

# THE GREATER DES MOINES **Jewish Press**

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## Happy Passover 5774



Join us in celebrating the  
100th anniversary of  
the Jewish Federation.  
Look inside for upcoming  
festivities planned!

Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines  
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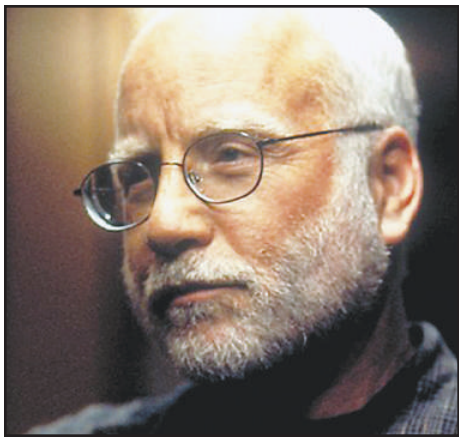
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# Community Report

## Education

- Sophie Homonoff officially started in her new role as Director of Education on February 24th.
- New plazma cars have arrived in The Urban Activity Room, a favored place by children enrolled in our schools.

### Beit Sefer Shalom

- School-wide Purim celebration scheduled March 9th.
- Student artwork is hanging in the breezeway at Caspe. Check it out the next time you are in the building.
- Enrollment for 2014-15 School Year begins soon.

### Gan Shalom

- Official 2-year DHS license has been granted!
- Search for a new Center Director is underway.
- Area Rabbis visit Gan Shalom each Friday for our Shabbat program featuring stories, songs and Kiddush.

## Senior Care & Family Outreach

### Jewish Family Services and Outreach

- Currently 111 children are enrolled in PJ Library. Held our second PJ Library event, Mitzvah Day, on January 20.
- Mitzvah Day at The Caspe Terrace had a great turnout. See page 24 for photos.
- Our third and fourth “Kibitz and Kids” with Beit Sefer Shalom have been so successful we’ve extended this program through May.
- Held two events as part of the co-sponsored “Lecture Series” with JCRC. The first was well-attended and featured the topic of “Jews and Medicine.” The second was a book discussion round-table.
- 100th Anniversary plans moving forward. We have planned out all 100th activities for the year and continue working on 100th book.

## Community

### Jewish Community Relations Commission

- JCRC, along with Rabbi Kaufman has played an important role in promoting peace locally among the South Sudanese whose factions are involved in what can evolve into a civil war. Our coalition conducted a peace and unity service serving the local South Sudanese community and broadcast internationally, as a role model of positive Sudanese diaspora relations.
- Conducted a book talk facilitated by Mollie Giller on a Holocaust-themed diary.
- Presented materials about the Western Galilee and our Israel Partnership at a meeting of the West Des Moines Sister Cities Commission.
- Participated in an Israel support program conducted at a local African American church.
- Consulted in two situations dealing with religion in the schools related to the Jewish holidays.
- Convened and informed a meeting of its Iran Task Force during the current period of international negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program. Also, JCRC monitored and supplied information about the current peace negotiations being conducted by Secretary of State, John Kerry.
- Conducted a variety of meetings on behalf of the Iowa Council for Holocaust Education.
- Appeared in the media – KRNT and in the DM Register – addressing aspects regarding Jewish identity.

## History

### Iowa Jewish Historical Society

- The IJHS was delighted to host a number of visitors during the past two months, including a group of approximately 20 from the United Way of Central Iowa.
- The inventory/preservation of the more than 500 audio and videotapes in the collection continues. Most of these tapes were done in the 1990s and early 2000s. Tapes this old can be fragile and, depending on the format, difficult to copy well. Bill Kuhn of Kuhn Productions is in the process of digitizing samples of each format so that we can make a plan for preserving and using these unique parts of history of Jews in Iowa before they become too fragile or damaged to be salvaged.
- The search for and selection of recipes continues for the 100th Anniversary Cookbook
- Marshalltown Memory Boards have been delivered to the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center in Omaha for a final estimate on the cost of restoration and for completion of the work itself.

# Celebrating A Century Of Benevolence



Barb Hirsch-Giller, President

Amidst the happy chaos of planning for the Federation’s centennial year, I am beginning to adapt to the reality that the privilege of being your president is coming to a close. One might think that I’d be ecstatic with anticipation about this fact but it comes with great ambivalence. While I can savor the concept of extra time with my grandbabies, family and friends, I can honestly say that these three years will have been among the richest in my life. Change has come to the Federation and the Des Moines Jewish community, and while it has been challenging, the Jewish people have historically never shied away from a challenge. On the contrary, it is why we survive and flourish.

Now, it is our time to reflect and celebrate. All of us involved in the planning and execution of the events that mark this amazing milestone have spent time connecting to our beginnings. As we look through dozens and dozens of pictures, we swell with pride and pleasure at images of the bold and generous individuals who demanded a good life for this Jewish community and made it happen.

They met in homes and built our worship spaces; they met in our congregations and built the foundations—literally and figuratively—which empower us to do our work today and long into the future. They demanded time and treasure from each other to support Jewish and non-Jewish need, to build a home for our aging loved ones, to insure the viability of the state of Israel, to build hospitals and universities, to create a superb cultural center in this state where people could partake of the finest in art and music. The Jewish families of greater Des Moines are heroes.

Maya Angelou said, “I think a hero is any person really intent on making this a better place for all people.” The legacy of our forbears must be a call to action for today’s community work. This historic anniversary that we commemorate will simply be another date in memory if we do not make our 100th a working celebration. Those who are planning our events are committed to a year of good works—100 mitzvot for 100 years. We want to share this time with our non-Jewish neighbors, helping them to continuously know us better (interfaith discussions and bus tours to Des Moines’ Jewish sites). We will exercise our minds and bodies (a torch relay, events at the Holocaust memorial, a basketball tournament). We will educate ourselves (visits with scholars like Rabbi Joseph Telushkin). We won’t forget our connection to Israel as we learn more about Israeli innovation and sponsor a Family Mission to Israel with special attention to our P2G partnership (with more than 30 participants, this mission will be the largest family mission to Israel from Des Moines since the 1990s!).

From our tiniest Gan Shalom preschool students to our blessed elders, we will celebrate the past and move assuredly into our future—a future that defies any naysayers who see the sun setting on this Jewish community. Today is our entrance into tomorrow and I can’t wait to see what will happen then!



## KEEP IN TOUCH


To receive information from the Jewish Federation by e-mail, send us – or update- your e-mail address! Contact: [Gayle@dmjfed.org](mailto:Gayle@dmjfed.org)

## Let us know...

Has your family had a celebration? A Bar/Bat Mitzvah? How about sharing with the community? We’d all love to see photos of your anniversary party, new grandchild, son’s wedding, or any simcha.

The **Jewish Press** is **your** community newspaper and we’d like to publish more local news, but you need to tell us about it. Please help us to sharpen our local focus with your news. Send photos, information or stories to [jrcr@dmjfed.org](mailto:jcrc@dmjfed.org).

# 100 Years of Cooking



## Celebrating Jewish Recipes from Des Moines

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society is preparing a cookbook in honor of the Federation’s Centennial. They are collecting recipes and photos that highlight Des Moines’ rich tradition of excellent cooking.

Cookbook chairs Heidi Moskowitz and Karen Engman are searching for those special family recipes that we all cherish and want to preserve for future generations. Karen requests, “Please help us in our search for recipes and tell us how they are special to your family or our Jewish community.”

**Proceeds will benefit the Iowa Jewish Historical Society. Send your recipes** to Karen Engman at [aengmandsm@yahoo.com](mailto:aengmandsm@yahoo.com) or mail to the Jewish Federation at 33158 Ute Avenue, Waukee, IA 50263

**Please note that we may not be able to print every submitted recipe due to space or duplication issues.**

# THE GREATER DES MOINES Jewish Press

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## GAN SHALOM

### Gan Shalom Awarded Two-Year License

Gan Shalom: The Jewish Center for Early Childhood Development successfully passed a landmark inspection from the Department of Human Services and has been awarded a 2-year license. "For a new center, this is extraordinary!" says Laura Bernstein, Director of Education. "Typically new centers are awarded a provisional or at most a one-year license." Gan Shalom is pleased to offer a high-quality, Jewish-based preschool that emphasizes learning social, academic and independence skills for children ages 2 - 5. Contact the Center Director at [ganshalom@dmjfed.org](mailto:ganshalom@dmjfed.org) to enroll today!



Shabbat Shalom at Gan Shalom



**We're on the road!**  
**The Gan Shalom**  
**Preschool children**  
**in the van donated**  
**by The Children's**  
**Charity of Iowa**  
**and Don and Margo**  
**Blumenthal. Our**  
**van is equipped**  
**with federally-**  
**approved child-**  
**restraint systems**  
**and booster seats!**  
**Thank you donors!**

## Gan Shalom

The Jewish Center for Early Childhood Development

### Now Enrolling For The 2014-15 School Year

Enrollment for the 2014-15 school year has begun! Gan Shalom accepts children ages 2 years old through Pre-K for half and full day sessions. Located on 47 acres, Gan Shalom offers the highest quality education available for our youngest community members. Children learn important independent skills, social skills, language skills and much more in a nurturing atmosphere with teachers who are committed to helping children grow at their own pace. The Gan Shalom program features healthy and Kosher snacks, daily outdoor play, integrated Hebrew and Judaics, and special activities every month. For enrollment information contact Director of Education, Sophie Homonoff at [ganshalom@dmjfed.org](mailto:ganshalom@dmjfed.org).

### Accepting Applications For Preschool Director

Do you love working with young children? Are you interested in influencing & growing young minds? Have you always dreamed of a position where you can combine your creativity with your organizational skills to support young Jewish children and their families?

Gan Shalom: The Jewish Center for Early Childhood Development is seeking a new year-round Preschool Director, an individual with enthusiasm for education who can answer a resounding "yes" to all of these questions.

If your interest is piqued, check out the full job description under "Job Openings" at <http://www.jewishdesmoines.org/> and send your cover letter with resume to [ganshalom@dmjfed.org](mailto:ganshalom@dmjfed.org). This position is open until filled.

Gan Shalom  
 we grow children

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## Sophie Homonoff Appointed Director of Education

During Fall 2013 and early 2014, Laura Bernstein led our Gan Shalom preschool start-up and our Beit Sefer Shalom revitalization efforts, and we'd like to thank her for her service. Laura accepted a new position with an organization based in Cleveland, Ohio, and we wish Laura the best in her new adventure and thank her for all of her work. Although we were sad to see Laura leave, we are pleased that Sophie Homonoff has been appointed Director of Education. Sophie brings a strong Jewish identity and significant experience in assessment, curriculum, and teaching. If anyone in the community would like to connect with Sophie, she can be reached at [Sophie@dmjfed.org](mailto:Sophie@dmjfed.org).

## Federation Works With Youth Leadership!

This year on Martin Luther King day, 34 students from 13 area public and private high schools participating in the Youth Leadership Initiative, spent time at The Caspe Terrace learning about micro-inequities, enjoying an Israeli snack, and participating in a scavenger hunt in the Iowa Jewish Historical Society museum. The Youth Leadership Initiative is a talent development program of the Greater Des Moines Partnership exposing students to diverse businesses, organizations and resources in the region.



Laura Bernstein with Youth Leadership Institute

# Engman Camp Shalom

we grow spirit

## June 16 - August 8, 2014



Contact [engmancampshalom@dmjfed.org](mailto:engmancampshalom@dmjfed.org)

## Teen Columnist

# Different Perspectives

by Sammi Sobel



How many people can say they know someone on a completely different continent? Not a lot of people can, but I can. I never thought that it could be possible until I met Shelly. She is a friend of mine who lives Kibbutz Hanita in our Partnership region in Israel. I met her a few months ago through e-mail.

At first when I met her, I thought that she wouldn't be able to speak English and would be very religious. Well, I was completely wrong. She is really nice and funny, and she does speak a little bit of English. She is moderately religious. With living on two different continents there are

some major differences, but there are also a lot of similarities.

We always hear that there is war or fighting going on in other parts of the world, but how would you like it if it were right in your backyard? Shelly is right on the border between Israel and Lebanon. When she was eight, in 2006, she could hear bombs and guns going off during the second Lebanese war. They left to go to Tiberius, but it was too dangerous there, so they went to Tel Aviv until it was safe to move back home. Now on the other hand, my scariest moment was when my dad fell down the stairs. He had just had his knees replaced, but luckily didn't get hurt. Shelly and I have both had scary moments in our lives, but hers was on a totally different level.

What pops in your mind when you hear someone say "America?" I think of food right away. Who doesn't love food? In Israel, they have some of the same foods as in America and then some of their own. Shelly said they have McDonalds, but you will never see a cheeseburger there. Of course, that is because for Kosher people it is forbidden to have meat and dairy together. She also said that they have pizza, pasta and other American food too.

What's cool about the food in Israel though is that they have communities, and each community has a certain type of food made there. "Moroccans have the spicy fish, Ashkenazim (its a name for the communities from Europe) have gefilte fish," Shelly said. I guess we kind of have that in America. Chicago is known for deep-dish pizza; New York for their hotdogs; Maine is known for their lobster; then there is Mexican food down South.

Another cool and different thing about Israel and America is our school systems. Do you think that you could stand going to school for ten months and then only have two months of break? Shelly goes to school for that time period and has breaks for every Jewish holiday. For each holiday, she has a two or three-day break. This is nice, but I would get sick of school. Shelly studies the same subjects as Americans, and they also have weeks set aside for testing. I believe this is like finals for us.

She loves Israel. She goes on field trips with her kibbutz groups, so she's not always in Israel. She said that her kibbutz group is like her family. She has a lot of friends in her kibbutz, and she spends most of her free time there. Her kibbutz is like a big farm, and they do tons of activities together. This is kind of like our Jewish youth group. We hang out when we can, and we do a lot of activities together. We don't live together, but it is still a group that cares about each other.

Getting to know Shelly and her life in Israel showed me how cool living in another country can really be. I never knew so much about Israel, and now it makes me want to visit it even more. I also learned that, even though there are a lot of Jewish people in Israel, they aren't all just into Jewish activities. Wow! Even though Shelly and I live 6,301 miles away from each other, thanks to technology, it seems that she lives right down the street.

## LATKE COOKOFF TO BENEFIT DMARC FOOD PANTRY

*Latke cookoff rematch promises to be hotter, greasier, and potatoier than the first!*

**What:** "Thrilla in the Skillet" Latke cookoff to benefit DMARC Food Pantry Network

**When:** Sunday, March 9, 2014, 6:00 pm

**Where:** Tacopocalypse/Northland Gallery, 621 Des Moines Street, Des Moines, IA

**Attendees will participate in the latke tasting and vote on their favorite for the "Tasters' Choice Award."** A silent auction for donated items including local restaurant gift cards will be held. The main event is an "Iron Chef" style latke presentation and judging by a Panel of guest judges.

Join in the preevent excitement by "liking" the "Thrilla in the Skillet" page on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/ThrillaInTheSkillet>. Fans can participate in periodic contests, event announcements, and latke cooking tips for anyone who wants to try it out at home.

MovetheFood (<http://movethefood.org>) is an initiative of the Des Moines Area Religious Council to address the entire food system in Greater Des Moines, building on more than 35 years of food assistance work, catalyzing fresh generations, and engaging new constituencies to further support a vision for a day when everyone in Polk County has enough to eat.

**For more information and tickets, visit <http://thrillaintheskillet.com>.**



## Mitzvah Day

**Mitzvah Day Celebration Teaches Children the Importance of Tzedakah and Mitzvot**



On Monday, January 20th we celebrated Mitzvah Day with a morning of family-centered stories and crafts. In our second community-wide PJ Library event we learned about tikkun olam and performing acts of loving kindness for our greater community.

The morning started by making butterflies to brighten up the rooms of the residents at the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center. We then transitioned to story time, where we read “Tikkun Olam Ted,” “How Dalia Put a Big Yellow Comforter Inside a Tiny Blue Box,” and “26 Big Things Small Hands Can Do” which talked about how no matter our ages, we can all do things that help others. Even our littlest attendees helped in making the butterflies and yellow blankets, which were then delivered to the residents at the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center. One of the residents at the IJSLC said that the blanket made her feel so snugly as she’s rehabbing after surgery, and she was very touched by the little butterflies now cheering up her room. *See more photos on page 24*

Additionally, we held a food drive that benefitted DMARC’s Movethefood Food Bank.

## JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES ADULT PROGRAM VISITS THE NEW GREATER DES MOINES BOTANICAL GARDEN



**Lester and Marlene Kavan and Harlan Lekowsky tour the new Des Moines Botanical Garden**



**Lorraine Neiman, Ruthanne Silverstein, Mariya Lichinsky, and Barbara Leventhal Beckerman visiting the gardens**



**Ruthanne Silverstein and Ted Block**



**Mariya Lichinsky examining the different types of cacti**

## 100 Mitzvot for 100 Years!

Don’t forget to join in on our year-long celebration of giving back! In celebration of our 100th anniversary we’re hoping everyone will take part in the 100 mitzvot to celebrate 100 years. Tell us about all of the good things you do, and we’ll tally the mitzvot on our website, [www.jewishdesmoines.org](http://www.jewishdesmoines.org) and in the school wing at The Caspe Terrace.

Your mitzvah can be anything from helping your neighbors shovel their driveways to walking in the Hunger Hike. If you have any questions or ideas or if you would like to participate, you can contact Mollie at [mollie@dmjfed.org](mailto:mollie@dmjfed.org) or 515.987.0899 ext. 230.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 2 at 11:00-12:00: Kibitz and Kids at The Caspe Terrace
- March 2 at 2:00: 100th Anniversary Bus Tour of Jewish Historic Des Moines
- March 6: Senior Luncheon at Tifereth
- March 12: Jewish Federation Lecture Series featuring Yale Strom & Hot Pstromi at 6:00 at The Caspe Terrace
- April 3: Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- April 18: Senior Luncheon at Prairie Meadows
- April 27: Yom HaShoah Holocaust Education Day

## Meet Our Senior: Mariya Lichinsky



Mariya is very active in the Jewish Family Services Senior Program, and you may have seen her around at services, or at many of our Federation events. Mariya says she enjoys the senior luncheons and outings because she likes to “see and be around people.”

Mariya was born in Kazakhstan and later lived in the Ukraine and Moldova. After finishing school, she worked as a bookkeeper, while her husband worked in construction and Mariya says he could “fix anything.” Following her husband’s death, Mariya, her two sons, daughter-in-law, and

three year old grandson moved to Des Moines. Mariya chose Des Moines because her younger sister lived here and encouraged the family to relocate. Mariya spoke Russian and had learned some German in school; upon her arrival in Des Moines, she attended classes at Des Moines Area Community College to learn English.

Mariya worked in the deli at Dahl’s for eight years and says that she enjoyed the work and her co-workers, and that working there helped her improve her English. Mariya likes everything about Des Moines but is not particularly fond of the winter weather and wishes public transportation was more available. She loves to spend time with her family which now includes four grandchildren; she also enjoys watching TV and visiting with her friends on the phone.

Mariya is an incredibly friendly and cheerful person, so if you see her around be sure to say hello!

## Ask the Rabbis!

A reader sends us a question to pose to our local rabbis. He writes:

**There is a traditional prohibition placed on eating legumes (kitniyot) on Passover. What’s that all about?**

Here are the responses from our rabbis:

The medieval Jewish sages placed a ban on eating legumes (kitniyot) on Passover, because they are similar in texture to chametz—even bread can be made out of their flour—so people might assume that if, for example, cornbread can be eaten on Passover, wheat or rye bread can be eaten too. This prohibition includes rice, beans and corn. This injunction was unanimously accepted by Ashkenazic Jews; many Sephardic Jews still eat kitniyot on Passover.

If you are Sephardic, speak to your Rabbi to determine your family and community tradition.

The prohibition is only with regards to consumption of kitniyot; there is no obligation, however, to destroy or sell kitniyot products before Passover.

– **Rabbi Yossi Jacobson - Chabad**

The Torah instructs a Jew not to eat Chametz during all seven days of Passover (Exodus 13:3).

“Chametz” is defined as any of the five grains -- wheat, spelt, barley, oats, and rye -- which has come into contact with water for more than 18 minutes. This is a serious Torah prohibition, and for that reason we take extra protective measures on Passover to prevent any mistakes.

Products of Kitniyot appear like Chametz products. For example, it can be hard to distinguish between rice flour (Kitniyot) and wheat flour (Chametz). Since regular grains may become mixed together with Kitniyot due to changes in crop cycles where the same ground may be used, one may inadvertently come to eat actual Chametz hence this Rabbinic safeguard of Kitniyot.

– **Rabbi Leib Bolel - Orthodox**

My opinion on the use of kitniyot on Passover was changed by a teshuvah written by Rabbi David Golinkin. It was adopted by the Law Committee of the Rabbinical Assembly of Israel in 1989. Rabbi Golinkin’s review of the sources on this topic lead him to the conclusion that the prohibition against eating kitniyot on Passover is a custom that should not be maintained. If a congregant asked me about eating kitniyot on Passover, I would tell them that it would be fine to do, as long as any processed kitniyot had a Kosher for Pesach label.

– **Rabbi Steven Edelman-Blank – Conservative**

Traditionally Ashkenazim say, “No Kitniyot for Pesach,” while Sephardim believe it is acceptable. I believe that the option of eating Kitniyot, beans and rice, can be a meaningful way to keep Pesach for those who otherwise might abandon it altogether after a day or two. Perhaps Kitniyot can help you to avoid eating leavened products and keep Pesach when you otherwise would not? Try it, you might like it.

– **Rabbi David Kaufman - Reform**



# The Words on the Tablets by David Friedgood



"On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone forth from the land of Egypt, on that very day, they entered the wilderness of

Sinai... Israel encamped there in front of the mountain, and Moses went up to God." (Exodus 19:13) Our people had been liberated; they were free and no longer bound by the narrow constraints of Egyptian slavery. Having witnessed the might and glory of the LORD they are ready to start new lives. But, what are those new lives to be? The newly freed slaves remained a motley group of 12 tribes who left Egypt with a 'mixed multitude.' All were newly released from the chains of their bondage. They were people used to life of demeaning work and struggled daily, just to survive. Each had some loyalty to their immediate family, and some sense of belonging to a Semitic tribe. The tribes often argued and fought with each other, jockeying for position and dominance. The people lacked any sense of nationhood or a common destiny, and lived from day to day without hope for the future. How was this group going to become a nation – the "treasured possession" envisioned by their creator? The answer lay in the heights of the mountain. Mt. Sinai was covered with

heavenly smoke and was trembling with the Divine Presence. God spoke with a thunderous voice and the people were shaken to their souls. They responded by begging Moses to intercede with God, for the sake of their lives. It was from this lofty mountain perch that God revealed Himself to the Israelite people and forever changed the course of their existence. The revelation on Sinai resonates in our lives today, and has changed the course of human civilization. At the beginning are the words, spoken by Almighty God and engraved on two stone tablets with the finger of the LORD, ultimately transcribed by Moses – The Ten Commandments.

Now, you might ask, what was the big deal? These people were used to laws and prohibitions. Their lives, after all, were tightly regulated. And, why Ten Commandments? Why not 15, or all of the 316 mitzvot ultimately proclaimed in Torah?

What we now call the 'Decalogue' was never meant to be a finished product. It served as an "introduction" to those at the foot of Mt. Sinai. It was through these words that our LORD revealed His Presence to our ancestors and started the process of molding this unlikely group into a nation – The Jewish People. It was our Creator's way of beginning to teach. He was giving His students a glimmer of that which is ultimately beyond human understanding. As in the Tetragrammaton

(the holy unpronounceable name of God) YHVH, it starts as a whisper, an exhaled breath, derived from the Hebrew root hayah 'to be.' ('I will be what I will be' Moses is told when he inquired as to the name of God). The lessons become more complex over time, reflecting student maturity. As Martin Buber has stated in his essay *The Words On The Tablets: The words are God reaching out to man and starting a dialogue.*

An I – Thou relationship is born. A relationship that has evolved over the generations, and remains active with us today. It was necessary for the Israelite people to start this dialogue with the Almighty shortly after their deliverance from slavery. And, the first words were uttered on a mountain top. "Only as a people of YHVH can Israel come into being and remain in being". (Martin Buber).

The first commandment is a declaration: "I the LORD am your God..." Second – a statement of our Ruler's exclusivity: "You shall have no other gods besides Me." As God is all there is and all that exists, there is no need of any other. Also, we are not to create "false gods," either material or imagined. And, we are not to serve them. Third, we are commanded to preserve the purity of God's name. We are to recognize Him as He truly is, omnipresent and not definable. Our God is all there is and we cannot re-make Him to suit our needs.

The next part of the Decalogue deals with community time. Commandment number four enshrines the Sabbath, a day of rest on the 7th day of the week, for all time. As free human beings we are entitled to a day of rest and a time for introspection. As slaves we labored every day and every night. The Sabbath is our LORD's gift to humanity.

The last six commandments establishes norms as to how the community is to function. Number five protects social honor: "Honor your father and your mother." In order to function every human society needs to protect life, marriage relations, personal property, and the sanctity of the secular justice system: "You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness." The final commandment is different in that it is concerned with our attitude. Most Jewish Law regulates behavior, not our thought. But, the Tenth commandment prohibits envy, an attitude that can insidiously erode the foundation of society. Not only are we to look after our neighbor's life and property; our neighbors do not have to worry that we are envious, and planning ways of obtaining what is rightfully not ours to take: "You shall not covet your neighbor's house..., wife..., slave, ox, ass, or anything that is your neighbors." (Exodus 20) It was with these words that God revealed Himself to man.

*continued on page 23*



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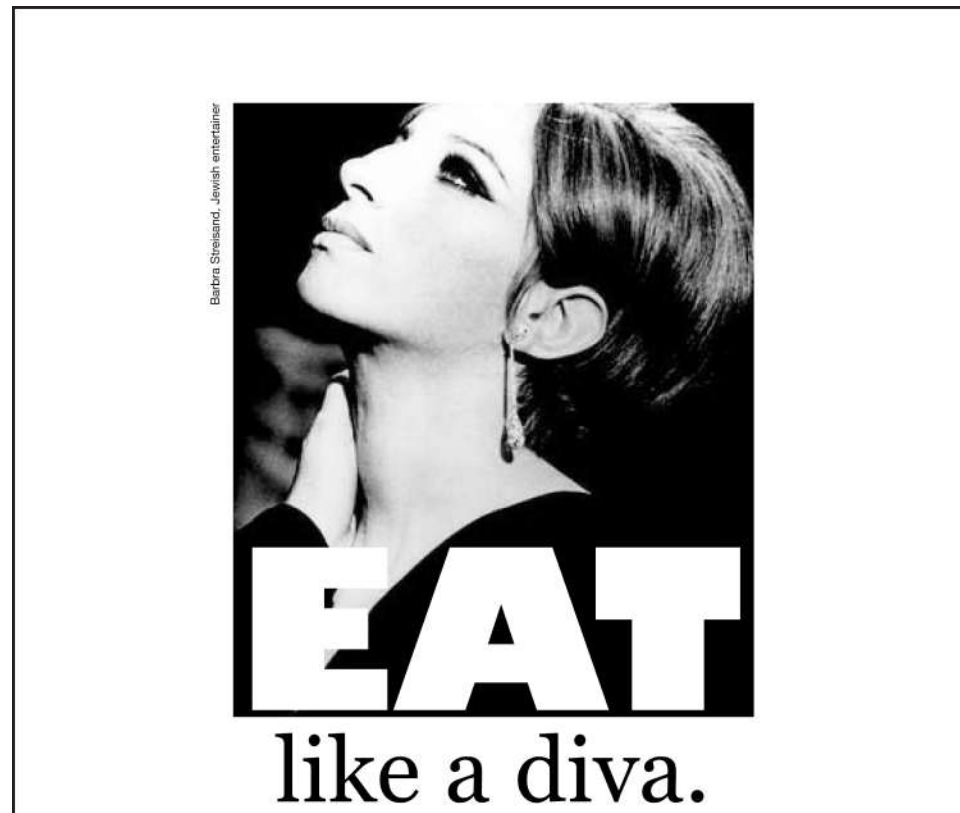
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Mazel Tov

## PHIL BLUMBERG NAMED ONE OF DES MOINES' EMERGING LEADERS



*Mazal tov to Philip Blumberg and his family upon Phil's having been selected by the Business Record as among the top "40 Under 40" leaders for 2014 within the Greater Des Moines civic community. We're pleased to bring you the following profile of Phil, on this special occasion.*

Philip received his Bachelors in Liberal Arts from The University of Iowa. After a year at Tifereth Israel Synagogue as the youth director and at the Des Moines Jewish Federation he returned to The University of Iowa for his Masters in Health Administration. Two weeks following graduation he married Jennifer Khalastchi and the two moved to New York where Philip served as a post-graduate fellow at a large health system in the New York metropolitan area. Following the fellowship Philip joined a new management team as part of a turnaround operation at a 340-bed tertiary hospital. During his time in New York Philip was entrusted with building new programs including a neurosciences institute, a radiation oncology service, orthopedics institute and

pain management and wound care clinics.

Philip and Jennifer moved back to Des Moines where Philip became the director of radiation oncology and the only CyberKnife center in the state at Mercy. While at Mercy he developed the business plan for the outpatient cancer center in Clive, co-authored a state certificate of need application, and negotiated multi-million dollar purchases and contracts. Philip was at Mercy for nearly 6 years. He is now the administrator at Des Moines University Clinic, a multi-specialty clinic on the DMU Campus – where he provides oversight and guidance for over 25 licensed providers in 5 specialties, and ancillary and administrative services, is leading the transitions to digital x-ray, a new electronic health record, lectures to medical and physical therapy doctoral students, and currently chairs multiple faculty search committees.

Philip is active in the community, having served on a number of not-for-profit boards. He has served as president and chairmen of the Prevent Blindness Iowa Board, he is treasurer of the Tifereth Israel Synagogue board, a graduate of the West Des Moines Leadership Academy and was a three-year board member. Philip has most recently been involved with 100 Men on a Mission, a group that has raised over \$80,000 in its first two years for local not-for-profits.

Philip and Jennifer live in West Des Moines with their two daughters Mia, age 6 and Zara, age 3. Jennifer teaches at the Jewish Federation's Beit Sefer Shalom Sunday School program where both Mia and Zara attend.

## Welcome Gayle Brimeyer



*Whose cheery voice will you hear when you call the Federation office? It's that of Gayle Brimeyer.*

**Jewish Press:** Gayle, what responsibilities do you have at the Jewish Federation?

**Gayle Brimeyer:** My official title is Accounting & Administrative Support Specialist. My responsibilities are to provide a wide variety of administrative support services to all Federation departments and staff. This is exciting to me because every day is different! In a nutshell, I do a great deal of coordinating and organizing. Additionally, I assist with bookkeeping and accounting tasks. I've also been able to assist in implementing a new database of our members. To me, one of the most important aspects of my position is to positively interact with anyone who works at or contacts the Federation offices.

**JP:** Where do you come from?

**GB:** I was born in Galesburg, Illinois and also lived in Washington, Illinois growing up. In 9th grade, I made my way to Iowa when my family relocated to Davenport. I graduated from Davenport North High School.

**JP:** What brought you to Des Moines, and when?

**GB:** My family moved to Waukee in 1999 from Omaha, Nebraska, where my husband Dennis and I had been working. My husband's job as a Database Manager at MidAmerican Energy brought us back to the Iowa. It was our goal to be closer to our families and friends.

**JP:** What did you do prior to taking the job with the Federation?

**GB:** Prior to the Federation, I worked for the Greater Des Moines Junior Soccer League as the League Administrator for 9 years. In addition to my soccer position, I worked for a software service company in Ames as a Billing & Collections Specialist.

**JP:** Where did you go to college and what did you major in?

**GB:** I graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a major in Psychology.

**JP:** Please tell us a bit about your family.

**GB:** We have a very large family! Dennis and I have 6 children: five boys and a girl, our youngest. There is never a dull moment at our house! We stay busy with academics, music and sports.

*continued on page 23*



## THE FOUR SONS OF THE HAGGADAH: A MODEL FOR EDUCATION

Passover is the eight-day Jewish holiday of freedom, which commemorates the Jews' exodus from slavery in Egypt. The Passover seder recounts this story at a festive meal. The seminal event in the Jewish calendar, the seder, is the highlight of Passover and is held on the first (and second) night of the holiday. During the seder, participants read from the Haggadah, a compilation of stories, special blessings and songs.

While most people are familiar with the Haggadah's Four Questions (Mah Nishtanah), a lesser known "four" in the Haggadah is the four sons. The Haggadah introduces the four sons as follows:

Blessed is the One who has given the Torah to His people Israel, Blessed is He. Concerning four sons does the Torah speak: a wise one, a wicked one, a simple one and one who does not know to ask.

Each son asks a question regarding the meaning of the Passover seder. But how each son asks is unique to his individual personality and intellect - as are the answers he must be given. These four archetypes can ultimately serve as a model for how to educate children.

The wise son asks, with genuine intellectual curiosity: "What is the meaning of the statutes and laws that G-d has commanded?" Just like on Passover, when Jews eat matzah rather than bread, the wise son seeks to understand the essence of the laws. In modern times, the wise son is the truly unique student, who eschews his own ego and is only concerned with grasping the truth. Yet

even with a rare mind like his, the wise son must be positively challenged rather than pampered. The wise son needs to focus his gifts and avoid potentially negative influences, which could easily turn him into the wicked son.

The wicked son is intentionally vague when he haughtily asks: "What is this service to you?" To you being the operative phrase, since the wicked son is choosing to separate himself from the Jewish community. In today's day and age, the wicked son is a metaphor for children who are more concerned with fitting in than honoring their family's values. One might ask: Why is the wicked son second in the list of sons? Perhaps he should have been relegated to last. But since the wicked son is still engaged and asking questions - albeit with a flippant attitude - he is still connected on some level. With the right educational approach, a "wicked" son could easily be turned into a "wise" one.

The simple son asks plainly: "What is this?" While the simple son is definitely not an intellectual, he has a kind and generous heart. He is asking questions because he wants to do the right thing. But his understanding of Judaism - and life in general - comes from experience, not from books. In today's day and age, the simple son is the energetic, highly active student, who needs a more kinetic-based approach to learning. To grow as a thinker, the simple son must have all of his senses engaged in the learning process. *continued on page 23*

[community organizations]

## World Ort Builds Self Sufficiency

One of the organizations that the Jewish Federation of Des Moines supports is World ORT.

World ORT dates back to 1880 when several Jewish leaders in St. Petersburg Russia, deeply concerned about Jewish poverty, understood that there were two strategies. One was relief - soup kitchens and other measures to soften the harshness of poverty. The other was building self-sufficiency. As Maimonides said over 800 years ago, the greatest level of charity is to "strengthen his [the needy person's] hand until he need no longer be dependent upon others."

That vision - enabling each person to reach his or her full potential - led to the establishment of World ORT and remains its core value.

In Displaced Persons camps after the Holocaust, World ORT taught survivors factory and other skills to enable them to re-adjust to civilian life.

Today this mission is critical in Israel where, despite extraordinary economic strides, the nation has the highest poverty rate among the developed OECD nations, with 20% of its citizens below the poverty line. World ORT's response is to end the cycle of poverty by making sure that these young people get a first-class education, particularly in the STEM (science, technology and math) areas important for economic success - and equally important for Israel's future

as the "Start-Up Nation."

World ORT goes into "red" schools (those identified by the Israeli Ministry of Education as being particularly under-resourced) and, over a course of three-to-five years, provides equipment and teacher training. To date, World ORT has impacted over 150,000 students in over 200 schools.

Outside of Israel - in places as far afield as Rome, Buenos Aires, and Kharkov - World ORT builds on its expertise in education to provide what is, in many places, the only Jewish day school and, in most places, the only non-Orthodox option.

World ORT has created a global network, where best practices and expertise are shared, uniting communities around the world and provides programs with support of Jewish Federations, including our own. This support leverages dollars from governments in the countries where World ORT operates. With low overhead expenses, this leverage means that each Federation dollar provided has the greatest possible impact.

World ORT's mission, the way it translates its mission into programs, the impact of those programs, and the way it maximizes the use of its funds are essential features of World ORT.

For more information, please contact Stuart Oser at 515-987-0899 ext 231 or stuart @dmjfed.org.

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The Jewish Federation Lecture Series continues



## Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi

6:00 pm, Wednesday, March 12, 2014

at The Caspe Terrace 33158 Ute Avenue in Waukee  
Free of Charge. Seating limited. Refreshments provided.

For additional information contact [mollie@dmjfed.org](mailto:mollie@dmjfed.org) (515) 987-0899 x 230

**Yale Strom is a noted ethnomusicologist, Klezmer scholar, and world-renowned performer!**



# Josh Nelson and Neshama Carlebach

**Friday, March 28**

**Tifereth Israel Synagogue -  
Shabbat Dinner: 5:30 pm  
Joint Shabbat Service: 6:00 pm**

**Saturday, March 29**

**Beth El Jacob Synagogue -  
Lunch: 11:45 am**

**Temple B'nai Jeshurun -  
Concert and dinner: 6:00 pm**

**The concert is free-of-charge.  
Seating is limited. Tickets must  
be reserved in advance by calling  
Gayle at 515-987-0899 ext. 213  
or [gayle@dmjfed.org](mailto:gayle@dmjfed.org).**

**Sunday, March 30**

**The Caspe Terrace -  
School Program**



**Jewish Federation**  
OF GREATER DES MOINES

This program was made possible by The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, Temple B'nai Jeshurun and Tifereth Israel Synagogue.  
For more information go to [www.jewishdesmoines.org](http://www.jewishdesmoines.org).



## Beit Sefer Shalom Teacher Cynthia Shulman Relocates Her Ceramics Studio To Waukee



Members of Tifereth Israel Synagogue, Cynthia and Dr. Marc Shulman and their children live in Ames. Cynthia has taught the Pre-K Sunday School class at the Jewish Federation Community School (now called the Beit Sefer Shalom: The Jewish Federation Community School) for twelve years. One of her passions is ceramic arts. She taught a class for the Des Moines Art Center on Glass Fusion for five years and is now engaged in producing glass fusion art to beautify the offices of the Jewish Federation.

On a professional level, Cynthia had operated Kil'n Time ceramics studio in Ames. Recently she moved it nearby to the Jewish Federation in Waukee.

**Jewish Press:** Cynthia, good to speak with you. We just learned that your art

studio has now been relocated to Waukee on West Hickman Avenue. Welcome to the neighborhood.

**Cynthia Shulman:** Thank you. I had operated my business Kil'n Time Studio in Ames, where we live, for nine years. Over the years I have taught for the Community School, I found my studio doing more and more ceramics parties and events in the Waukee, West Des Moines area with my mobile studio, and I had more business down here than I did in Ames. So I flipped the procedure around. Instead of running a mobile studio for the Des Moines area, I now have a store here and use the mobile studio to serve north central and eastern Iowa.

**JP:** Can you tell us a bit about Kil'n Time Studio?

**CS:** Sure. Kil'n Time is a ceramics studio and essentially a contemporary arts studio. We do "paint your own" pottery, glass fusion, and mosaics. We have clay for hand building and for throwing on pottery wheels. We offer camps – winter camps, spring break camps, summer camps for children. We have a children's after school program. We also offer a pre-school morning program for toddlers.

**JP:** Is your mobile studio very useful?

**CS:** It is. We can come to your home, and you can have a party in the comfort of

your own home. We'll do a party in your home for a group of six or more. We can do birthday parties for children and glass fusion "Glamor Glass" parties -- which is what I've done a lot of in the area.

**JP:** What is glass fusion?

**CS:** Glass fusion is the fine art of strategically placing colored glass fragments in a pattern of your choosing to create something unique. You can make a shatter bowl, which is meant to look like broken glass created into a piece, or they can make wine stoppers.

**JP:** If people just wanted to do something very simple with ceramics, what are some of the items they could make, and what does the process entail?

**CS:** Well, for instance, we have mugs, we have collectibles – plates, bowls – the traditional ceramic studio offerings. You can use any of the paints that we offer, you paint your piece, and we will get it back to you in four days – nice and shiny and fired in the kiln. Once you paint your piece it takes 24 hours to dry. The next day, we will over-glaze it; that will take another 24 hours to dry. Day three, it goes into the kiln. By day four, it's out of the kiln, ready to be taken home.

**JP:** Do you have any Judaic materials?

**CS:** We do carry Judaic materials. We have lovely menorahs, mezuzahs,

dreidles and dreidel boxes. We have a "shalom" napkin holder, dreidle plates and Seder plates. We can even take clay and create Judaic dish decorations.

We can make a Jewish star by just hand building it. And we can order other items as well. With the children from the Jewish Community School who have been studying about the pottery of Israel, we have made little pinch pots with lids. And then we painted them.

**JP:** Tell us about the projects you are doing for the Jewish Federation?

**CS:** I am doing several glass fusion projects for the Federation. Jewish Family Services has asked me to create their logo out of glass to hang in their foyer at The Caspe Terrace. I have also been asked to produce a piece depicting "the five values" of the community school in glass. And in addition, I will be creating three signs for the Federation offices.

**JP:** Your studio work and your work for the Federation are all very creative. How may people get in touch with you?

**CS:** The store is located at 268 West Hickman. We are online at [www.kilntime4fun.com](http://www.kilntime4fun.com).

**JP:** Thank you very much for the interview, Cynthia. We wish you the very best.

**CS:** Thank you.

**The Spiel Will Come Out . . . Tomorrow**

**Saturday, March 8 , 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, March 9, 1 p.m.**

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# We're Turning 100!

Join us in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Jewish Federation. To celebrate we're planning activities and events throughout the entire year. Save the date for all of the festivities!

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BUS  
TOUR

of Jewish Des Moines  
Sunday, March 2, 2014

March 2

**Jewish Bus Tour Around Des Moines**

Visit the historical Jewish sites in Des Moines from the past 100 years.



April 27

**Yom HaShoah Day Lecture**

Professor Harold Kasimow will outline the significant Jewish theological responses to the Holocaust in a program at Temple B'nai Jeshurun.



TBD

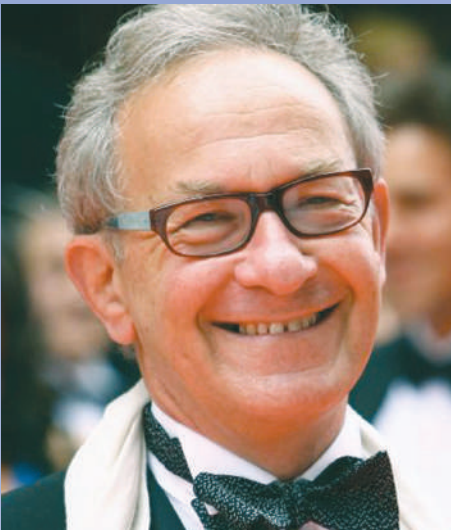
**Celebration of Israeli Innovation**  
at Beth El Jacob



March 28-30

**Josh Nelson and Neshama Carlebach**

A rare engagement of two top Jewish performers will surely call out to your soul.



May 8

**Simon Schama**

Guest speaker for 25th Annual Fingerman Lecture at the Des Moines Art Center. Schama will be speaking on the topic of Word and Image in Jewish Tradition. Reservations required by the Art Center.

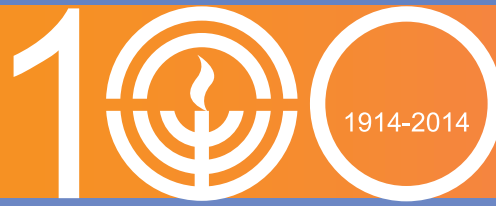


June 1

**JCRC Interfaith Event at Temple**  
A program on interreligious dialogue led by statements from some of the prominent members of the interfaith community, and a festive cocktail reception. Finkelstein's 18 years of service to the community.

While we are still in the planning stage, for more information watch your mail. If you have any questions or would like more information about any of our 100th Anniversary upcoming events, please contact Sophie Homonoff at [sophie@dmjfed.org](mailto:sophie@dmjfed.org) or Mollie Giller at [mollie@dmjfed.org](mailto:mollie@dmjfed.org) or 515.987.0899 ext. 230 or go to [JewishDesMoines.org](http://JewishDesMoines.org).





**Jewish Federation**  
OF GREATER DES MOINES



**June 11-22**

**Family Mission To Israel**

A community trip with a special itinerary for teens.



**September 7**

**Torch Relay**

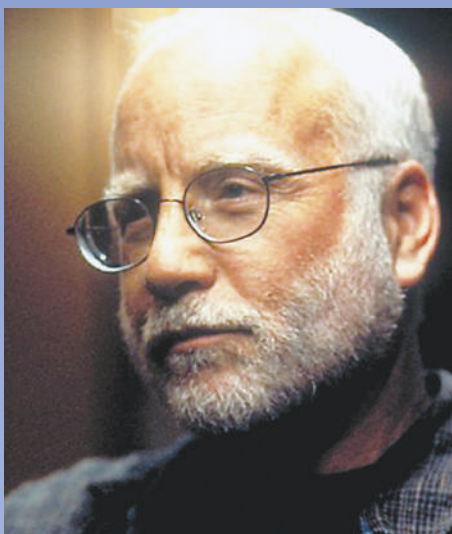
Relay run from the original Jewish Federation location to the present site and then join us at The Caspe Terrace for food and fun!



**TBD**

**Maccabi Games-Style  
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Team up with your friends to vie for the title of team of the year!



**August 24**

**100th Gala at the  
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**October 22-23**

**Rabbi Joseph Telushkin**

To speak in Ames and Des Moines. Telushkin's book, "Jewish Literacy: The Most Important Things to Know About the Jewish Religion, Its People and Its History," is one of the best-selling books on Judaism of the past two decades.



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by Prof. Harold Kasimow, voices of the Des Moines commemoration of Mark the Jewish Federation.



## If it has to do with Passover, you'll find it at Maccabee's.

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Monday, April 14: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Sunday, April 20: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 15: CLOSED for Passover	Tuesday, April 21: CLOSED for Passover
Wednesday, April 16: CLOSED for Passover	Wednesday, April 22: CLOSED for Passover
Thursday, April 17: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Thursday, April 23: Regular hours

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### Tifereth Israel Synagogue Scholar-In-Residence

## Rabbi Irwin Kula

President of Clal, the National Jewish Center  
for Learning and Leadership

**April 4-5, 2014**



### Schedule of Events

**Friday Evening, 6:00pm:** Shabbat Services followed by dinner and talk **"Beyond the Tribe: Jewish as a Path of Human Flourishing"**

**Saturday Morning, 9:30am:** Shabbat Services and brief Torah discussion followed by Shabbat Café with talk **"Israel: Loving the Messiness"**

**Saturday Evening, 8:00pm:** Havdalah event with talk **"Happiness, Love, Meaning, and the Pew Report"**

*For information on purchasing tickets to the Friday dinner, please contact the Tifereth Israel office at 515-255-1137.*

An internationally sought-after speaker, Rabbi Irwin Kula inspires people worldwide by using Jewish wisdom to speak to all aspects of modern life and relationships. An engaged and thoughtful trader in the global marketplace of ideas, he has traveled the world and met with leaders as diverse as the Dalai Lama and Queen Noor to work on the challenge of compassionate leadership in the 21st century. Across the U.S., he works constantly with religious, business, and community leaders, corporate and family foundations, and religious and philanthropic institutions to promote leadership development and institutional change and has written many influential texts on religion and spirituality.

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of Jewish Des Moines  
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**PURIM** *in*  
**DISNEY**



**WHEN:** on Purim day March 16th, 2014 @noon  
**WHERE:** Beth El Jacob Synagogue 954 Cummins Pkwy.  
**COST:** \$10 per person \$25 per family.

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 Please RSVP by March 10th to [Office@betheljacob.org](mailto:Office@betheljacob.org)  
 or call the office 515-274-1551 x1

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March 6: Mechanics of Tradition

March 13: Understanding Prophecies

March 20: Biblical Figures

March 27: Myths and Truths about Judaism

A four week series by Rabbi Leib Bolel that will cover many aspects of Judaism from a Traditional lens. This series will benefit all levels of Jewish knowledge, from beginner to advanced, where four primary topics will be addressed.

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 To  
 Embrace

**When**  
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**Where**  
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## [history]

### THE YIDDISH THEATER IN NEW YORK CITY

A ban on Yiddish theatre in Russia in 1883 effectively pushed Yiddish theater to Western Europe and then to America. Over the next few decades, successive waves of Yiddish performers arrived in New York, some simply as artists seeking an audience, but many as a result of persecutions, pogroms and economic crises in Eastern Europe.

Throughout the 1880s and 1890s, amateur theatrical companies presented Yiddish productions in New York City, leading to regular performances at theatres such as the Bowery Garden, the National and the Thalia, with unknowns such as Boris Thomashefsky emerging as stars.

The Thalia Theatre sought to change the material of the Yiddish stage to better reform the material that was being produced. "The reformers of the Yiddish stage, Jacob Gordin later explained, wanted to "utilize the theatre for higher purposes; to derive from it not only amusement, but education."

Professional companies soon developed and flourished, so that between 1890 and 1940, there were over 200 Yiddish theaters or touring Yiddish theatre troupes in the United States. At many times, a dozen Yiddish theatre groups existed in New York City alone, with the Yiddish Theater District, sometimes referred to as the "Jewish Rialto," centered on Second Avenue in what is now the East Village, but was then considered part of the Jewish Lower East Side, which often rivaled Broadway in scale and quality. At the time the U.S. entered World War I, there were 22 Yiddish theaters and two Yiddish vaudeville houses in New York City alone.

Yiddish theatre is said to have two artistic golden ages, the first in the realistic plays produced in New York City in the late 19th century, and the second in the political and artistic plays written and performed in

Russia and New York in the 1920s.

By 1925 a New York Times article asserted that "the Yiddish theater had been thoroughly Americanized... it was now a stable American institution and no longer dependent on immigration from Eastern Europe. People who can neither speak nor write Yiddish attend Yiddish stage performances and pay Broadway prices on Second Avenue." This is attributed to the fact that Yiddish theatre is "only one of... [the] expressions" of a New York Jewish cultural life "in full flower."

A famous play of this second golden era was *The Dybbuk* (1919), by S. Ansky, considered a revolutionary play in both Yiddish and mainstream theatre. It has been translated into many languages and performed thousands of times all over the world, on stage and on television; there have been several movies. It is now regarded as the crown jewel of the Jewish theatre. Operas, ballets, symphonic suites and other musical compositions have been based on *The Dybbuk*. In earlier years it was considered so significant that parodies about *The Dybbuk* were written and performed in Europe and the United States. Also notable are *The Golem* by H. Leivick (1888-1962), as well as the plays of Sholem Aleichem.

Several of America's most influential 20th century acting teachers, such as Stella Adler (daughter of Jacob and Sara Adler and sister of actor Luther Adler) and Lee Strasberg, had their first tastes of theatre in Yiddish. Though some of the methods developed by them and other members of the Group Theatre were reactions to the often melodramatic and larger-than-life style of Yiddish theatre, this style nonetheless informed their theories and left its stamp on them. Yiddish theatre was also highly influential on what is still known as Jewish humor.

*Adapted from Wikipedia.*

## [medicine]

### SUPER-VACCINE TO ERADICATE THE FLU

By NoCamels Team NoCamels.com

It is little wonder that so many of the world's health scares, such as the swine flu and bird flu pandemics, were caused by the flu virus. The virus, also known as influenza, mutates often, is highly contagious and grows resistant to treatments. Now, an Israeli company has developed a universal vaccine that may forever eradicate the flu family.

BiondVax Pharmaceuticals, which is developing the vaccine, has announced that it has completed a series of tests, which show that the vaccine is indeed "universal" and is also suited to the many new deadly flu strains that have appeared in the past few years.

Until relatively recently, the flu strains H5N8, H6N1, H7N7, H7N9 and H10N8 infected only birds and were not considered dangerous for humans. However, as viruses do, all of them have now evolved and infected humans as well.

Between 2003 and 2013, the bird flu H5N1, for example, has infected 648 people, with 384 deaths as a result. Similarly, the H7N9 virus, first identified

in China, has since March 2013 caused the death of 33 percent of those infected.

#### A universal vaccine

In contrast to current vaccines, which are strain-specific, BiondVax's new vaccine was designed to contain small doses of the flu virus, which are enough to teach the human immune system to recognize all flu strains, so that the body quickly stops the virus from causing illness. The company anticipates that the universal vaccine, when the development stage is completed, will be broadly effective against present and future strains of flu.

BiondVax's Chief Scientist Doctor Tamar Ben-Yedidia says: "These data are exciting and support the universality of BiondVax's vaccine against strains emerging in the world, seasonal or pandemic. Today as people are constantly travelling, there are no natural borders that stop diseases from spreading across the globe. We need a new kind of flu vaccine that works against all flu strains and BiondVax has the solution in hand." *BiondVax is a publicly traded advanced clinical stage biotechnology company.*



# In The Kitchen For Passover

by Karen Engman



Once spring arrives (March 14), we begin to think about Passover which starts with the first seder on April 14 this year. The seder meal has an array of traditional dishes, along with some seasonal fruits and vegetables, and whatever new recipes the host and hostess want to try out on their guests. The real challenge of Passover cooking, though, is providing delicious and varied Pesadich

foods for all three meals of the day throughout the holiday.

Breakfast can be boring, especially to the kids, if you don't have a good matzo meal pancake recipe. My mother always used the recipe from the Settlement Cook Book. My brothers and I loved it so much we use to beg her to make them even when Passover was over.

It also is handy to know how to make some different type of rolls from matzo meal. Sharon Goldford submitted this Herb Passover Roll recipe for the 100 Years Of Jewish Cooking Cook Book that the Iowa Jewish Historical Society is publishing in honor of the Federation's Centennial. This cook book will celebrate the Jewish cooks of Iowa, through their recipes, photos and historical information.

I hope these two recipes bring some variety to your holiday meal.

Remember if you have a recipe to share or a cooking question I can research, call Karen Engman (515-274-3300) or email me (Karen.engman@gmail.com).

## Matzo Meal Pancakes

Based on a recipe from The Settlement Cook Book (1965)

Parve

½ cup matzo meal  
1 tsp salt  
1-2 tbsp sugar

2 eggs, separated  
1 cup milk or water

Mix dry ingredients. Beat the egg yolks, add milk and combine with dry mixture. Let stand for 30 minutes. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Heat griddle and grease. Either ladle batter unto griddle or pour from the tip of a large spoon. Flip when cakes are full of bubbles and brown on one side. Serve with syrup and/or fruit and sugar.

Serves: 2 adults or 4 kids

These yummy Passover pancakes are sure to be a year round favorite!

## Passover Rolls

A recipe from Sharon Goldford

Parve

1 ¼ cups water  
1/3 cup canola oil  
1 tbsp sugar  
1 tsp kosher salt  
2 cup matzo meal

4 large eggs  
1 tbsp chopped herbs (can use mixture of whatever you like; thyme, chives, sage, marjoram, etc)

Preheat oven to 375

Cover cookie sheet with parchment paper. Put first 4 ingredients in saucepan and bring to boil over medium heat. Reduce heat and add matzo meal. Cook just until mixture comes away from sides of the pan, stirring constantly. Cool mixture and add eggs one at a time with mixer until well blended. Stir in herbs. Either use hands or ice cream scoop to place mounds on cookie sheet.

Bake for 50-55 minutes at 375



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## Damon Rose Partnership Center: Moving Forward!

In late September, we laid the cornerstone for the Damon Rose Partnership Center. We will be renovating half of a historic building in Akko to create a House for the Partnership. The Partnership at long last will have an identity and place in the Western Galilee. Anyone who comes to visit will be able to meet in the DRPC, a place in Israel that belongs to you.

**Our Federation community has made a contribution of \$50,000 to the project (spread over 5 years). \$25,000 of the amount will come from the Jewish Foundation. \$10,000 has been generously contributed by a local donor, and the remaining amount will be raised within the community.**

The architect is working on final layout for the office and community

space. The community space will be a multi-functional room which can be used by the Partnerships and other local organizations. The space will “speak Partnership” and, in addition, three Partnerships; the Western Galilee - Central Area Consortium, Nahariya - North New Jersey, and the Western Galilee - Dallas Partnerships will all have offices in the building.

The Partnership is sharing the building with the Akko Art Glass Center which has work space for creating glass and will have (in the future) a gallery as well.

Amigur, an auxiliary company of the Jewish Agency, will be the overseers of the planning and permit process. The hope is that the renovation can begin this summer.

## Noted expert on the Crisis in Egypt to speak May 1

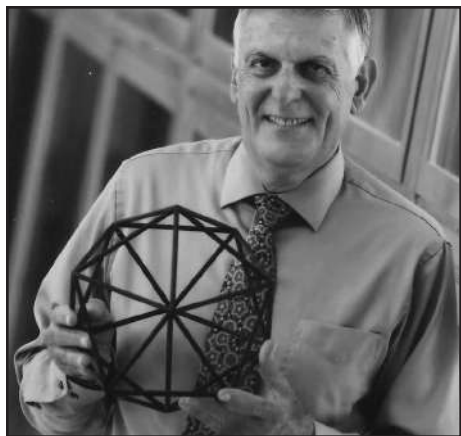


Eric Trager from the Washington Institute of Near East Studies will lecture on “The Rise, Fall and Future of the Muslim Brotherhood” 7:00 pm Thursday, May 1 at Sussman Theater, basement of Olmsted Center, Drake Campus, sponsored by JCRC and Drake University’s The Principal Financial Group Center for Global Citizenship. Details are incomplete at the present time. This program is made possible by a grant from the JFed Forum Fund. For information call Mark at 515-987-0899 x 212.

Eric Trager, the Esther K. Wagner Fellow at The Washington Institute, is an expert on Egyptian politics and the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt. He was in Egypt during the 2011 anti-Mubarak revolts and returns frequently to conduct firsthand interviews with leaders in Egypt’s government, military, political parties, media, and civil society. His writings have appeared in numerous publications, including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Foreign Affairs, the Atlantic, and the New Republic.

Dr. Trager is an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania, where his doctoral research focused on Egyptian opposition parties. From 2006-2007, he lived in Egypt as an Islamic Civilizations Fulbright fellow, where he studied at the American University in Cairo and received his M.A. in Arabic studies with a concentration in Islamic studies. He served as a research assistant at The Washington Institute from 2005 to 2006 upon graduation from Harvard University with a degree in government and language citations in Arabic and Hebrew.

## ISU Visiting Prof. to Run for President of Israel



Professor Dan Shechtman, the 2011 Nobel Prize laureate in Chemistry who has served as an Associate of the US Department of Energy’s Ames Laboratory and Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at Iowa State University is among those running for the presidency of the State of Israel. It is expected that the Knesset will choose the next President of Israel in June, prior to the late July expiration of Shimon Peres’ term in office.

One source quotes Shechtman as stating that one of the first issues he would tackle, if elected, would be education. “Education’s job is to make people better, and we are not

doing a very good job of that.”

The position is largely an apolitical ceremonial figurehead role. Presidents are elected by the Knesset for a seven-year term, and are currently limited to a single term.

Dr. Schechtman was awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery of quasicrystals. He still teaches at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa. Shechtman came to Iowa State and Ames Lab in 2004 and spends approximately four months per year on campus.

## IOWA REGENTS UNIVERSITIES OPPOSE AN ISRAEL BOYCOTT

All three of Iowa’s Regents universities have joined 225 other American universities, including all those within the Ivy League, in individually opposing a resolution passed by the American Studies Association (ASA) to boycott the academic institutions in Israel.

**The following is a statement from Drake University President David Maxwell on the ASA’s recent decision to boycott Israeli institutions of higher education:**

I wholeheartedly endorse the American Association of University Professors’ strongly-worded opposition to the recent vote by the American Studies Association (ASA) to boycott Israeli institutions of higher education. As the AAUP indicates, academic boycotts are antithetical to the fundamental principles of academic freedom. An academic boycott, in essence, impinges on the University’s ability to fulfill its most fundamental scholarly, intellectual, cultural, and societal responsibilities in a civil society.

Drake University’s Statement of Principles, created by the University’s Faculty Senate 20 years ago, states:

Drake University upholds freedom of thought and freedom of expression as central to its educational mission. Drake therefore carefully refrains from restricting the exchange of ideas or regulating the content of speech. . . We affirm the principle that thoughts and opinions should be subject to the crucible of debate and be judged only in the free marketplace of ideas. Ideas will not be suppressed because they are presently viewed as unpopular or inappropriate by current authorities, nor will expression of those ideas be infringed because it may be perceived as harmful to a particular group or organization. Although the frank and open discussion of social, cultural, artistic, religious, moral, scientific, and political issues may be disturbing and even hurtful for some individuals, the principle of free exchange and inquiry takes precedence, as it is so fundamental to the educational enterprise.

Further, the lessons of recent history (e.g., Soviet-American academic exchanges) suggest that academic engagement—both institutional and individual—as opposed to isolation, is a powerful force in catalyzing and informing significant

political and social change. From this perspective, not only is the ASA’s boycott contrary to the fundamental values of the academy, but it has the potential to prolong and exacerbate the very issues that it is intended to address.

Finally, I would suggest that a boycott of this nature inherently undermines the academy’s most powerful tools in effecting change—our thoughts, our ideas, our voices and, ultimately, our relationships. The complex global web of intellectual relationships that we have collectively created is one of our most powerful assets in fulfilling our respective missions as institutions of higher education; to sever a portion of those relationships for political reasons is ultimately self-destructive.

– David Maxwell, President

Drake University

January 2, 2014

### **U Iowa President Correct in Opposing ASA Academic Boycott of Israel**

IOWA CITY, Iowa | University of Iowa President Sally Mason has joined over 200 other college and university presidents in opposing the American Studies Association’s boycott of Israeli academic institutions. As the foundation for Jewish life on campus, Hillel thanks President Mason for her leadership. Hillel also strongly urges the UI’s Department of American Studies to distance itself from the ASA’s boycott and, if necessary, to resign its membership in the ASA.

The boycott of Israeli academic institutions, and of individuals affiliated with those institutions, suppresses the free exchange of ideas on which the scholarly enterprise depends. It punishes individuals and institutions for a political situation they may have no role in sustaining — and, indeed, may actually oppose. Hillel supports open debate and respects the historical and contemporary aspirations of all of the parties to the conflict. The boycott has exactly the opposite effect. - Gerald L. Sorokin, executive director, University of Iowa Louis Shulman Hillel Foundation  
*In January, the above letter was published in several newspapers across Iowa. – Ed.*

The University of Northern Iowa’s president, William Ruud, has indicated his endorsement of the values of the AASCU, the APLU, and the ACE, in opposition to the ASA’s academic boycott.

## Ecology, Reform Movement in Israel Topics for May 5 Speaker

Alex Cicelsky of Kibbutz Lotan’s Center for Creative Ecology will speak 7 pm, Monday, May 5 at Temple B’nai Jeshurun in an Israel Independence Day program co-sponsored by the Temple and Tifereth Israel.

One of two Reform Kibbutzim in Israel, Kibbutz Lotan is home to the Center for Creative Ecology (CCE) where Alex is the Director of Research and Development and is also one of their instructors. The CCE runs a myriad of educational programs for post high school, college and post graduate students. They also run programs for visiting congregations, for American,

Israeli and international youth groups and international (including Palestinian) visitors of all ages who come to experience the community and/or to learn first-hand about the kibbutz’s mud and straw bale building techniques, permaculture and philosophy of eco-village living.

Besides talking about the work of Lotan, Alex will also share his personal experience regarding the Reform Movement in Israel, Reform Zionism and how we as Reform Jews can live out our values through Eco Zionism, as well as lead Torah study through an environmentalist lens.



# Birthright Expands Eligibility For Free Trips To Israel

By Jacob Kamaras/JNS.org

The Taglit-Birthright Israel program has expanded eligibility for its free 10-day trips to Israel for Jewish young adults ages 18-26, JNS.org has learned. **Teenagers who went on an educational trip to Israel during high school were previously not eligible for Birthright trips, but can now participate, confirmed Noa Bauer, Birthright's vice president of international marketing.**

Birthright's eligibility guidelines previously stated, "If you have been to Israel before but only with your family or on other personal business, you are still eligible. However, if you have been to Israel as part of a touring group, educational program, study program or an organized extended residential program since you were 12 years old, you are not eligible."

While those who have taken educational trips to Israel after turning 18 are still not eligible for Birthright, youths who took such trips before 18 can now go on Birthright from ages 18-26, Bauer told JNS.org.

"I think everybody thought about [the change in the eligibility guidelines] for many years, and everybody wanted to have it," Bauer said. "It was a matter of funding, and I think today you see more anti-Israel things on campus, and we realized over the years that people that have been to Israel again have more

confidence for talking about Israel, and geopolitics, and anything pertaining to Israel after visiting with Birthright Israel. I think we're one of the best platforms to do that for college students."

The change in guidelines—approved Wednesday by Birthright's steering committee and proposed by the committee's chairman, Israeli Minister of Diaspora Affairs Naftali Bennett—will go into effect this summer.

"Taglit proved itself as a leading agent in strengthening Jewish identity among young people in the Diaspora and in building ties to the State of Israel," Bennett said. "Taglit alumni are our best ambassadors, and the journey they experience in Israel equips them with the best tools to represent Israel abroad. Expanding their number and opening eligibility will allow Taglit to continue having a positive influence on the Jewish world."

Rabbi Dave Felsenthal, director of the Orthodox Union's Israel Free Spirit/Taglit-Birthright program, said in a statement, "For years, our most involved students had to give up on Birthright to go on a high school trip. Now our best students can also get the awesome Birthright experience as their second trip to Israel."

Felsenthal said his Birthright program now expects "many more applicants than ever before."

In the 13-plus years since philanthropists Charles Bronfman and Michael Steinhardt joined forces with the Israeli government, the Jewish Agency for Israel, global Jewish communities, and other philanthropists to fund Birthright, the program has taken about 350,000 young Jews to Israel.

Birthright recently said that more than 17,000 Jewish young adults would participate in its trips this season, the largest number of winter participants for Birthright since the program was founded in 2000. The program expects to reach 50 percent of Jewish young adults worldwide over the next five years.

A series of studies by Brandeis University's Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies have shown that former Birthright participants are 42 percent more likely to feel "very much" connected to Israel compared to people who didn't go on the trip. Program participants are also more likely to belong to a religious congregation than those who did not attend Birthright, and participants are also slightly more likely than non-participants to make charitable contributions to Jewish or Israeli causes, according to the Cohen Center research.

"The evidence is clear that Taglit inspires a stronger sense of Jewish identity," Brandeis University professor Leonard Saxe, a chief author of the

research and director of the Cohen Center, told JNS.org last summer for a story on Birthright's 13th anniversary. While the Cohen Center surveys didn't ask directly about leadership, it's clear that Birthright "produces a desire to be part of the Jewish community," according to Saxe.

Matthew Putterman, a 24-year-old analyst for a real estate financial services firm in Houston who went on Birthright in 2010, told JNS.org last year, "The sense of global Jewish community developed during Birthright definitely helped to substantiate my initial feelings of wanting to help if at all possible."

Philanthropists Sheldon and Miriam Adelson have donated \$180 million to Birthright.

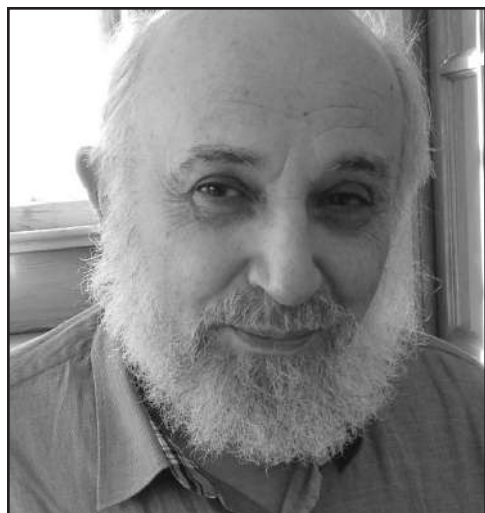
"Exposing young Jews to Israel helps broaden their awareness and deepen their cultural identity," Miriam Adelson has said.

Dozens of countries looking to connect Diasporas with their motherlands are taking notice of Birthright, according to Gidi Mark, the program's CEO. Mark told JNS.org last year that he attended a conference in Dublin, Ireland "where everybody was talking about Birthright-Israel as a pioneer in this."

"We were approached already by countries like Bulgaria... and we are happy to help those who approach us," Mark said.

Jewish Federation, the 4 Des Moines Area Synagogues, and the Iowa Council for Holocaust Education present a

## Holocaust Remembrance Day Program



With

**Prof. Harold Kasimow**

Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies, Grinnell

**Jewish Theological Responses to the Holocaust**

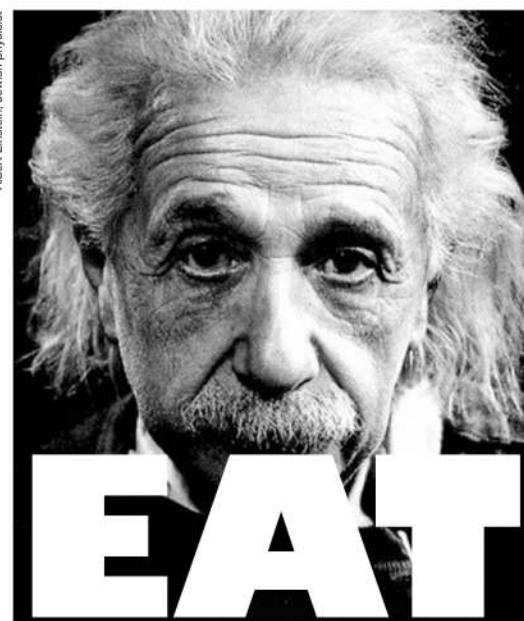
**Sunday, April 27, 2014**

2:00 pm at Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Free and open to the public.

For additional information, contact [jcrc@dmjfed.org](mailto:jcrc@dmjfed.org)

Albert Einstein, Jewish physicist



like a genius.



**Sunday, May 18, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

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JUDAIC RESOURCE CENTER PESACH SCHEDULE

Monday, April 14th (1st night)  
Mincha followed by Maariv 7:30pm  
1st Seder 8:00pm \*\*

Tuesday, April 15th (1st day)  
Shacharis 10:00am  
Mincha followed by Maariv 7:30pm  
2nd Seder 8:30pm \*\*

Wednesday, April 16th (2nd day)  
Shacharis 10:00am  
Mincha followed by Maariv 7:30pm

Thursday, April 17th (1st intermediate day)  
Shacharis 9:00am

Friday, April 18th (2nd intermediate day)  
Shacharis 9:00am  
Mincha and Kabbolas Shabbos 7:30pm

Shabbos, April 19th (3rd intermediate day)  
Shacharis 10:00am  
Mincha followed by Maariv 7:30pm

Sunday, April 20th (4th intermediate day)  
Shacharis 9:00am  
Mincha followed by Maariv 7:30pm

Monday, April 21st  
Shacharis 10:00am  
Mincha followed by Maariv 7:30pm

Tuesday, April 22nd  
Shacharis 10:00am  
Mincha 6:00pm followed by Moshiach Seudah and Maariv

\*\*Please call if you would like to join us for the Seder 515-277-1770

BETH EL JACOB SYNAGOGUE

Morning Minyan Times:

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.  
Monday: 6:45 a.m.  
Tuesday: 7:00 a.m.  
Wednesday: 7:00 a.m.  
Thursday: 6:45 a.m.  
Friday: 7:00 a.m.  
Shabbat: 9:00 a.m.

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

Wednesdays: Lunch & Learn Parsha Class 12:30pm – An hour session we get to eat lunch as a group followed by insights into the week’s Torah portion. All are welcome but please RSVP if you will be joining for lunch.

T.A.S.T.E - Torah: A Subject To Embrace:

A four week series by Rabbi Leib Bolel that will cover many aspects of Judaism from a Traditional lens. This series will benefit all levels of Jewish knowledge, from beginner to advance where five primary topics will be addressed.

When: Every Thursday in the month of March at 5:30pm

Where: Beth El Jacob Synagogue 954 Cummins Pkwy

- March 6 Mechanics of Tradition
- March 13 Understanding Prophecies
- March 20 Biblical Figures
- March 27 Myths and Truths about Judaism
- March 15 Megilla Reading 8:30pm.
- March 16 PURIM IN DISNEY!! Meggilah Reading at noon followed by lunch (RSVP to Office)

April 7-11 Sell your Chometz: Come by the office to pick up a form and arrange a time to meet with the Rabbi.

- March 28: Shabbat Ruach
  - Tot Service- 5:00 – 5:50 p.m.
  - Tot Dinner - 5:50 – 6:30 p.m.
  - Adult Service - 5:50 – 6:30 p.m.
  - Adult Dinner & Tot playtime with babysitters – 6:30 p.m.

April 29 Hebrew Reading Recap Part 2 - 7:30pm

Pesach/Passover: Please check our Facebook page or our website calendar at Betheljacob.org for a schedule of events

JSOC Returns from Israel Inspired

JSOC (Jewish Students On Campus) students returned in January from a two week trip to Israel led by Rabbi Leib Bolel of Beth El Jacob Synagogue. A collaboration of students from Drake University and Georgia Tech enjoyed studying about their heritage and Judaism. It was especially gratifying to see these students embrace and tap into their over three thousand year history; to see their lineage and to watch them identify even more strongly with their Jewish identity. Many students identified their trip as a “Life Changing” experience.

The group toured most regions and must see sites in Israel from the Kotel and Yad Vashem to Wineries and Ancient Ruins.



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TEMPLE B’NAI JESHURUN

Family Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 19, at 10:00 a.m., is our Passover Friendly K’tanim Shabbat morning program at Temple B’nai Jeshurun!

K’tanim Shabbat programs take place in the Children’s room (downstairs in the school wing) and feature a brief prayer service with some children’s songs during which children and often parents are playing or working on crafts.

For this K’tanim Shabbat, the crafts will focus around Passover!

There will be food for adults and children. These programs are great opportunities for parents and grandparents to join their children and grandchildren in having fun in a Jewish context!

We hope you will join us!

Adult Education Classes at Temple B’nai Jeshurun Spring 2014

Thursday Evenings March 27 through May 1, the Adult Education classes will cover basic topics in Jewish Practice and Belief. These classes are open to anyone interested and are free, though donations are accepted. All classes will be taught by Rabbi David Kaufman and take place from 7:00-8:30 pm at Temple B’nai Jeshurun, 5101 Grand Ave in Des Moines. Schedule is subject to change so please call the Temple Office at 515-274-4679 to RSVP attendance or for questions.

Jewish Practice and Belief

- 1. Shabbat Rules – March 27
- 2. Evolution of The God Concept in Israelite-Jewish Traditions – April 3 Passover – April 10
- 3. The Concepts of Forgiveness and Salvation in Israelite-Jewish Traditions – April 17
- 4. Jewish Views of the Afterlife – April 24
- 5. Social Action and Tzedakah – May 1

Shabbat Morning there will be monthly Study Programs from January through April that will take place from 10:00-11:00 am. These programs taught by Rabbi Kaufman are also free. Please RSVP to the Temple office as all programs are subject to scheduling changes. Rabbi’s Tish programs include bagels and coffee.

March 8 Purim – Rabbi’s Tish - We will discuss the story found in the Book of Esther.

April 26 Remembering the Shoah – Rabbi’s Tish

Why is it that remembering the Holocaust is seen as such an important practice of being a Jew? What is the meaning of the Holocaust today? What impact does it have on our lives?

Save The Dates!

March 7th at 6:00 p.m. we are asking all Temple B’nai Jeshurun 3rd and 4th graders to help lead services that evening. There will be a potluck after the service.

April 14th at 6:00 p.m. we are asking all Temple B’nai Jeshurun 5th and 6th graders to help lead the service that evening. There will be a potluck after the service as well.

We look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces at the Temple these two evenings so we can show the whole community what you have learned over the year at the Jewish Federation Community School.

We hope you will join us!

Temple Youth Group

Hello!

2014 has been off to a great start, so I think the same should go for this Bulletin article. That’s why we’re starting off with a segment I like to call “Corny Joke:”

Q: *What does a baby computer call his father?*

A: **Data!**

Get it, like “da-da?!” Oh, that was a good one. Now we can get into the exciting news about our very own Temple Youth Group.

On February 16, we had an event at the Iowa Wild Hockey game. Youth Groupers and their entire families were invited. For just \$5, everyone got admission to the game, a hot dog, popcorn, and pop. The Youth Group fund paid for our Youth Groupers.

Just a few days later, on Sunday, February 23, the TBJ Youth Group joined up with the Tifereth Israel Youth Group for a fun evening of dinner and a movie.

Some very important events are coming up, so I’ll trust that you have your calendars at the ready.

February 28-March 2: Junior Youth Group Chavurah (7th and 8th graders)

March 8-9: Purim Spiel

March 28: Special concert and workshops with musician/song leader Josh Nelson

April 6: Prepare and serve a meal at the Central Iowa Shelter and Services

May 2: Senior Recognition, a night to honor all of our seniors graduating from high school

May 18: Jewish Food Fair

Hope to see you around during 2014!

Julia Anderson, TBJ Youth Group President

TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

Lots happening at Tifereth. We hope you’ll join us. [www.tifereth.org](http://www.tifereth.org)  
**Recurring Events:**

Minyan: Sundays 9:00 am  
Thursdays 7:00 am

Services: Fridays 6:00 pm Shabbat Evening Services  
Saturdays 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

Special Events for March and April 2014

March 2014

Sunday, March 2nd 12:00 pm Women’s League Luncheon  
Friday, March 7th 6:00 pm Rock Shabbat  
Saturday, March 8th 10:30 am Lev Shalev – Meditative Service  
Sunday, March 9th 12:30 pm YAD Family Hamentashen Baking  
2:00 pm Kadima (Grades 6 – 8)  
Friday, March 14th 6:00 pm Mishpacha Shabbat & Potluck  
Saturday, March 15th 6:30 pm Purim Family Celebration

Megillah Reading

Tuesday, March 18th 6:30 pm Erev Nashim  
Friday, March 21st 6:00 pm Tifereth Choir Service  
Sunday, March 23rd 2:00 pm Tikkun Olam Shelter Dinner Preparation  
Friday, March 28th 5:30 pm Dinner  
6:30 pm Josh Nelson Concert – Federation 100th Anniversary Celebration Concert at Tifereth  
Junior Congregation & Tot Shabbat  
Saturday, March 29th 10:30 am

April 2014

Friday, April 4 – Saturday, April 5th Tifereth’s Scholar in Residence, Rabbi Irwin Kula  
Friday, April 4th 6:00 pm Shabbat Unplugged  
Sunday, April 6th 12:30 pm Beit Haverim (Grades 3 – 5)  
Thursday, April 10th 12:00 Noon Senior Luncheon at Tifereth  
6:30 pm Erev Nashim  
Saturday, April 12th 10:30 am Lev Shalev - Meditative Service  
Sunday, April 13th 4:00 pm YAD Passover Scavenger Hunt  
Saturday, April 19th 10:30 am Junior Congregation & Tot Shabbat  
Saturday, April 26th 9:30 am Allison Ohringer’s Bat Mitzvah  
Sunday April 27th 2:00 pm Tikkun Olam – Shelter Dinner preparation  
Sunday, May 4th Tifereth’s Second Annual “Israel Fest”  
More information in the May/June Jewish Press

Passover 5774 Schedule

Monday, April 14th 7:30 am Erev Pesach / Ta’anit Bekhorim (Fast of the Firstborn)  
Tuesday, April 15th 9:30 am Pesach Morning Services  
6:30 pm Tifereth’s Community Second Night Seder  
Wednesday, April 16th 9:30 am Pesach Morning Services  
Friday, April 18th 6:00 pm Erev Shabbat Chol Hamoed Pesach Services  
7:00 pm Women’s League Passover Dinner  
Saturday, April 19th 9:30 am Shabbat Chol Hamoed Pesach Morning Services  
Monday, April 21st 9:30 am Pesach Morning Services  
Tuesday, April 22nd 9:30 am Pesach Morning Services / Yizkor Service

Adult Education:

Rabbi Edelman-Blank:

Conversion Class – Contact the Tifereth office for more information 515-255-1137  
Community Conversations

Thursday, March 20th 6:00 pm What Makes a Strong Family?  
Thursday, April 24th 6:00 pm What Is Good Sex?

Cantor Shivers:

ADULT Bar/Bat Mitzvah class: Please contact Cantor Shivers, 515-255-1137

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Honoring Iowa's Jewish Veterans:

## A Message from Senator Tom Harkin Concerning Military Medals

One of the greatest privileges the board and staff of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society have had in working on our project to identify and honor Iowa's Jewish veterans is the opportunity to hear the stories of the men and women who made so many sacrifices to protect our country. Thanks to the veterans, their friends and families, and to synagogues and federations across the state, we have now identified more than 1,320 of Iowa's Jewish men and women who served from the Civil War up to the present time.

Many of these veterans have shared with us information about their years of service—their training and assignments as well as medals and decorations they have earned. However, we don't know how many of our veterans have not received or have misplaced their medals and decorations as the years have passed.

Senator Tom Harkin wants to ensure that all these veterans have received the medals they have earned. If they haven't, Senator Harkin's office stands ready to assist veterans in obtaining the medals and decorations that they deserved.

For example, some veterans left the service and returned to their families immediately following their discharge from the Armed Forces. These veterans did not wait to receive their medals, and years later, perhaps did not know how to obtain the medals or may have passed away before receiving their medals. In some instances, a veteran may believe that he or she should have received a particular medal, but the award is not denoted on the veteran's records. Senator Harkin's office has also ordered a replacement set of medals for families if the original medals were lost over time.

Iowans in need of assistance can contact Senator Harkin's office by visiting <http://www.harkin.senate.gov/> and click on the prompt "Contact Tom." You may also call one of the Senator's offices: Washington, D.C. at 202-224-3254; Cedar Rapids, 319-365-4504; Des Moines, 515-284-4574; Davenport, 563-322-1338; Dubuque, 563-582-2130; or Sioux City, 712-252-1550.

Please note that the veteran, or a family member acting on the veteran's behalf, will need to provide a copy of a discharge document. They will also be asked to complete a Standard Form 180 Request Pertaining to Military Records, as well as a privacy release form. If the necessary military records are not in the veteran's possession, Senator Harkin's staff can attempt to obtain a certified copy by submitting a request to the National Personnel Records Center. Once all the information is provided, the caseworker will contact the appropriate agency or branch of service.

Obtaining medals is just one of the many services Senator Harkin's office provides to veterans. Caseworkers can also help veterans who are applying for and receiving monetary, educational, and medical benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), as well as those Iowans seeking medical services or treatment at VA hospitals.

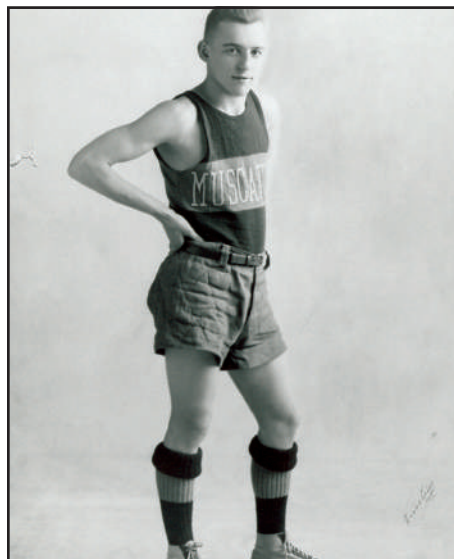
### FROM THE ARCHIVES



Mary Gerwin Bernstein, Daniel Gerwin and Ida Gerwin Bucksbaum



Tifereth Choir 1994, from the Spiro Family Collection at IJHS



Orrie Becker, father of Harold Becker, in Muscatine, IA baseball uniform

### New Access to the Treasures in the Historical Society's Collections!

Have you ever wanted to take a stroll through the collections storage area of our museum and open all the acid-free boxes to see what's in them?

Have you ever seen the objects and photos on display in our exhibits and wondered about what other treasures we have in the back room?

If you have, you can now get some answers!

Thanks to the generosity of the Beverly Blank Perry Foundation, the Iowa Jewish Historical Society now has the collections management software that enables us to put pictures of many of the items in our collection on the web. Putting all of our collection on the web will come in several phase but beginning this month, more than 1,600 items from the Blank Family Collection—including business and family pictures, photos of the Blanks with film stars and Hollywood executives, etc.—and an additional items from other collections in our care can be found through a link on our webpage: <http://jewishdesmoines.org/our-work/ijhs>. Included will be photos of the object and a brief description of the object itself.

We are very excited about this project as it opens a window into the fabulous items that have been donated to the Historical Society for the past 20 years. As with all museums, only a small percentage of the items in the collection can be on display at any one time. However, with the advances in technology, anyone who wants to learn more about the history of the Jewish people in Iowa can do so from any place around the globe.

And this is just a start. Over the next several years, as we continue with the inventory of the collection, we will continue adding more information and photos to the website. If you have questions about using this new database, please call Sandi or Sarah at 515-987-0899 ext. 216 or email us at [ijhs@dmjfed.org](mailto:ijhs@dmjfed.org).

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# March • April [Calendar]

**Sunday, March 2** 11:00 am  
**Sunday, March 2** 2:30 pm  
**Thursday, March 6** 12:00 pm  
**Saturday, March 8** 6:00 pm  
**Sunday, March 9** 1:30 pm  
**Wednesday, March 12** 6:00 pm  
**Friday, March 28** 6:00 pm

**Saturday, March 29** 7:00 pm  
**Thursday, April 3** 6:00 pm  
**Saturday, April 12** 7:00 pm  
**Monday, April 15**  
**Thursday, April 18**  
**Wednesday, April 23** 6:00 pm  
**Saturday, April 26** 9:30 am  
**Sunday, April 27** 2:00 pm  
**Monday, April 28**

**Kibitz & Kids at The Caspe Terrace, Bookey Lodge**  
**Historic Bus Tour, Tifereth Israel Synagogue**  
**Senior Lunch at Tifereth Israel Synagogue**  
**Purimspiel at Caspe Terrace, Bucksbaum Auditorium**  
**Purimspiel at Caspe Terrace, Bucksbaum Auditorium**  
**Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi at The Caspe Terrace**  
**Neshama Carlebach and Josh Nelson Shabbat Service at Tifereth**  
**Neshama Carlebach and Josh Nelson at the Temple**  
**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at The Caspe Terrace**  
**Concert Conducted by Brandon Louis at the Temple**  
**Passover Begins**  
**Senior Luncheon at Praire Meadows**  
**Drake University, Levitt Hall**  
**Allison Ohringer Bat Mitzvah at Tifereth Israel Synagogue**  
**Yom HaShoah JCRC program with guest speaker at Temple B'nai Jeshurun**  
**Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah)**



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**Like the JCRC on Facebook**  
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**Words** from page 7 Although frightened and intimidated by the spectacle before them, our ancestors saw a path to a new way of life. A life filled with hope and promise as free men and woman. They left Sinai and started on a journey, which began with the Passover deliverance, and brought them to the Land of Israel. The hope and dreams remained with them as they dispersed amongst the nations of the world. They kept their faith, as we do today. The tablets may be gone, but the words endure.

Hag Sameach. May you and your families experience a Happy Passover and a Seder filled with meaning and light.

*"But such is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel after these days - declares the LORD: I will put my Teaching into their*

*innermost being and inscribe it upon their hearts. Then I will be their God, and they shall be My people."* (Jeremiah 31:33)

**Brimeyer** from page 8 We are a big soccer family, whether our children play for a club, at the competitive level, or for Waukee High School. We also love sharing meals together, watching movies, and playing outdoors. My daughter has started preschool at Gan Shalom and she absolutely loves it. We're so excited to be part of the Gan Shalom family!

JP: Do you have any hobbies, Gayle?

GB: My biggest hobbies are spending time with my children and supporting them and sharing in their activities. I also enjoy reading, movies, shopping and spending time with good friends and family.

JP: Is there anything else you'd like to

share with readers?

GB: Just that I am so excited and very proud to be serving the Jewish Federation. The best part of my job, by far, has been the people, my co-workers and the constituents. Everyone has been so wonderful and kind. I look forward to becoming more involved and meeting more members of the Federation!

JP: Thank you very much for the interview, Gayle. We wish you all the best in your new position.

GB: Thank you.

**Sons** from page 9

Finally, the fourth son is the one who does not know how to ask. He is not a simpleton - he is apathetic. He's so laid back he doesn't even care. In modern times, the fourth son represents the student who cares far more about his

## B'nai Mitzvah



With love, joy and pride Beth and Sheldon Ohringer invite the community to share a special day with us when our daughter

**Allison Ohringer**

is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah at 9:30 am on **Saturday, April 26, 2014** at Tifereth Israel Synagogue.

Kiddush Luncheon to follow.

## In Memoriam

*We note with sorrow the recent passing of*

Henry Corn  
 Surella Corran  
 Alice Daniels  
 Lillian Kraft  
 Faye Kramer  
 Stanley Krum  
 Teresa Paulsen  
 Nate Ruben  
 Molly Sandler  
 Betty Shalett

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Jewish Family Services and Outreach

# Mitzvah Day

On Monday, January 20th we celebrated Mitzvah Day with a morning of family-centered stories and crafts. In our second community-wide PJ Library event we learned about tikkun olam and performing acts of loving kindness for our greater community. The event was co-sponsored by Jewish Family Services, Gan Shalom Preschool, and PJ Library.

**Alice Friedgood, the first Community School Board President and Federation Board President, Barb Hirsch-Giller enjoy their grandkids playing at this year's Mitzvah Day celebration**



**Beit Sefer Shalom Board President Gabrielle Callistein participates in making tzedakah boxes**



**Sophie Homonoff, Director of Education, reads a special story about mitzvot and helping others**

