians, and has a NACOEJ high school sponsor. They remember Moshe as their trustworthy guide in life.

But they don't necessarily remember him as Moshe.

By the time he graduated from high school and began his military service, Moshe had decided to take back his Ethiopian identity as Melaku.

It was as Melaku that he volunteered for the elite, high-risk paratroop unit, as Melaku that he quickly rose to the rank of staff sergeant, and achieved an outstanding record as a soldier of courage and endurance.

And as Melaku, he died for his country.

I remember ashen-faced soldiers from his combat unit, and a tall Ethiopian soldier weeping as if his heart had broken. I later learned he was Melaku's older brother Avi.

I remember the sound of the professional mourners whose wailing cries help the real mourners to express feelings usually repressed by stoic Ethiopians - and I

remember the circle of turbaned kesotch (Jewish religious leaders) chanting prayers in melodic Ge'ez, the Ethiopian language of religious ritual.

After the funeral I went up north to visit Ethiopian newcomers in absorption centers under bombardment, so I could not pay a shiva call. But Shoshana Ben-Dor, Director of NACOEJ Programs in Israel, told me the family spent most of the seven days of mourning outdoors, in a wooded area big enough to accommodate the flood of visitors who remembered Melaku with so much love and reverence.

Melaku was one of three Ethiopian-Israeli young men who died in the front lines of battle this grim summer. Many others were wounded.

A number of Israelis commented on the heroism displayed by Ethiopian soldiers, and the disproportionately high number of those who volunteered for the most hazardous duty.

I was at the funeral of Sergeant Yesmau Yalau, but reached Israel too late for that of Sergeant Shimon Adega. There were too many funerals in August - of Ethiopians and sabras and Russians and at least one American boy - all heroes of Israel.

May they be remembered always, in what we hope will be a more peaceful world.

Courtesy of North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry (NACOEJ) online at www.nacoej.org

MATZOH

Lechem d'asvata - the bread of healing

HADASSAH

the organization of healing - body and soul

ZAY GESUNT

You SHOULD LIVE *and* BE WELL

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2007

HOLIDAY INN SELECT AIRPORT
BLOOMINGTON, MN

Featuring *Arthur Kurzweil*

Editor of "The Hadassah Jewish
Family Book of Health and Wellness"

UPPER MIDWEST REGION
4820 MINNETONKA BLVD
SUITE 305
ST. LOUIS PARK, MN 55416
1.888.924.4999
umregion@hadassah.org
www.hadassah.org



VOGUE
VISION

OneHour
Optical

YOUNKERS
STYLE • QUALITY • SERVICE • INTEGRITY
VISION CENTER

EYE-MART OPTICAL
OUTLET

We are here to care for your
Eyewear needs
Eye Exams are available

for the location nearest you call 1-888-367-2020



Who's got the afikomen? The afikomen is just a little bit of matzah. It looks like any other piece. But at the seder, it's unique and indispensable. And no matter how tired we are, we can't end the seder without it.

To Jews in need, you are the afikomen, the essential piece. Without your help, so many Jews in Greater Des Moines, in Israel, and around the world won't have the means to celebrate Passover. Make a gift to the Federation, and bring the Jewish community to your seder table. Connect...

2007 All-in-One Campaign
Toni Urban, Federation President
Neil Salowitz, Campaign Chair
Steven Altman, Campaign Vice Chair





Super Week 2007 was a wonderful success!

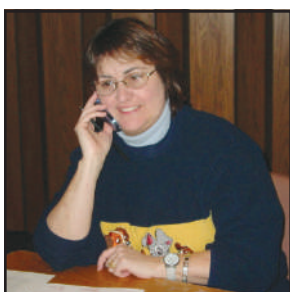
Over \$50,000 of additional commitments were pledged with incredible increases during this one week of community outreach. Many thanks to the Greater Des Moines Jewish Community for its generous support of the vital programs and services of the Jewish Federation. You have touched so many lives. The "All-In-One" Campaign has now surpassed \$550,000 with overall increases of over 12%.

Special thank you to the Super Volunteers that helped make the hundreds of phone calls to connect the Jewish community with the work of the Jewish Federation: Peggy Altman, Steven Altman, Dick Brown, Judy Deutch, Mark Finkelstein, Alex Fritzler, Gail Jacobs, Jake Jacobs, Cathie Jensen, Jody Kolmen, Mike Kuperman, Debra Markevitch, Miriam Mintzer, Sheldon Ohringer, Polly Oxley, Peter Pintus, Shari Reitman, Steve Reitman, Neil Salowitz, Elaine Steinger, Joyce Swartz, Nadia Tantsman, Toni Urban and Milla Verkov.

The Greater Des Moines Jewish community is a family. Even if we don't all know each other, we take care of each other. This is the Jewish way. We invest in our children. We demand justice for those who cannot advocate for themselves. We make certain that our elderly have the best care possible. And when our fellow Jews are in crisis, we are there. We live generously.

connect

2007 All-In-One Campaign



[commentary]

Arab Israelis Sound Off

By Frida Ghitis

Here's something about Israel that will surprise you. After last summer's war between Israel and Hizbullah militias in Lebanon, researchers asked Israeli citizens - Arabs and Jews - if they would rather be citizens of another country. As one might expect after a war, patriotism was the order of the day. A huge proportion, almost 88.5 percent of Israeli Jews, said yes, Israel is the one country whose citizenship they preferred. But listen to this: Among Arab citizens of Israel, an astounding 73 percent agreed with the statement that they would rather be citizens of Israel than of any other country in the world. That number is even more astounding because many Arabs in Israel admit they feel pressure to deny they like being Israelis. That, in fact, was the finding of a different survey. The first results came as part of a highly respected project called the Peace Index at Tel Aviv University. The second survey came from the Joint Israeli-Palestinian Public Opinion Poll. There, a majority - 52 percent - of Israeli Arabs agreed that, "many of the Arab citizens of Israel identify with Israel in private but refrain from expressing it in public due to social pressures."

After all we hear about Israel, these findings can boggle the mind. Isn't Israel that awful "apartheid" state, as Jimmy Carter implies with the title of his peculiar new book?

I must confess, I agree with those arguing, as Carter does, that much of the world has an inaccurate image of what goes on

in Israel. Just about everything about that minuscule piece of land, a fraction of 1 percent of the Middle East, inflames passions practically no other stretch of hills, rocks and sand does. The world's attention had focused obsessively on the territory long before this second incarnation of Israel came into being in 1948, and even before Middle Eastern oil became the holy grail of international politics less than one century ago.

For devotees of the anti-Israel position now espoused by Carter, Israel must look like a hellish bastion of anti-Arab racism. And yet, how to explain that many of Israel's Arab citizens actually like the country where they live? As a matter of fact, I would wager that millions of people don't even realize that Israel has Arab citizens - more than a million of them - with full rights under Israeli law.

When we do hear about Israeli Arabs in the press, we usually hear complaints about discrimination and prejudice. Is there discrimination and prejudice? No question about it. Israeli Arabs, like minorities in many other countries, face obstacles in their path to equality. In this case, the obstacles are made greater by the political and security situation that touches everyday life. With every suicide bombing by a Palestinian, many Israelis feel a little more nervous around Arabs. The fact that a few Arab Israelis aided their Palestinian brethren in their terrorist operations hasn't helped.

continued on page 21

[world]

REPORT: LONDON MOSQUE'S DVDS PREDICT MASS EXTERMINATION OF JEWS

By David Byers LONDON (EJP)--- One of London's most established mosques is selling DVDs predicting the mass-killing of the entire worldwide Jewish community, a British undercover television documentary claims.

The London Central Mosque, in Regents Park, was exposed as selling DVDs containing the speeches by two radical preachers, Sheikh Feiz and Sheikh Khalid Yasin, which predict the mass-extinction of the Jews on a "day of judgment," dismiss equal rights for women as "foolishness," and accuse the Christian faith of deliberately spreading the AIDS virus around Africa.

Dispatches, an investigative series on the UK's Channel Four, revealed further details of the so-called "hate" preacher DVDs, which it discovered were being sold at the London Central Mosque shop, when its episode "Undercover Mosques" aired in January. The station says its revelations come after a 12-month investigation into hate-preaching and extremism in Britain's Muslim religious institutions.

Day of Judgment

In one of the DVDs sold in the mosque shop, the documentary will show Sheikh Feiz imitating the noise of a pig when referring to Jewish people, who he says will be killed on the "day of judgment".

Other DVD footage shows Sheikh Yasin saying: "The whole delusion of equality of women is foolishness... there is no such thing"

He also says: "Missionaries from the World Health Organization and Christian

groups went into Africa and inoculated people for diphtheria, malaria, yellow fever and they put in the medicine the AIDS virus, which is a conspiracy."

The findings will spark off further discussion within Britain about the radicalization of extreme elements within the country's Muslim community, which was highlighted on July 7, 2005, as a group of home-grown suicide terrorists killed 52 in simultaneous rush-hour Underground and bus bombings in London.

Poor record

Despite the apparent radicalization of some extreme elements of the Islamic community in the UK, the country still has a far poorer record of deporting so-called "hate-preachers," or those who use inflammatory speeches to call for acts of terrorism against the UK and the USA, than continental European countries like France and Germany.

Faced with revelations of selling the extremist DVDs in his store, Hafiz Waheed, the manager of the London Central Mosque shop, said that the particular DVDs, of which there were about ten, were no longer on sale and appeared to have sold out.

They came from an Australian supplier and had been on sale four or five months ago, he said, alongside hundreds of other titles in the shop.

He said: "We don't have DVDs which incite hatred. We do not intend to sell them and we don't want to sell them."

continued on page 21

Israel, US Sign Homeland Security Pact

Feb. 08 - Israeli Internal Security Minister Avi Dichter and his American counterpart, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff signed a joint memorandum in Washington last night, reports The Jerusalem Post. The agreement sets goals and terms of joint US-Israeli security cooperation. The understanding includes details of understandings on flight security, intelligence sharing, and sharing of research and development in the field of explosives detection. The agree-

ment also includes cooperation and information sharing in attempts to respond to and neutralize terror and criminal activities. Dichter, who previously served as a fellow at Washington's Brookings Institute, described the agreement as "a breakthrough signing of an understandings agreement for the war on terror and establishing cooperation between the Internal Security Ministry and the Department of Homeland Security."

Cited by Israel21C.org

at your finger tips

jewishdesmoines.org

CONNECT WITH THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER DES MOINES



Happy Passover!

Jim and Shirlee Marcovis
Nashi and Bobbi Khalastchi, Jenny and Danny
Frank and Janel Marcovis, Karen, Mike and Jeff
David Marcovis

1801 Ingersoll Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-243-7431 • toll-free 800-222-7027
e-mail: gandlclimbing@dwx.com

[commentary]

War Makes Western Galilee Hospital Expert in Mass Casualties

by Carol Katzman, Editor of the Omaha Jewish Press



The week prior to my visit to the Western Galilee Hospital, the annual Emergency Response Group Training hosted 15 medical professionals from Ohio and New Jersey. This time, the training brought a real sense of what happens during a mass casualty event like last summer's war with Hezbollah in Lebanon.

The hospital, located just east of Israel's northern coastal town of Nahariya, sits just three miles from the Lebanese border. Situated on a main east-west highway, the massive white buildings in the complex made it a target for the Iranian-backed terrorist group.

And by now, everyone knows the hospital was hit.

Luckily for patients, the hospital's President, Prof. Shaul Shasha, had insisted on building a major underground installation. Within one hour after the katyusha rockets began to fall on July 12, the staff evacuated nearly everyone into the underground hospital. That included all patients in the 700-bed hospital, 50 children from the daycare center, and visiting families and friends.

When a katyusha hit the northern facing rooms of the ophthalmology wing on July 28, no one was there. The damage remains, however, because, as Judith Jochnowitz, International Liaison, says, "We've had more than 800 visitors since the war ended on Aug. 25. They want to see the damage; they want to understand what happened here." In the six years prior to Aug. 25, in which Jochnowitz has held this position, she only received 600 visitors, donors, volunteers and the media.

In order to understand the magnitude of the war and its effect on the hospital, we sat down with Dr. Arie Eisenman, head of the Emergency Room's internal medicine department. Originally from France, Dr. Eisenman worked at Rambam Hospital in Haifa, where he still lives with his wife and family.

"When I arrived in Nahariya that Wednesday (July 12), I found myself in the middle of a war," Dr. Eisenman told the Jewish Press. "There was smoke and fire everywhere. I knew it was about the kidnapped soldiers." He reached the hospital to find wounded civilians and soldiers already there. They came in daily waves, sometimes two or three a day. "We all stayed past our shifts that first day," he said, "but after Haifa was bombed, it didn't

really make any difference. So he started commuting back and forth. "Sometimes I would hear the sirens go off; sometimes I didn't. Even so, by the time you could hear the sirens, it would be too late anyway."

"Everyone laughed at Prof. Shasha when he proposed the underground shelter," Dr. Eisenman continued. "They're not laughing now."

Prof Shasha begged, pleaded, and finally insisted on building the shelter, according to Eisenman and Jochnowitz. "No one listened," they agreed. "Officials thought he was crazy!" But the hospital's president proceeded with his plan and approached donors who had pledged funds for a new emergency room in order to divert the funds for the underground shelter. The donors agreed, and the plan was enlarged to include bomb-proof lead and concrete doors, as well as protection against biological and chemical weapons.

While Rambam Hospital in Haifa also has underground space, according to Dr. Eisenman, it was used before the war for mechanical storage and archives. When Haifa was hit, Rambam administrators quickly cleared it out in order to use it for patients and staff.

Dr. Eisenman described the conditions in the WGH shelter as "not ideal, but safe. It was hot, we had to remind everyone constantly to drink water," he said. But it was secure. "However, we realized that the ambulances were still unloading patients at the above ground emergency room. And it was unprotected." So the ER staff began directing ambulance drivers to a ramp that leads to the underground shelter. Originally built to unload supplies, it became a lifeline for the wounded.

"The real heroes of this war was MADA-Magen David Adom-and the fire department," Dr. Eisenman acknowledged. "Their staff searched for wounded in the fires, in bombed out buildings. While we were under cover, they weren't. I truly admire what they did."

Dr. Eisenman noted that the staff, patients and the children from the daycare, could still hear the bombs even underground, "especially the one that hit the hospital," he added. "Everything shook. It started a fire, but we extinguished it ourselves, even before the fire department arrived.

The emergency room staff-which consists of 22 staff in internal medicine, 15 in trauma and 10 in pediatrics-used humor to deflate the situation. One photo on the wall of his office shows staff wearing buckets on their heads and another shows a staff member aiming a fire extinguisher like a rocket.

Following the interview with Dr. Eisenman, Judith Jochnowitz took a group of donors on tour of the facility, including the underground shelter. "A week after the war ended; staff from all the other hospitals in Israel came to WGH to learn how we handled mass casualty," she explained. "We're still tracking 420 patients from the war; 320 are still receiving medicine, group therapy or some kind of relaxation technique."

Jochnowitz is no stranger to us. In addition to meeting them on her home turf in the Western Galilee, she attends the biannual conferences of the Central Consortium's Partnership with Israel; Omaha along with Des Moines are among 10 Jewish communities in the Partnership, chaired by Zoe Riekes and now staffed, by Federation Executive Director Jan Goldstein. In fact, they all met in Dayton, OH, following this interview for the Partnership's fall meeting.

The WGH, which was founded as a small regional birthing center, serves more than 400,000 residents of the Western Galilee, with 2000 on staff and more than 300 volunteers. During the summer war, it became the primary hospital to treat wounded soldiers from the IDF.

Many of the early arrivals at WGH during the war suffered from anxiety. And local citizens showed up looking to fill prescriptions when all the pharmacies closed. Diabetics, outpatients with heart conditions and hypertension, new mothers and those with just routine needs for colds, flu and allergies all flocked to WGH.

"We became a place of last resort," Jochnowitz noted, "even for the homeless population."

Burnout was a constant companion during the summer. The staff worked long hours and most refused to leave the Western Galilee, though many of them had sent their families to stay with friends or relatives in the south.

Even Dr. Eisenman took a short vacation to Turkey with his wife, a social worker at Rambam Hospital in Haifa, and their

children. "There were lots of Israelis at the hotel," he said. "We didn't enjoy the vacation at all. All we did was sit around, watch television and talk about the war. We couldn't wait to get back."

Now back in the old emergency room, Dr. Eisenman said that the wing will soon be demolished to make way for a modern state-of-the-art facility. It's expected to take four years.

You can visit the hospital's website at www.wgh.org.il to track its progress, make a donation online or read more about the summer war experience. Or make a donation directly to the hospital through "Friends of the WGH" by making your tax-deductible check out to PEF and indicate "Donation for Association #693," Friends of the Western Galilee Hospital. Mail to: PEF Israel Endowment Funds, Inc., 317 Madison Ave., Suite 607, New York City, NY 10017.

Dr. Eisenman repeatedly expressed his pride in his staff. "We moved everything in the middle of the night," he said, including the computers, the beds, and equipment. "Not one staff member left. Of the 2000 employees of the hospital, no one skipped work. Not one."

He notes that 75% of the staff in the emergency room are not even Jewish. "We have employees who are also Muslim, Druze and Christian. They come from kibbutzim, moshavim, villages and little towns in the Western Galilee. All cultures meet here. We all came to do whatever we could to save lives."

Reprinted with permission from Carol Katzman, the author



Dr Arie Eisenman



eden

bath • baby • home

500 east grand • des moines • iowa • 515 • 282 • 0669



INTRODUCING THE GONG FU TEA CLUB

FOR THE TEA ENTHUSIAST
TAO AND ZEN LEVELS
CONTACT US FOR DETAILS

GONG FU TEA®

RETHINK YOUR DRINK

414 E. SIXTH ST. | 515 288 3388 | www.gongfu-tea.com

MONDAY – SATURDAY, 7AM – 6PM

132 LOOSE-LEAF TEAS | ACCESSORIES | PASTRIES | GIFTS

Commemorative Stamp Honors Diplomat Hiram Bingham

State Department official is credited with saving thousands from Nazis

By Michael Jay Friedman, USPS Washington
File Staff Writer

Washington – Hiram Bingham IV, a U.S. diplomat whose unselfish actions in saving Jews from the Nazi Holocaust cost him his diplomatic career, was honored during 2006 by the U.S. Postal Service in a commemorative stamp.

Bingham's actions and bravery linked the lives of such disparate talents as painter Marc Chagall, political theorist Hannah Arendt, novelist and playwright Lion Feuchtwanger and the Nobel Prize-winning biochemist Otto Meyerhof with each other and with those of nearly 2,000 other individuals.

That link became clear in 1994 when Bingham's son discovered a cache of documents, bound together with bailing wire and tape, in the back of a closet in his parents' Salem, Connecticut, home, six years after Hiram Bingham's death. That find revealed to his 11 children how he had secretly, and against official policy, processed thousands of visas that enabled refugees from Hitler's Nazi regime to start new lives in America.

In June 2002, Secretary of State Colin L. Powell presented Bingham's children with a "Courageous Diplomat" award and praised Bingham's "constructive dissent."

Members of Congress, Bingham's children and grandchildren, and the children and grandchildren of men and women he had saved attended the Washington ceremony unveiling the stamp.

A Life Well-Lived

Hiram (Harry) Bingham IV was born in Connecticut in 1903. His father, Hiram Bingham III, was the archeologist and explorer who rediscovered the largely forgotten Incan city of Machu Picchu before turning to politics and serving as both governor of Connecticut and U.S. senator.

Hiram Bingham, after graduating from Yale University and Harvard Law School, joined the U.S. Foreign Service.

In 1936, Bingham was posted to the U.S. consulate in Marseilles, France. With that nation's conquest by Nazi Germany in 1940, and the establishment of the collaborationist regime in southern France, the Marseilles consulate assumed singular importance as European Jews and others facing Nazi persecution desperately sought means of escape.

As one Austrian refugee later wrote, "Visas! We began to live visas day and night. When we were awake, we were obsessed by visas. We talked about them all the time. Exit visas. Transit visas. Entrance visas. Where could we go? During the day we tried to get the proper documents, approvals, stamps. At night in bed, we tossed about and dreamed about long lines, officials, visas, visas."

Bingham decided that he would provide those visas, more than 2,000 in all, before he was transferred out of France. This required personal bravery: Czech, Brazilian and Mexican diplomats in France who followed a similar path were arrested by the Nazis or collaborationist French authorities.

His activism went beyond processing papers. On one occasion, he arranged to

have Lion Feuchtwanger smuggled out of an internment camp, dressed in women's clothes. Bingham, after bluffing their way past German checkpoints by claiming the novelist was his mother-in-law, hid Feuchtwanger in his home. He also hid the historian Golo Mann, son of the Nobel laureate in literature, Thomas Mann.

Bingham supplied crucial support to journalist Varian Fry and the Emergency Rescue Committee, a group established with the help of first lady Eleanor Roosevelt to bring to the United States 200 refugee artists, intellectuals and their families. When Fry was arrested, Bingham forced his release.

The U.S. diplomat did not limit his efforts to the intellectual and artistic elite. Most of those he saved were "just ordinary people seeking freedom," said Senator Joseph Lieberman (Democrat of Connecticut), who spoke at the May 24 ceremony.

Many of the rescued, out of bureaucratic necessity, were identified as "Mrs. Fawcett," an associate of Fry's. "Your father broke every rule in the book," the real Mrs. Fawcett later told Harry Bingham's son Bill.

A Distinguished American Diplomat

Bingham kept his secret his entire life, but after discovering his papers, Bingham's children led a campaign for public recognition of his bravery and moral integrity.

The postage stamp honoring Bingham is one of six in the "Distinguished American Diplomats" series, to be dedicated May 30 at the Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exposition.

It is "uplifting to see an American hero of the Holocaust," said Representative Tom Lantos (Democrat of California). "Hiram Bingham was a person of unbelievable moral authority."

Lantos is the only Holocaust survivor to be elected to the U.S. Congress. He was among the many thousands of Hungarian Jews rescued from Nazi-controlled Hungary by the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg. Like Harry Bingham, Wallenberg issued visas to individuals fleeing the Nazis. Wallenberg was arrested by the Red Army in 1945 and last seen alive in a Soviet prison.

Representative Rob Simmons (Republican of Connecticut) personally obtained the signature of each member of the Connecticut General Assembly on a petition urging the U.S. Postal Service to create the Bingham stamp. Bingham understood that career is less important than "the moral integrity you see in the mirror," Simmons said.

Robert K. Bingham told the gathering that his father "put humanity ahead of career He and his wife Rose taught his children there's a spark of divinity in every human being."

Others who spoke during the ceremony at the Rayburn House Office Building included Chagall's granddaughter, Bella Meyer, and two recipients of Bingham-procured visas: retired New York State Senator Franz Leichter and Marianne Pennekamp, a lecturer at Humboldt State University in California.

"There were never enough visas," Pennekamp recalled, but somehow, when a Martinique-bound boat became available, Bingham produced 800 of them in 48 hours.

"It was about simple people and their lives," she said. "It wasn't about the famous."

In the Kitchen With
Alice Friedgood
by Karen Engman



Alice Irene Taffer Friedgood was born in Brooklyn, New York. She grew up in Great Neck where she met David when they were both teenagers. When David carved their initials in a heart on a tree in Great Neck, little did Alice know that she would marry him at the age of 20 and eventually raise their family in Des Moines, Iowa. This photo was taken by their daughter Sophie when they recently revisited their tree.

After David finished his PhD in physiology in Philadelphia, they moved to Des Moines in July 1973, for his medical education at the College of Osteopathic Medicine (currently named Des Moines University). Their son Saul has the distinction of being the first baby born in David's medical school class and it was Erev Rosh Hashanah. Next they lived in St. Louis for three years while David completed his Neurology Residency. They returned to Des Moines in 1980 when David joined Michael Stein's practice.

Alice has been an integral part of our community since her arrival from the east. She served as president of Des Moines Jewish Academy, Bureau for Jewish Living and Culture, Jewish Community School and Tifereth Israel Synagogue. She was also the coordinator for the Jewish Federation's Florence Melton Adult School for four years. During these busy years of child rearing and volunteering, she earned her BA in Sociology and Political Science from Drake University.

Alice says she was Jewish only by osmosis until she met David. He sparked her interest to learn more about her religion and pass it on to her children. She felt it was imperative that they be educated Jewishly at a young age in order to make informed decisions about their lives.

Saul has been married to Laura (Galinsky) for eight years and Sophie has been married to Matthew Homonoff for five years. Both couples live in the Washington, D.C. area and Sophie and Matt have a new baby daughter named Hailey Rose. Alice says she has to visit her at least every 2-3 weeks!

Alice exercises almost daily on an elliptical machine and loves

to read. She belongs to a book group that just finished reviewing "The Memory Keeper's Daughter."

Her father Lester Taffer moved to Des Moines in his later years and Alice remarked how wonderful it was to see the close bond he forged with her kids. I might add that she was a devoted daughter to him.

Anyone who knows Alice would say she is one of the warmest and kindest people they know. She in turn would only say that she is giving back to a community that welcomed her with "open arms." She told me,

"We feel very fortunate that Des Moines is our home and we consider it one of the best kept secrets in the United States!"

Alice keeps a kosher home so it was natural for me to ask her for a favorite Passover recipe. She highly recommends this Apple Kugel as both delicious and easy to prepare.

The JEWISH PRESS thanks Alice for sharing her recipe and thoughts. Remember if you have a recipe to share or want the PRESS to find a particular recipe, please call (515-274-3300) or email Karen Engman (aengmandsm@yahoo.com).

Passover Apple Kugel

A Recipe from Alice Friedgood Parve

5-6 medium apples, peeled and cut in cubes

1 cup matzo meal

1 cup orange juice

5 eggs

¼ cup oil

½ cup sugar

optional: chopped nuts

Mix all ingredients and place in 9" square pan

Bake 350 for 1 hour or until brown

Serve warm or cold

Note: this recipe is so good that you will probably want to make it during the rest of the year ...then you can add ¼ tsp vanilla

[next generation]

Jonah Sloven

by Robin Bear



Snowboarding is Jonah Sloven's favorite pastime. This winter Jonah is putting his season pass to Sleepy Hollow Sport's Park and his newly purchased snowboard to good use. He's taken one Colorado ski trip already this season and hopes to go again before the snow melts. He has been snowboarding since he was fourteen.

Jonah lives in West Des Moines with his parents, Rose and Dan Sloven and his eleven-year old brother, Moses. His older brother, Louie, attends the University of Iowa.

Jonah and his family have been members of Tifereth Israel Synagogue since moving to Des Moines about eight

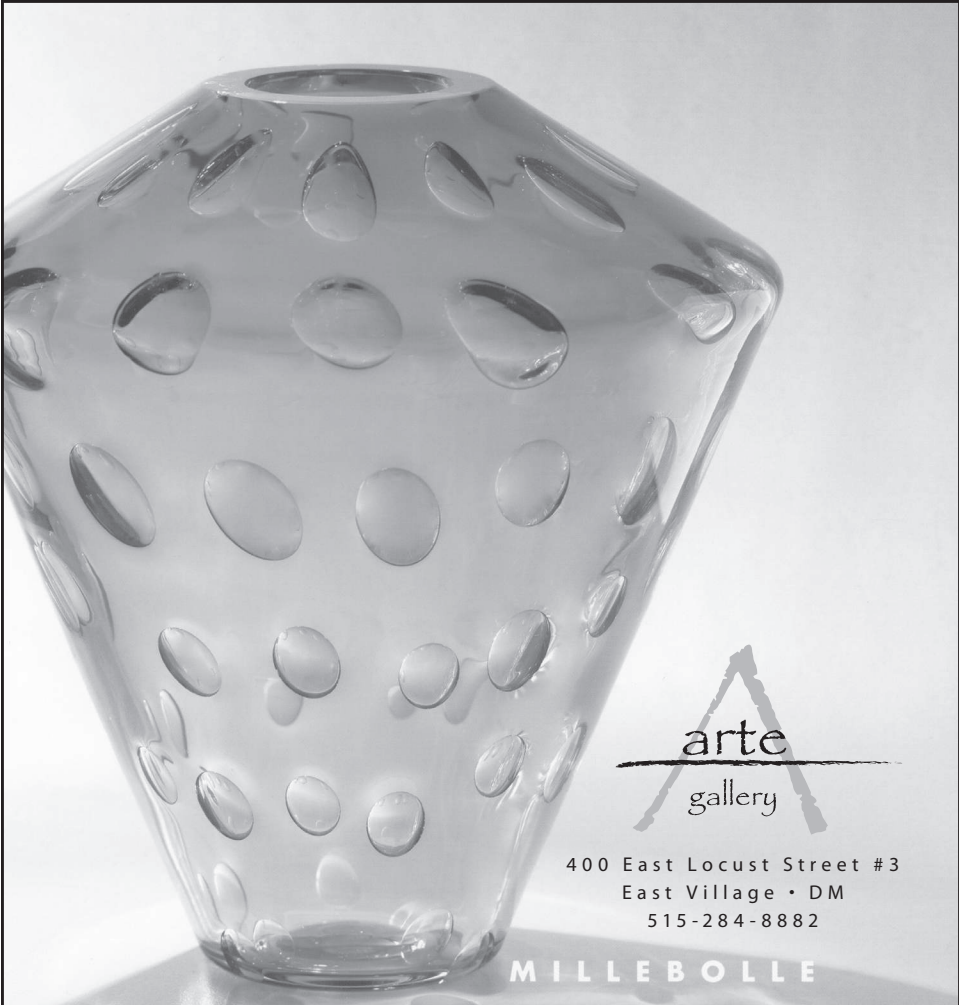
years ago. While living in St. Louis, Jonah attended the Solomon Schechter Day School. Once his family moved to Des Moines, Jonah began his third grade year at The Jewish Academy. Jonah says that at the time he didn't want to leave St. Louis, but now, looking back, it was a good choice. He enjoys Des Moines and thinks it's very family-oriented.

Jonah attended Kinnus in Des Moines this past November. During Kinnus, several of Jonah's former preschool classmates from St. Louis recognized him. Jonah, who is now sixteen, was surprised the kids remembered him from so long ago. For Jonah, it added to the enjoyment of the weekend. During the weekend Jonah also spent time with his friends from Camp Hertzl as well as his friends from Des Moines, Aaron Rosenberg and Jared Farber. Jonah says that one of the most enjoyable activities of the weekend was Saturday night when Joel Chasnoff, a Jewish comedian, entertained.

Jonah plays football for Valley High School where he attends as a sophomore. This past season he played defensive cornerback for the team but he's unsure if he'll play again next year. Jonah explains that the players easily put in twelve hours or more each week during the season and are expected to work out and lift weights through the year. He may want to focus more on academics. Currently his favorite class is biology.

This spring Jonah will be confirmed as a member of the 2007 confirmation class at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. He enjoys celebrating Jewish holidays with his family who he feels has become more observant as the years have gone by. "Now we keep kosher, but we didn't always," said Jonah. He says both of his parents are good cooks and he hopes his grandparents will be able to travel to Des Moines this year to be together for the Passover Seder.

Last summer Jonah enjoyed working at Hy-Vee, but now that he is sixteen he'll have wider opportunities for summer employment. He would like to get experience working in a restaurant. Someday Jonah would like to open his own restaurant or business. With his friendly personality and good-natured attitude Jonah is already on his way to achieving his goals.



ACCENTI

accessories for everyone

400 East Locust Street #4
East Village • DM
515-284-8877

A TOUCH
OF ITALY

5525 Mills Civic Parkway #105
West Glen • WDM
515-279-9590

[music]

Maestro Gerard Schwarz

If there is one world-famous conductor who has continuously championed new and unfamiliar music, it is Gerard Schwarz.

An internationally acclaimed guest conductor and music director of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and the Seattle Symphony, Schwarz has traveled extensively with the Milken Archive of American



Jewish Music to Germany, Spain, and the Czech Republic, where he has made historic recordings of important musical works with such prestigious ensembles as the Berlin Radio Orchestra, the Ernst Senff Choir, the Barcelona Symphony, and the Prague Philharmonic. The maestro has also conducted numerous recordings for the Milken Archive with his own orchestra, the Seattle Symphony.

Gerard Schwarz was born in Weehawken, New Jersey, in 1947. He began piano lessons at the age of five and trumpet at eight, and he attended the National Music Camp in Interlochen, Michigan, and New York's High School of Performing Arts. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at the Juilliard School, during which time he also played with the American Brass Quintet and then joined the New York Philharmonic, succeeding his former teacher, William Vacchiano, as co-principal trumpet.

Within a few years Schwarz found himself increasingly attracted to conducting, having made his debut as early as 1966 with the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, which he served for a time as music director, and in 1977 he resigned from the Philharmonic to pursue a full-time podium career. In 1977 he cofounded the New York Chamber Symphony (originally the 92nd Street "Y" Chamber Symphony), serving as its music director for twenty-five seasons. From 1978 to 1985 he was music director of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and in 1981 he established the Music Today contemporary music series in New York, serving as its music director until 1989. In 1982 he

became director of Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. In the course of two decades he brought the Mostly Mozart orchestra to the Tanglewood and Ravinia festivals and on annual tours to Japan as well as on PBS Live from Lincoln Center telecasts; in 2002 he became its emeritus conductor.

In 1983 Schwarz was appointed music adviser of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, and he was named principal conductor the following year and music director in 1985. He has brought the orchestra worldwide acclaim, not least through its more than eighty recordings, which have received numerous Grammy nominations. In 2001 he also became music director of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, one of the world's oldest orchestras. Schwarz has established an important reputation in the theater, which began with his 1982 debut conducting Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* at the Washington Opera at the Kennedy Center. He made his Seattle Opera debut in 1986 conducting Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, and since then he has led performances with the San Francisco Opera, the Juilliard Opera Center, and St. Petersburg's Kirov Opera. In 1994 Schwarz was named Conductor of the Year by Musical America. His many other honors include the Ditson Conductors Award from Columbia University, and honorary doctorates from the Juilliard School, Fairleigh Dickinson University, the University of Puget Sound, and Seattle University. In 2000 he was made an honorary fellow of John Moores University in Liverpool, and in 2002 he received the ASCAP award for his outstanding contribution to American contemporary music. Schwarz was a founding member of Music of Remembrance, an organization dedicated to remembering Holocaust victim musicians. He is also an active member of Seattle's Temple De Hirsch Sinai and has lectured on Jewish music there and at various Jewish Federation events, both local and regional.

From the Milken Archive of American Jewish Music, online at www.milkenarchive.com. View the website for information about the recordings in their catalogue.

UNI "Illuminations of the Holocaust" Series Concludes

The University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls has presented exhibitions and featured events beginning in January on aspects of the Holocaust. The programs represent a partnership between UNI Museums and the UNI Gallery of Art, sponsored in part by grants from Humanities Iowa and Veridian Credit Union. The remaining events are listed below. All are free and open to the public. For additional information visit www.uni.edu/holocaust or call 319-273-2725.

March 29, 7:00 p.m., Hearst Center for the Arts

The Nasty Girl (1991)

Directed by Michael Verhoeven, this film is based on the true story of a young woman in a German town who discovers, while writing an essay for a contest, that the clergy and businessmen who, she was told, had stood up to Nazi terror, had in fact acted quite differently. As she continues her research, she and her family become the targets of abuse and threats. In German, with English subtitles. Running time: 94 minutes. Adult language and content.

April 16, 2007, 7:00 p.m., Lang Auditorium

"Remnants"

Award-winning voice play written and performed by Hank Greenspan. The play explores the experience of living after the Holocaust. Dr. Greenspan is professor at the University of Michigan; playwright; author of "On Listening to Holocaust Survivors: Recounting and Life History" and, with Agi Rubin, "Reflections: Auschwitz, Memory, and a Life Recreated."

Through May 20, 2007 UNI Museum / History Exhibit

"Dr. Seuss wants you!"

A traveling exhibition created by the Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education and Thomas More College to present a little-known aspect of the works of Theodor Seuss Geisel – his numerous political cartoons and war-time efforts to address American isolationism, racism, and anti-Semitism.

[history]

From the Jewish Encyclopedia of 1906

The Riot of 1614

By: Gotthard Deutsch M. Seligsohn

Vincent Fettmilch, leader of the gilds of Frankfort-on-the-Main against the Jews in 1612, and instigator of the riots which led to the expulsion of the latter from that city in 1614; was hanged in 1616. Fettmilch came of a family of Calvinists, and sought to revenge himself on the authorities, who were Lutherans, by attacking the Jews. In 1595, being refused the office of hospital clerk which he had solicited, he became first a soldier and then a "Lebkuchen"-baker. His boldness and energy won for him the confidence of the rabble, and for four years he was thus able to terrorize the magistrates of Frankfort and the imperial commissioners. He called himself "the new Haman" of the Jews, as though he foresaw his end. His petitions for the expulsion of the Jews from Frankfort being unsuccessful, he with a large mob invaded the Jews' quarter on Aug. 22, 1614. Having removed the children and the aged to the cemetery, situated at the farther end of the street, the Jews, who numbered about 2,000, took up arms and fought bravely. Several persons were wounded, and two Jews and one Christian were killed. The Jews were overpowered, and they left the scene to protect their families. Fettmilch and his men plundered the dwellings of the Jews and burnt what they could not carry away. The amount of damage caused by this riot was reckoned at 176,919 florins.

The Jews who had sought shelter in

the cemetery were warned by Fettmilch to leave the town. The Fishers' Gate was opened for them, and they embarked in small boats, some of them going up and some down the River Main. Many who had been sheltered by compassionate Christians were obliged to leave three days afterward, their protectors having been threatened by Fettmilch. The total number of Jews who left Frankfort was 1,380.

Finally, the patience of the emperor was exhausted, and he issued an order for the arrest of Fettmilch and his fellow agitators. Fettmilch, owing to his popularity with the rabble, eluded the imperial commissioners for a long time, but he was ultimately arrested and convicted. On March 10, 1616, he was hanged and quartered, his house was razed to the ground, and his family banished.

The Jewish community of Frankfort appointed the twentieth of Adar to be a festival named "Purim Win," in memory of their deliverance, the previous day being kept as a fast. The services of this Purim consist of the singing of "Adon 'Olam" to a special tune. R. Elhanan b. Abraham Helen composed a long poem, in Judæo-German and in Hebrew, entitled "Megillat Win," and in German with the title "Das Vinzhans Lied," which contains the history of the persecution and the deliverance. It used to be sung on Purim Win to the tune of "Die Schlacht von Pavia."



independentthoughtgalleryandstudio.com

ORIGINAL FINE ART - 14 REGIONAL ARTISTS - NO PRINTS

2618 BEAVER - DES MOINES - 360.2452

ESTILO

SALON ☀ DAY SPA

2715 - 86th Street | Urbandale
515-727-4980 | www.estilosalon.com

• **President** from page 3

Our Senior Life Center on Polk Boulevard is an example of the kind of facility that every nursing home should become. The patients are attended to with love, affection and the best of care. It recently opened a four-teen bed facility upstairs for patients with memory loss. Although the Life Center is an autonomous institution, it receives financial support from the Federation.

In addition to annual support, this year the Jewish Federation Foundation will begin to provide the Jewish Senior Life Center the interest generated from a one-million dollar fund for ten years as an endowment contribution to enrich their Tzedakah Fund.

The Caspe Terrace with its beautiful grounds and facilities has been a jewel for us and provides the home for the Iowa Jewish Historical Society and the Engman Camp Shalom during the summer. We are grateful that a community our size has a day camp where our children can go for recreation as well as Jewish education. Our camp experience has been enhanced by our director, an Israeli, who comes here annually during the summer. The Caspe Terrace has also been the home for numerous community social and cultural activities including the "92nd Street Y" programs, speakers, entertainment, and our Passover Expo. An endowment fund at The Caspe Terrace covers the cost of some programming and all repairs to the building.

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society's Heritage Gallery is housed at The Caspe Terrace and through the generosity of our donors it also is fully funded by endowments, membership dues and donations. The Society's programming and exhibits

are exceptional. The Gallery has been an attractive and popular means for us to showcase the wonderful history of Jewish Iowans from all walks of life. This year their annual event featured two well-known doctors from Des Moines in conjunction with their outstanding exhibit on our local, highly regarded physicians.

We have enjoyed many extraordinary speakers and entertainment this year brought to you by the Jewish Federation. The acclaimed Jewish rock-musician Rick Recht was here entertaining and involving our children in the performance of songs and Henry Winkler, a dynamic entertainer, kicked off our 2007 Campaign with his Jewish stories and humor. Professor Daniel Sinclair, recently spoke at The Caspe Terrace and earlier in the day engaged our Jewish medical and legal community in conversation over biomedical law. And shortly we will have the exciting opportunity to hear Naomi Harris Rosenblatt, a teacher of the Bible to members of congress and other influentials, speak about her book, "After the Apple." Through the Federation we have been able to bring to Des Moines some of the most influential Jewish speakers on tour. They are sometimes costly, but the benefits to the community are tremendous in terms of expanding our Jewish knowledge. Those who have not participated in the past have missed some quality programming. But there is always tomorrow!

All of the programs listed above were accommodated within our budgeting process. While the Jewish Federation has maintained an annual campaign of approximately \$850,000, our budget for programming far exceeds that. We are recipients of generous support from the Des Moines

Jewish Foundation and modest support from United Way and other grants, which enable us to meet our budgeted expenses.

The mission of the Des Moines Jewish Foundation is to support the programs and services of the Jewish Federation. Currently the assets of The Foundation are approximately \$15 million, of which all but \$2.5 million are legally restricted, that is, set aside for specific purposes. For example, the Foundation has a Steven Blank Leadership Fund of approximately \$500,000 which is restricted to Leadership programs; the proceeds from that fund and the Belin Family Federation Outreach and Welcoming Fund have allowed us, in fact, to start our new Community Leadership Forum. The David Tobis Tzedakah fund is for social programming and provides Tzedakah to many in need of prescription drugs, rent or food. The Bucksbaum Fund in the Foundation, which includes Bookey, Bucksbaum and Staroselsky Funds, is for the maintenance and upkeep of The Caspe Terrace. The Engman Funds supplement the expenses of the Camp while there is the Nussbaum Adult Lecture Fund and the Abe Clayman Sports Fund. There is The Gradwohl Family Endowment for public programming on Iowa Jewish History, and the Shalom Home Fund which provides money for disabled individuals. The Foundation is a very important source of our program funds and truly will provide for the future of the Des Moines Jewish Federation and its constituents. We are thankful that these designated funds have been given to the Foundation by their generous donors.

Today most philanthropic organizations are looking for endowment dollars, such as these, to provide the funds with

which to maintain their programming, projects and facilities ~ and to meet the challenges of tomorrow. The capital is not used, but provides a continual source of income. Our Pace Fund in the Foundation is almost \$1.5 million. Contributions to that fund endow one's annual gifts to our campaign and will continue to provide funds to our campaign long after the individuals have died or left the community.

In the future we face the possibility of having to move our headquarters to another location. While we pay a very modest rent today we know that the future may require a significant increase. We worry how that increase will fit into a tight budget. And along with increased rent, utilities and so forth, we see the need to continue to increase our programming for our seniors, our youth and our families.

The Planning and Budgeting Committee guides our community to set Federation Campaign goals for an annual All-In-One Campaign. Responsible leadership sees to it that our Foundation money is wisely invested and available for our use. Our very capable staff, pillar chairs, Federation Board (including our rabbis), and pillar committees employing the skills of a broad spectrum of members of our community, along with other volunteers, all work together to make our Jewish community function. Let there be no mistake that we are, all together, are attempting to make Des Moines the very best Jewish Community it can be, barring none.

Thank you for your generous support and contribution of time and resources on behalf of your Jewish community.
-Shalom, Toni

Trieste

DESIGN
TEXTILES
ART
FURNITURE
GIFTS
ANTIQUES

An West Glen Town Center
5515 Mills Civic Pkwy
Suite No.110
West Des Moines Iowa
515.564.7777



Betts

AUTO CAMPUS

2121 NW 100th Street Des Moines, Iowa 50325
(515) 253-9600 • (515) 253-9900 • www.bettsautos.com







OLSON-LARSEN
GALLERIES

FIGURATIVE
SHOW

THIS EXHIBITION CONTINUES THROUGH MARCH 31

203 FIFTH STREET WEST DES MOINES, IOWA 50265
TEL 515 277 6734 FAX 515 277 4413 info@olsonlarsen.com

WILLIAM BARNES
BLAIR BENZ
BYRON BURFORD
GRETCHEN CARACAS
KATIE KILEY
EMILY MARTIN
BOBBIE MCKIBBIN
JOHN PAGE
WENDY ROLFE
SCOTT CHARLES ROSS
CORNELIS RUHTENBERG
JEANINE COUPE RYDING
PRISCILLA STEELE

VISIT THIS EXHIBITION ONLINE AT
www.olsonlarsen.com

**IS THERE AN UPCOMING SIMCHA
IN YOUR FAMILY?**

**SHARE THE GOOD NEWS WITH FRIENDS
THROUGH THE JEWISH PRESS!**

**[A photo and announcement of graduations weddings
and other happy events can be sent to Jewish Press
910 Polk Blvd, Des Moines, IA 50312
Or by e-mail to [jrcrc@dmjfed.org](mailto:jcrc@dmjfed.org)]**

[science]

Rethinking the Aging Brain

A vaccination for slowing the brain’s aging process is the goal of Prof. Michal Schwartz of the Weizmann Institute of Science’s Neurobiology Department. “At face value, it sounds like an impossible mission,” she says.

However, her research suggests that the immune system plays a critical role in maintaining a healthy brain and the renewal of brain cells. Consequently, boosting the immune system via a vaccination may one day help to prevent aging of the brain and perhaps slow down disease progression in the cases of Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.

The brain is made up of a network of neurons that “talk” to each other via synapses - specialized junctions that act like electric wires, explains Prof. Schwartz. Originally, scientists widely accepted that no new nerves are formed after the birth of an individual.

However, over the last few decades, researchers have found that certain brain regions are able to renew their neurons throughout life, including the olfactory region, spinal cord, eyes, and a certain region in the adult brain - the hippocampus - believed to be the area responsible for our cognitive ability, learning, and memory functions.

“The mechanisms which allow the formation of these new neurons in the adult brain are not fully understood,” says Prof. Schwartz. “Research is still in its infancy.”

However, about ten years ago, Prof. Schwartz and her colleagues found evidence to support their suggestion that cells normally involved in immune responses can promote the healing of damaged neurons in the central

nervous system (CNS). Prior to that time, the scientific community thought immune cells should be kept away from the brain, because they were perceived as a threat to the organ’s delicate networks. “Our discovery therefore ran against the dogma,” she said.

The researchers asked themselves what kind of immune cells are needed to generate this healing and found that the answer seemed to be T cells (a type of white blood cell produced in the bone marrow and which are part of the body’s immune defense system) that recognize self-proteins in the brain.

Originally, researchers hypothesized that the thymus deletes all T cells that recognize the body’s own proteins, as they could ultimately cause autoimmune disease. Over the years, however, scientists have found the presence of autoimmune cells in healthy individuals and the debate has been whether they are an outcome of a failure of deletion or a purposeful selection.

Prof. Schwartz and her colleagues suggest that, based on their evidence, autoimmune cells are needed in everyday life to fight off enemies arising within the body, such as toxic substances generated by damaged nerve tissues. But the level of these autoimmune cells must be controlled; if they are not, they can cause autoimmune disease, she explains.

Prof. Schwartz and her colleagues first observed the presence of autoimmune cells in the CNS of animals recovering from optic nerve injury in the 1990s. Shortly thereafter, they found that animals receiving a vaccination of T cells experienced a

better recovery from spinal cord injury than animals that did not receive vaccinations.

In their latest research, Prof. Schwartz and her colleagues showed that these autoimmune T cells may also be key players in the body’s maintenance of a normal, healthy brain, enabling the brain to form new nerve cells, maintaining cognitive capacity.

They already knew from earlier research conducted by other groups that rats kept in an enriched environment with mental stimulation, socialization, opportunities for physical activity, and proper nourishment, exhibited increased formation of new neurons close to the hippocampus region, when immune cells were present in the brain.

Therefore, to test their theory, Schwartz and colleagues repeated the experiment using genetically engineered mice that lacked T cells. Significantly fewer neurons were formed in those mice, even though they lived in an enriched environment.

They then used engineered mice possessing all of the other important immune cells except for the T cells that recognize brain-specific antigens. They found impairment of brain-cell renewal, confirming that the missing T cells appear to be an essential requirement for this process, and can be partially restored by replenishment of the immune-cell pool.

In another set of experiments, the researchers found that mice possessing the relevant CNS-specific T cells performed better in some memory tasks than mice lacking CNS-specific T cells, suggesting that the presence of these T cells in mice plays

a role in maintaining learning and memory abilities in adulthood.

Based in part on this research, Prof. Schwartz speculates that as people age and the effectiveness of their immune systems declines, safely boosting autoimmunity via a vaccine using a weak self-antigen may be a way to preserve neurogenesis.

In animal models, this approach is already being tested for the neurodegenerative diseases Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, and glaucoma. It may help boost a weak autoimmune response to these diseases and slow down chronic neurodegeneration, explains Prof. Schwartz. Such a vaccine may be used in combination with stem cell therapy to create a synergistic effect, she added.

Prof. Schwartz anticipates that this research will lead to many different ways to prevent brain senescence, development of dementia, and halt the progress of neurodegenerative diseases. “The bottom line is that we all hope that this research will translate into a healthy brain and a healthy immune system,” she says.

Courtesy of the Weizmann Institute of Science Prof Michal Schwartz’s research is supported by the Nella and Leon Benoziyo Center for Neurological Diseases; the Carl and Micoelo Einhorn-Dominic Brain Research Institute; the Julius and Ray Chorlestein Foundation; the Mono Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research - Weizmann Institute of Science Exchange Program Prof Schwartz is the incumbent of the Maurice and Ilse Katz Professorial Chair of Neuroimmunology.

From TeachKidsPeace Educate for peace today.... to ensure a safe tomorrow Who Are The Heroes?

Schools, streets, and soccer teams are often named after important people who are presented as role models for children. In the United States, Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln are among the most popular school names in honor of three of the most important U.S. Presidents. Many of those who have streets and schools named after them have served their communities admirably and helped improve many lives. This is true in the United States and throughout much of the world.

However, in areas under the control of the Palestinian Authority, it is alarming to see whom schools and streets are named after. Recently, former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein was honored throughout the Gaza Strip and West Bank. Palestinian Media Watch brings us this information from the popular Palestinian newspaper Al Hayat. According to Al Hayat:

Public figures (in the Palestinian village of Yaabid) and the Factions in Yaabid decided to name one of the schools in the municipality and its most important street after Saddam (Hussein) to immortalize his memory and to emphasize the values of Arabness and Jihad, which he represented...[Al-Hayat Al-Jadida, January 4, 2007]

PMW has other examples of the glorification of those responsible for terror and violence. What is even more egregious is the fact that many of these places have been funded with American tax dollars.

1. After the US gave the Jenin municipality money for road works in the city, a block

in the center of Jenin was named for the first Iraqi suicide terrorist who killed four American soldiers in Fallujah. The mayor of Jenin participated in the anti-American rally and the speakers blessed the “resistance of the residents of Fallujah” [Al-Hayat Al-Jadida, April 4, 2004].

2. USAID funded the building of the Salaf Khalef Sports Center. Salaf Khalef (Abu Iyad) the head of the Black September terror organization, was behind the killing of two US diplomats in Sudan and the 11 Israeli Olympic athletes. [Al-Hayat Al-Jadida, May, 30, 2004]

3. USAID funded renovations of the Dalal Mughrabi School named in honor of Dalal Mughrabi and her terror group, who killed American photographer Gail Rubin and 36 Israelis. [Al-Hayat Al-Jadida, December 14, 2004]

The message from the Palestinian Authority to children who attend schools named after terrorists and dictators is clear: these are people who should be admired and emulated.

TeachKidsPeace encourages the public to demand that public funds not be used to build public works projects that are named after terrorists.

Stop Teaching Hate. TeachKidsPeace. Thank You.

Teach Kids Peace™ is a project of HonestReporting whose goal is to draw attention to the culture of hatred and to promote peace education for children online at www.teachkidspeace.org

Profit from your own generosity.


AT LAST, AN OFFER THAT OFFERS YOU A GIFT FOR YOUR GIVING.

In exchange for your gift to the Des Moines Jewish Foundation, you can receive a guaranteed income for life. A Charitable Gift Annuity offers significant tax benefits for you and your estate. As a charitable contribution, it can be a permanent legacy that allows you to be there for the Jewish community by providing education, human services and health care for those who need it. Find out how you can earn both financial and emotional returns on your investment - and find out how you can be there for your community while providing for yourself.

EFFECTIVE RATES		
AGE	RATE	EFFECTIVE RATE*
90+	11.3%	16.6%
85	9.5%	13.7%
80	8.0%	11.2%
75	7.1%	9.7%
70	6.5%	8.6%
65	6.0%	7.7%

*Effective rate assumes a cash donation by a donor with an income tax rate of 25%.

Call the Des Moines Jewish Foundation today: 515-277-6321
Elaine Steinger, Executive Director



Des Moines JEWISH FOUNDATION

• **Passover** from page 1

In the afternoon, films and shows will be shown that will especially interest the children, including the "Prince of Egypt" and "Rugrats Passover." Federation board member, JFCS teacher, and co-owner of Kil'n Time art studio in Ames, Cynthia Shulman, will offer children, adults and families an opportunity to decorate their own ceramic Seder Plate or Elijah's Cup. A material fee will apply for those who choose this activity.

Need a Seder Plate, Haggadot, Elijah's Cups or Matzah covers? The gift shops of Beth El Jacob Synagogue, Tifereth Israel Synagogue and Temple B'nai Jeshurun will all offer special buys.

Participants can shop for their Kosher for Passover specialty foods brought to The Caspe Terrace by the Kosher Express and Maccabee's Deli. Many of the staples for the Passover week will be available, including Matzah, wine, and mixes. On this one day, you will receive 10% off regular prices.

Lunch will be available for purchase directly from Kosher Express. Choose from a lunch of pizza, tuna or egg salad sandwiches for \$5 each to include a brownie and a drink. Please contact Cathie at the Jewish Federation, 277-6321 x224 or Cathie@dmjfed.org to indicate plans to join for lunch so that the appropriate quantity can be ordered.

Vendors, workshops, demonstrations, and other activities will proceed until 2 PM. For more information, please contact Lyanna Grund at the JFCS, 277-5566 or Steve Reitman at the Federation at 277-6321 x230.

• **Holocaust** from page 1

About the Film: "The Rape of Europa," tells of the fate of the world's art treasures hung in the balance during the destructiveness of the Second World War.

The cast of characters includes Adolf Hitler and Hermann Goering, Gertrude Stein and Marc Chagall - not to mention works by artists from Leonardo da Vinci to Pablo Picasso. And the story told in this superbly researched and suspenseful documentary film based on the book by Lynn H. Nicholas, is that of the Third Reich's war on European culture and the Allies' desperate and heroic effort to rescue and preserve it.

From the Nazi purges of "Degenerate Art" and Goering's shopping sprees in occupied Paris to the perilous journey of

the Mona Lisa from Paris (while bridges exploded in its wake) and the painstaking reclamation of the priceless treasures of liberated Italy, "The Rape of Europa" is a sweeping film of greed, philistinism, and heroism that combines superlative scholarship with the breakneck pace of a thriller.

A painting by Leonardo da Vinci, stolen; another by Caravaggio, destroyed; a portrait by Raphael - along with thousands of other works of art - still missing. This is the legacy of Hitler, Goering, and other Nazis' looting of Europe and Russia during World War II. Hitler diverted attention from the prosecution of the war to the systematic theft of Europe's greatest art. His dream of building the world's greatest museum- the Führer Museum in his hometown of Linz, Austria- obsessed him to the bitter end.

Museum officials and volunteers in Europe took extraordinary measures to protect art from Hitler and the ensuing war. When U.S. forces landed in Europe, they assembled a special force of American and British museum directors, curators, and art historians known as the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives section. These "Monuments Men" attempted to minimize damage to European monuments and architecture, then track down stolen works of art. Their effort would become one of the greatest "treasure hunts" in history. In the end, Allied Forces located more than 1,000 repositories, in mines and castles, many of which contained art, sculpture, furniture, and other treasures stolen by the Nazis. But many pieces are still missing. Efforts to locate and return missing art continue to this day.

Running time: 117 minutes. More information about the film may be found at www.rapeofeuropa.com. The programs are FREE and open to the public. All are welcome and reservations are not required.

• **Extermination** from page 14

"I contacted our supplier straight away and I mentioned our concern. They said that if you listen to the whole speech it is clearly out of context, and the media is not showing the whole picture."

He added: "Our mentality is not to keep anything which leads to this kind of incitement." He said the shop still stored other DVDs featuring Sheikh Yasin and he would be going through them to make sure

none contained any such material.

Article courtesy of the European Jewish Press, online at www.ejpress.org

• **Sound Off** from page 14

There's more of course. There are bigots in Israel. And there is a small percentage of Israel's population that qualifies as extremists. And there's the fact that Israel was founded as a Jewish state, although one committed to respecting the rights of all its citizens.

Israeli Arabs participate in just about every aspect of the country's life. There are Arab political parties and Arab members of parliament. And don't think the Arabs in parliament behave as docile lackeys of the government. They are at least as critical of government policies as any party in the opposition. Israel's Arab citizens participate in their country's democracy more freely and actively than the citizens of just about any Arab country.

Salim Jubran, an Arab Christian, holds a permanent seat on Israel's Supreme Court. Arabs play major roles in other areas. The chairman of Tel Aviv University's Political Science Department is a Druze, and Arabs - though underrepresented - occupy positions in business, government and academia. If Israel truly resembled the horrifying picture painted by its enemies, Israeli Arabs would feel much differently about the country. That, of course, explains the pressure to deny that they identify with their country. And it explains why surveys about those sentiments receive so little attention from those who would blame all the problems of the region on the actions of a handful of Israeli Jews.

Frida Ghitis, a world affairs columnist, is the author of "The End of Revolution: a Changing World in the Age of Live Television." She has worked in more than 50 countries and her writing appears in dozens of publications. (Originally appeared in the Miami Herald. Reprinted with permission of the author.)

• **Schneider** from page 10

I've been in business now for 34 years and she's worked with me all that time. She has a phenomenal memory and is extremely organized.

JP: What business venture did you enter?

PS: Originally I got together a group of investors, and I found apartments for us to buy. Elana and I managed the apartments. Elana and I had a little interest in each

property that we managed. Subsequently I started buying properties on my own. Over the years, we purchased a number of hotels and have made them into extended living quarters with full kitchens, bedrooms, and other living areas.

Elana had really done all the management, all the bookkeeping of the properties and I was involved more in money-raising and property acquisition. Then, as today, this was called Schneider Management Company. And now Elana has about 21 employees that handle the properties.

JP: You branched out from there?

PS: Yes, but it wasn't easy. In the early 1980s, when Jimmy Carter was president, inflation and interest rates were extremely high and so essentially, you wouldn't buy any real estate, as a business, because it didn't make any economic sense to do so. So a friend of mine, who knew that I was both a CPA and an attorney, suggested I consider doing business evaluations of "closely held businesses." Closely held businesses are usually family operated businesses, although they can be quite large. And if the family members or partners are either buying or selling a business or get divorced or sue each other, or one of the partners die - when owning a business, they have to determine a value of their enterprise. So I looked into that and decided to go into that business, and I have been doing that since 1981. That side of the business is called Philip Schneider and Associates, Inc. We have four employees there, including me.

JP: That's a remarkable history you've shared with us, involving a lifetime of hard work. We wish you continued success.

PS: Thank you.

JP: We note, as well, that you have worked closely with Jewish Family Services and independently to provide housing in time of need. The Federation community thanks you for your caring and your generosity.

PS: We are pleased to have been able to help.

JP: Phil, thank you very much for the interview. Is there anything that you could share with us that not many people know about you?

PS: Yes, at one time I could have been a professional dancer.

JP: Thank you, Phil.

4 2 0
E A S T
LOCUST STREET
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309
5 1 5 . 2 4 3 . 1 1 1 5

LUNCH 11 AM - 2 PM
TUESDAY - SATURDAY
A LA CARTE DINNER 5-10 PM
TUESDAY - THURSDAY
PRIX FIXE DINNER 5-10 PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY

UCCA



UNIQUE GIFTS
FOR THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

 www.GiftIdeaHelp.com

festive and formal
invitations for Bar and Bat Mitzvahs,
weddings, graduations and other
special occasions

- calligraphy services
- professional assistance

extraordinary gifts for family and friends

- baby boutique
- wedding accessories
- shower gifts

Clocktower Square
2900 University Avenue
West Des Moines, Iowa 50266
515-223-6205

Letter Perfect

The "Leica Freedom Train"

By Kryz Phillips



The Leica is the pioneer 35mm camera. It is a German product - precise, minimalist, and utterly efficient. Behind its worldwide acceptance as a creative tool was a family-owned, socially oriented firm that, during the Nazi era, acted with uncommon grace, generosity and modesty.

E. Leitz Inc., designer and manufacturer of Germany's most famous photographic product, saved its Jews. And Ernst Leitz II, the steely eyed Protestant patriarch who headed the closely held firm as the Holocaust loomed across Europe, acted in such a way as to earn the title, "the photography industry's Schindler."

As soon as Adolf Hitler was named chancellor of Germany in 1933, Ernst Leitz II, the steely-eyed Protestant patriarch of a family-owned, socially-oriented firm that designed and manufactured Germany's most famous photographic product, began receiving frantic calls from Jewish associates, asking for his help in getting them and their families out of the country.

As Christians, Leitz and his family were immune to Nazi Germany's Nuremberg laws, which restricted the movement of Jews and limited their professional activities. To help his Jewish workers and colleagues, Leitz quietly established what has become known among historians of the Holocaust as "the Leica Freedom Train," a covert means of allowing Jews to leave Germany in the guise of Leitz employees being assigned overseas.

Employees, retailers, family members, even friends of family members were "assigned" to Leitz sales offices in France, Britain, Hong Kong and the United States. Before long, German "employees" were disembarking from the ocean liner Bremen at a New York pier and making their way to the Manhattan office of Leitz Inc., where executives quickly found them jobs in the photographic industry.

Leitz's activities intensified after the Kristallnacht of November 1938, during which synagogues and Jewish shops were burned across Germany in a two-day wave of violence.

Each new arrival had around his or her neck the symbol of freedom - a new Leica. The refugees were paid a stipend until they could find work. Out of this migration came designers, repair technicians, salespeople, and marketers and writers for the photographic press.

The "Leica Freedom Train" was at its height in 1938 and early 1939, delivering groups of refugees to New York every few weeks. Then, with the invasion of Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, Germany closed its borders. By that time, hundreds of endangered Jews had escaped to America, thanks to the Leitzes' efforts.

How did Ernst Leitz II and his staff get away with it?

Ernst Leitz II and his staff were able to get away with this due to several factors. First, Leitz Inc. was an internationally recognized brand that reflected credit on the newly resurgent Reich. Next, the company produced range-finders and other optical systems for the German military. Also, the Nazi government desperately needed hard currency from abroad, and Leitz's single biggest market for optical goods was the United States.

Even so, members of the Leitz family and firm suffered for their good works. A top executive, Alfred Turk, was jailed for working to help Jews and freed only after the payment of a large bribe.

In addition, Leitz's daughter, Elsie Kuhn-Leitz, was imprisoned by the Gestapo after she was caught at the border, helping Jewish women cross into Switzerland. She eventually was freed but endured rough treatment in the course of questioning.

Kuhn-Leitz also fell under suspicion when she attempted to improve the living conditions of 700 to 800 Ukrainian slave laborers, all of them women, who had been assigned to work in the plant during the 1940s.

(After the war, Kuhn-Leitz received numerous honors for her humanitarian efforts, among them the Officier d'Honneur des Palms Academic from France in 1965 and the Aristide Briand Medal from the European Academy in the 1970s.)

Ernst Leitz II acted in such a way as to earn the title, "the photography industry's Schindler." This story has not been widely shared until recently. According to the late Norman Lipton, a freelance writer and editor, the Leitz family wanted no publicity for its heroic efforts. Only after the last member of the Leitz family was dead did the "Leica Freedom Train" finally come to light.

mystery photo



We have been digging through our archives and have unearthed a treasure, but we need your help in identifying the photo: If you know the identity of the people on this stage, the location, the year, or the event that is shown, please call Kryz at 515-277-6321 x 217.



In September the IJHS was recognized by the State of Iowa for its advocacy for the arts, culture, and history of the state of Iowa. IJHS President Joyce Swartz and past-president Robbie Winick accepted this honor from Lieutenant-Governor Sally Pederson.

Don't Throw it Away – Give it to Our Archives!

Many precious items are thrown away because people don't know how valuable they are. Don't throw them away, donate them to the Iowa Jewish Historical Society. If it is too precious to throw out, but not enough to keep, donate it to the Historical Society.

Things we collect: Photographs, Grandma's needlework, Grandpa's tallit, kiddush cups and other ritual items, family scrapbooks, diaries, synagogue cookbooks, bulletins, bar and bat mitzvah announcements, wedding invitations, business advertisements, old newspapers, immigration papers and passports, etc.

These items are pieces of our past. Preserve them in our archives. Call Kryz at the IJHS at 277-6321 x 217 to make a donation.

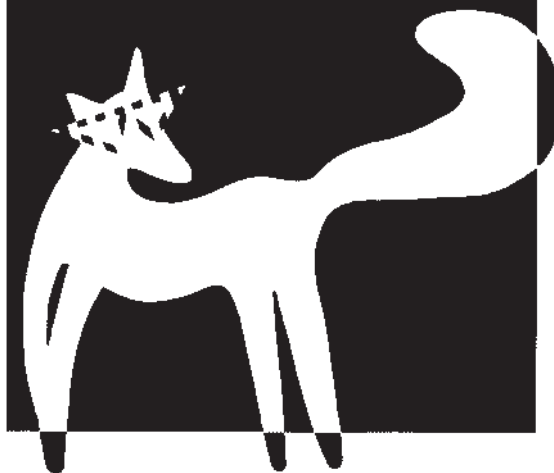
freshness: /fresh/adj 1: is determined from the time the fish is out of the water to the time it gets to your table...and nobody gets it there faster than Waterfront Seafood Market Restaurant • Wholesale •



Waterfront Seafood Market • Restaurant Wholesale

Clocktower Square
2900 University Avenue
West Des Moines, IA 50266
515-223-5106

Come see the difference between dressed and well-dressed...



SILVER FOX
INGERSOLL AT 28TH

You deserve to keep your hard-earned equity in your home



LuGene Isleman

Licensed Real Estate Agent

515-229-2243 – Cell

3220 100th Street

Urbandale, IA 50322

E-mail:

lugenei@nextgenerationrealty.com

Website:

dsm.nextgenerationrealty.com

LuGene:

- Newcomer Agent of the Year in 2005

- #2 Agent in 2006

- \$4,990 to sell any priced home



Guarding your Real Estate Equity

Your Success is My Success!

[calendar]

march/april

Sat, March 3	6:00 PM	Purimspiel at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Sun, March 4	10:30 AM	BEJ Sisterhood Purim Brunch at Beth El Jacob Synagogue
Sun, March 4	1:00 PM	Purimspiel at the Temple
Wed, March 7	6:30-9:00 PM	DM Art Center Class "Beginning Watercolor" at The Caspe Terrace
Sun, March 11	9:00-2:00 PM	Passover Expo at The Caspe Terrace
Wed, March 14	6:30-9:00 PM	DM Art Center Class "Beginning Watercolor" at The Caspe Terrace
Sun, March 18 - 25		JFCS School Spring Break
Mon, March 26		Planning & Budgeting at Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center
Tue, March 27		Planning & Budgeting at Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center
Wed, March 28		Planning & Budgeting at Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center
Sat, March 31	10:00 AM	Megan & Sarah Mansfield Bat Mitzvah at the Temple
Wed, April 4	6:00 PM	Congregational Second Night Seder at the Temple
Sun, April 15	10:00 AM	Yom HaShoah commemoration at Glendale Cemetery
	1:00 PM	Yom HaShoah special film showing at the Art Center
Mon, April 16	4:00-7:00 PM	Teachers' Institute at Tifereth Israel Synagogue
Mon, April 16	7:30-9:00 PM	CAMERA speaker Alex Safian at Drake University Olmsted Center
Thu, April 19	7:00-9:00 PM	Jewish Learning Institute at Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center
Fri, April 20		Artist In Residence at the Temple
Sat, April 21		Artist In Residence at the Temple
Sat, April 21	10:00 AM	Lyndsey Mitchell Bat Mitzvah at the Temple
Sun, April 22		Artist In Residence at the Temple
Mon, April 23	7:00-9:00 PM	Israel Independence Day event at The Caspe Terrace
Thu, April 26	7:00-9:00 PM	Jewish Learning Institute at Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center
Sat, April 28	10:00 AM	Aaron Wylie Bar Mitzvah at the Temple

Visit jewishdesmoines.org for the most current information of Jewish Community events

Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to **Jill and Howard Musin** on the marriage of their son, **Aaron Schwartz to Laura Lien** at the Embassy Suites in Des Moines on Dec. 30.

Mazel Tov on the engagement of **Tivon Ephraim Feeley** of Beth El Jacob Synagogue & **Devorah Leah Weberman** from Miami Beach, Florida.

Mazel Tov to **Muriel and Ed Sheppard** on the birth, in December, of their fourth grandchild, **Ariella Elana Sheppard**. The parents are **Bill and Riki Sheppard** of Sunnyvale, CA.

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

David Bassman

Liya Perlamuter

Ruth Rapaport

Elizabeth Rovner

Sam Siegel

Harry Johnny Shnurman

[short takes]



JCRC member **Roselind Rabinowitz** takes Rabbi Joshua Cohen, Assistant Director of Camp Ramah in Wisconsin, on a tour of The Caspe Heritage Gallery.

Joe Wees
Ticket Sales Representative

Iowa Events Center
Wells Fargo Arena
833 5th Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

p 515 23-STARS
f 515 288-0034
www.iowastarshockey.com
jwees@iowastarshockey.com

BOESEN
The Florist
SINCE 1923
(800) 274-4761 Phones answered 24 Hours a Day
13 Locations Citywide

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS. TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE JEWISH PRESS.

[To advertise in the Jewish Press, call us at 277-6321!]

WE KNOW
the average coffee drinker doesn't care about the

BEANS
that go into their coffee. Lucky for them, we do. Now don't you think it's

ABOUT
time you stopped in and tried this city's best tasting

COFFEE?!

ZANZIBAR'S
Coffee Adventure

2723 Ingersoll, Des Moines 515-244-7694

We'll Make You Look Great!

Industrial, Medical Career Apparel, Postal, School & Public Safety Uniforms & Accessories For Function, Comfort, & Style

Embroidered and Imprinted Sportswear & Promotional Products for Special Events, Business Casual Wear, Premiums & Awards

For All Of Your Workwear & Promotional Product Needs

Carpenter
UNIFORM & PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS

5801 THORNTON AVENUE
DES MOINES • IOWA 50321
PHONE: (515) 283-1985

GILCREST JEWETT
THE LUMBER COMPANY
150 YEARS
EST. 1856

150 years and counting.

Gilcrest/Jewett: Building relationships since 1856.
To learn more about our heritage of quality, visit www.gilcrestjewett.com.

ALTOONA 515-957-0027 CORALVILLE 319-338-0089 MARION 319-377-1593 WAUKEE 515-987-3600

SIMON
AUTO SERVICE
TIRE & CELLULAR

201 East Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-282-0205
www.simontire.com

**"Homes with Character,
Neighborhoods with History."**



Stuart Broms
515.979.3388

