



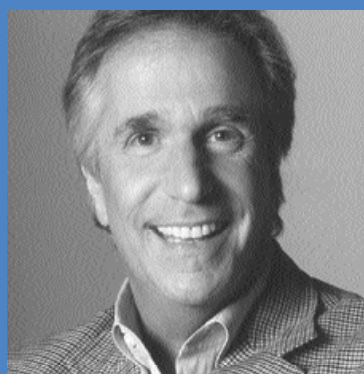
# THE GREATER DES MOINES Jewish Press

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

volume 22 number 5

## shavuot

Begins the  
Evening of June 1



Henry Winkler to  
Speak Sept 17

- page 2



JFCS Celebrates  
Purim

- page 4



Katya  
Dimenstein

## Jazz Concert and Ice Cream Social to Sweeten



The 92nd Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines will be held on Monday, June 12, 7 p.m. at The Caspe Terrace. The meeting will reflect on the important achievements of the Jewish Federation over the last year. In addition, new Federation board members will be installed and community leadership will be recognized. The program for the evening will include an ice cream bar, as well as a jazz concert featuring the unique, international Crossroads Ensemble.

The music of Crossroads Ensemble traverses boundaries between secular and sacred and reflects the various cultures in which its members have lived. Award winning instrumentalists Mattan Klein of Jerusalem, Israel and Juancho Herrera of Caracas, Venezuela were born over 6000 miles apart. Their roads, however, have crossed in the U.S.A. and their musical and cultural backgrounds created the foundation for one of the most exquisite world-music collaborations in North America. Mattan and Juancho's love and admiration for each other's musical tradition and rich religious culture brought together two of New York's busiest composers and performers to create a true world-music cross-over project, which involves Jewish, Latin, Brazilian, Ladino folk songs and Funk elements, but all the while preserves the innovative voices they both carry as representatives of their nations.

The music of Crossroads will touch the memories of some listeners and inspire others to renew their acquaintance with

## Blank Foundation Honors Des Moines Jewish Foundation

The Blank Family Foundation has made its final round of philanthropic contributions. Beneficiaries included the Des Moines Jewish Foundation and Temple B'nai Jeshurun.

A Steven Blank Jewish Leadership Fund was initiated through the Des Moines Jewish Foundation after Steve's death in 1994. The Blank Family Foundation contribution will be added to the Leadership Fund, to be used for Jewish leadership development in conjunction with all the synagogues. Assets for the Fund will now total a half-million dollars.

President of the Des Moines Jewish



Steven Blank

Foundation Don Blumenthal joined leaders of the Jewish Federation in expressing gratitude to the Blank Family for their generosity and foresight in promoting the continuity of our community's Jewish leadership.

Among the most prominent of Jewish families in Des Moines, the Blank family has generously supported the

## Rabbi Beryl Padorr to Lead Tifereth Israel

Tifereth Israel Synagogue looks forward to welcoming Beryl Padorr as its spiritual leader, upon the departure of Rabbi Baruch HaLevi in June. Rabbi Padorr, the first woman rabbi to lead a congregation in Des Moines, will be ordained this Spring by the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies of the Conservative Movement's University of Judaism in Los Angeles. She had previously earned a Master of Arts in Rabbinic Studies from the Ziegler School and a Master of Arts in Education from the University's Fingerhut School of Education. Her initial degree, a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education, was awarded with distinction by the University of Missouri, Kansas City, and with it, teacher certification.

Rabbi Padorr comes most recently from a position at Shomrei Torah Synagogue in West Hills, California. continued on page 16

## Explore jewishdesmoines.org

Visitors welcome. Come see what is to be seen on our brand-new website jewishdesmoines.org and stay a while. It was not so long ago that computers first made connections with one another over the Internet. When that happened, a new world came into being, a world in which information once found only on library bookshelves could be brought up on one's own computer screen with a few clicks on a keyboard.

Once the amazement of simply connecting to computers worldwide wore off, the race was on to build websites around central themes.

We, at the Federation, have taken one of those themes – being Jewish in Des Moines – and have built ourselves a new home on the Internet so that anyone interested in our community can come and visit.

## [inside]

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MAY 7

2 BLUMENTHALS TO CHAIR '07 KICK-OFF

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# Blumenthals to Chair 2007 Campaign Kick-off Event

Toni Urban, President of the Jewish Federation, announced that Des Moines Jewish community leaders, Don and Margo Blumenthal, will chair a very new, exciting Kick-Off Gala Event for the 2007

"All-In-One" Campaign, which will be held on Sunday, September 17, 2006 and will feature an evening with Actor/Producer Henry Winkler. Mrs. Urban said that the choice of the Blumenthals was in part to pay tribute to the outstanding dedication and commitment they have made to enrich Jewish life here in Des Moines. "Margo and Don exemplify the meaning of Tzedakah. They care

deeply about the Federation and the campaign. Their energy and vision will help us create a memorable event that will connect hundreds of our neighbors and friends to our work on behalf of Jews in need locally, in Israel and around the world."

Don and Margo Blumenthal have been involved in the business and charitable communities of Des Moines for over 35 years. Both Don and Margo are serious athletes. Margo was a ranked tennis singles player and Don has run multiple marathons. They bicycle or run regularly and ski, golf and kayak when the opportunity arises. The two of them travel exten-

sively and particularly enjoy visiting less-developed nations. Within the last few years, they have climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, trekked through Bhutan, and cruised on the rivers of Egypt, India and Burma. Their daughter, Joscelyn, lives in Connecticut and works for the Foundation Source.

Don and Margo's involvement in the community is extensive. Together, they were honorary chairs of the Variety Club Telethon in 1995 and headed the United Jewish Appeal Campaign for several years. They co-chaired the Convalescent Home for Children Capital Campaign. They were recognized as

"outstanding volunteer fundraisers" by the Central Iowa Chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives. The pair was honored by the NCCJ in 2000 for their efforts.

Don serves on the boards of Bankers Trust, Grandview College, the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and is the President of the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. He is also a member of the board of Youth Emergency Services and Shelter, for whom he chaired a \$2.5 million capital campaign. In recognition of his work, Y.E.S.S. named their 24-hour shelter for young children The Blumenthal Crisis Nursery. Within the Jewish community, he



Don and Margo

has served on the boards of the Jewish Federation, Tifereth Israel Synagogue Board, and the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center.

Margo currently serves on the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation Board. She has also been a member of the boards of the Children Habilitation Center, Children and Families of Iowa, Des Moines Symphony, Blank Park Zoo Foundation and the Iowa Games. In 2000, she was given the "Woman of Influence" award for her volunteer efforts in the community. She has chaired the Golden Ball, served on the boards of the Jewish Welfare Federation and the Tifereth Israel Foundation and

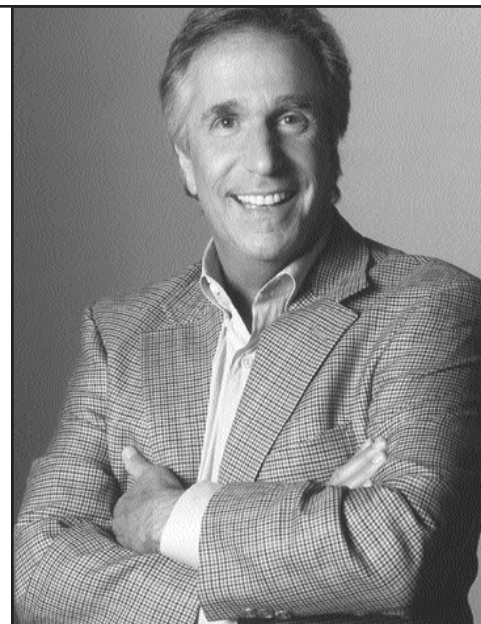
performed multiple roles for Tifereth Israel Women's League.

The Campaign Opening Gala Committee is now being organized. Don and Margo invite community members interested in being part of the fun to join them in creating a very special and meaningful program. The event will highlight the programs and services of the Federation that ensure a strong and vibrant Jewish community, while also presenting the stories of individuals whose lives have been enriched because of the financial commitments of many generous people.

"As planning progresses, we look forward to sharing the details of this very

**Save the Date**  
**2007 ALL-IN-ONE**  
**CAMPAIGN GALA**  
**Sun. Sept 17, 2006**  
**Featuring an evening with**  
**Henry Winkler**

**A GREAT EVENING IS BEING**  
**PLANNED FOR YOU!**



Join us for a day of  
workshops and lectures dedicated to  
women's health, mind and spirit

2nd Annual  
**beautiful**

body, mind  
and spirit  
Sunday May 7, 2006

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

at The Caspe Terrace

The Caspe Terrace, 3320 Ute Avenue, Waukee  
\$18.00 per person (includes lunch)

For reservations call: 515-277-6321 x 218  
or on-line at [jewishdesmoines.org](http://jewishdesmoines.org)  
comfortable attire!

Sponsored by:  
The Caspe Terrace Programming Committee  
Jewish Family Services



**9:00-9:30 a.m.**

registration and refreshments

**9:30 a.m.-Noon**

workshops:

enhancing your image: your spring sense of you!

• **LuAnn Sampson, Fashion Expert;**  
**Director of Merchandising, Carlisle New York**

SkinCeuticals: the marriage of science and beauty

• **Linda Carpenter, Senior Account Executive; SkinCeuticals**

superfoods for your beautiful healthy body

• **Rochelle Gilman, Corporate Dietitian for Hy-Vee Foods**

beautiful sex, love and intimacy '06: voices of body,  
heart and soul

• **Mollie Michelfelder and Tiffany Bandow;**  
**University of Iowa School of Social Work**

beautiful body

• **Burria Kaufman, Yoga Instructor**

**Noon-1:00 p.m.**

lunch and keynote

• **Meal catered by Susan Madorsky**

a beautiful spiritual journey: thoughts from the road

• **Rabbi Baruch HaLevi**

a sending for a beautiful life

• **Barb Hirsch-Giller, Co-Chairperson**

Event Co-Chairs:

Barb Hirsch-Giller, Trudi Rosenfeld, Tiffany Rosenfeld Deal, Laurie Wahlig, Kim Waltman

Event Committee:

Tammy Abdulghani, Wendy Adato, Gabrielle Callistein, Linda Carpenter, Beth Ohringer

From The President



Dear Friends:

The past year has flown by and I am so grateful for the opportunity you have given me to be your President. Our year has been full and enriching and I anticipate the exciting programs we have planned for the year ahead. The staff at the Federation is superb and my association with them has been very rewarding. They work long hours to provide us with a comprehensive plan for Jewish living in Des Moines – fine programs with a bit of education, a bit of Jewish culture and a little recreation and social programs. It is offered with a desire to entice us to participate, to learn and to enjoy all Jewish Des Moines has to offer.

Our new website, [www.jewishdesmoines.org](http://www.jewishdesmoines.org) is absolutely superb. It offers listings of the programs available in the Jewish community, events at the Synagogues and a wide array of other interesting tidbits. There is constant Jewish World News and there is a discussion about the Parashah of the week (see Jewish Life). There are recipes by some of our local residents. There are links to the local synagogues and links to world issues of interest. There are on-line greeting cards. A link is available that allows you to make a Federation contribution online. It is truly a website of great importance to those of us who live in Des Moines – visit the site and be pleasantly surprised. Congratulations to Mark Finkelstein and Steve Reitman for a superb job.

Elaine Steinger, our director, has designed the Jewish Learning Institute which has programming provided by all of the synagogues and the Federation. It is a tremendous leap into community-wide programming. You should have received their very impressive mailing detailing classes such as Talmud Learning, Read Hebrew, Ethics of the Fathers and a study of prayer for women. Elaine also leads the Des Moines Jewish Foundation.

On Sunday, May 7, “Beautiful,” a program for women, will once again be held at The Caspe Terrace. It is a program to bring women together for a morning to enhance the mind, body and spirit. It is chaired by Barb Hirsch-Giller, chair of Jewish Family Services, and her very competent co-chairs, Laurie Wahlig, Kim Waltman, Tiffany Rosenfeld Deal and Trudi Rosenfeld.

Under the Caspe Terrace Programming chairs, Vicki Givant and Judy Blank, the 92nd Street “Y” broadcasts by satellite at Caspe Terrace have brought us a variety of stimulating shows. Not to be missed is our last speaker of the season, Joseph Telushkin discussing the aspects of an honorable Jewish Life on Thursday, May 11.

The Lions and Pomegranates on May 12 will once again take a trip to New York City under the guidance of chair Mary Seidler. It is an opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of being together enjoying this extraordinary city. They will view two important shows at the Jewish Museum, artists Max Lieberman and Eva Hesse, see the architecture of New York’s fine synagogues and tour the Lower Eastside.

On Mother’s Day, May 14, Joel Chasnoff, a well-know comedian, will headline a wonderful benefit for Jewish Family Services, held at The Temple. Bring your mom and enjoy the laughs. Admission for mom is FREE!

And, on June 12, the Jewish Federation will hold its annual meeting and the entertainment that evening will be outstanding. The international jazz group, Crossroads Ensemble, will perform. Lead entertainers are Juancho Herrera of Caracas, Venezuela and Mattan Klein of Jerusalem – born 6000 miles apart they have brought innovative voices from both of their countries. An ice cream social will complete the evening.

Engman Camp Shalom will again have Josh return from Israel to be director. This season promises to be the camp’s finest. Lyanna Grund, principal of our Community School, reports that approximately 180 students K-12 are enrolled this year and that our teachers shine.

Mark Finkelstein, director of our Jewish Community Relations Commission has been actively involved in the Des Moines Interfaith Coalition on Sudan and our Federation has taken an active role in measures to stop the genocide there. Go online at our website where you too can sign up to be one of a “Million Voices for Darfur.”

This is the year of the ORT Directory, which many of you have become dependent on for all of your calls. With the help of the Federation, this laborious task is being headed by Susan Seidenfeld. The ORT Directory is now done under the auspices of the Federation and is just another way of bringing our community together.

Our Jewish Family Services, under the very capable leadership of Rabbi Berel Simpser, has been awarded a NORC grant to study the needs of the elderly who wish to remain in their own homes instead of being placed in a facility. We are very proud that we were selected for this prestigious and important grant.

Our All-in-One campaign is on target, but you must realize that it is only through your generous donations that we are able to provide essential social services to Jews in need and to provide the programs to enrich our lives Jewishly. Our funds go to our Jewish Family Services which provides help for those in need and to our Jewish Community Relations which is building bridges with the interfaith community on behalf of all of us. The funds support our community school now attended by approximately 160 youngsters and our Senior Adult Program. Your donations give us the opportunity to bring the brightest and the foremost speakers to Des Moines, examples such as Irshad Manji, Deborah Lipstadt and Dennis Ross.

Whether it is food for the spirit, the body, the soul or for the holidays, the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines is making it available to you. Join us as we take this journey with our Federation together.

As I close I want to remind you to mark your calendars for a Campaign Opening Gala Evening, September 17, where I am hopeful our entire community will enjoy the wit and wisdom of Henry Winkler, The Fonz, from Happy Days!

Association to all of you. My enthusiasm continues because of your response – we shall continue in our Jewish community, to reach out to others and to keep it a secure, vibrant place to live, to work, to worship and to raise our children.

Toni Urban

[thanks]

I am writing to thank you for the funding provided to Wilson School (Cedar Rapids) through a grant that allowed our seventh graders to see “THE TRAGEDY OF SLOVAK JEWS” on January 26, at the National Czech and Slovak Museum.

Though students study about the Holocaust, it is a different experience to see the artifacts that a museum offers and to interact with docents and the information that they share. Our students gained a great deal from the experience. Such experiences really make learning come alive and I always find that exciting.

may/june 06

As the person who manages the budget, I am always grateful for a little assistance in providing great experiences for our students. The \$100 grant paid the admission fee for half of our students. That was quite a help.

I wish you well in your work and thank you for the financial support that allowed me to extend our students' learning experience.

Best wishes for continued success in your work.  
**Kathleen Conley**, Principal

We would like to thank the Jewish Federation for your

work to save Darfur and our families. We stand together to stop genocide in Darfur.

Sincerely,  
**Abdelmagid Yousif**, Secretary General of Darfur Community In State of Iowa

THE GREATER DES MOINES

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

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 1 2006



[wanted]

Temple B'nai Jeshurun is accepting applications for its Executive Director position. Requires demonstrated experience in administrative and/or financial positions. Salary negotiable. Please send resume including at least 3 references to the attention of "President" at Temple B'nai Jeshurun, 5101 Grand Ave,

## JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SCHOOL AND HIGH

### SCHOOL Another Successful Year

It seems that the new school year started just a short while ago and now we are at the end of our year. This year our students and families were involved in several family education programs, adult learning and several different mitzvah projects. In their classrooms, students learned about their Jewish heritage and culture. They learned the Alef-Bet, Hebrew, holidays and their celebrations and many of our traditional stories and values. Statistics show that children remember more when they are involved in hands-on activities. The following are just a few of some of the activities we were involved with this year.

We held our annual Ohringer Family Education Day in December. This program centered around Chanukah and included learning about the spirituality, history, traditions and family cooking for this holiday. Thanks to the generosity of the Ohringer Family, we are able to plan a special family event each year that concentrates on family cooking and learning.

Throughout the school year, Rabbi HaLevi and Rabbi Kaufman have been joining us for many Sunday morning classroom visits, programs and services. We are very fortunate to have both of these Rabbis so involved in our school and I would like to thank them for their commitment and support to our school.

The help from our volunteers makes it a little easier to get through the year. This year, two high school students assisted in our classrooms. Danielle Kitsis (Prek-K) and Leah Cole (2nd) have continued to volunteer for the last four years. Their commitment to Judaism and sharing their knowledge and love with our young children is priceless.

Without our parent volunteers, many of our family education days and busy classroom days would not be successful. I would like to thank all of you that continue to be involved and supportive when called upon to help. In particular, I would like to thank Suse Lerner, who has volunteered for the last three years to prepare and serve our Sunday snacks. This is no small job. Suse makes sure she has the bagels and juice ready for students during their snack. By having this prepared ahead of time, it gives our students quality social time to just be kids and visit with their friends.

From the bottom of my heart, I wish to thank my dedicated staff. Our school is successful because we work as a team. Most of our staff has been with our school for over five years. Their commitment to Jewish education and their stability from year to year has made the transition between grades seamless. Our school is very fortunate to have this type of commitment from our community.

I would also like to thank my board, who has been supportive and committed to continuing our goal of pursuing the best possible Jewish education we can offer.

Thanks to President Susan Madorsky's hands-on approach, we have been able to accomplish many wonderful programs for our staff, our families and our students.



### PURIM CARNIVAL

Our carnival was held on Sunday, March 12 at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Students created and decorated their own Scroll of Esther and won prizes and played games such as:

Hangman Haman's Walk, Haman Kicks the Bucket, and Crown Queen Esther. Some students even went fishing in the Shushan pond. Later, we held a Costume Parade and paraded through the Temple and up to the Sanctuary where students received a special prize for wearing a costume. Thank you to Stacie Franklin for bringing us the Purim spirit with her guitar and singing. We ended our carnival with a hot dog lunch and hamantaschen. Those wishing to stay were also invited to attend the second showing of the Temple's Purimspiel.

### Project Elijah

In January, our 6th grade students participated in the "Kids to Kids" program of the Project Elijah Foundation. This program encourages American youth to communicate through their art, through social action and mitzvah projects in support of children facing adversity.

Kimberly Shadur, President, Project Elijah Foundation, and Betty Mond visited our class to share information about Argentina. They brought with them art projects from Jewish children and teens in Argentina. The projects were self-portraits of these children that included their names, ages, favorite foods, places and Jewish Holidays. These were completed in the hope that our children would do the same. These Argentinian children are reaching out because they want to know more about their peers around the world and to better understand their own identity.

Our art projects were then hand delivered to these children by Kimberly on her recent trip to Argentina.

### JFCS DC TRIP

To enhance our curriculum, students from 8th & 9th grade were invited to participate in a trip to DC and visit the Holocaust Museum. Over the last two years, students in these classes have studied different aspects of the Holocaust (pre/post) with Mrs. Phillips. One of the other highlights included a personal tour of the Capitol and a visit to Hillary



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# Engman Camp Shalom

## Our 49th Summer of Adventure, Learning, Friendship and FUN!

Engman Camp Shalom 2006 was a wonderful experience for many children. This year – even better! Our eight-week day camp at The Caspe Terrace in Waukee begins on June 19 and runs through August 11.

Josh Goldsmith will return as Camp Director for another outstanding summer and introduce many new programs. Josh has over 20 years of experience including youth director for informal Jewish programming and director of Camp Edward Isaacs and Berkshire Hills-Emanuel Camps in New York. Previously, Josh had been the director at the New Jersey YWHA Camps in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Josh's wife, Debbie, will also be part of our staff this year. She is no stranger to Jewish camping either. Debbie grew up in Ohio and spent summers at the Cleveland JCCs, Camp Wise and Camp Ramah in Wisconsin and Canada.

With Josh at the helm, our staff has been selected to provide the highest quality care. Josh also hand picked our two Israeli Shlichim for this summer. They are: Liat Dahan (female) and Omri Tzanani (male). Both will share their own individual skills and experiences as well as knowledge and love of Israel through Israeli culture.

2006 brochures are available by calling 277-5566 or log on to jewishdes-

moines.org. Our themes for this summer are History, Music, Art, Food, Fitness, Water, Animals and Color War. Our schedule includes instructional athletics where campers will practice teamwork, cooperation and try new sports activities. Campers will be able to showcase their hidden talents through dance, drama and theater. Thursday mornings will offer horseback riding lessons or another specialty and swimming in the afternoon at Valley View Aquatic Center. Fridays begin with morning field trips and expand in the afternoon with our Shabbat Extravaganza.

This year, your campers will do less traveling. Specialists will come to our campsite. Swimming lessons will be offered at the Y in Waukee, which is only five minutes away. We will continue to offer transportation to Tifereth Israel Synagogue at the end of daycare from The Caspe Terrace and will continue with our second morning pick-up location at Valley West Mall.

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

## A quality day camp for kids K-8! June 19-August 11

art, golf, magic, drama, soccer, nature, friends, singing, science, cooking, swimming, basketball, horseback riding, and more!

At The Caspe Terrace in Waukee, Iowa  
Our 49th summer of fun!

## Sign Up Now!

Where Summer fun begins • Call 515-277-5566

# Adult Education

## Supercharge your Jewish Knowledge

### Tuesday evenings May 9, 16, 23 & 30.

- Courses for the entire community taught by Rabbi Berel Simpser and Dr. David Friedgood
- Location: Tifereth Israel Synagogue
- Fee: \$50 per four-week course
- Registration: See your Jewish Learning Institute brochure for Course Registration Form, mail a check to Jewish Federation, 910 Polk Blvd, Des Moines, IA 50312, or register online at jewishdesmoines.org

**Maimonides – “A Famous Jew”** • 7:00 – 8:00 pm with Dr. David Friedgood  
Four one-hour discussions will center on a review of the life and influence of the Rambam – Rabbi Moses ben Maimon – Maimonides. As the most famous commentator from the “Golden Age” of Jewish study in Medieval Spain, the Rambam revolutionized Jewish thought and practice. He taught a rational, philosophical Judaism, which enhanced modern life and was designed to bring us closer to our ultimate goal as human beings. His principles are still taught today and remain a major influence on how we think and behave as Jews.

In this class we will explore Maimonides' background and look into his life as a Jewish Philosopher, a compiler of Jewish Law, and a Physician to the court of the Sultan Saladin in Egypt. From excerpts of his writings we will review his thoughts on the basic principles of Jewish faith and his universal outlook on the nature of human perfection. Special topics such as his defense of Judaism, his essays on comparative religion, his medical teaching and his views of women will also be discussed. Finally, we will review the influence of this intellectual giant on the history of world philosophy, both Jewish and secular. The information in class will be presented in a fashion designed to stimulate open discussion and to apply the Rambam's thought to our modern lives.

**Exodus From Egypt: The Hidden Agenda** • 8:15 – 9:00 pm with Rabbi Berel Simpser

Text-based analysis of this historic event in Jewish History, highlighting issues such as:

- Did G-d really need to engage Pharaoh in protracted bargaining sessions over who could leave Egypt?
- Why, both morally and tactically, would G-d work to "harden" Pharaoh's heart once the Egyptian king finally consented to allow the Jews to go? How does the concept of Free Will play in this story?
- What message does the entire episode have for modern times as well?

To request a copy of the Spring 2006 Jewish Learning Institute brochure, contact the Jewish Federation at 277-6321 x 218 or e-mail to dorothea@dmjfed.org



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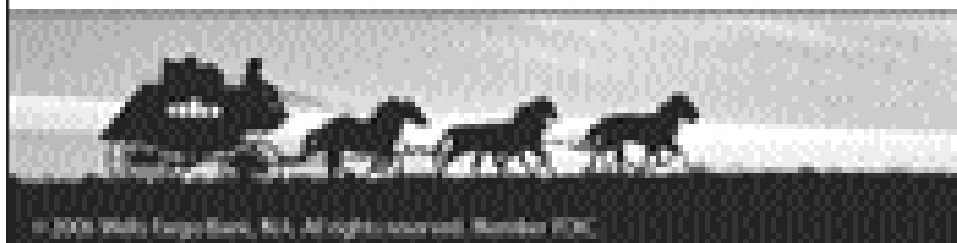
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  5. *Smart Money* magazine ranked Wells Fargo as the second best full-service investment broker in America. 2004
  6. *American Banker* says Wells Fargo is one of America's top 20 mutual fund companies. 2005
  7. United Way of America gave Wells Fargo all four of its top awards for community involvement this year. Wells Fargo is only the second company in United Way history to win all four awards in one year. 2005
  8. *Barrett's* magazine ranks Wells Fargo the world's most-respected financial services company. 2005
- 11.1 The number of years Wells Fargo has been serving our customers.

## How many reasons do you need to switch to Wells Fargo?

If you're feeling uncertain about the changes going on at your bank, switch to a bank you can trust. Switch to Wells Fargo. And if your old bank asks why, tell them you have your reasons. To get started, visit your local Wells Fargo and talk to a banker.



## Jewish Family Services

Jewish Family Services would like to thank its many contributors who have helped us assist so many people, especially the David Tobis Fund and the Zuckert Family Charitable Foundation

**Excerpts of some letters of thanks that we often receive:**

"I wanted to thank you again for all your help this past month.

I can't express enough gratitude towards you and your staff for your generosity in my time of need."

– A recently disabled middle-aged woman

"We want you to know how much we appreciate what you did

for us! My boys all have their own bedrooms and are very happy in our new apartment. Helping me with my electric bill

also, was very kind and generous. My plan is to pay this in full by February. Thank you so very much."



– Single mother of two young boys whom we helped

**Pat Nawrocki, OASIS Service Manager with Dorothy Clark, our OASIS site coordinator for the Apartments at River Trace, one of our OASIS/**

## How Much Do You Know About Jewish Family Services?

For over 100 years, Jewish Family Services (JFS) has been a safety net for many members of the community. Often though, the public does not know how we have helped people, because of the need for privacy and confidentiality. Although we are known for our extensive Senior Adult Program, there are many needy individuals who come to us in search of help. We have been able to assist people who may have been evicted, those who are ill and cannot afford medication, helped refer clients to doctors, lawyers and other professionals who could assist them in their time of need, and counseled people who just need someone to listen.

- We continue with our immigrant acculturation with members of the former Soviet Union.
- We extend financial assistance to members of all faiths and loans to those within the Jewish community.
- Our Shalom Home Fund provides needed assistance to those within our community who are mentally or physically disabled.
- We are actively seeking grants to leverage money we receive from the community, United Way, the Des Moines Jewish Foundation, the David Tobis Fund and the Zuckert Family Charitable Foundation.

In all, JFS has distributed more than \$50,000 to needy individuals over the past twelve months.

## United Way Donors

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

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

## consider your options



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to bring you the latest news on Estate Planning. In this message we feature the different types of charitable gifts and the ways in which each may benefit your financial and philanthropic goals.

We all want to find ways to minimize our taxes, get the most out of our investments, plan effectively for retirement, and identify the best ways to support our families as well as charitable organizations that are important to us. I would welcome the opportunity to talk with you and explore the means to accomplish these goals in your situation.

B'Shalom,  
Elaine Steinger

### Planned Giving: A Jewish Tradition

To preserve the memory of a loved one, to express gratitude for a service well-performed, to demonstrate deep-felt humanitarian concerns, to support a tradition of excellence in education—these are some of the reasons thousands of people each year contribute their time, money, and talent to America's charitable organizations. Indeed, private philanthropy is the foundation of every charitable endeavor.

Considering today's economy and the increased complexity of our nation's tax structure, it is more important than ever to plan your charitable gifts carefully. The need for planning is twofold: one, to ensure that your gift will be put to the best possible use and, two, to ensure that the gift fits your financial needs and objectives.

Planning a gift to the Des Moines Jewish Foundation, or your synagogue, can be an exciting and rewarding experience. The process involves asking yourself a number of questions.

- What are my personal and financial needs?
- What assets do I have available for funding my gift?
- What is the best way to make my gift and fulfill both family and community obligations?

As you review your assets and explore the different ways to give, we would welcome the opportunity to assist you and your advisors with information about planned gift opportunities.

### TYPES OF GIFTS

The type of asset you give and the way you transfer it to us will determine the tax and financial benefits resulting from your gift; certain kinds of gifts may be more advantageous than others from these standpoints. It pays to plan your gift in order to secure maximum benefits.

#### Cash

A gift of cash is the simplest and most direct way to contribute to charity. You may designate your gift for a specific purpose, or you may choose to leave your gift undesignated to be used in the area of greatest need.

The out-of-pocket cost of a cash gift is less than the dollar amount of the gift because of the charitable income-tax deduction. Example: A person in the 28% tax bracket can make a contribution of \$1,000 at an actual cost of only \$720.

#### Appreciated Securities

An alternative to a gift of cash deserving careful consideration is a gift of appreciated securities that you have owned for more than one year. Substantially greater tax benefits result because you avoid capital-gain taxation. Example: If you are in the 33% tax bracket and contribute \$10,000 worth of long-term appreciated stock to the Jewish Community, you will realize an actual income-tax savings of \$3,300. If you paid \$3,000 for the stock you are contributing and owned it for more than 12 months, you will also avoid a capital-gain tax of \$1,050 (15% of \$7,000). Thus, the actual cost of a \$10,000 gift of long-term appreciated securities can be reduced to only \$5,650 (\$10,000 less income-tax savings of \$3,300 less capital-gain tax savings of \$1,050).

#### Real Estate

A personal residence, a farm, a vacation home, and commercial and rental property are often the subject of gifts. Like gifts of long-term, appreciated securities, gifts of real estate can be very attractive because of the double tax benefit and immediate charitable deduction and the avoidance of capital-gain tax.

However, family considerations do not always permit the making of an outright gift of a personal residence or farm. Instead, you may want to consider a gift of a remainder interest in such property. Even though you will retain the right to possess and enjoy the property for as long as you (and your spouse) live, you'll obtain a current income-tax deduction for the present value of our remainder interest.

#### Life Insurance

An asset that is frequently overlooked is life insurance. If the original need for which a policy was purchased no longer exists, a gift of the policy can be very rewarding, particularly if it is fully paid up.

You may also consider using life insurance when you make a gift of another asset

(highly appreciated real estate, for example) but wish to replace the value of that asset for your family. By using the actual tax savings your gift generates to purchase a life insurance policy, you can replace the value of the gift in your estate for the benefit of your family.

### WAYS TO GIVE

#### Gifts in Trust

You can avoid capital-gain tax on appreciation by utilizing trusts.

In its simplest terms, a trust is an arrangement under which an individual transfers legal title to property to another (the trustee) who manages the property for the benefit of the individuals and/or organization specified in the trust agreement.

Trusts that make lifetime payments to the specified beneficiaries and ultimately benefit charity are known as charitable remainder trusts.

We can provide you with more information on the types of trusts available.

#### Bequests

Each year thousands of individuals, exercising the privilege to determine the final distribution of their estates, designate that a portion of their assets be used for the benefit and support of charitable organizations. Gifts by bequest will enable you to make significant contributions to your federation or foundation or synagogue that may not have been possible during life.

Any of a number of various types of bequests may be used to memorialize your philanthropic interests. The choice depends on your unique circumstances and personal and financial objectives.

You may specify a specific sum or it is possible to make a gift of what is left after taxes, debts, expenses, and other bequests have been satisfied.

In addition to the personal satisfaction of making a philanthropic bequest, you are allowed a charitable estate-tax deduction for the full value of your gift.

#### Gift Annuities

The gift annuity is perhaps the simplest and most popular charitable life-income arrangement. It does not require a complicated agreement, and the amount needed to fund it can be as little as \$5,000. Basically, a gift annuity is a contract between the donor and the charity. In exchange for a gift of cash or marketable securities, fixed payments are guaranteed to the beneficiary(ies) for life. Planning pointer: A gift annuity will generate the benefits listed above plus an additional tax benefit: a portion of each annuity payment will not be subject to federal income tax.

Example: Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, both 70, would like to endow a special program with the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. They would like the endowment to be at least \$100,000, but they feel they are not in a position to make that kind of gift all at once and would like to receive a stream of income from the gift for their lifetimes. After exploring their options, the Cohens decide to contribute \$25,000 each year for the next four years in exchange for four gift annuities. The results of their gifts are as follows:

- Each year that the Cohens make a gift in exchange for an annuity, they will receive a charitable income-tax deduction. In the first year the deduction will be approximately \$6,700, and over four years their total deductions should be about \$28,700.
- The Cohens' initial annuity payment will be \$1,475. The payments will increase with each additional \$25,000 gift, and the Cohens will receive \$6,000 annually. About \$3,700 of this amount will not be subject to federal income tax, so they will pay tax on only \$2,300.
- At the death of either Mr. or Mrs. Cohen, the survivor will continue to receive the full annuity amount for the rest of his or her life.
- The annuities will not be subject to federal estate tax at either spouse's death.
- Their gifts will be used to benefit the Des Moines Jewish Foundation.



#### DES MOINES JEWISH FOUNDATION BOARD:

Don Blumenthal, President; Martin Brody, Vice President; Marvin Winick, Treasurer; Elaine Steinger, Executive Director

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# He Called

by David Friedgood



In the spring of the year, our weekly Torah cycle takes us through the book of Va-yikra = “He Called” (the book titled Leviticus in English). God calls to Moses and dictates to him the various rules and regulations which govern Hebrew society and priestly behavior. “You shall be holy, for I, the LORD your God am holy” (Leviticus 19:2). This is God’s command, there is no option. As Jews we ‘must’ be a holy people; and, each of us has the capacity to fulfill our lord’s requirement. It is through holiness that we reach our ultimate objective as Jews: to leave this earth a better place than when we arrived. How do we know this? We know the capacity of the human soul for holiness from our historical experience as Jews. Knowing our potential is one thing; fulfilling God’s commandment is far more difficult. We can only fully develop as Jews and human beings when we know God and what He expects from us. One place to go for insight into God’s plan for us is our Bible.

During the spring of the year, we Jews celebrate the Passover holiday. We recount how our ancestors, a ragged group of slaves, traveled from the narrows of Egyptian slavery to the expanse of freedom in our own land. Along the way they developed a theology that became the foundation of Western civilization. Our Bible changed forever the way human beings interact with family, neighbors, and the greater society. Instead of abject poverty and despair, which is the lot of slaves, we know that each of us has intrinsic value. We are meant to be free. Our life on this earth has a definite purpose, intimately linked with our creator. Each of us has the capacity for holiness, and we ‘must’ be holy.

Our search for holiness is not easy, as our world is certainly not perfected. As long as there are victims, refugees, hunger, and poverty, Jews struggle to fulfill the promise of Exodus. Unfortunately most of the world’s population is not free and never has been. The road towards changing this state of affairs (repairing the world - tikun olam) is not always clear. There are many obstacles and detours to throw us off course. Each of us approaches their personal objective by a different path. We are, after all, the people Israel – literally those who “struggle with God”. Our struggle, which began with our forefather Jacob who wrestled with God’s angel at the ford of the River Yabok, is ongoing. We need to “know” God, to be holy. We need to know His name. Knowing an individual’s name gives him an identity and increased significance. The recent tragedy in New Orleans became more significant when we learned the names and the stories of the victims. Nazi agents removed names and tattooed numbers as part of their campaign to dehumanize people. The new Pharaoh did “not know” Joseph’s name; and, was therefore ignorant of Joseph and his brethren’s contribution to Egyptian society. It

was thus easier to enslave them. The same is true for God. To truly understand our deity we need to know His name.

At the foot of Mount Sinai Moses came across an extraordinary sight. A bush was burning and not consumed. In his vision Moshe Rabenu (our teacher Moses) found God. At that moment Moses asked God for His name. He needed to know the nature of this God in order to introduce Him to the Hebrew people. He had a need to know God, what He is really like, what is His character? He needed to know His name. And God answered: “Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh” (= I am what I will be)... “Thus shall you say to the Israelites, ‘Ehyeh sent me to you’”(Exodus 3:14). This astonishing exchange relies on the verb hayah = to be. It evokes the tetragrammaton – the holy unpronounceable name of God. Words spoken as an exhaled breath. Deliberately vague as to impress on us the mystery that the words define. It is not for us to know the unknowable. How can we hope to know the ineffable name of God or fully understand His nature? How can we be holy?

Later, on coming down from Mount Sinai, Moses asks to see God’s face. This is not possible “for man can not see Me and live” (Exodus 33:20). Moses is placed in a cleft in the rock, his eyes shielded by God’s hand as He passes by. “Then I will take My hand away and you will see My back, but My face must not be seen” (Exodus 33:23). Moses can sense God passing by. He can see where He has been, His effect on the world. In this way he knows God. Our God is active in the affairs of His people. He acts through us, not independently. We know His presence by His deeds, what is left behind. How do we know God? We know Him in the face of the starving refugee child being fed by an aid worker. In the air of a Nursing home recently visited by a group of happy children. To paraphrase Martin Buber: By revealing His unpronounceable name God is telling Moses unconditionally – I shall be present – with those who choose Me and are chosen by Me. I SHALL BE PRESENT. In accordance with My character and My nature. Know My name by embracing the laws and mitzvot outlined in Va-yikra and the rest of the Torah. Then you shall leave behind your footprint and the world will know holiness because you have been there.

He has told you, O man, what is good,  
And what the LORD requires of you:  
Only to do justice  
And to love goodness,



share a  
**laugh** with  
mom  
& and honor her with  
a gift of tzedakah


a benefit for Jewish Family Services  
featuring comedian  
**Joel Chasnoff**  
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**Park and Ride** Transportation is available with 48 hours notice. Call 277-6321 x218. Rides depart from Beth El Jacob Synagogue, 954 Cummins Parkway, Des Moines, 30 minutes prior to show time at a cost of \$5.00 per person (roundtrip).

**Caspe Terrace**

## Katya Gibel Azoulay



Katya Gibel Azoulay, an Associate Professor of Anthropology and American Studies at Grinnell College, resides in Des Moines. Nine years now at Grinnell, Dr. Gibel Azoulay has brought a rare set of perspectives to the college, as a Black, Jewish, Israeli woman. Fluent in Hebrew, she is a prolific writer and sought-after speaker. In the following interview with the Jewish Press, Katya speaks primarily about her research on what she terms "the fiction of race" and identity -- Jewishness, in particular, culminating in her identification as a progressive Zionist.

By means of background, the following: growing up in Manhattan, the child of a Jewish refugee from Nazi Austria and a Black Jamaican immigrant, she was raised as "all-Jewish and all-Black." She started Hebrew School at a Conservative synagogue and then the family joined the Society for the Advancement of Judaism, founded by the father of Reconstructionist Judaism, Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan. Katya was taken to Israel in 1966 by her mother, I.M.A. Lederer, a writer and inter-religious affairs consultant, who was researching the question of ethnic tensions in Israel for which the Israel Government Press Office made arrangements. On this trip, Dr. Gibel Azoulay "fell in love with Israel," and after finishing the Brearley School in New York, made aliyah at age 18 where she was accepted at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Her studies were disrupted by the 1973 Yom Kippur War, by which time she had married an Israeli. After having three children, and earning a B.A. and M.A., in 1991 she returned to the States where she earned a PhD at Duke University in Cultural Anthropology.

Jewish Press: Where was your academic career leading?

Katya Gilbel Azoulay: When I came back to the States, my intention was to write a dissertation about ethnic inequality within the [Israeli] women's peace movement -- which is very strong -- and in fact, it would have been an elaboration on an article I wrote for the Jerusalem Post. I came to Duke University, the only program to which I applied. In the end, my dissertation was on a different topic, later published as a book, *Black Jewish and Interracial: Not the Color of Your Skin, but the Race of Your Kin and Other Myths of Identity* (1997)

JP: How did you find your way to Grinnell College?

KGA: In the year I was completing the dissertation, I was invited to Grinnell as a scholar-in-residence for three semesters. After the first semester, based on my performance, they offered me a tenure track position as the chair of Afro-American Studies.

JP: You've noted that the program has changed since.

KGA: Yes. During my four years as chair, I changed the title to Africana Studies and expanded the program. Two years ago the program was absorbed into the renewal of the American Studies program at the College.

JP: What do you teach now that you are no longer chair of that program?

KGA: I'm now in Anthropology and American Studies. I teach theory courses in Post-Modernism, Cultural Hybridity ("mixed race"), Anthropology of Ethnicity, and Anthropology of American Culture as well as special topics of my choice.

JP: What approach do you take in teaching about American culture?

KGA: I place race, class and gender at the center of American culture, but not separated

## Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center

### 168 Days

#### At the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center

Much has been happening at your Jewish Senior Life Center in recent days. Please share a few minutes of your time to catch-up on the news.

During our recent, annual, week-long, relicensure & recertification survey by the Department of Inspections and Appeals, the Life Center received special commendation from the State for a deficiency-free survey. This designation is a direct reflection of our commitment to the highest standards of quality care and could not have been achieved without strong support from our community of service.

We are pleased to announce that two of our leadership positions have been filled. Peggy Luciano, R.N. has undertaken the position of Director of Nursing. Peggy comes to us with a very strong background in all phases of nursing administration and special expertise in the management of dementia-care services. Darlene Perdue, CDM, will be joining us as the new Director of Dietary Services. Darlene has long and extensive experience in long term care food service management, and we will be working together to enhance the dining experience for our residents.

Please feel free to join me for "Coffee With The Director." On the first Tuesday of each month, from 10:00 - 11:00 A.M., I will be welcoming residents, family members, staff, and anyone else who would like to do so to come and "schmooze" with me about what's going on at the Jewish Senior Life Center.

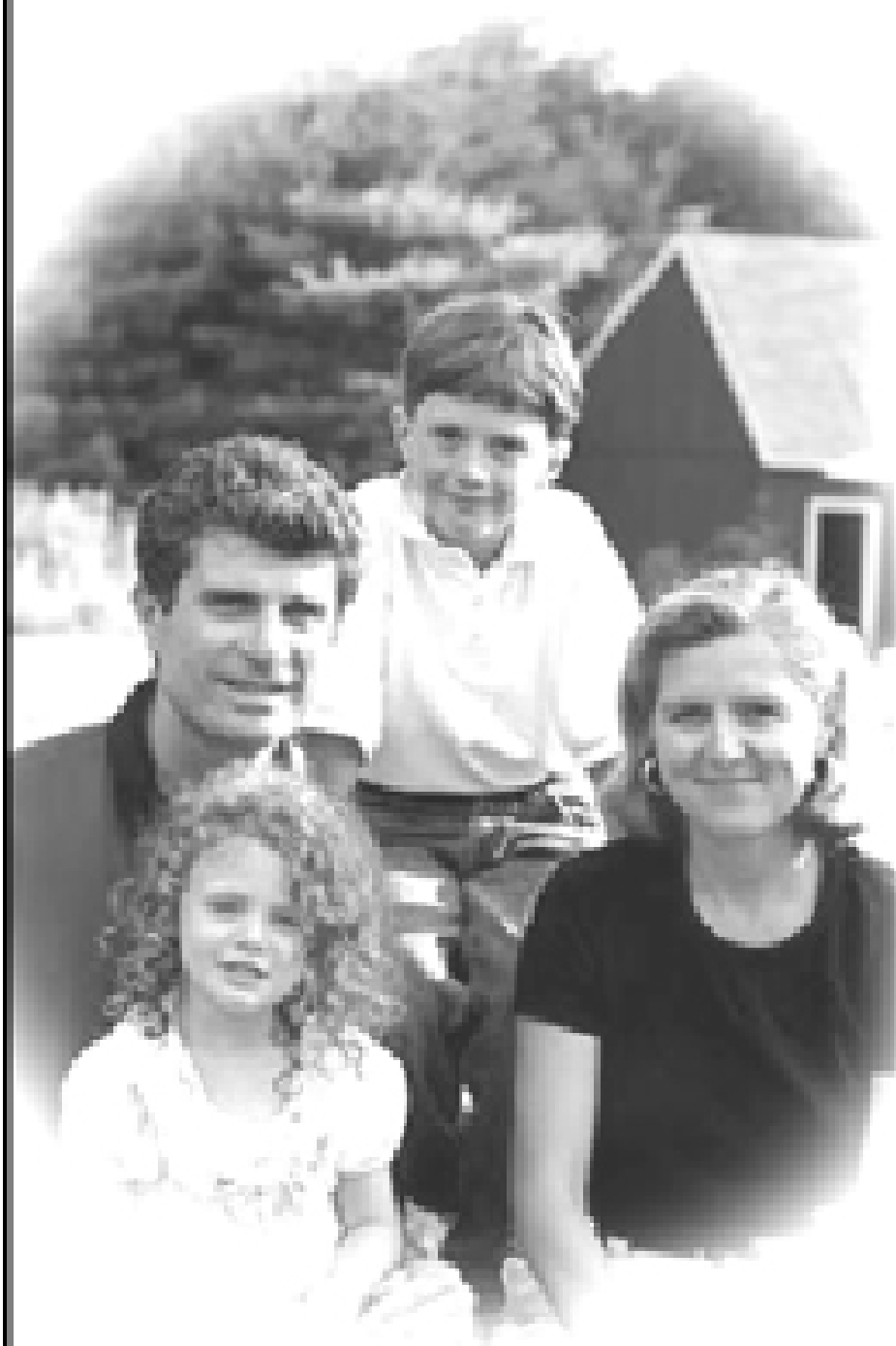
On Sunday, May 7, there will be a "Construction Celebration" held in the atrium of the Life Center. Join us as we celebrate the beginning of construction on our new Alzheimer's care unit.

And, since you asked, we have been told by our contractor that The Project to establish the new dementia-care unit will take 168 days. Rest assured, we'll be counting every one of them. In the meantime, if you've got any questions about the new unit or if you would like to join the many others who have shown their strong financial support of The Project, please give me a call (255-5433 or ijslc@dw.com).

— Steve Blend

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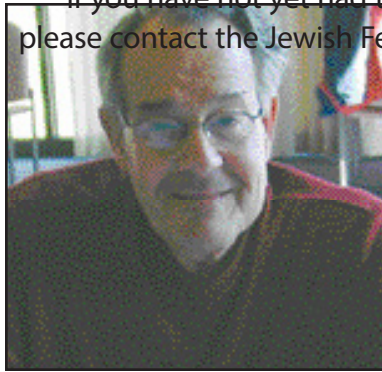
# Super Week

"Super Week 2006 was a great success thanks to our cadre of wonderful volunteers," said Toni Urban, Federation President and 2006 "All-In-One" Campaign Chair. "We have wonderful volunteers who have joined together to reach hundreds of community members about our work to enhance Jewish life in Des Moines, in Israel and around the world.

To date, the annual campaign has raised over \$370,000 and is ahead of last year. The February fundraising effort consisted of several phone sessions and direct mail, with commitments of over \$55,000 from hundreds of donors. The response was heartwarming. The Jewish community now has a better understanding about the programs and services of the Federation. More and more are connected. Many people responded positively to the new campaign brochure which they had received before the calls.

"Thank you to all of our volunteers who made Super Week a success. Your passion and commitment enhance our community. And thanks to all of those who contributed to the Federation's 2006 'All-In-One' Campaign. You lived generously and made a world of difference!" shares Toni Urban.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to make your annual 2006 "All-In-One" Campaign gift, please contact the Jewish Federation office at 277-6321.



Dick Brown



Mark Finkelstein



Jody Hramits



Jody Kolmen



Deb Markevich



Pat Nawrocki



Steve Reitman



Neil Salowitz



Justin Schoen



Gail Jacobs



Jake Jacobs



Stuart Oser



Polly Oxley



Pat Shepherd



Harry Simon

## Education and Culture

- Adult Education
- Jewish Federation Community School
- B'nai Mitzvah Training
- Teacher In-Service Training
- Engman Camp Shalom
- Teen Trips to Israel
- Subsidies for first-time trips to Israel
- Quality programming at The Caspe Terrace
  - Jewish cultural arts
  - Children's activities and enrichment
  - Senior activities
- Iowa Jewish Historical Society

## Jewish Family Services

- Senior Adult Services
  - OASIS-Outreach Activities for Independent Seniors
  - Shopping assistance and transportation
  - Luncheons and social outings
  - Support for Senior Russians
- Occupational/vocational counseling
- Tzedakah Fund

## Jewish Community Relations

- Teachers' Institute
- Interfaith Programming
- Clergy Dialogue
- Coalition work on the crisis in Sudan
- Monitor anti-Semitic incidents with law enforcement officials
- Pro-peace, pro-Israel advocacy
- Statewide leadership communications
- Iowa Hillel College Campus Programming
- Israel Independence Day Celebration
- Holocaust Commemoration Observance
- Partnership with Israel
- The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press
- [www.jewishdesmoines.org](http://www.jewishdesmoines.org) website
- Jewish Community Calendar
- Israel Missions

## Resource Development

- All-In-One Campaign
- Volunteer/Leadership Development
- Newcomer Services
- Des Moines Jewish Foundation

not pictured: Zina Drob, Vicki Givant, Paulie Lipsman,  
Holly Matykowski and Toni Urban

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[p2k]

## JFCS AND ISRAELI P2K STUDENTS CONNECT VIA TELECONFERENCE



On Sunday, April 2 students from the 9th grade Des Moines Jewish Federation Community School, led by Stacie Franklin, met with their partner class from ORT Roz Junior High in Acco, Israel, led by Yaffa Weitz. Yes, both classes met face-to-face. No, we did not pay airfare to send an entire class to Israel. Instead we held the first -ever video conference meeting between the two student groups and instructors.

This was part of our people-to-people on-going project, our Des Moines-Israel Partnership called Partnership 2000 (or P2K). The project links our community and twelve other American Jewish communities with the north-western region in Israel, the Western Galilee. Akko is a city on the Mediterranean in this interesting and important region.

Since the beginning of the school year, both classes have been communicating through the Internet on a website called "Building a Jewish World." This secure-site website allows the students from both classes to write to each other by e-mail and to participate in an educational program together.

As beneficial our use of the website

has been, our teleconference, however, provided a unique encounter for our students, personalizing our multi-cultural educational relationship.

We had 12 Des Moines students and 14 from Acco participate. They introduced themselves, discussed the origin of their names (part of the "Roots" curriculum on the website), and played Israeli trivial pursuit -- in which everyone was a winner!

In addition, we had a special surprise. Mrs. Tal Karelitz-Nisim, the ORT Roz Coordinator of the P2K partnership, came all the way to Des Moines from Acco to help support our partnership and to be a part of this video conference live from Iowa.

This video conference was the result of much preparation, planning, and support. Our thanks go out to Stacie Franklin, the Des Moines Jewish Federation, ORT Roz Junior High School, The Western Galilee P2K, the video conference support of West Des Moines School District and the people at the ICN Conferencing Center, Mrs. Tal Karelitz-Nissim, the Western Galilee College, and of course, to the students and their parents who made this all possible outside of regular class times.

Members of the Ninth Grade class that participated in the teleconference: Zach Arenson, Jonah Sloven, Aaron Rosenberg, Jared Farber, Jeremy Franklin, Josh Lacher, Ike Poole, Sam Engman, Julia Lacher, Alexandra Garland, Sarah Swartz, and Sarah Fandel. (not pictured: Jacob

[next generation]

## Katya Dimenstein

By Robin Bear



Katya Dimenstein has loved creating art for as long as she can remember. Her parents had their hands full with the budding artist who remembers drawing on the walls of her home as a young child.

Katya's art is still on the walls, but now it's on exhibit at one of the hip new shops in the East Village. Smash, a trendy shop selling clothing apparel, is covering their walls with Katya's artwork. The exhibit began April 15 and will last three weeks.

A senior at Valley High, Katya has taken all the painting and ceramics classes that Valley has to offer and this spring she is working on a project designing the school's literary art magazine, a student-produced publication called "Closed Captioned".

Katya's interests are diverse and she loves new experiences. Recently she and her mom began taking yoga classes at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. She loves to bake for her family, especially fresh challah. Katya is an avid reader with eclectic taste in fiction. She says her favorite author is Jane Austin but she just completed the futuristic tale, A Clockwork Orange by Anthony Burgess.

When Katya was four, her family resettled from Russia to Des Moines with the help of the Jewish Federation. She lives in West Des Moines with her parents, Irina and Boris Dimenstein, and her younger brother, Nick.

Sometimes Katya feels a draw towards Judaism. On those occasions she can be found at Shabbat services at B'nai Jeshurun.

Katya is a certified lifeguard and works as a swim instructor and lifeguard at the YMCA and the Holiday Pool in West Des Moines.

Travel is a favorite pastime and Katya has been to Argentina and Germany. Both trips involved traveling with other Jewish youth from Des Moines. Katya hopes to spend part of the summer in London and she dreams of someday spending time in Spain.

Recently in Kansas City during an Art Portfolio Day, Katya impressed the faculty of several art institutes looking for students to admit to their programs. Specifically, she caught the attention of the Chicago, Kansas City and the Minneapolis Art Institutes. With her acceptance to the Kansas City Art Institute, Katya was awarded a generous scholarship, so it is likely Katya will be attending school in Kansas City.

Katya is creative and full of youthful energy. When she talks about her future, her eyes sparkle. Her enthusiasm and positive attitude will be wonderful assets as she prepares for new experiences after high school.

## In the Kitchen With Sondra Feldstein



With the spring and summer season upon us, Sondra Feldstein begins her busiest time of year. Sondra and her family are kept very busy with

their market garden on their farm, SalAmander Farms, just north of Bondurant, Iowa. Sondra is sharing her special recipe for Honeyed Lamb meatballs, made extra special from their farm-raised lamb.

Sondra Krueger Feldstein grew up in Northern Missouri, but notes she was actually born in Iowa. Sondra attended the University of Chicago. While working a summer job at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Sondra met her future husband Stuart Feldstein and married in 1985. The couple lived in Washington DC for three years while Sondra worked on Capital Hill as an administrative assistant to a Congressman and worked for the House Agricultural Committee. Realizing that Washington DC was not where they wanted to live and raise a family, Sondra and Stuart began researching the ideal place to live. Iowa appeared at the very top of their list and in 1990 Sondra and Stuart moved to Iowa. Sondra has done

archival research for an author who has written several biographies on Frank Sinatra, Richard Nixon and J. Edgar Hoover. Stuart and Sondra have three children: Alex (just celebrated his Bar Mitzvah in March), Dan a 4th grader and Anna a 1st grade student in the Bondurant School District. Stuart is an attorney and vice president of Albaugh Incorporated, a generic crop protection company.

The entire family is very involved in their family farm. The market garden, or community supported agriculture (CSA) is worked by all of the family members and they grow up to 40 varieties of vegetables, including asparagus, carrots, cauliflower, okra, beans, tomatoes just to name a few. The children are active in 4-H and show sheep at the fair. They also raise chickens on the farm and sell eggs.

Sondra enjoys cooking, entertaining and sewing. She volunteers every Wednesday in her daughter Anna's classroom and can often be found transporting a baby lamb or chick to school for show and tell! Sondra also is active in Band Boosters in the

Bondurant Schools. The family are members of Temple B'nai Jeshurun, where Stuart is currently president of the Temple's Board. Stuart is past president of the Brotherhood and Sondra past president of the Sisterhood of the Temple. They enjoy helping with the Jewish Food Fair each year and are members of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines.

Thank you, Sondra for sharing your recipe for Honeyed Lamb Meatballs with us. While speaking with Sondra she was

## Wanted

**your favorite recipes for our on-line cookbook.** Send us your recipes or recipes of family members or friends that others would enjoy making! Be certain to identify whose recipe it is or where it came from if you know, and your name as the contributor!

Send all recipes to JCRC@DMJFED.org or Jewish Federation 910 Polk Boulevard, Des Moines, Iowa 50312

## Honeyed Lamb Meatballs

A Recipe from Sondra Feldstein Meat

- 1 lb. ground lamb
- 2 cloves garlic (or more)
- 1/4 c. honey
- 1 egg
- 2 1/2 tsp. curry powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 3/4 tsp. cumin
- 1/8 tsp. cinnamon

**Grind** all ingredients in food processor or beat hard with a stand mixer (this is key to the texture).

**Form** into meatballs

**Bake** at 375 degrees 15 minutes.

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Carlo Moretti

## Crisis in Darfur

### JCPA CALLS FOR NATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY TO ADDRESS GENOCIDE IN SUDAN

The Jewish Council for Public Affairs (umbrella group for Jewish Community Relations Councils) had already adopted at its 2005 Plenum a "Resolution on Stopping Genocide in the Sudan" calling for the mobilization of both the Jewish and world community to end the genocide in the Sudan. In response to the continuing crisis, the JCPA has substantially increased its efforts, and has this year joined with the American Jewish World Service (AJWS) to coordinate a comprehensive and sustained Jewish community response to the genocide in Sudan. The Des Moines Jewish community is part of that effort, coordinated locally by Rabbi David Kaufman of Temple B'nai Jeshurun and the Jewish Community Relations Commission of the Jewish Federation.

To get involved in the Des Moines Interfaith Coalition on the crisis in Sudan, contact [jrcrc@dmjfed.org](mailto:jcrc@dmjfed.org).

#### A message from Elie Wiesel

Dear Friend,

I am haunted by what I know of Darfur.

In Darfur, humankind's center of suffering today, men, women and children are uprooted, starved, tortured, mutilated, humiliated and massacred -- and the whole civilized world knows it. And little or nothing, nothing significant, is being done to stop these massive violations of human rights.

Who is guilty? Those who commit these crimes. But to the question, "Who is responsible?" we are compelled to say: "Aren't we all?"

We can no longer stand idly by.

Please send a postcard urging President Bush to take action. You can do so online at [savedarfur.org](http://savedarfur.org).

As a Jew, and a survivor, I do not compare any events to the horrors of the Holocaust. Yet how can anyone, anywhere who sees the loss of life in Darfur, the systematic deportation, the killing of a people, not feel outraged? How can anyone who remembers other genocides -- Cambodia, Rwanda, the Holocaust, the former Yugoslavia -- remain silent?

If we neglect the suffering victims of Darfur, their plight will be our fault -- and, perhaps, our guilt.

That is why we must act today. Won't you make your voice heard?

All are entitled to live with dignity and hope. All are entitled to live without fear and pain.

For the victims of Darfur, we must intervene.

## Q & A: (part 1) Crisis in Darfur

What has happened in Darfur?

Since early 2003, Sudanese government forces and ethnic militia called "Janjaweed" have engaged in an armed conflict with two rebel groups called the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). As part of its operations against the rebels, government forces have waged a systematic campaign of "ethnic cleansing" against the civilian population who are members of the same ethnic groups as the rebels.

Between 2003 and 2005, the Sudanese government and the Janjaweed militias burned and destroyed hundreds of rural villages, killed tens of thousands of people and raped and assaulted thousands of women and girls. The government's campaign forced more than two million Darfurians from their homes. As of 2006, some 1.8 million live in camps in Darfur and approximately 220,000 have fled into Chad, where they live in refugee camps. In addition to the people displaced by the conflict, at least 1.5 million other people need some form of food assistance because the conflict has destroyed the local economy, markets and trade in Darfur.

What is happening in Darfur now?

In early 2005, the number of government attacks on civilians dropped, partly because the vast majority of rural villages were already destroyed and their inhabitants displaced from the rural areas. As of 2006, however, the situation has dramatically worsened and the fighting has increased. Janjaweed forces with Chadian

rebels are conducting attacks over the border into Chad. Janjaweed militias are also continuing to attack civilians and humanitarian aid workers, and are even attacking the camps for internally displaced in Darfur.

Why is the situation in Darfur deteriorating?

One of the key problems is that the Sudanese government continues to follow a policy of supporting ethnic militias, organizing attacks on the civilian population and permitting violations of international law to go unpunished. This has led to a climate of impunity in Darfur, which in turn has allowed other armed groups to flourish and rob and attack civilians and aid workers. The rebel groups are also responsible for abuses, including attacks on aid convoys and some killings of civilians.

What is the African Union doing in Darfur?

The African Union mediated an April 2004 ceasefire and sent in a ceasefire monitoring team in May 2004. As violence against civilians continued in 2004, the African Union force (AMIS) expanded and received funding and equipment from the European Union, the United Kingdom, the United States and other partners. The AMIS force now numbers 7,000 personnel, including more than 6,000 troops whose mandate includes monitoring the ceasefire and protecting civilians under "imminent threat." The African Union is also mediating negotiations for a peace agreement between the

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**Azoulay** from page 9

Without an understanding of these elements, there is no way to understand this entity called "American culture."

JP: How would you characterize yourself professionally? You've written a book. Do you see yourself as a writer?

KGA: I'm an academic. As an academic, I write but I don't think of myself as a writer. I think of myself as a professor by vocation -- and not as a teacher. The difference is that a teacher, teaches -- passes on knowledge. A professor, professes -- brings new ideas to the table that should be thought-provoking and enlightening and [a stimulus] to move things forward. In addition, more specifically, I am a researcher and a cultural analyst.

JP: What are some of your research interests?

KGA: One of my research projects, which is on hold, is looking at the way that the idea of Blackness travels, with a focus on how it has articulated itself in Israel among Ethiopian Jews and the larger Israeli society.

The other area of my research pertains to how the fiction of race has remained within the fields of biology and medicine. So every time we turn around we read about how Blacks have this [genetic disease] and how Jews have that [genetic disease], which only reinforces the idea of race -- the science of race -- that was literally invented in the 18th century and peaked in the 19th. People believe that there are real biological differences rather than imposed differences. If Jews from Eastern Europe have Tay-Sachs, well, the reason is because they are Jews who lived in ghettos and married other Jews who lived in ghettos -- Tay-Sachs was prominent among Eastern European Jews while it was not found among the majority of North African Jews. So in other words, it's not a "Jewish disease" -- we have to look at the social and political contexts within which biological symptoms appear without attributing them to the notion that somehow there are different "races."

JP: Where does that put you on the spectrum of people dealing with race in academia?

KGA: I am among those who say, number one, race is a social construction, but that it is a necessary topic to which we must attend, placing the focus of attention on racism. It is not an issue of whether there is or is not racism, there is. Racism is real, and if we don't talk about racism constantly, we're not going to solve anything. Do we need to have a census? Yes we do. If we don't have a census that uses arbitrary categories, we're never going to establish patterns of discrimination. If we don't discuss racism, which Americans tend not to want to, we can't undermine it -- just as, in Europe and in America, if anti-Semitism isn't discussed, it doesn't go away, it just goes underground.

JP: Can you say more about racism?

KGA: Racism in its most extreme form can take the form of violent action, as we saw in Nazi Germany. Racism is built on the idea that some people are fundamentally different and that that difference is immutable. Racism expresses itself most clearly by people in power. I think that racism is related to issues of power, which isn't to say that people without power can't be racist or they can't have deep-seated prejudices, but power definitely puts rac-

ism into action.

I am always amazed by the extent to which educated people can repeat the same mistakes, even when we have the answers in front of us. A society must ensure certain pre-requisites: that its young have proper housing, proper nutrition, proper medical care and an education -- these are all the things that allow a human being to live a life of dignity, respect and have opportunities. A society that doesn't provide these pre-requisites is a society which is going to implode because it indicates a society whose values are unclear. And in that sense, both the United States and Israel are very worrisome to me.

JP: Do you have a theory of education?

KGA: The themes I choose to teach about are intellectual but they are also political, and I don't really separate the two. I try to transmit to my students that the classroom is the place where we can learn information and interpret that information to create an understanding of whatever the question is. It is imperative that we do so, initially, in as disengaged a way as possible, so that we can look at the various influences -- disengaged as in, you don't go into a research project trying to prove your point. Academic work should be about trying to look at the breadth of a question and come at it from different angles. Part of the educative purpose is then to apply the knowledge and insights in practical ways. Practical ways may be policy, they may be laws, they may be social interactions.

JP: Please tell us something about your book?

KGA: It's worth buying (chuckling). It's an academic book and not "an easy read." The title is Black Jewish and Interracial: It's not the color of your skin but the race of your kin, and Other Myths of Identity. The book is an analysis of identity, theories of identity, and it looks at the ways in which Jewishness slips into whiteness, the ways in which American Jews have become comfortable thinking of themselves as simply another white group. And I wanted, as well, to present an unessentialist perspective of what Black means. Blacks in the U.S. are a very diverse population -- not all are African American (U.S. born), or descendants of slaves, or Christian. Particular forms of racism however impact on all Blacks -- American and immigrant.

Just as many American Blacks will assume that every Black is Christian, American Jews have traditionally assumed that everybody who is Jewish is white. This assumption by Jews has been upset, now, by the emergence of many Israelis who are not European, people who do not eat gefilte fish (as do I) and to whom Woody Allen's humor does not appeal (as it does to me; that is my Ashkenazi background.).

JP: What insights would you hope Jewish readers would take away from your book?

KGA: I would hope that American Jews who read my book would grapple with what Jewishness means. Jewishness is not just a "go to synagogue" religion. Jewishness is more than [ritual] practices, but that Jews are a people and a diverse people, at that--they look like people from their host countries, they conform to mores of their host countries.

Let me take this two steps further. My central assertions are that [multicultural] Israel is the center of Jewishness and that



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- Graduate of Dowling High School

Tim Brien's 20 years of public service to Iowa's largest county has established the benchmark of service to the taxpayers of Polk County.

Tim Brien -- a professional Recorder who has been an active and loyal Democrat, supporting and working for many political campaigns.

## Pierre Rehov film screened May

**16** A film deli dinner at 5 p.m. at the Caspe Terrace on May 16, will be followed by a screening of the forthright film by documentary maker Pierre Rehov called *Suicide Killers*. RSVP for the dinner to dorothea@dmjfed.org or call 515-277-6321 x 218.

Pierre Rehov has made seven documentaries since the start of the second Intifada. His films have been widely lauded for their authenticity and their ability to depict aspects about the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that are usually considered too politically incorrect to

reveal. When asked why his film *Suicide Killers* is particularly important, here's what Rehov had to say: "People don't understand the devastating culture behind this unbelievable phenomenon [of suicide bombing.] My film is not politically correct because it...points the finger against a [radical Islamic] culture of hatred in which the uneducated are brainwashed to a level where their only solution in life becomes to kill themselves and kill others in the name of a God whose word, as transmitted by other men, has become their only certi-

## Why We Should Be Wary of Censorship

by Deborah Lipstadt



In the 10 days since David Irving's conviction and three-year jail sentence in Austria for denying the Holocaust, I have repeatedly voiced my opposition to laws against Holocaust denial. I believe they violate free speech and are generally not efficacious. Yet certain things need to be said about Irving's Austrian conviction for denying the Holocaust.

This man is no free-speech advocate. He demanded that I shred my book, in which I called him a "Hitler partisan," and when I refused he sued me for libel. He sued a British scholar for critiquing him in a newspaper. He threatened a libel suit against an American academic unless he excised criticism of Irving from his book. When the British edition of the American's book finally appeared, the comments in question were gone or greatly toned down.

Irving has shut down most critiques of him. My recent book, "History On Trial," which concerns my successful defense against him, could not find a British publisher. My editor and many of her colleagues at HarperCollins were convinced that it was because of fears of an Irving lawsuit.

Irving brought this trouble on himself. He announced he was coming to Austria even though there was a warrant for his arrest. He wanted, according to his partner, to "provoke" and have some "fun." Irving played the court for fools, claiming evidence he had seen in the

1990s convinced him that there was a Holocaust and gas chambers. He made this claim, despite the fact that during my trial in 2000 he repeatedly denied these very things. As late as the fall of 2005 he posted documents on his Web site "proving" there were no gas chambers.

Claims in Al-Jazeera notwithstanding, he is no Galileo bravely defending the truth. My defense team tracked the sources for his claims about the Holocaust and found in every case a distortion, fabrication or complete invention. For example, Irving once had written that he had "incontrovertible evidence" that as early as Nov. 30, 1941, Hitler had explicitly ordered that there was to be 'no liquidation' of the Jews." Irving based his claim on a notation in Himmler's telephone log: Judentransport aus Berlin keine Liquidierung [Jew-transport from Berlin no liquidation.]

In Irving's hands, Himmler's order that that one specific trainload of Berlin Jews not be liquidated had morphed into an order concerning all Jews.

Irving also claimed that Himmler had ordered that "Jews are to remain where they are," i.e., not be taken to concentration camps or liquidated. In fact, the source on which he based this sweeping claim said nothing about Jews. It read Verwaltungsfuhrer der SS haben zu bleiben [Administrative leaders of the SS are to remain where they are]. Irving, whose German is impeccable, tried to claim that he "misread" haben as Juden, which led him to wrongly assert that Jews were to stay where they are. The judge thought Irving's

**Rabbi** from page 1 There she assumed rabbinic responsibilities and directed its 210-student afternoon Religious School, work which included conducting its Junior Choir.

Don Schoen, president of the synagogue, said he believes Rabbi Padorr will bring a unique and personal sense of vitality to Tifereth Israel and to the community. "Rabbi Padorr is an extremely warm and dynamic rabbi who will move our congregation forward with what has been started by Rabbi Halevi. It is her desire to incorporate her love of music along with Torah and Judaism in the congregation at Tifereth Israel. She hopes to continue the warm, caring, and joyous atmosphere of learning that fosters knowledge and love of Judaism within our current congregants, to unaffiliated Jews and interfaith couples."

**Blank** from page 1 A. H. Blank, a magnate in the movie industry, served as president of the Jewish Federation 1941-1942, fateful years in American and Jewish history. A.H.'s photographs of family and film alums taken along with such movie stars as Mae West and Bob Hope are displayed in the Iowa Jewish Historical Society's Heritage Gallery at the Caspe Terrace. His grandson Steven, son of Myron (Mike) and Jacqueline (Jackie) Blank, was president of the Jewish Federation 1991-1993. Surviving Steve, Judy Blank is an esteemed member of the Jewish Community Relations Commission, Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation and the Caspe Programming Committee. Jackie passed away in 2002 at the age of 88 and Mike passed away in 2005 at age 93.

In acknowledging the gift, Foundation president Don Blumenthal summarized our community's feelings about the Blanks. "We were honored and moved to hear that we would be receiving this very generous gift from the Blank family. Their contribution to ensure the continuity of Jewish leadership in our Jewish community will benefit our entire community for generations to come. The Blank family will always remain in our hearts."

The Foundation expresses its gratitude to Trustee Judy Blank for her support of this important fund in the development of future leadership for the entire community.

**jewishdesmoines** from page 1 Wander around a bit and you might be surprised to see our new online calendar of community activities, the latest Jewish news and access to local Jewish congregational websites and to Jewish resources worldwide. There are current brochures to read, a way to make donations online, and some very special features – like recipes authored by members of the community.

You're just going to have to see for yourself! And we hope you will come back to jewishdesmoines.org often, because we hope to have interesting and informative things for you to see each time you visit. And why not? Jewishdesmoines.org is your personal connection to the Jewish community online. We're part of the United Jewish Communities' web of community websites.

**concert** from page 1

President Toni Urban invites the entire Jewish community to "celebrate with the Federation on another impressive year of providing vital programs and human social services to enhance Jewish life. Join us as we thank the many dedicated leaders, volunteers and contributors who help the community stay connected and responsible one for another."

**Darfur** from page 14 The African Union force (AMIS) has managed to improve security in certain places where they deployed, but none of the warring parties are respecting the ceasefire and the Sudanese government continues to support the abusive Janjaweed, rather than disarming them. AMIS lacks the number of troops and the kind of equipment needed to effectively operate in such a difficult environment.

A U.N. force would be larger, better equipped and more financially stable than the current AU force, since it could draw on global personnel, capacity and on UN financing. The current African Union forces would probably be absorbed into a UN force.

The U.N. force must have the strongest possible mandate to protect civilians, under Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter, and the international community must continue to pressure the Sudanese government to end its abusive policies in Darfur. Until a U.N. force comes in during the next six to nine months, the African Union must be bolstered with funds, equipment and other support.

What is the U.N. doing in Sudan? The U.N. already has a peacekeeping mandate for southern Sudan, where the January '05 Comprehensive Peace Agreement recently ended the twenty-one year civil war between the Sudanese government and southern rebels known as the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M). The U.N. mission in Sudan, known as UNMIS, will eventually deploy 10,000 troops to monitor and implement the north-south agreement. As of January 2006, there are 5,300 foreign troops from sixty-one countries participating in UNMIS and deployed in Khartoum and southern Sudan. From: Human Rights Watch, www.hrw.org

**Azoulay** from page 15 They treat being Jewish as if it were a deep secret. JP: ...but you find an exception... KGA: Yes, I am attracted to the Chabad out here because they don't treat being Jewish as a deep secret. Rabbi Jacobson and the Chabad community are "in-your-face" Jewish, and I, myself, am "in-your-face" Jewish. Part of that is that I'm a first-generation American who wasn't raised to categorize myself as American [above and beyond all other attributes] – and that I went to Israel when I was 18 – and the Israeli personality fits me. So I am outspoken, in general.

JP: Does your Jewishness - Israeli-style-outspokenness - find an application with regard to Israel?

KGA: Yes, if people speak negatively about Israel, I have no problem standing up for Israel. One can disagree with the government. But I would not [let go uncontested] somebody in my presence denying Israel's right to exist – which to me is the definition of Zionism. So much

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Sun. May 12 Sisterhood Mothers' Day Brunch  
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 Sun., May 28 Rosh Chodesh Sivan BBQ 6:00 pm \$8.00 Adults \$4.00 Children  
 Thurs., June 1 Congregational Dinner followed by all-night- learning in honor of Shavuot \$10.00 Adults \$5.00 Children  
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Sunday, May 7, 2006, 5:00 pm **Congregational Annual Meeting and Dinner**

Each Shabbat a full morning of activities occurs every Shabbat morning at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Please join us for any or all of these interesting and exciting activities.

9:00 am Shabbat morning services  
 10:45 am Shabbat Schmooze – for families with little ones, a real Shabbat event: a bit of learning, a Kiddush, bagels and play.  
 11:00 am Kabbalah/Torah Conversations with Rabbi  
 11:45 am Shabbat Café! Join us for catered lunch and conversation.

## Project to collect names, Information Honoring Local Jewish Armed Forces Veterans

Community is dedicated to commemorating the service rendered to our country by members of the U.S. Armed Forces. We are attempting, at this time, to compile an Honor Roll of all surviving and deceased Jewish veterans in Central Iowa. The roster will be on proud display by the Iowa Jewish Historical Society. In addition, all those whose graves that may be identified will be decorated, in conjunction with members of the Jewish War Veterans affiliated with Post 636, with a permanent bronze emblem along with a flag on Memorial Day.

Since this project was first announced in January, 83 names (and information about our veterans) have been received. They are printed below. The form on which the personal information is being collected, including service dates, rank, and place of interment, if applicable, is available at local synagogues, through the Jewish Federation at 277-6321 x 218, and on jewishdesmoines.org. The completed forms may be sent to: Jewish Federation, 910 Polk Blvd, Des Moines, IA 50312, ATTN: Mark Finkelstein, faxed to: 515 277-4069, or e-mailed to jcr@dmjfed.org.

Jewish U.S. Armed Forces Veterans (as of April 1, 2006)  
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## Torah MiTzion Kollel Representatives

Rabbi Meir and Leah Klein along with their three children came to Des Moines from Israel eight months ago as emissaries (shlichim) of the Torah MiTzion organization and the Jewish Agency for Israel. Torah MiTzion is a private organization that promotes the study of Torah and the connection between Torah and Israel. The Kleins coordinate and teach the Judaic Program at The Academy and facilitate a youth club after school hours. Rabbi Klein also works with local Jewish university students and gives a weekly Kabbalah class. The Kleins offer Torah learning experiences and education about the various aspects of life in Israel and their hospitality over Shabbat to all community members who are interested. Call 274-0596 or view their webpage at [www.torahmitzion.org/desmoines](http://www.torahmitzion.org/desmoines).

## SCHOEN, OHRINGER HONORED

Don Schoen and Sheldon Ohringer were among winners of Prometheus Awards conferred in March by the Technology Association of Iowa. The awards recognize the best in Iowa technology.

Don Schoen, President and Founder of MediNotes was accorded the Economic Impact Award, sponsored by the Iowa Department of Economic Development.

Initiated in 1995, MediNotes Corp. began as a system to help physicians create electronic patient records. The program which now offers content for 18 different medical specialties currently allows physicians to create and maintain complete medical records faster and more efficiently; track information by clinician; analyze treatment plans by diagnosis; and query information from the relational database.

Don Schoen is President of Tifereth Israel Synagogue and a former President of the Jewish Federation.

Sheldon Ohringer, CEO and co-owner of Caleris, Inc. won the Community Impact Award, sponsored by Holmes Murphy and Associates. The company specializes in technical support for Internet Service Providers, and consumer electronics manufacturers, as well as providing customer service for insurance companies. Based in West Des Moines, the company has grown substantially since Ohringer and

## graduates '06

### Katherina Dimenstein

has graduated this spring from Valley High School and is pursuing further education in art at the Art Institute of Chicago or Kansas City Art Institute.



### Joel Nathan Farber (Joey)



son of Dr. Jeff and Jan Farber, grandson of Dave and Ann Farber, graduated this spring from Valley High School and will attend the University of Iowa.

## B'nai Mitzvah

### Ariel Margaret Pomerantz

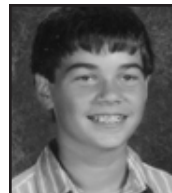


Saturday, May 6  
 Temple B'nai Jeshurun  
 With great pride and joy we invite the community to celebrate with us when our daughter is called to the Torah as a

Bat Mitzvah. The service is on Saturday, May 6, at 10:00 am at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Please join us for a Kiddush luncheon following the service.

Melodee & Jeff Pomerantz

### Mason Jonathan Bear



Saturday, May 13  
 Tifereth Israel Synagogue

Mason Jonathan Bear, son of Robin and Philip

Bear, will celebrate becoming a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 13, 2006 at 9:00 AM at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. The community is cordially invited to join the family for services and the Kiddush luncheon following.



Robin and Philip Bear

### Michelle D. Newman

Saturday, May 27  
 Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Renee and Steve

Newman are pleased to announce the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Michelle D. Newman, Saturday May 27th, 2006 at 10 a.m. at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. A



Kiddush luncheon will immediately follow.

### Dorrie Bruggemann

Saturday, June 10  
 Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Dorrie Bruggemann, daughter of Susan Madorsky and Edward Bruggemann, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June 10, 2006. The com-

## Mazel Tov



Mazel Tov to **Adam Moskowitz** (left) who, along with **Sam Bunkers**, will celebrate Confirmation at Temple B'nai Jeshurun on Friday,

## Recent

Please send us information and a photo (or high resolution digital image) of your recent high school or college graduate for publication in the July/August edition of the Jewish Press. Submissions must be received by Wednesday, June 7.

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

Photos will be returned.

# The Anti-Nazi Boycott of 1933

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In late January 1933, Adolf Hitler was appointed Chancellor of the German Reich. Immediately, members of Hitler's Nazi Party began a campaign of violence against German Jews, socialists, communists and other Nazi opponents. Germany's Jewish Central Association (Verein) issued a statement asserting its belief that "the responsible government authorities are unaware of the threatening situation" and that the Verein had thus "dutifully apprised [the Hitler administration] thereof." The Verein's statement concluded, "We do not believe our German fellow citizens will let themselves be carried away into committing excesses against the Jews." As early as 1933, however, Stephen S. Wise, founder of the American Jewish Congress, seemed to know better.

The Central Verein's appeals did nothing to stop the terror against Jewish businesses. Stink bombs, picketing and shopper harassment by Nazi Party thugs continued for several days in Magdeburg, Essen, Kassel and Berlin. Herman Goering announced, "I shall employ the police, and without mercy, wherever German people are hurt, but I refuse to turn the police into a guard for Jewish stores."

When word of the assaults reached America, representatives of the American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Congress met in New York. The conferees established a joint committee to monitor the situation but agreed that organized public protests in America would further undermine the already precarious position of German Jewry. Less than a month later, however, the American Jewish Congress changed its mind and called on its partners to help organize an American protest campaign. On March 12, 1933, the AJCongress resolved to hold a mass protest rally at Madison Square Garden in New York City. A week later, the organization convened

an emergency conference of Jewish organizations that 1,500 individuals attended.

At the emergency meeting, the AJCongress announced its intention to hold a Madison Square Garden rally on March 27th. J. George Fredman, Commander-in-Chief of the Jewish War Veterans, called for an American boycott of German imports. After Fredman spoke, Joseph Proskauer and Judge Irving Lehman of the American Jewish Committee publicly counseled restraint. Lehman feared that any rally in America "may add to the terrible dangers of the Jews in Germany." Lehman pleaded, "I implore you in the name of humanity, don't let anger pass a resolution which will kill Jews in Germany."

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, honorary president of the American Jewish Congress, had the final word:

"The time for prudence and caution is past. We must speak up like men. How can we ask our Christian friends to lift their voices in protest against the wrongs suffered by Jews if we keep silent? ... What is happening in Germany today may happen tomorrow in any other land on earth unless its is challenged and rebuked. It is not the German Jews who are being attacked. It is the Jews."

The conference voted to hold the Madison Square Garden rally.

On March 27th, the AJCongress and its allies convened simultaneous protest rallies at Madison Square Garden in New York, in Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cleveland and 70 other locations. The New York rally was broadcast worldwide. An overflow crowd of 55,000 inside the Garden and in the streets outside heard AJCongress president Bernard Deutsch, American Federation of Labor president William Green, Senator Robert F. Wagner, former New York governor Al Smith and several Christian clergy call for an immediate cessation of the brutal treatment being inflicted on German Jewry.

The Nazi apparatus denounced the American complaints as slanders generated by "Jews of German origin." Goebbels announced a campaign of "sharp countermeasures" against these attacks. He accused German Jewry of engineering a worldwide boycott of German goods to destroy the German economy. To give Jews a taste of their own medicine, Goebbels announced that the following Saturday, April first, all good Aryan Germans would boycott Jewish-owned businesses. If, after the one-day boycott, the false charges against the Nazis in the overseas press stopped, there would be no further boycott of Jewish businesses. If worldwide Jewish attacks on the Nazi regime continued, Goebbels warned, "the boycott will be resumed ... until German Jewry has been annihilated."

The boycott came off as planned. German police and S.S. troops enforced store closings. Protestors smashed the windows of some Jewish-owned shops and department stores and forced others to close when Nazis set off stink bombs inside them.

Urged by Stephen S. Wise to protest to the German government, U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull issued a mild statement to the American ambassador to Berlin complaining that "unfortunate incidents have indeed occurred and the whole world joins in regretting them." He expressed his personal belief, however, that the reports of anti-Jewish violence were probably exaggerated. Unimpressed by Hull's tepid response, the Jewish War Veterans renewed their call for a boycott of German goods. The AJCongress, the American League for Defense of Jewish Rights, the Jewish Labor Committee, B'nai B'rith and others joined them shortly thereafter.

Of course, the American boycott did nothing to deter the Nazis, who escalated their violence against Europe's Jews until settling on the Final Solution. As

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## Save The Date!


The IJHS will be holding its Annual Fall Event dinner on Sunday, Oct 29th, 2006 at The Caspe Terrace. This year's event will feature Iowa's medical community. Stay tuned for further details!

Our Current Exhibit **"Iowa Business Big and Small"** exhibit will be open through April. The Gallery is currently open by appointment. To

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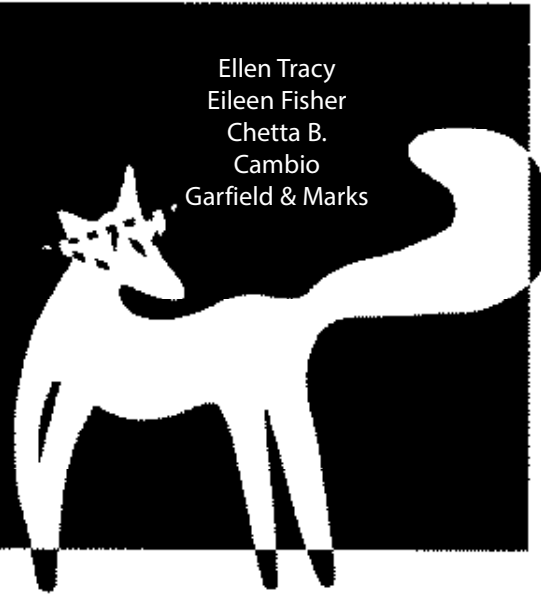
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# may/june

## calendar

<b>Wed. May 3</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Community Israel Independence Day Program</b>
<b>Fri. May 5</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Temple - Potluck Dinner</b>
<b>Sat. May 6</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Aaron Ackerman Bar Mitzvah in Ames</b>
	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Ariel Pomerantz Bat Mitzvah at the Temple</b>
<b>Sun. May 7</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>"Beautiful" Women's Forum at The Caspe Terrace</b>
<b>Tues. May 9</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Temple - Lunch &amp; Learn with the Rabbi</b>
<b>Tues. May 9</b>	<b>4:30 PM</b>	<b>Temple - Executive Committee Meeting</b>
<b>Thurs. May 11</b>	<b>7:15 PM</b>	<b>92ndSt Y-You Shall Be Holy - Joseph Telushkin, at The Caspe Terrace</b>
<b>Sat. May 13</b>	<b>9:15 AM</b>	<b>Mason Bear Bar Mitzvah at Tifereth</b>
<b>Sun. May 14</b>	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>BEJ Sisterhood: Mother's Day Brunch</b>
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Laugh with Mom/Comedian Joel Chasnoff</b>
<b>Sun. May 21</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Temple - 21st Annual Food Fair</b>
<b>Mon. May 22</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Federation BoD Meeting at The Caspe Terrace</b>
<b>Sat. May 27</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Michelle Newman Bat Mitzvah at the Temple</b>
<b>Fri. June 2</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Temple - Confirmation</b>
<b>Fri. June 9</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Temple - Annual Meeting</b>
<b>Sat. June 10</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Dorrie Bruggeman Bat Mitzvah at the Temple</b>
<b>Mon. June 12</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Federation Annual Meeting at The Caspe Terrace</b>
<b>Sat. June 17</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Josh and Avi Asner Bar Mitzvah at the Temple</b>

For the latest calendar updates log on to **jewishdesmoines.org.**

**Censorship** from page 16 In my case, six judges ultimately ruled against him. His version of the Holocaust was found to be "a travesty," "unjustified," "deliberate[ly] misleading" and "pervert[ed]."

My victory in court was based on history and truth, not censorship. In fact, had denial laws existed in the UK, we might never have discovered the lies riddling Irving's work, which brings us back to censorship, of which Jews in particular should be wary.

I write from Rome where I am teaching at the Gregorian Pontifical Institute, the Vatican-affiliated Jesuit university. On Saturday night, on the way home from dinner, a Jesuit priest walked me through Campo dei Fiori [Field of Flowers], one of Rome's many squares. Here in the 16th century, thousands of copies of the Talmud were burned at the stake. In the Vatican archives are long lists of Jewish books that were censored and destroyed.

The Danish cartoons have become part of this debate. Is it not a double standard to argue that the cartoonists have their rights but Irving does not have his? In fact, the violent demands by Muslims that the cartoonists be punished for insulting Islam ring hollow given that Muslim newspapers regularly publish virulently anti-Semitic cartoons. Muslim indignation sounded self-serving in light of this double standard.

David Irving deserves not the media circus that whirled around him in Austria but complete obscurity. He should be met upon his release by the sound of one hand clapping. His future audience should be neo-Nazis, deniers and other pathetic types who prefer lies to evidence.

We do not need laws to silence

**In Memoriam**  
We note with sorrow

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