

THE GREATER DES MOINES **Jewish Press**

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HAPPY PASSOVER

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1 out of every 8 children under the age of 12 goes to bed hungry. Thanks to donors like you, this isn't one of them.



Jewish Federation has a long track record of supporting innovative, groundbreaking new programs that care for and feed the neediest among us. It's a successful strategy we apply to every issue we tackle. Whether promoting Israel travel experiences, helping the unemployed live with dignity or supporting local families with special needs, together we do a world of good.

Donate. Volunteer. Make a difference today.



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER DES MOINES

Look What You've Done!!!



Barb Hirsch-Giller
President

During the last many years of working with the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, I am consistently stunned when I all-too-frequently hear our community members say, “What does the Federation do anyway?” or “I’d rather give my money to an organization that makes me feel good—that **helps people.**” Or “I really don’t feel that I have a good understanding of where my money goes when I donate to the Federation.”

When my predecessor, Judy Deutch was president of the Federation, she made a point—no matter what—to begin each Federation event with a rundown of “What Has the Federation Done Lately.” But STILL, we hear that our message is not as clear as it might be. And frankly, I have troubled over this issue. Trust me—my life is full enough without giving the amount of time, energy and passion that I give to this organization if I did not believe with my entire being that we are an excellent example of Jewish community service, education, and programming.

Maybe we are too quiet, driven by our ethic of respect for the dignity and confidentiality of those whom we serve so we don’t easily discuss a lot of what we do. Maybe we just don’t know how to market our non-profit organization. But the truth is that your Federation does absolutely amazing work and so I am simply going to tell you about just a few of our recent activities so that you can feel as good as I do about **what you’ve done!**

In December 2011, all of Des Moines became aware that our primary food provider for people in need was running drastically low on products to distribute and worst of all, this was happening during a historically bad economy. The Tobis Fund of the Federation came forward to provide a \$10,000 gift to the Des Moines Area Religious Council Food Pantry and thus, we were able to supply **13,700 meals** to our hungry neighbors.

As if opening a new state-of-the-art religious school on September 11, 2011 was not enough, when the beautiful environment needed furnishings, who stood up to handle this issue? A WHOLE bunch of donors who bought commemorative bricks! And when that didn’t quite cover the cost, Larry and Suzanne Engman matched those funds with their own and we can’t wait for our children to enjoy their new furniture! On order and coming soon!

Seventy years after the Final Solution took the lives of most of Europe’s Jewry, our own capitol grounds will soon display an appropriate memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. Under the guidance and direction of Judy Blank and on behalf of the Jackie and Myron Blank Fund, our Federation will have reminded all who come to see, that the horror of the Shoah and those beloved lost will never be forgotten.

Your donations to the Federation, provided scholarships for numerous children to pursue their religious education; you made an investment in the future of this Jewish community.

Our Jewish Community Relations Committee, along with the work of our Executive Director, Elaine Steinger, have worked tirelessly with the Des Moines City Council to make the ancient city of Acco, Israel, a Sister City of Des Moines.

I can go on and on, but you get the point. This organization works so hard, **every single day**, for the good of the community—Jewish and non-Jewish, local and international. We invest in the future even as we remember our past. What you have read here is just a small sample of our work. So, please, please when someone says to you, “What does the Federation do, anyway?” or “I’d rather give my money to an organization that makes me feel good—that helps people,” can you just say, “**REALLY? Don’t you ever read the Jewish Press?**”

– Barbara Hirsch-Giller



THANKS, FEDERATION!

On behalf of the Des Moines Area Religious Council, thank you for your December 16, 2011 gift of \$10,000.00, and thank you as well for responding during this time of great need. The community’s generosity has truly been heartwarming. Please know that your donation has been allocated as requested.

For nearly six decades, DMARC has responded to meet basic human needs in the Greater Des Moines area. Your contribution is making a meaningful difference in our community and in the lives of families in need.

We are deeply grateful for your support.

Sincerely,
Sarai Schnucker Rice
Executive Director

THE GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish Press

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

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The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press
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Inserts to the Jewish Press may not necessarily bear endorsement of the Jewish Federation.

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We are always happy to consider articles and information for publication. We reserve the right to edit submissions.

Vol. 28, No.4,
March/April 2012

JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SCHOOL

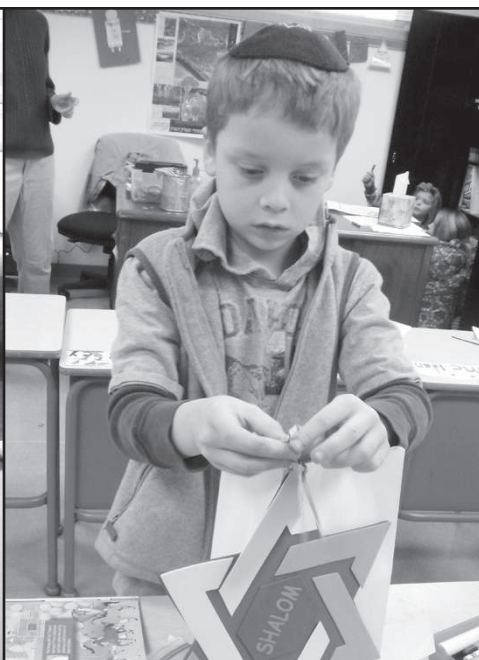


YONI THE JEWISH DRAGON

Shalom! My name is Yoni. I am a Jewish dragon visiting from Israel and staying with Mrs. Shulman. Mrs. Shulman is the preschool teacher at the Jewish Federation Community School Sunday School program. While I'm here, I want to make new friends and learn how you spend your week Jewishly. Each Sunday, Mrs. Shulman lets me go home with a different preschool student and I get to spend the whole week with them. I will be taking a journal with me so I can write all about my special time with each student.

I am having so much fun that I wanted to share with you what I have been doing with my new special friends. There are some families I've even been able to visit twice! ...I observed Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kipper (Kol Nidre) at several homes and in the synagogue/temple; ate apples and honey and learned how to make challah. During one of the services, the Rabbi gave us stuffed Torahs to hold. I've never held a Torah before. ...During many Shabbos dinners I met relatives and siblings and almost everyone's Bubbe and Zayde, and shared in saying the HaMotzi and setting the table for Shabbos. ...Before Sukkot, I helped decorate a sukkah and even helped make a pie for Simcha Torah. It was so much fun at the synagogue/temple during Simcha Torah. We danced holding Torahs and waving flags. ...Just like I do in Israel, I said the Shema every night and Modeh Ani every morning. ...I also attended my first bris. I don't remember my own. ...At one home, I helped wrap Hanukkah presents and light the hanukkah. ...One evening was movie night and we snuggled and ate popcorn; it was so much fun. ...Some of my trips included: visiting Madison, Wisconsin and eating at a kosher restaurant; going to Camp Dodge by Saylorville Lake to see the tanks and fighter jets; went to Jester Park and saw real buffalo and elk; went on a hay rack ride and visited an apple orchard/pumpkin patch twice. ...I even stayed overnight, by myself, with one grandmother. My friend had to go somewhere and could not take me along. It was a lot of fun. Bubbles really know how to have a good time.

Wow! I've done a lot. I am definitely ready for Shabbos this week. Shabbat Shalom everyone. Maybe I can visit you soon too!



JFCS CALENDAR ACTIVITIES

PURIM – Megillah reading Wednesday, March 7 – No Wednesday School

Attend your synagogue/temple for reading

SPRING BREAK – Sunday, March 18 – Sunday, March 25 – No Sunday/Wednesday School

PASSOVER – Sunday, April 8 – no school - Second day of Passover

SAVE THE DATE

OHRINGER FAMILY EDUCATION DAY – Sunday, April 22 – 9am – 11:30 am

Take a family trip to Israel and celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut

LAG BA'OMER CELEBRATION – Wednesday, May 9 at JFCS. Additional info coming.

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL/FEDERATION COMMUNITY PICNIC – Sunday, May 20. More information to come.

New Classroom Furniture

We are pleased to announce that, thanks to Larry & Suzanne Engman's generous challenge grant and to the many community members who also contributed to our furniture fund, we are now able to purchase new furniture for all classrooms. Bricks have also been purchased to begin our brick walk this spring. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Fundraising Effort Continues for JFCS

We are not done yet! There are many community members that were involved during this process and with our generous givers this dream became a reality.

Ways You Can Make Your Tax Deductable Contribution Are:

- Engraved Brick in school walkway - \$180
- Engraved Family stone in the school walkway - \$1,000
- Named Mezzuzah for each room - \$5,000
- Computer hardware / software for one classroom - \$10,000
- Students' Desks and Chairs for one classroom - \$20,000
- Named JFCS or Federation Office - \$50,000
- Naming a classroom - \$100,000+

For more information or to make a donation, contact The Jewish Federation, 33158 Ute Avenue, Waukee IA 50263 or call Elaine or Lyanna at (515) 987-0899.

Mothers' Circle Program

Raising children is never an easy task. It can be made even more challenging if you are raising your child in a religion that is not your own. Our Mothers' Circle class is a free program designed to help non-Jewish mothers' navigate the ins and outs of the Jewish religion as it relates to the raising of their families. This class offers a broad view of topics from the traditions and practices of the Jewish holidays to the differences and commonalities of differing religious thought. It also provides a support group for mothers as they face the never ending challenges of being mom. Information shared during the class is held in confidence so that an open and honest discussion can take place. The class meets every other Sunday at The Caspe Terrace during Sunday School hours (9am-Noon) and is offered throughout the religious school calendar year. This program is offered by the Jewish Federation Community School through the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. It is never too late to join. If you or anyone you know would like to join this class or would like more information, please contact Julie Kaufman at juliek6970@aol (facilitator) or Lyanna Lindgren at jfcsdm@gmail.com (JFCS director).

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ENGMAN CAMP SHALOM, JUNE 18-AUGUST 10

Where Adventure, Learning, Friendship and FUN begins!

Engman Camp Shalom 2011 was a wonderful camping experience for many Jewish children. This year should be even better! Engman Camp Shalom is an eight-week program and is located at The Caspe Terrace, 33158 Ute Avenue in Waukee. **Our Camp begins on Monday, June 18 and runs through Friday, August 10.**

Jeremy Schwartz will be returning as our camp director and brings with him many new and exciting ideas and programs for this summer. Also, most of our counselors from last summer will be returning this year too.

For the seventeenth summer, Engman Camp Shalom has had the wonderful opportunity to add to our staff an Israeli shlichah or ambassador. The summer shlichim program of the Youth and Hehalutz Department of the State of Israel is committed to providing summer camps in the United States with qualified, professional staff from Israel to add a unique Jewish-Israeli dimension to the camp program. All shlichim have completed their service in the Israel Defense forces and attended an intense training program with other shlichim who will also be coming to the US this summer to work at other Jewish camps. By the time you read this article, ECS will know which Israeli ambassador has been chosen.

As some of you know, every summer we ask our community members to host our shlichah. A host family takes in a shlichah for two weeks as they become part of that family. Lifelong friendships have been made through this program. If you would like to be a host family this summer or would like to invite our shlichah to your house for Shabbat dinner or any other evening with you and your family, please call Lyanna at 987-0899 ext 232 to make arrangements. Having the opportunity to bring young Israelis to Des Moines is another way your Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines All-in-One Campaign dollars are working and we gratefully thank you for your support.

Lyanna and Jeremy have put their heads together to come up with a meaningful, fun and exciting summer. During the summer campers will have special projects, crafts, and other experiences as we learn together something new each week. Right now it's a secret but I think you're going to like it.

Weekly swimming lessons will be offered at the Urbandale Pool and we will continue with our morning transportation to The Caspe Terrace. Our daily schedule includes instructional athletics where campers will practice teamwork, cooperation and try new and exciting sports activities and campers will be able to flourish their hidden talents through dance, singing and cooking. On Thursday campers will enjoy the afternoon swimming at Valley View Aquatic Center. On Friday, we will continue to have our morning field trips followed by our bbq hot dog lunch and expand in the afternoon with our Shabbat Extravaganza.

Summer camp is a very special place for a child to relax, grow and flourish in a safe and spirited environment. The priceless summer season equips your child with many social and physical skills. Engman Camp Shalom is a summer alternative that goes beyond recreation; it's where learning and life take place. Make camp an asset to your child's total growth experience. Come be a part of Engman Camp Shalom!

If you would like to receive information about ECS, please contact our office at 987-0899 ext 232 or email Lyanna at jfcsdm@gmail.com.



March and April Jewish Holidays

Purim begins the evening of Wednesday, **March 7th**. Purim commemorates the day when, through the intervention of Mordechai and Queen Esther, the Jews of Persia narrowly escaped being the victims of Haman's plot to annihilate them.

The first Seder of **Passover** is held the evening of Friday, **April 6th**. Passover celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. The festival lasts eight days during which matzot are eaten in place of leavened bread. On the first and second nights of the festival, families and communities retell the story of Passover, over a traditional meal, the Seder.

Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, begins the evening of Thursday, **April 19th**. Contact your synagogue or Temple for information about Yom HaShoah services in remembrance of the six million of our people who were murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators during the Second World War.

Israel Remembrance Day, Yom HaZikaron, begins the evening of Wednesday, **April 25th**. Yom HaZikaron commemorates the lives of all who have fallen in defense of the State of Israel.

Israel Independence Day, Yom HaAtzma'ut, begins the evening of Thursday, **April 26th**. Programming to commemorate the date in 1948 when Israel proclaimed independence will be held by our community earlier that week. The Jewish Federation Community School will commemorate the occasion Sunday morning, April 22nd. **The Jewish Federation will present a special Independence Day program and concert at 7 pm on Monday, April 23rd at the Caspe Terrace featuring the Akko Singers. See the ad on this page!**

Spring line-up:

WANNA PLAY BALL? The Caspe Terrace Programming Committee is putting together a Men's Summer League softball team (AGE 18 and older). If interested, please contact **Andy Marcus** at 865-9255 or az4me08@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Scrapbooking Class - Are all of your holiday photographs still sitting in a box or still in your camera? Come join **Christine Copeland** for a scrapbooking class to create a mini scrapbook and start to enjoy your photos! Beginning level. A three-week project Sunday mornings beginning April 22 in Bookey Lodge from, 9:30-11:30 am; Cost: \$30. Bring your photos, we will provide the supplies, tools and lots of ideas. Deadline is April 16, To register call Tammy at 987-0899. Limit 15.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

Israel Independence Day Concert "The Promised Land" - performed by the Akko Singers, 7:00 pm. at the Bucksbaum Auditorium. Dessert reception will follow. Federation Members: \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, JFCS Students FREE! Tickets will be distributed at the school. For tickets call Tammy at 987-0899.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

"Music to Commemorate the Passover Season and the Holocaust" Concert - Live broadcast of Iowa Public Radio's Performance Iowa Series, 2:00 pm at the Bucksbaum Auditorium. Dessert reception to follow. Admission: \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For tickets call Tammy 987-0899. Hunter Capoccioni, bass, Dimitri Vorobiev, piano and Cantor Gail Karp, Temple Emanuel, Davenport, Iowa.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Federation Community Picnic - Featuring music by the Java Jews and activities for the whole family, 11:30 am at the Alex Richards Pavilion; Cost: Adults \$8, Kids \$4. RSVP by May, 16, call Tammy at 987-0899.

THE CASPE TERRACE

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"The Promised Land" Featuring the Akko Singers

Conducted by Ms. Simona Mizrachi

MONDAY, APRIL 23, at 7:00 pm at the Caspe Terrace.

Admission: Federation Members \$8 in advance, \$10 at door. JFCS Students FREE! Tickets will be distributed at the school. Call Tammy at 987-0899 for tickets.

The Akko Singers are provided to our community through the Des Moines-Israel Partnership (P2G)

Sponsored by the Jewish Federation, Caspe Terrace Programming Committee, and the Partnership2Gether Committee.



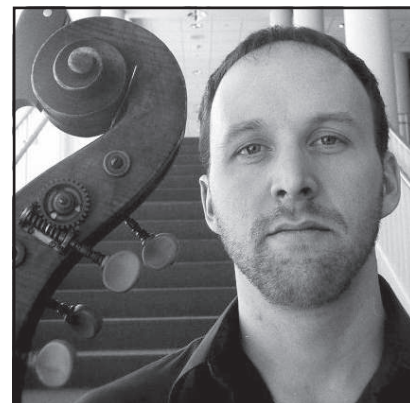
Music to Commemorate the Passover Season and the Holocaust

Live broadcast of Iowa Public Radio's Performance Iowa Series featuring classical and traditional Passover music brought to us by UNI's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

2:00 pm at the Caspe Terrace followed by a dessert reception. Admission \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For tickets call Tammy 987-0899.

Organized by Hunter Capoccioni, principal bass, Waterloo-Cedar Falls Orchestra, frequent performer with the Des Moines Symphony, Adjunct Professor at the University of Northern Iowa, and Artistic Director of the Cedar Valley Chamber Music Festival. Accompanist Dimitri Vorobiev, Professor of Piano at the University of Northern Iowa and Cantor Gail Karp, Temple Emanuel, Davenport, Iowa. Sponsored by Iowa Public Radio, UNI's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education, Jewish Community Relations Commission and The Caspe Terrace Programming Committee. For more information, contact CHGE@UNI.edu



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 Pat Nawrocki, Jewish Family Services Manager at 987-0899 ext 210.



Upcoming Luncheons:

Thursday, March 15, 12:00 Noon, at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. We welcome back **Dr. Ed Bell**, Professor of Pharmacy at Drake University, who will update us on the subject of medications. If you have any questions about medications that have been prescribed for you, please bring a list of their names and dosages. We also will welcome back **Abe Goldstien** who will entertain us once again with his delightful music.

Tuesday, April 17, trip to Prairie Meadows. Join us for lots of fun with a buffet-style lunch, fellowship and live band music to dance by. The bus will leave Beth El Jacob Synagogue parking lot at 11:00 am and we will return at 3:00 pm.





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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.



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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 significant life stage events and religious in nature. A maintenance fee shall be charged to individuals to cover costs incurred of these events.

Prophets by David Friedgood



Picture the moment. We are in the 9th century BCE, in the Palace of King Ahab and his Queen Jezebel, Samaria, Kingdom of Israel. It is the late Iron Age, 400 years before the birth of Socrates in Greece. Israel is the most powerful Kingdom in the Middle East; and Ahab is at the peak of his power, having inherited the throne from his father Omri and consolidating it by marrying Jezebel, a Phoenician princess. Into the royal court marches a middle-aged man with wild eyes. He is unkempt and poorly groomed, ripe from sleeping in caves and creek beds. Alone, standing tall with a military bearing, but dressed in an old cloak of hair tied with a leather cord, he approaches the royal couple. With the firm voice of authority he says to the King “Thus said the LORD: Would you murder and then steal?... In the very place the dogs lapped up Naboth’s blood, the dogs will lap up your blood too”. And to the Queen he pronounced: “The dogs shall devour Jezebel in the field...”

(I Kings 21:19,23) This man was Eliahu HaNavi (Elijah the Prophet, from Thishbe). Ahab had coveted the vineyard of Naboth, which he could see from a palace window. When Naboth refused to sell his family’s land, Jezebel arranged for Naboth to be falsely accused of blasphemy and treason. Naboth was stoned to death; the crown then confiscated his property. Such is the manner of Biblical Prophets. They were men and women who confronted authority. They stood up for the weak and defenseless in society and were champions of morality and virtue. Prophets wandered amongst the people, lonely spokesmen for what was right and just. They gave speeches, made predictions about the future, presided over miraculous occurrences and passed on the judgment of the LORD. They opposed empty ritual; speaking in the name of that which is most holy. They often suffered for their efforts; imprisoned, deprived the basic needs of life and were murdered. Their weapons – the word of God.

The English word prophet is derived from the Greek meaning to ‘predict’. Prophets were seers who foresaw future events and many made predictions. The Hebrew word Navi is more illustrative of the Biblical Prophet. It is derived from NVA meaning ‘to speak’ or ‘bubble up,’ or the Arkadian nabu = to call up. Jewish Prophets were intermediaries between their people and the LORD. They were called up by the deity to be a mouthpiece, an interpreter, for that which is ultimately true. Their utterances were divine speech and often they ‘bubbled up’ with ecstasy, delivering God’s message. These were people who made an impression and were not ignored. Kings, lay people, Jews, and those of other faiths heeded their words. To ignore the messenger was often disastrous. Nathan reprimanded

King David for his affair with Bathsheba and his role in the killing of her husband: “Thus said the LORD: ‘I will make a calamity rise against you from within your house; I will take your wives and give them to another man before your very eyes...” The great King was humbled and “David said to Nathan, ‘I stand guilty before the LORD!’” (II Samuel 12:11-13) Prophets often spoke in parables and described wild visions. Occasionally, neighbors questioned their sanity. Elisha, Elijah’s disciple, was called meshugah (a madman in II Kings 9:11) when he anointed Jehu as the future King of the Kingdom of Israel. The great prophet Isaiah describes a vision where: “I beheld my LORD seated on a high and lofty throne... Seraphim (angelic beings) stood in attendance, each with 6 wings. “And one would call to the other, ‘Holy, holy, holy! The LORD of Hosts! His presence fills all the earth!’” The building filled with smoke and shook violently. One of the Seraphs took a coal and touched it to the Prophet’s lips “and declared, ‘Now that this has touched your lips, Your guilt shall depart and your sin be purged away.’” (Isaiah 6:1-6) These are pathologic visions, but within them can be found a key to open the heart and provide a glimpse of that which man can never truly comprehend. How else can you describe an entity, which cannot be defined; is, by definition, beyond description? It was the early Greek Philosophers who first equated insanity with poetry and genius. Over the millennia, scholars searching for ultimate truth have turned to poetic paradigm, mystical musings and ecstatic frenzy as tools to loosen the restraints of the human mind. To apprehend the divine one must often surrender rational thought and dissolve the ego. Isaiah’s vision is still considered a classic of religious literature over 2000 years after it was spoken by a lonely soul straining to get his people to listen, to hear the real truth of their existence. The Prophet’s whole life, his entire being, was dedicated to this endeavor. Maybe this is a definition of madness.

Rabbi Moses Maimonides (12th century) feels that among human beings are people of such intellectual and moral perfection that they are predisposed to prophecy. Such individuals, after extensive training, can truly ascertain the will of God and the nature of His existence. Maimonides does, however, qualify his opinion with the statement that, even with these intellectuals, God has to appoint them as Prophets. Judah Halevi (12th century) feels prophecy is a natural process, a divine gift endowed by God. The Prophet has no choice but to assume his natural role in society. “A lion has roared, Who can but fear? My LORD GOD has spoken, Who can but prophesy? (Amos 3:8) Rabbi Abraham Heschel in his classic work ‘The Prophets’ (1962) describes God’s Pathos. Biblical Prophets teach us that God is attentive, involved and concerned about us, His people. “God’s presence in the world is, in essence, His concern for the world.” Our God is One, He is unique. He is all there is, all embracing, all encompassing. He is involved, and we are part of His circle of involvement.

I will finish with a follow-up on the story of Elijah and Ahab. When Elijah finished his words Ahab rent his clothes and begged for God’s forgiveness. continued on page 15



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[in profile]

Regina Zilbermints



Regina Zilbermints is a young journalist with the Des Moines Register destined for further success. Below, she fields questions from the Jewish Press.

Jewish Press: Please tell us a bit about your background.

Regina Zilbermints: I've lived in Iowa since moving here with my parents when I was four years old from Kiev, Ukraine. I graduated from Valley High School in 2007, then studied political science and journalism at the University of Iowa, where I graduated from college in 2011. I had my bat mitzvah and confirmation at Tifereth.

JP: How did you find your way into journalism?

RZ: I've loved reading and writing for as long as I can remember. I wrote (and still write) short stories and poetry, but around my senior year of high school I realized I needed to figure out a way to make a living on top of enjoying writing, so I chose journalism. Of course, if I had talked to people they would have told me that it wouldn't give me much of a living, but it's still something I love. I love being involved in journalism because it is a career that benefits me and more importantly, benefits my community. I interned for the DMR the summer between my junior and senior year of college (summer of 2010) and again during the month of winter break my senior year. After I graduated, I returned to the DMR as a temporary employee, doing a lot of general assignment work and even a little bit on the business desk.

I officially started as a full time reporter on August 1, 2011.

JP: What is your current assignment?

RZ: I'm now a public safety reporter, focusing on Des Moines police and other statewide police agencies. That means I cover breaking crime news, like murders or bad car accidents or fires, but I also cover other things that affect public safety, like budget issues.

Jewish Press: What's it like being a journalist?

RZ: I absolutely love what I do. Being a journalist, I get to learn something new every day, whether it's about flood sensors in rivers, how the city budget works or the necessity of organ donation. In a single day this summer I met Governor Branstad and Ambassador Ken Quinn, interviewed the State Patrol multiple times and watched dozens of protesters first make a plan, then get arrested. More importantly though, I get to know that my work makes a difference. Not my work specifically, of course, but the work of journalists and the DMR in general keeps the public informed about what their leaders are doing and where their money is going and allows them to make informed decisions.

JP: What is perhaps the hardest part of your job?

RZ: I would say the hardest part of my job is contacting victims' families after a tragedy. In my head, I know that many families actually want to talk about their loved ones, but in that moment before making the call I really have to convince myself to pick up the phone.

JP: What advice would you give to someone who'd like to become a journalist?

RZ: For anyone considering journalism, I would tell them to read a lot and write a lot. Work for a community newspaper or a student newspaper for practice. But most of all: be curious about everything.

JP: Thank you very much for the interview, Regina. Continued success.

RZ: Thank you.

THE LIFE CENTER ANNOUNCES ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SEPT 9TH



Sharon Goldford



Ben Swartz

Ben Swartz, Board President, is proud to announce The Life Center's 25th year on Polk Boulevard, as well as 80 years of service to the Community. Ben shares, "I fondly quip that I am The Life Center's first Resident President, since I recently celebrated my 80th Birthday as well." Please mark your calendar and plan to join us in recognition of our two tremendous milestones on Sunday, September 9th.

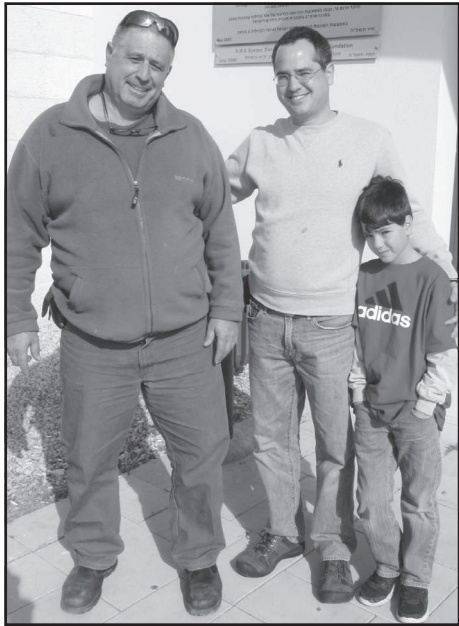
"The Event Planning Committee is truly excited about the possibilities for this year's celebration. During the evening, we will be recognizing our past Board

Presidents and Guild Presidents," shares Sharon Goldford, Committee Co-Chair and Board Member. "We also plan to highlight the magnificent renovations that have been accomplished over the last 5 years, thanks to our tremendous Community of Support," adds Sharon.

We also need your help to make the evening a true time of celebration! We are asking you to "tell your story" about how The Life Center has made a difference to you. Whether it is through someone you know who was or is a Resident of The Life Center; volunteering experiences; serving as a Board or Guild Member; or whatever the circumstance, we want to hear it! Please write and mail your story to The Life Center; c/o Jennifer Youngquist; 900 Polk Boulevard; Des Moines, IA 50312. For more information, please call Jennifer Youngquist at (515) 255-5433.

More details about the evening's celebration will be coming in future issues. We hope you will be able to join us!

Israel Partnership News



Ari Zeli, Jacob Lederman and Meyer

One year ago I accepted the position to chair our Federation's P2G (then P2K) committee. In the past 12 months I have learned a great deal about P2G. P2G is a program to enhance our relationship with Israelis by putting into contact common people from Israel and here. I have had a few occasions to meet with some Israelis in our partnership and have found them to be wonderful people. The most recent opportunity to meet with the partners in our consortium was this past January 15-17 in Austin, Texas. We met at the stylish University of Texas Hillel and at the expansive Jewish Community Center. Accompanying me in Austin were Will Rogers and staff member Mark Finkelstein.

Representatives from the 14 US communities and our Israeli counterparts met in Austin and conducted the bi-annual steering committee business of reviewing programs and discussing future ones. This was lively to say the least.

At the P2G meetings we heard about, saw pictures of and marveled at the dozens of successful programs conducted within our partnered cities. There is no doubt that the very best of these programs serve to engage community members in meaningful arts and educational activities. Participating in P2G programming can be very personally enriching!

Something to take special note of: While at this meeting we confirmed that our community will be receiving 6 Israeli performers in April to perform at the Caspe Terrace, 7 pm on Monday, April 23 in an Israel Independence Day program.

ISRAELI COMMENTATOR SHMUEL ROSNER ADDRESSES COMMUNITY



I hope you will join us for what will be a colorful and lively event. We are delighted to have this opportunity to bring to Des Moines Israeli performers. This is just one way that P2G impacts our community.

In just a few months, we hope to have one of the most dynamic members of P2G with us, Kim Goldberg. Kim is the American P2G Arts Task Force Chair as well as an artist in Omaha. She is very creative and has done a lot of high-profile work with P2G and in the Western Galilee showcasing local artists there. The plans are to have Kim here in June, more information on that to follow. You'll want to meet her.

One more thing; through our P2G relationship I made the acquaintance with a very interesting Israeli named Arie Zeli and this past December while in Israel for a family event, I met with Arie at Kibbutz Regbah, in Mateh Asher. Arie graciously took me, a cousin of mine and my son, Meyer, for a tour of the area. He explained to us that it is his job to provide security for the various kibbutzim, moshavim and villages in the area. Towns and cities within Mateh Asher with larger populations have their security provided for them by their municipality. The largest concern of Arie's and of the people he helps is avocado thieves. 25% of all avocados grown in Israel are grown in this area (along with a significant portion of the bananas grown). Thievery of this important crop affects not just the farmers but the consumers also!

All the while leading up to my trip to Israel I had read about the threat that Iran poses for Israel. It was almost refreshing to engage in a conversation about security while in Israel with no mention of terrorists. More pressing for Arie were the farmers and their complaints of fruit thieves.

My family had a great time with Arie. He is a very engaging person ~ just one of the many fine folks you can meet in our partnership region. Please make a note to visit the Western Galilee when you are in Israel. In fact, if you know you'll be going to Israel, let us, at the Federation know and we'll help you make some interesting connections.

For now, however, I encourage you to write to me at Lederman71@msn.com with questions about our P2G partnership, requests for information about the Western Galilee or with any thoughts you have regarding our involvement with P2G. Please keep in touch, and thanks for your interest!

As part of his assignment to cover the American presidential election for the Jewish Journal, Israeli journalist Shmuel Rosner came to Des Moines in late December to report on the Iowa caucuses. While in town, Rosner, who was Chief US Correspondent for Ha'aretz, was invited to speak at a special joint Temple-Tifereth Friday evening service convened at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. A regular contributor to the International Herald Tribune (New York Times), he spoke about the current situation in the Middle East and was sponsored by the JFed Forum of the JCRC.

Jewish Community Relations Committee

Walid Phares Speaks On "The Struggle for Freedom in the Middle East," May 3



Dr. Walid Phares, an advisor to the Anti-Terrorism Caucus in the US House of Representatives and instructor of Global Strategies at the National Defense University will speak at 7:00 pm, Thursday, May 3 at Drake University's Sheslow Auditorium on the topic,

"The Struggle for Freedom in the Middle East." The topic is based on his book of the same name, published in December of 2010, in which he predicted the uprisings in the region before they occurred.

The program is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the JFed Forum of the Jewish Federation's JCRC and by Drake Hillel. For additional information, contact jcrc@dmjfed.org

Holocaust Survivor Draws Large, Attentive Audience at Drake



Lessons of the Holocaust and Israel's need to survive were delivered eloquently in January on the Drake University campus by Mr. Irving Roth, director of the Holocaust Resource Center at Temple Judea in Manhasset, New York. Mr. Roth himself survived Auschwitz and Buchenwald. It was his personal story that he presented to an attentive audience of 200 students and community members,

including a number of state legislators.

The history of each survivor is, of course, unique, but there are patterns that form a commonality between many of the testimonies from which lessons may be drawn. In Mr. Roth's narrative, it was his retelling of an instance of an individual who betrayed his family and an instance in which an individual at great personal risk shielded his family that may have resonated the strongest with his audience.

Equally powerful were Mr. Roth's reflections about the demonization of Jews by the Nazis and an almost identical content of demonization of Jews re-planted into the Middle East by Nazi operatives who relocated to the Middle East after the war.

The event was the kick-off program of Drake University's chapter of Christians United For Israel (CUFI) founded on campus by senior Emily Lofgren.

More about Mr. Roth's biography may be found online at <http://eev.liu.edu/HolocaustReCtr/survivors/iroth.htm>

UNI Center Presented Holocaust Workshop For Teachers



Prof. Stephen Gaies and Fred Lorber

In conjunction with JCRC and with the assistance of Temple B'nai Jeshurun, the University of Northern Iowa's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education, directed by Professor Stephen Gaies, presented a teachers workshop last November. The theme of the workshop was "Teaching about the Holocaust and the Iowa Core Curriculum."

Rabbi David Kaufman welcomed the teachers. Cheryl Mullenbach of the Iowa Department of Education then focused her remarks on how the teaching of

the Holocaust can be done to meet the specific goals and content standards of the new Iowa Core Curriculum.

The date of November 10th coincided with the anniversary of Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass, the state-wide program on Jews, Jewish businesses and synagogues in Germany in 1938. To address the significance of this watershed event in Pre-war Nazi Germany, Fred Lorber was called upon to speak to the teachers, Fred having escaped from Vienna at about the same time.

Prof. Gaies screened a very powerful video, "Nicholas Winton: The Power of Good," which documents how one man saved the lives of hundreds of children who might otherwise have perished in the Holocaust. Copies of the book, upon which the video was based, was provided to the teachers along with other instructional materials.

The workshop was well received. One teacher wrote: "The activities, the Winton DVD, and especially Mr. Lorber's talk - all were powerful, inspiring and fascinating. Lots to take back and use in my classroom! Thank you for putting this workshop together."

Jewish Family Services

Fourth Annual Senior Volunteer Recognition Dinner



Barb Hirsch-Giller, Allison Disher, Pat Nawrocki



Shirley Berg



Rabbi Marshall Berg



Laurie Bishop



Gary Bishop



Jule Goldstein



Harlan Lekowsky



Jan Houk



Gwenn Copple



Barbara Leventhal-Beckerman





Ruth Levine



Barb Galinsky



Bernard Levine



Shirley Berck



Louise Kaufmann



Eva Pintus



Barbara Geller



Betty Goodside



Vera Aginsky



Steve Lipshutz



Janet Morse



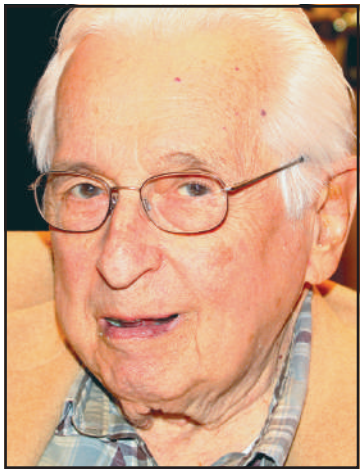
Lois Brown



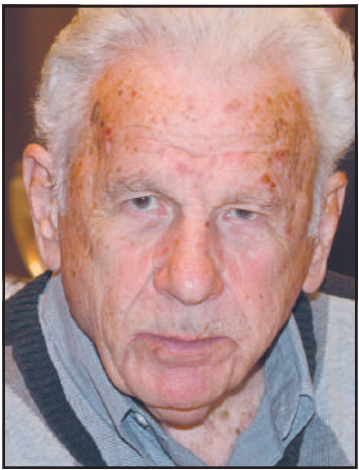
Dorothy Clark



Charlotte Raush



Harold Gotsdiner



Jake Nagorner



Shirley Wittenstein



Frances Rosen



Sally Luftman

On October 27th we celebrated our 5th Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet and honored our volunteers for graciously sharing their gifts of love, kindness and giving. Our theme for the program was “You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.” The volunteers for the Senior Adult Program do give of themselves. They put their own wants and needs aside to brighten the day of someone else. They provide transportation to doctor appointments, grocery store, make telephone calls, assist at luncheons, serve on boards and much more. They assist in taking care of not only the Seniors’ physical needs but also their emotional needs. They make them feel valued and that someone does care.

I was reading the other day and saw the word gatekeeper. I immediately thought to myself that’s our Volunteers, they are like gatekeepers in the lives of others. They are true advocates and always wanting to help others. Wherever there is a human being they see an opportunity for kindness. One day these volunteers will look back on their lives and say that the moments when they had really lived were the moments when they had done things in the spirit of love for other people. That’s what the Senior Adult Program is all about, deeds of kindness, reaching out and helping someone in need.

Special thanks to Chanie Jacobson for the lovely meal; Musicians Nick Rieser, Mel Hrubetz and Dan Hartzler for the wonderful music provided in honor of Abraham, Regina, Paul, Sidney, Silvia and Ralph Zarnow; Dorothy Clark for reading her original poems; Cantor Linda Shivers for entertaining with songs, Temple B’nai Jeshurun for the loan of table linens; Mike Kroloff for taking great pictures and Barb Leventhal Beckerman for her beautiful centerpieces and goodie bags.
-Pat Nawrocki, Jewish Family Services Manager

Volunteers not pictured:
Esther and Warner Bergh
Roy Clark
Charles Dickson
Roy Fitzhugh
Abe Goldstien
LuGene Isleman
Jonathan Yentis

photography by Michael Kroloff




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[humor]

A Time Capsule For Jewish Des Moines

by David Moskowitz



Author's note: FINALLY! No more of those painful, space-killing "editor's notes" that introduced each of my "humor columns" for the past four years. Thanks to the wisdom of the Iowa courts system, I have the freedom to write my own introductions to these columns. Did I just say four years? I have been writing this column for four years? Wow; that really makes you think. I originally thought that maybe I could come up with two or three silly columns about our family trip to Europe with tinges of Jewish-style humor ... and that would be that. But now that I add it up: I've written 22 of these columns on a number of diverse subjects ranging from Jewish superheroes to descriptions of our next host country to

Editor's note: INVOKE EMERGENCY EDITORIAL INTERCEPT PROTOCOL NUMBER 2. Man, that was a painful experiment, maybe even more painful than the columns themselves, if you can even conceive of such a thing. Okay, we Jewish Press editors have introduced these columns for a long time and we have mastered the process. Let's face it, this Moskowitz guy may have persuaded the courts to allow him to introduce his own columns, but they must not have seen his efforts to write introductory editor's notes-style writing! He stinks at them! The Jewish Press staff is invoking its right to introduce these columns in its unique and time-tested fashion: we will simply apologize for the junk you are about to read. Apparently, the columnist married the Chairman of the Jewish Press Editorial Board and used nepotism to force us to print this stuff. We're hoping she'll come to her senses and persuade her "husband" to spend his time doing something more constructive, like cleaning out the basement or working on his writing skills.

I love time capsules. The process of selecting iconic artifacts from one's own time to tell the story of our life and times to future generations is sweetly revealing about our desire to add meaning to our own lives. When I was growing up in Westfield, New Jersey, my sixth grade teacher, Mr. Hedden, decided that our class should assemble a class time capsule so that people thousands of years in the future would understand what my life was like in suburban New Jersey, circa 1967. So we dutifully assembled those representative artifacts and buried them in the middle of the crabapple orchard next to the Jefferson School parking lot. Among the artifacts we chose were a cassette tape of our class singing a selection of Christmas songs, a Batman lunchbox (Adam West vintage), a poorly-painted miniature model of the starship Enterprise (William Shatner vintage), a copy of the Westfield Leader (our hometown newspaper), a Conrail train schedule, a Westfield library card, and a picture of the then-under-construction World Trade Center. When I returned to Westfield in 1998, the crabapple orchard had been paved over in a misguided expansion of the faculty parking lot. *continued on page 15*

[the pesky diner]

Best Brunch In Town Not Served At Waveland Cafe? Americana.

by Jarad Bernstein



Local blogger Jared Bernstein is The Pesky Diner, online at www.thepeskydiner.com

When it comes to brunching in Des Moines, I have been of a single mind for more than five years: go to Waveland Cafe to order the veggie skillet or don't bother. Baby Boomers Cafe has some major fans among my friends, but I always seem to end up with more grease than anything else. Cheesecake Factory does have some wonderful options, but it's not exactly my cup of tea on a weekend morning.

Americana, across from the downtown sculpture park on Locust, opened its doors last year promoting an all you can eat weekend brunch buffet. Having been there several times for lunch and dinner, I recently took the opportunity to take an out of town guest there for a late morning brunch. Given my mixed experiences on previous visits, I wasn't sure what to expect other than the eclectic menu promised on the website.

In my buffet dining experiences, it is rare to find a restaurant that prepares a wide variety of menu items well. Americana succeeds where even most Vegas buffets fail: over the top deliciousness for the Pesky Diner-style crowd.

When you go, here's a list of kosherish items you can choose from. Keep in mind that these options are all included in your "Bombshell Brunch" fee of \$14. Add \$8 and you get the all you can drink bloody mary and mimosa bar.

- 1) **Waffle Bread Pudding** - This dish came highly recommended by a Drake Hillel student who happened to be dining at the same time as my group. It did not disappoint. I could make an entire meal of this.
- 2) **Mascarpone Crepes** - These mini crepes, folded in quarters and filled with mascarpone cheese, were near perfect once a dollop of sauced strawberries were added.
- 3) **Smoked Salmon Parfait** - The parfait I took contained salmon that tasted more cooked than smoked, but I can't complain too much. Think of this as a deconstructed bagel sandwich minus the bagel. This treat included crème fraiche (I think), red onions and capers on top of some shredded salmon. A nice small treat, but feel free to go back for more.
- 4) **Veggie Egg Muffins** - Think of this as an omelet shaped like a mini-muffin. These were tasty and much, much better than the tray of scrambled eggs found on most breakfast buffets.

continued on page 19

In the Kitchen with Karen Engman by Karen Engman



Jewish holidays are a time to gather with our friends and family and celebrate, and of course, eat. There always seems to be a meal and during Passover the meal/Seder takes center stage. Sure there's a multitude of prayers, stories, responsive readings and songs but the Pesach supper is always an integral part of the evening because of the symbolism of the foods served.

The Passover dinner is usually composed of many courses; the matzo and charoses, hardboiled eggs, gefilte fish, matzo ball soup, the main course, side dishes and dessert. With that much food and a Seder looming ahead, appetizers are hardly necessary, but we always seem to serve chopped liver before all the Engman holiday dinners. We prefer it stuffed into celery sticks but it also spreads nicely on matzo crackers.

Initially, I learned to make

Vegetarian Chopped Liver

A Recipe from Karen *parve*

- 1/2 cup raw lentils
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 hard boiled eggs

- 3/4 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 large onion (chopped and fried in 2 tablespoons oil until lightly brown)

Cook lentils in water for 20-30 minutes until soft. Drain. Put all ingredients in food processor. Chill until next day.*

*Don't taste until the next day and add seasonings then if needed.

chopped liver from my mother. She even taught me how to render schmaltz from chicken fat. Eventually, I wisely substituted olive oil for the schmaltz and it was still delicious. Several years ago, a friend introduced me to Vegetarian Chopped "Liver" made with lentils and walnuts and I loved it! I have even fooled some diehard fans of the "real McCoy" liver with this recipe.

Chopped Liver

A Recipe from Karen *meat*

- 1 lb chicken livers
- 2 medium onions, finely chopped
- 6-8 hardboiled eggs
- Oil (I use olive oil) or schmaltz*
- Salt & pepper

Saute liver in a little oil until slightly brown and cooked through.

Saute onions in oil until browned and tender.

Hardboil eggs and chop (I remove most of the yolks).

Chop the liver into small pieces and combine with eggs and onions.

Add oil, if needed, for more moisture.

Salt & pepper to taste, mold and refrigerate.

Note: I do use a food processor to chop sometimes, but take care that the onions and liver do not become too mashed in texture.

*Rendering schmaltz: heat washed chicken fat in a skillet, add some chopped onions for flavor, continue to drain off liquid, straining into a jar. Cool then refrigerate. It will harden like butter.



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Temple B'nai Jeshurun Presents

Scholar-In-Residence Rabbi Larry Hoffman April 13-15

Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman will bring his passion for spiritual renewal to the Connections Shabbat Service Friday evening, April 13th and Saturday, April 14.

Dr. Lawrence A. Hoffman was ordained as a rabbi in 1969, received his Ph.D. in 1973, and has taught since then at the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. From 1984 to 1987, he directed its School of Sacred Music as well. In 2003, he was named the first Barbara and Stephen Friedman Professor of Liturgy, Worship and Ritual. He teaches classes in liturgy, ritual, spirituality, theology and synagogue leadership. For almost forty years, he has combined research, teaching and a passion for the spiritual renewal of North American Judaism.

Rabbi Hoffman has written or edited over thirty-five books, including "My People's Prayer Book" (Jewish Lights Publishing), a ten-volume edition of the Siddur with modern commentaries, which was named a National Jewish Book Award winner for 2007. His "Rethinking Synagogues: A New Vocabulary for Congregational Life" (Jewish Lights Publishing) and his "Art of Public Prayer" (Skylight Paths) are widely used by churches and synagogues as guides to organizational visioning and liturgical renewal. In 2011, he received a second National Jewish Book Award for co-authoring "Sacred Strategies: Transforming Synagogues from Functional to Visionary" (Alban Institute).

His articles, both popular and scholarly, have appeared in eight languages and on four continents, and include

contributions to such encyclopedias as "The Macmillan Encyclopedia of Religion," "The Oxford Dictionary of Religion," "The Encyclopedia of Judaism" and "The Encyclopedia of Religion in America." He syndicates a regular column which appears, among other places, in "The Jewish Week" and "The Jewish Times," and writes a blog entitled "Life and a Little Liturgy."

For many years, Rabbi Hoffman served as visiting professor of the University of Notre Dame and has lectured at such places as the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the University of Southern California, and the Yale Divinity School.

In 1990, Dr. Hoffman was selected by the United States Navy as a member of a three-person design team, charged with developing a continuing education course on worship for chaplains. He is a past-president of the North American Academy of Liturgy, the professional and academic organization for liturgists and in January 2004, received that organization's annual Berakhah Award, for outstanding lifetime contributions to his field.

In 1994, he co-founded "Synagogue 2000," a trans-denominational project to envision the ideal synagogue "as a moral and spiritual center" for the 21st century. As "Synagogue 3000," it has launched "Next Dor," a national initiative to engage the next generation through a relational approach featuring strong communities with transformed synagogues at their center.

[review]

StageWest Theater's Production of "PARADE" by Laura Sigal

"PARADE," book by Alfred Uhry, music and lyrics by Jason Robert Brown. In 1913, in the state of Georgia, Leo Frank, a pencil factory manager, was accused of raping and killing a 13 year old girl; simply because he was Jewish. The story was then turned into the Broadway musical "Parade" with Alfred Uhry penning the book and music and lyrics done by Jason Robert Brown.

This past January, StageWest Theatre Company brought the story to life in Des Moines. The Civic Center's Stoner Theatre housed the show. On Sunday January 22nd Drake University Hillel got the opportunity to attend the musical.

The simple set was deceiving; one wouldn't expect such a set to so perfectly bring the show together. I was amazed at each scene as the set transformed to tell the tale. What was even more amazing was watching the many Drake students in the musical, unrecognizable as they fully immersed into their characters. The emotion that the cast brought to the stage was unbelievable in the best of ways.

Andrew Ryker, who played Leo Frank, perfectly played the innocent nervous man. When Ryker recited the Shema on stage shortly before his lynching his emotion portrayed that of a man who

knew his fate.

Lauren Shun, portrayed his wife, Lucille Frank with such grace. Lauren Knutson brings innocence to stage as she portrays Mary Phagan and Aaron Smith perfectly brought Newt Lee to life.

With such a complex story it is important to look at the lessons this musical teaches. Leo Frank was accused just for the fact that he was a Jew from the North. The evidence all pointed against him and when the mayor reviewed his trial he changed his sentence from a death penalty to life in prison. Many people refused to let it go though and Leo Frank was eventually lynched.

While the state never completely pardoned Leo Frank they did admit to fault in his death and how it was handled.

The one portion that I didn't enjoy of the show was how it ended. While it made me want to learn more, I went home and researched the story, I do wish the musical had explained more of what happened after the lynching in later years.

Overall this was one of the most touching and emotional musicals I have ever seen. The emotion that the characters brought to stage combined with the well-written script and music really brought this sad, yet important, story to life.

Prophets from page 7 God took pity on him and told Elijah: "Because he (Ahab) has humbled himself before Me, I will not bring the disaster (upon his house) in his lifetime..." (1 Kings 19:29) Jezebel, on the other hand was not repentant. She witnessed the death of her son and son-in-law and then was thrown from a palace window by two of her servants. As her blood spilled on the wall, she was trampled by horses and dogs ate her flesh.

"The Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: Herewith I put my words into your mouth.

See, I appoint you this day over nations and kingdoms:

To uproot and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow,

To build and to plant." (Jeremiah 1:9-10)

Capsule from page 12 My assumption had always been that the capsule would be opened by super-advanced humans of the future who could communicate through their giant brains. But I was wrong: the capsule had instead been prematurely opened and discarded by construction workers in one of New Jersey's legendary concrete unions. Somewhere underneath Giants Stadium in the Meadowlands, Jimmy Hoffa is spending time with that Batman lunchbox.

Let's put together a time capsule that captures the unique nature of Jewish life in Des Moines, Iowa, circa 2012. Here is a list to get you started:

1. Copy of Des Moines Jewish Press. Let's make sure the supposed "humor" column is redacted, just to save giant-brained super-humans from the trouble

of deleting them. And let's make sure we include an issue with that recipe for Aunt Edith's health salad (a/k/a Weequahic Diner salad). No one in the future will be able to resist.

2. Copy of a menu from Des Moines' second-most favorite Jewish deli. This of course means a copy of the menu from Cracker Barrel, with the 11-page pork chop section redacted, along with 90% of the rest of the menu. Come to think of it, the only Jewish deli food items on the Cracker Barrel menu are the "Diet Sprite," the "potatoes" and "creamed corn." But those three items alone, together with the extensive display of frightening Christian souvenirs, make Cracker Barrel an iconic destination for all Jewish Iowans.

3. Loaf of authentic Jewish challah, Des Moines style. Nothing beats Des Moines' legendary homemade Jewish challah bread, which is available in Hy-Vees all across town. If you do not see the challah immediately, do not be shy about looking for the label ("Sliced White Bread With No Known Nutritional Value") or asking the helpful staff (simulated dialog: Question: "Do you have any of your famous Des Moines challah in stock?" Reply: "What?").

4. Package of authentic Des Moines kosher pastrami. It is commonly sold under the more popular "Oscar Mayer Bologna" label.

5. Rabbi Kaufman Facebook page. Nothing captures the pulse of Jewish Des Moines better than the passionate internet writings of our own Rabbi

Kaufman. If super-genius Jews of the future want to truly understand life in the year 2012, a printout of Rabbi Kaufman's Wall can't be beat.

6. The Des Moines versions of (a) a New York City black-and-white cookie and (b) deli mustard. The Des Moines versions are more commonly known as (a) an Oreo and (b) French's yellow mustard.

7. A bowl of sour pickles and sauerkraut for the table. If you ask politely, Des Moines restaurants will reluctantly provide you with (a) a teaspoon to stir your coffee, (b) packets of artificial sweetener.

Now it's time to travel to Future Des Moines, circa 2512, to open up our time capsule from the ancient Des Moines past. What kind of dizzying Future World awaits our time capsule? Will future Des Moines even understand the simple textures of Jewish life in the Des Moines of the ancient past? By 2512, the metropolitan Des Moines area had expanded from its current size of approximately 500,000 people to a crowded and gargantuan 525,000. Someone built an apartment building a dizzying 20 stories tall. If it wasn't for the pervasive smell of pork tenderloin and some wear and tear on the giant Anderson-Erickson cow sculpture, Future Des Moines is almost unrecognizably futuristic. Here is a glimpse of the unrecognizable and impossible future:

1. Construction of the Whole Foods store on University Avenue is nearing completion.

2. Caspe Terrace is no longer considered

a schlep from downtown Des Moines due to the existence of the high-speed Caspe Terrace High Speed Magnetic Monorail which, when completed in the year 2510, reduced drive time to a brisk 11 minutes from the present day excruciatingly long 13 minutes.

3. The Temple's parking lot has expanded to 15 parking spaces, making it a breeze to park your turbo copter.

4. A buzz of construction activity surrounds the long-delayed completion of a number of local projects: the "Riverwalk" and the Ingersoll bike lanes. Five hundred years in the making, a construction time frame equaled only by the Mezquita in Córdoba, these projects are announced by newly elected Iowa Governor Terry XLIV, who rules with an iron fist from his parapet atop Castle Branstad. Yes, the parapet has a 70's Bert Reynolds mustache.

5. Jewish influence over the Iowa State Fair has grown to the point where the most popular fried delicacy introduced at the 2511 fair was Fried Kasha Varnishkes.

6. After 500 years of reminders that were ignored, Valley High School has finally begun to figure out that it shouldn't schedule basketball games or proms on the high holidays, or include Christian hymnals in its graduation ceremonies.

7. The Pappajohn Sculpture Garden still looks weirdly futuristic.

And so we Jews beat on, boats against the Raccoon River, borne back ceaselessly into the Des Moines of the past.

Author's note: Please feel free to continue to not forward your feedback to the author at iowadavid@me.com.

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TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

March 2012

Friday, March 9th	6:00 p.m.	Rock Shabbat
Sunday, March 11th	4:00 p.m.	YAD Purim Carnival at Tifereth
Thursday, March 15th	12 Noon	Senior Luncheon at Tifereth
Thursday, March 29th	6:30 p.m.	Tifereth Night – Iowa Energy Game
Saturday, March 31st	10:30 a.m.	YAD Chocolate Seder

April 2012

Saturday, April 7th	6:30 p.m.	Second Night Community Seder
Sunday, April 8th	6:00 p.m.	Women's League Passover Lasagna Dinner
Friday, April 20th	6:00 p.m.	Friday Night Live
Saturday, April 28th	9:00 a.m.	Jack Ohringer's Bar Mitzvah
Sunday, April 29th	12 Noon	Women's League Paid-Up Membership Luncheon

Recurring Events:

Minyan: Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m.

Services: Friday - Shabbat Evening Services at 6:00 p.m.
Saturday - Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30 a.m.

Choir Rehearsals Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

S.T.E.P. led by Michael Kuperman

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. – Tifereth Conference Room

Adult Education Classes: Rabbi Edelman-Blank:

Rabbi's Study – Following Saturday Shabbat Café each week. We explore, discuss and contemplate a different topic each week; afterlife, various Life Cycle events, Jewish ethical opinions and Jewish Mysticism

Conversion Class – Contact Rabbi Edelman-Blank

Continuing the Conversation – Contact Rabbi Edelman-Blank

Cantor Shivers: Making Prayer Real

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. - March 1st & March 8th This class is aimed at people who have trouble relating to Jewish prayer

SPECIAL SERVICES:

Purim Services: Wednesday, March 7th – Fast of Esther – Megillah Reading

Passover Services: Thursday, April 5th – Search for Chametz

Friday, April 6th – 6:00 p.m. - Services

Saturday, April 7th – 9:00 a.m. and

6:30 p.m. – Second Night Community Seder

Sunday, April 8th – 9:00 a.m. - Services

Friday, April 13th – 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. - Services

Saturday, April 14th – 9:00 a.m. – Services - Yizkor

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One great all-nighter LOCK IN!

What's the total for the weekend? **Two very tired advisors with big smiles!**



December 3 was the first Youth Group Lock In. Ethan Adato, Michael Adato, Sarah Bell, Sam Blatt, Dahlia Callistein, Anna Feldstein, Hanna Kaufman, Sam Lerner, Talia Lerner, Sarah Margolin, Aaron McDonough, Miriam McDonough, Eva Saltzman, Molly Silverstein, Josh Sobel and Sammi Sobel arrived at the Temple around 7:00 pm. We had everything from Plinko to Pin the Candle on the Menorah. We enjoyed the music at the Beit Café and watched “Keeping Up With The Steins.” That movie made for some interesting conversation. After pizza, it was time for a game of Sardines. (Ask your kids about that one.) Finally, it was Laila Tov Time (Good Night). We are not sure how much sleep everyone got, but we know that a whole lot of fun was had by all. At 7:00 am some of the kids woke up for breakfast and discussion on programming for the next year. Later, the kids got together in the Youth Lounge and enjoyed the movie “The Blind Side.”

March 11 at 1:00 pm Swimming and Pizza for our Junior Youth Groupers, grades 6-8 at the Ramada Inn Water Park on Merle Hay Road. We will have a room by the pool for food and changing of clothes. There will be a small fee.

April 1 at 12:30 pm Chocolate Seder after Jewish Federation Community School. Four glasses of chocolate milk, Cadbury eggs, dipping of strawberries in chocolate sauce, bittersweet chocolate, smores for charoset, Twix bars for a shank bone, chocolate pudding with malted milk balls for matzo ball soup. This will be a fundraiser for the Youth Groups kick off event for next fall. We will serve something more substantial in the middle of the Seder: Hot Dogs (not dipped in chocolate), chips and chocolate chip cookies. At the end of the Seder we will show the movie Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. What a fun event for the entire family.

Till Later,B'Shalom Amy and Wendy

DRAKE HILLEL...UPDATE!

Creating our own Holiday traditions

By Lilianna Bernstein, Drake Hillel Staff Advisor

Passover is the most celebrated, and I would argue the most mentally and digestively engaging Jewish holiday of the year. Even the less publicly active Jews among us will come together for a Seder, much like a family comes together for Thanksgiving dinner. It should come as no surprise that here on the Drake University campus, Hillel students are consumed with holiday preparations in addition to their studies.

Students will continue to be immersed in campus life throughout the holiday as the university's spring break rarely aligns with Passover. With 100% of the Drake Hillel comprised of out-of-state students, it means many students, especially first-year students, are away from home for Passover for the first time in their lives. Gone are the sibling squabbles over who found the afikoman, the awkward family drama, and mom's special matzah ball soup. For many, this night is different than all other nights in an even more tangible way.

Drake Hillel is proud that we host the largest first night Seder in all of central Iowa (last year we hosted well over 50 people). This event, consistently the most important on the Hillel calendar, is organized and planned by student leaders. It is also one of the most highly subsidized events that Hillel hosts and we wouldn't be able to pull it off without the financial help of the Jewish Federation.



For their four years at Drake, the Hillel Seder replaces a student's home Seder experience. For this reason it is important students bring our own Holiday traditions to campus. The Drake Hillel family reads through the Hagaddah, taking seriously the command to read it as if we ourselves were led from Egypt... but that doesn't mean we don't have fun. After all, this important event takes place on a college campus! The Afikoman hunt in particular is magnified by the participants and the venue. As you conclude your own Seder this year, for example, you may hear students shrieking through the halls of Old Main looking for the chance to win a prize. Our matzah balls don't taste like mom's, our Seder isn't led like Dad's. But, each year, our students return for the Drake Hillel Seder more excited than the last because this is THEIR turn to create a service, to do Jewish things with other Jews. Watching the transformation of these students learning to take the reins of a religious service is particularly rewarding. The religious connections these students pick up through the Drake Hillel Seder are carried with them past their college years and into their own homes as they have their own families. Many of these students “back home” still qualify to read the Four Questions; but at Drake, they can lead the whole Seder.

B'nai Mitzvah



Please join us as our daughter **Emma Elise Baxter** celebrates her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 31, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. The Jewish community is cordially invited to a luncheon immediately following services.

Kenneth and Lisa Baxter



Jack Ohringer will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah at Tifereth Israel on Saturday, April 28, 2012, at 9:00am. Please join the Ohringer family at a Kiddish luncheon following the service.



Please join us as our son **Meier Benjamin Lipman** celebrates his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 12, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. The Jewish community is cordially invited to a Kiddush luncheon immediately following services.

Andi and Jeff Lipman

Community Seders

First seder: Friday, April 6, at Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Kosher style. 6:30 pm after 6 pm services. Reservations: 274-4679

Second Seder: Sat. April 7, at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. 6:30 pm. Reservations: 255-1137

JRC/Lubavitch of Iowa

Sat. April 7, 8:30-9:30 pm Valley West Apartments 1800 36th Street, West Des Moines. Reservations: 984-0815

Mazel Tov

Mazel tov to Grandparents **Dave and Ellen Arkovich** and parents **Mike and Crystal Arkovich** on the birth of **Austin Leonard** on Sunday, Dec. 18. He weighed in at 8 lb. 9 oz and 21 1/2 inches long. Mom, dad and baby are all doing fine.

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Randy Cain

Dr. Paul From

Eli Galinsky

Joan Grund

Stanley Hiersteiner

Paul Karpen

Iowa Jewish Historical Society to Recognize and Honor Iowa's Jewish Veterans, April 22

Mark Sunday, April 22 in bright red on your calendar and join the Iowa Jewish Historical Society for a very special event recognizing and honoring Iowa's Jewish men and women who have served in our nation's military.

The celebration will officially begin at 11:30 am in the Bucksbaum Auditorium with the posting of the colors by the U.S. Naval Reserve Color Guard, but guests are invited to come early to mingle with our veterans and to enjoy a display with photos of Jewish service men and women that are in our collection. Some of the photos are recent acquisitions that have been sent to us as part of this project. Iowa Jewish Historical Society Board Member Janice Rosenberg will be on hand to take photos of all veterans who are attending the event.

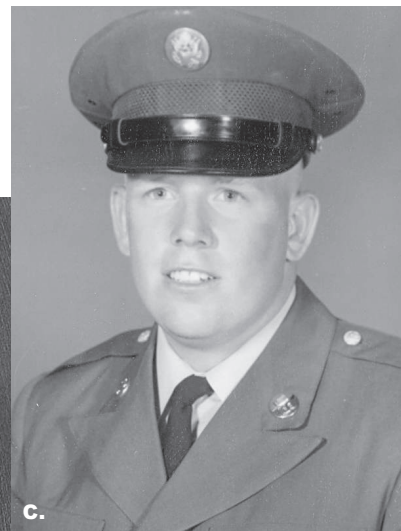
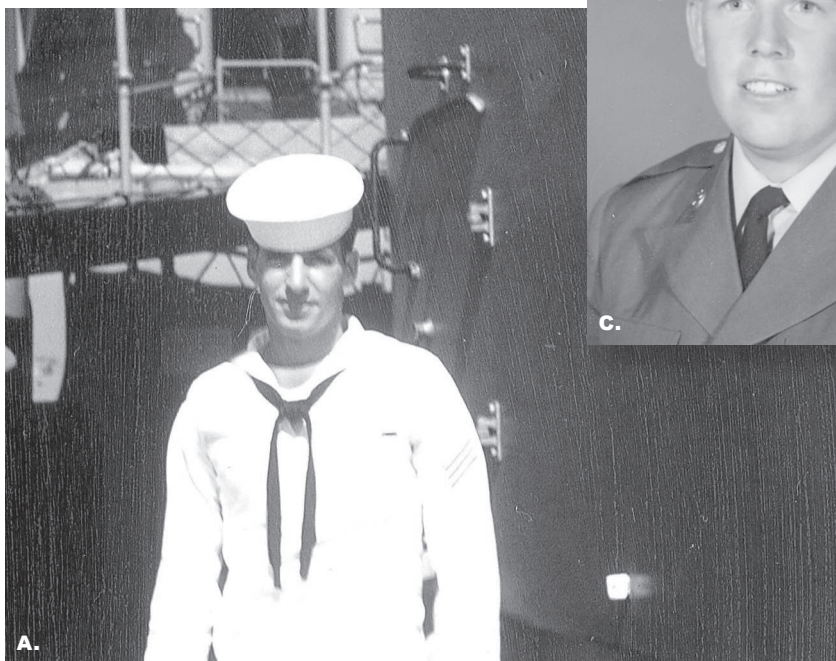
After the posting of the colors, the ceremony will continue with the Star Spangled Banner and the Pledge of Allegiance. Iowa Jewish Historical Society Board President Melanie Sandler will officially open the program and welcome all our special guests. Students from the Jewish Federation Community School will perform several songs. Our featured speaker will be Fred Lorber, who lived through Kristallnacht in his home city of Vienna, Austria and then escaped to America in 1939. In 1943 Fred was drafted by the U.S. Army. He served in North Africa and Italy and then became part of the American occupation of Vienna.

After the program, the Iowa Jewish Historical Society will host a luncheon in the Bookey Lodge. Veterans and one guest will be the guests of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society. There will be a nominal cost for others attending the luncheon.

The Caspe Heritage Gallery will be open and everyone is invited to look at our new Book of Honor and the listing of the names of the more than 600 of Iowa's Jewish veterans who have been identified so far.

Details for the program and the luncheon are still being finalized. Watch your mail for your invitation.

Recent Acquisitions: These photos have been sent to the Iowa Jewish Historical Society as part of our Iowa Jewish Veterans Recognition project. If you have information on one of our Iowa Jewish veterans, please contact Executive Director Sandi Yoder at ijhs@dmjfed.org or at 515-987-0899 ext. 216.



- A. Bruce Glauberg served in active duty in the Navy from 1957-1959, followed by four years in the Naval Reserve. Prior to his service in the Navy, Glauberg served in the Iowa Air National Guard.**
- B. Dr. Benjamin Shnurman served in active duty in the Army at Fort Polk, LA and at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio at Brook Army Hospital. He then served nine years in the Reserves.**
- C. Robert Lemon served in the Army's 175th Veterinary Detachment in Vietnam from 1968-1970.**
- D. Herman Grund served as a Corporal in the Infantry during World War II. He served from 1941-1945 and passed away in November, 2011.**
- E. Clark Lemon received the rank of Seaman, 1st Class in the Navy and served during World War II from 1941-1944. He received the Purple Heart and passed away in March, 2011.**

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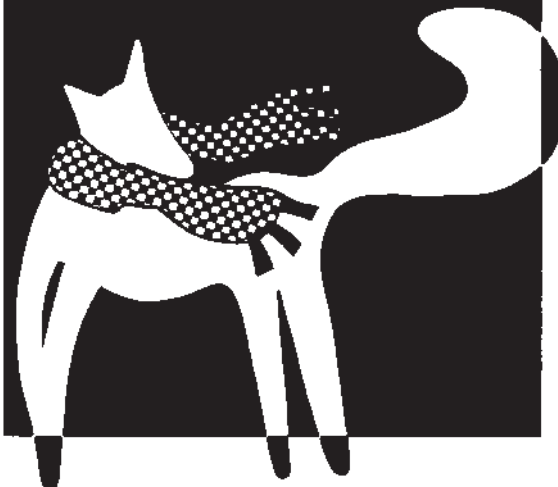
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Saturday, March 3	7:30 PM
Sunday, March 4	9:00 AM
Sunday, March 4	1:00 PM
Wednesday, March 7	6:45 PM
Thursday, March 8	5:00 PM
Sunday, March 11	9:00 AM
Sunday, March 11	4:00 PM
Sunday, March 25	11:00-2:00 PM
Tuesday, March 27	5:15 PM
Saturday, March 31	10:00 AM
Sunday, April 1	9:00 AM
Sunday April 1	12:30 PM
Sunday, April 8	6:00 PM
Sunday, April 15	9:00 AM
Saturday, April 21	10:00 AM
Sunday, April 22	9:30 AM
Sunday, April 22	11:30 AM
Monday, April 23	7:30 PM
Saturday, April 28	9:00 AM
Sunday, April 29	9:30 AM
Sunday, April 29	2:00 PM

Purimspiel at the Temple
Mother's Circle at Caspe Terrace
Purimspiel at the Temple
Pancakes, PJ's and Purim at Beth El Jacob
Purim under the Sea at NW Community Center
Mother's Circle at Caspe Terrace
Purim Carnival at Tifereth
Historical Museum Open at Caspe Terrace
Federation Board Meeting
Baxter Bat Mitzvah at Temple
Mother's Circle at Caspe Terrace
Chocolate Seder at Temple
Passover Dinner at Tifereth
Mother's Circle at Caspe Terrace
Feldstein Bat Mitzvah at Temple
Scrapbooking Class at Caspe Terrace
IJHS War Veteran Program
Israel Music Program at Caspe Terrace
Ohringer Bar Mitzvah at Tifereth
Scrapbooking Class at Caspe Terrace
Holocaust Music Program at Caspe Terrace

Brunch from page 12

5) **Scalloped Potatoes** – I feel like these would be great with dinner, but I would have rather seen hash browns or a take on potatoes O'Brien.

6) **Custom Grilled Cheese** – Are you serious? How does this end up on a brunch buffet? Take a bite and you will understand. After choosing from a pre-determined list of sandwiches or a custom build, write your order on a slip and hand it off to the grilled cheese cook. Return a few minutes later to find your masterpiece awaiting. My veggie version contained tomatoes, mushrooms, onions and peppers in addition to a nice square of cheese melted between thick-cut bread.

If you are unable to fill yourself on the above six dishes, you still have more options to choose from: fruit & yogurt parfaits, mini cheesecake, mac & cheese, fresh fruit, and assorted pastries. The two most important rules when attending the Bombshell Brunch are to come hungry and leave yourself plenty of time to enjoy your downtown surroundings. If you opt for the unlimited beverage option, make sure to bring a designated driver. The accoutrement choices to deck out your bloody mary, by the way, are plentiful.

Americana's Bombshell Brunch is a must do, and an amazing choice when entertaining out-of-town guests. Don't show up too late, however. We arrived at 10 and had our choice of tables. By 11:30 the place was packed and a line was forming.

So does Americana beat Waveland when it comes to brunch? That's a tough call given their substantial differences. I'm just happy to have another place to experience great morning dining.



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Visit the JCRC on Facebook

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senior care

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

community

Our community's boundaries extend to faraway places such as Israel, Darfur and Russia. You can provide needed funds locally and abroad for programs such as: The Project Elijah Foundation's* Kosher Manna Program for feeding disadvantaged Jewish people worldwide, Partnership with Israel, Iowa Jewish Historical Society, The Caspe Terrace Tree Fund, Des Moines Jewish Foundation's Various Funds (please call 987-0899 x231 for more information), General Community Tzedakah Fund, Mischkiet and Aliber Holocaust Education Funds or Community Interfaith Relations.

*Independent organizations

For more information call Tammy at 515-987-0899.



What do you hold close to your heart? Special moments in time create lifetime memories. You can honor one of life's simchas or remember a loved one through the TRIBUTE PROGRAM offered by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. An acknowledgement card in your name will be sent. You designate how the gift will be used by the Jewish Federation or you can contribute to an existing fund managed by the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. Let someone know that you are thinking of them while supporting what's close to your heart.