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Thanking our Volunteers





## Honoring David Wolnerman

- pages 12-13



Help Identify IJHS Photos - page 21

Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines 33158 Ute Avenue Waukee, IA 50263-7538

Address Service Requested

# Come join us at The Jewish Federation's Annual Meeting on June 14 with program by Iowa Jewish Historical Society

On June 14th The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines will hold its annual meeting at The Caspe Terrace. Program begins at 4pm.

#### **Special Focus:**

Join us as we celebrate 100 years of Jewish cooking in Des Moines. This is a kick-off event for The Iowa Jewish Historical Society's new 100 Years of Jewish Cooking Cookbook.

## The Jewish Federation's Campaign against rising Global Antisemitism

"America's problem is the number of people who can't fathom what modern anti-Semitism is."

"There are no more taboos and restrictions when it comes to anti-Semitic manifestations [in Europe]," says one current report\*, and Holland's chief rabbi has observed that "being called a 'dirty Jew' is normal these days. With crowds in the streets and at sports events in Europe videotaped chanting, "Kill Jews," and individuals posting photos of themselves giving a neo-Nazi salute in front of Jewish sites in Europe as well as in Israel, that salute being termed the quenelle, we find our community inundated with what appears to the ADL and others as an increase of anti-Semitism not seen since the end

of World War II.

The matter is slowly – very slowly -- attracting attention. President Obama, for example, commented in January of this year that "The recent terrorist attacks in Paris serve as a painful reminder of our obligation to condemn and combat rising anti-Semitism in all its forms."

Yet, the general public is still largely unaware of how serious an issue this really is, how anti-Semitism is increasing in this country, as well, and the directions from which it is coming. According to New York Times columnist David Brooks, "America's problem is the number of people who can't fathom what anti-Semitism is ..."

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## Engman Camp Shalom 2015 Will Be Great! Camp runs June 8-August 7

Camp is almost here! Registration is now open and ongoing for the nine very special weeks we have planned for your child at Engman Camp Shalom, located on the beautiful grounds of the Caspe Terrace here in Waukee. Do you know that we'll have the professionals from the Menace Soccer team working with us for two weeks during the session? We will also have trips planned to the Science Center and the Blank Park Zoo. We'll have swim lessons, roller skating, ceramics, bowling, and so much more during the 9 weeks this summer.

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

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## Message from the President The 100th Year of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines



Jule Goldstein, President

For 100 years people have inquired about what exactly the Federation does....we always respond with pride and list our accomplishments. However over the past year, I have been a part of the Federation and feel that now it is part of me. We are an organization whose sole purpose is to make a Jewish life better. In doing that, we start with our children and young families, offering assistance when needed. Beyond that we provide them knowledge so they can be proud and strong when they are tested If we really want to say NEVER AGAIN this is where we start. We are a safe place during times that challenge their faith, where they can find a place of camaraderie and friendship. We provide programming and assistance during all stages of life, and help our seniors to live with dignity and companionship.

I personally have found a place for my voice to be heard, but have also learned to listen and appreciate voices that are different than mine, and sometimes infinitely more wise. I have had the privilege to work with people for the last ten years who have helped shape who I am. Sometimes you have to make the tough decisions, and you have to know when to be brave, to find a place for kindness, and that there is never a time to be cruel. I leave my presidency so proud to have been a part of our hundred year history, and cannot be more proud to see David Adelman continue to support and honor our mission statement. I leave knowing that Stuart will continue to strive to put into action programs and tzedukah that impact our community both locally and globally. Our community's absolute commitment to Israel runs deep and strong. I also need to thank the guidance and support of Larry Engman and Don Blumenthal because I could not have done it without you.

We are a community that is setting a standard for Federations across America. We are able to provide broad-reaching services and education that are unique to communities our size. I hope that every single person reading is so proud of what we do. We carry our weight plus the needs of others. Please remember if we do not support ourselves, no one else will. Be committed to our community and mission. BE PROUD. I know I am.

I want to personally thank each and everyone of our spectacular staff. You embody our mission and make it come to life. It has been a joy and honor to be able to say such an amazing group has been part of my life. Thank you all.

**Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines Staff** 

Jule Goldstein





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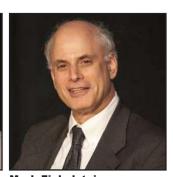
Floricel Beccerril Custodial Services



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Sandi Yoder IJHS Director



Mark Finkelstein JCRC Director



Lisa Nelson GS Teacher



Sarah Carlson IJHS Staff



Stephanie Turner IJHS Intern May/June 2015



www.iewishdesmoines.org

\* not pictured

Milla Karno Russian Outreach Coordinator

THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE. THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

## The 100th Year in review



**Global Day of Jewish Learning** 



Fred and Mickey Lorber and Rabbi David Kaufman



Mark Finkelstein with Dr. Harold Kasimow



**Gail and Stan Richards** 



**PJ Library Lego Dreidels** 



**Senior Trip to Botanical Center** 



Alan Zuckert and Family





**PJ Library Lego Event** 



Suzanne and Larry Engman with **Michael Wolnerman** 



Don and Margo Blumenthal



Packing meals at Global Day of Jewish Learning



Jule Goldstein, Richard Dreyfuss, Barb **Hirsch-Giller and David Adelman** 



**Stacie Franklin** 



**Des Moines Menace visit Gan Shalom** Preschool



Sophie Homonoff teaching in the Sukkah



**Beit Sefer Shalom Trip to New York City** 



Stuart Oxer and Gil Coosner



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JEWISH FEDERATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Jule Goldstein, President Don Blumenthal, Vice-President David Adelman, President-Elect Kent Rosenberg, Treasurer Will Rogers, Recording Secretary Barb Hirsch-Giller, Immediate Past President Members-at Large: Beth Ohringer Brian Pearl

Steve Schoenebaum AGENCY CHAIRS Beit Sefer Shalom Gabrielle Callistein, Chair

Jewish Community Relations Jarad Bernstein, Chair

Jewish Family Services Norene Mostkoff, Chair

Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center Jon Fleming, President

Iowa Jewish Historical Society Consortium of Past Presidents: Karen Engman Janice Rosenberg Melanie Sandler Robbie Winick

Stuart Oxer, Executive Director

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Inserts to the Jewish Press may not necessarily bear endorsement of the Jewish Federation.

We are always happy to consider articles and information for publication.

We reserve the right to edit submissions.

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Whee!



**Josh Nelson** 

## Education

## Registration is now open for the 2015-16 Beit Sefer Shalom school year. E-mail beitsefershalom@dmjfed.org with questions.

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- Beit Sefer Shalom recently finished an incredible school year at Caspe Terrace with 127 students ages 3 through high school.
- Special events, holiday celebrations, online Hebrew learning and many other . activities filled our Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons.
- Our 5th grade students led activities for all students in the Sukkah this Fall.
- Stacie Franklin has been teaching Beit Sefer Shalom students Israeli dancing during music class this year.
- We have raised \$ 665 in Tzedakah money so far this school year.

Students voted to give their Tzedakah money to Blank Children's Hospital.

- Thirteen children sold Passover Chocolates and raised \$533 for Beit Sefer Shalom.
- Our 2nd-6th graders study weekly Hebrew lessons online at Beit Sefer Shalom (and home on the OLC).
- The Janice Zuckert Scholarship Fund supported nine BSS families this school year.
- Volunteers led incredible art, history, and Israel programming for our students throughout the year.



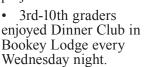








- Over 200 people celebrated the Global Day of Jewish Learning with BSS students this year.
- Friday night services for Beit Sefer Shalom students were held at TBJ, TI, . and BEJ this school year.
- Drake Hillel students helped run our Purim carnival.
- Western Gallilee artist Ada Flor taught students for a special Sunday project



- Upper School students discussed interesting themes during teen topics, mini units, conversational Hebrew, and Rabbis Roundtable.
- Eighteen teenagers worked as Madrichim on Sunday mornings and
- Students learned about Israeli elections through a hands on experience with
- Upper School students attended the Anne Frank play and exhibit.









May/June 2015

## Education Gan Shalom Preschool 2014-2015 Highlights



Gan Shalom is in its second year, with 26 children enrolled in our preschool program. We have incorporated exciting and innovative curriculum and project-based learning. Teachers are able to key in to the children's interest and encourage exploration. Our wonderful natural learning environment has allowed the children to observe the wildlife in the air and on land. Our children measured a bale of hay in the corn field, planted and harvested a garden, planted lilacs for Tu B'Shevat, brought snow in the class for sensory exploration and caught a toad and a Praying Mantis for observation.

Our preschoolers have a rich exposure to the Hebrew language and

Jewish culture with Z'man Ivrit and Torah Time. The children decorated the Sukkah outside, made Menorahs for Chanukah, paraded in costumes for Purim with groggers, made challah and Hamatachen and more. We enjoyed singing songs and listening to stories with the Rabbis visiting for Shabbat. The children participated in service projects, giving Tzedakah, making and sending cards, Mishloach manot gifts and May baskets to seniors.

Gan Shalom teachers partnered with families to help children reach their developmental goals and prepare for kindergarten, with Teaching Strategies Gold-Family Conferences and e-mail weekly updates. The Fall Open House was a wonderful kick off to the school year. Families and teachers were able to visit and children explored their new classrooms. During our Mom's Night, we discussed our love and passion as parents and teachers. We enjoyed parents and grandparents sharing their time reading stories and having lunch with the class.

We are delighted to announce we will be celebrating our very first Gan Shalom graduating preschool class. A ceremony will be held in Bucksbaum Auditorium on **May 28th** with family and friends. The dedication to Gan Shalom from the families and volunteers is greatly appreciate. Our mission of 'Building a foundation for learning-both academically and spiritually' could not have been achieved without their efforts.

We look forward to a fun and



exciting Gan Shalom Summer Camp. We will be incorporating STEM projects in our 9 week summer program. By taking full advantage of our natural learning environment and resources at Capse Terrace. Gan Shalom will offer enrichment programs with Menace Soccer, West Des Moines Nature Lady and Drama Tykes.





## **Engman Camp Shalom** welcomes our new Tzofim

This summer we will have two members of the Tzofim (Israel Scouts) joining the **Engman Camp Shalom** team. They come to us with years of leadership experience and are eager to share their Israeli culture with our campers. They will be doing some incredible things with our campers that they will always remember.

Yamit Avisar is 17 years old and lives in Kfar Yona, which is a small city near Tel Aviv. She has been in the Tzofim since she was about 10 years old. She has been a counselor for a group of 5th grade girls. This year, she was the head counselor for her group. She loves going to the movies, going on hikes, sports, acting, singing, and dancing. She also has a deep passion for all kinds of animals.

May Abarbanel is also 17 years old lives in Ramat Gan. She has been involved with the Israeli scouts since she was 9 years old. Last year she was a counselor for a group of 6th grade girls. This year she was the head counselor for seven other counselors, which were for a troop of 80 kids in 6th grade. In Israel, they choose a major to study in High School and she chose to major in cinema. Her favorite thing about cinema is inventing new worlds and characters. She has been a vegetarian since she was 7 years old because of her deep love of animals. This will also be her first flight outside of Israel and she couldn't be more excited.



Yamit Avisar



May Abarbanel

# Summer Camp

Plus, we're very proud to offer two Israeli cultural counselors on staff. It will be a summer of friendship, and activities, and things to learn... every day! We're so excited to see our campers from last year and delighted to welcome new day campers! Whether you're interested in one week or multiple weeks, we're ready to accommodate your needs. Check out our details about morning and after care and transportation. Give us a call at 515 987-0899 x 232 or register online at *jewishdesmoines.org/ecs/registration*. Looking forward to a happy summer with you at Engman Camp Shalom!

## **Spring Camp**

We at Engman Camp Shalom are proud to say that we had our first ever Spring Camp during the week of March 16th. We ran a five day Spring camp that included field trips, fun, and friends. The weather was really nice for a couple of days that we spent outside playing sports and other games. There was a great turn out and we had some of our fantastic Summer staff there to help lead the way.

Some fantastic field trips included roller skating, Glow in the Dark Mini Golf, Monkey Joe's, an afternoon at the movies, and a day at the Science Center. The kids even got to be on the news with the weather report live from the Science Center. It was a great week with lots of excitement and we can wait to do it again next year.







## Meet Our Board Chair: Norene Mostkoff



Norene is JFS's New Board Chair. We are very excited to have her on our Federation Board and to introduce her to the greater community.

**1** We are thrilled to have you as a part of the Federation leadership, Norene! For some who may not know you, would you share a little history about yourself?

Sure...I was raised in West Rogers Park in Chicago in a two flat. My grandparents lived on the first floor and my Mom, Dad, sister, and I lived on the second floor. My family owned a kosher frozen food business. I attended Mather High School and then the University of Illinois where I earned a BS in Mathematics. Eighteen years later, I earned an MBA at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This year I will be married to the love of my life, Sam, for 28 years. We moved to Des Moines in 2009 and are members of Tifereth Israel.

## 2 What brought you to Des Moines?

In 2009, I was recruited by Francis and Associates to be the CEO of Hospice of Central Iowa.

**3** What was the biggest surprise about living in Des Moines? The landscape is so beautiful. I expected flat, flat, flat corn fields.

Tell us a little about your job.

I love my job! I am privileged to be the President and CEO of HCI Care Services, formerly Hospice of Central Iowa, and Visiting Nurse Services of Iowa. We provide prenatal, dental, and mental health services through Strong Foundations, maternal-child, home health, hospice, and grief services through Amanda the Panda. I get to lead a staff of 550 and 700 volunteers that provides services to over 63,000 Iowans in 43 counties.

# 5 What would you say is your passion, work or otherwise, that motivates you?

In work, helping others reach their full potential. Personally, I am passionate traveler.

**6** Being from a larger Jewish community, what makes Des Moines unique?

The Des Moines Jewish community is a warm, open, and caring community. There are many diverse opinions and ways to be Jewish in Des Moines both a strength and a challenge. I think the biggest challenge is how the community adapts to the changing times.

# **7** Having recently joined the Federation Board of Directors, what are you most excited about?

I am most excited to help Jewish Family Services meet its current covenant with our community, and to work with JFS staff on how we best meet the future needs of our clients by creating an extended family to improve quality of life. I also believe that we must reach out to the general community on common issues so we can build bridges to solutions that improve all of our lives.

8 What do you see as the role of the Federation and particularly Jewish Family Services in the community?

Being Jewish matters. The Federation is a convener of concerns and needs surrounding Jewish life. The Federation is a consensus builder in our community. The Federation is the place where the entire community can come together to discuss and be leaders on issues that impact the Jewish people here in Iowa, in Israel, and around the world. When we see a need, we act. As Jews we are responsible for each other. Jewish Family Service is an extended family of compassionate staff and volunteers that provide social services enriching the community and improving lives. One the most critical roles is to ensure that our seniors live with dignity and have quality of life.

**9** What kinds of things do you enjoy doing in your spare time? I love to travel. I have been to 62 countries and Antarctica. My goal is to visit 100 countries before I die.

## New Endowments to Jewish Family Services

Jewish Family Services is incredibly fortunate to be the recent recipient of two very generous donations. The James C. Matulef Fund is in the process of being established, and we are excited about all of the work we will be able to do in Mr. Matulef's memory.

Harold and Shirley Pidgeon, though now permanently residing in California, have continued to be generous supporters of the Des Moines Jewish community. We are eager to announce that in memory of their son Larry, the Pidgeons have endowed our Des Moines PJ Library community! This gift ensures that from now on, every Jewish child in Des Moines will receive a monthly Jewish treasure in the mail until they turn nine. Each book commemorates Larry's memory and serves as a reminder of the Pidgeon's generosity to our community.

The Larry S. Pidgeon Endowed Fund For Books also allows us to focus on creating more programming opportunities, so be on the lookout for bigger, better programming in the upcoming year! If you are not currently signed up for PJ Library, be sure to go to www.pjlibrary.org/ communities/desmoines to enroll or contact Mollie at mollie@dmjfed.org or 515.987.0899 ext. 230 with any questions.

# Seniors Visit the Iowa Hall of Pride

On March 26, seniors took a trip to the Iowa Hall of Pride. The Hall of Pride, located next to Hy-Vee Hall in downtown Des Moines, serves as a showcase of Iowans' achievements – scientists, musicians, philanthropists, politicians, athletes, and many more. The interactive exhibits included profiles of famous Iowans, including Simon Estes, Shawn Johnson, Carrie Chapman Catt, and Marvin Pomerantz. It is a very interesting attraction and all ages would enjoy a trip there.



## **2015 Lecture Series Wraps Up**

The 2015 Jewish Family Services/ JCRC Lecture Series was an overwhelming success! We held a lively and moving book discussion February 9th on "I Survived Hitler: The Story of Linda Ryngermacher Fishman" where community members regaled stories of Linda, what a strong force she was in our community and incredible person who endured so much.

On March 2nd we gathered to hear John Zeller discuss the building of Jewish roots on Des Moines's west side in the 1930s. It was a fascinating presentation and hopefully the first in a series of discussions that John will present.

While this year's programming is wrapped up, stay tuned for the 2015-2016 Lecture Series due out next fall!

## **Senior Yoga**





**Chair Yoga at a Senior Luncheon** 

- Thursday, May 14th: Senior Luncheon at 12:00 at Beth El Jacob Synagogue
- **Tuesday, June 9th:** Senior Luncheon at Prairie Meadows

## **Torah Talk**

## A Deal by David Friedgood

As related by Martin Buber in 'Tales of the Hasidim':

In the middle of a prayer Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berditchev said: "Lord of all the world! A time there was when you went around with that Torah of yours and were willing to sell it at a bargain, yet no one would buy it from you. No one would even look at you! And then we took it. Because of this I want to propose a deal. We have many sins and misdeeds, and you an abundance of forgiveness and atonement. Let us exchange! But perhaps you will say: 'Like for like!' My answer is: Had we no sins, what would you do with your forgiveness? So you must balance the deal by giving us life, and children, and food besides!

Imagine the scene. We are viewing the middle of a holy prayer service, when the pious Jews of Berditchev are opening their hearts and souls to the Creator of us all. We see their eyes closed, heads covered by a Tallit (prayer shawl), faces glistened with the sweat of their efforts, as they rock to and fro mumbling the words of prayer. Each congregant seems so focused as to be in another world. Each straining with perhaps a twinge of doubt as to what effect today's effort will have on their lives. 'This time, LORD, let my prayer be pure. This time let my words find their way to Your throne in heaven where God awaits the prayer of mankind.' Their lives are hard and their world a dangerous place. The Schul (Synagogue) is a small wooden building. It is drafty and the lighting poor, but there they bring their devotion, fearful that the Holy One may have withdrawn his countenance from them and left them alone in the world. The prayers we hear recall the time when our Hebrew ancestors served God by bringing sacrifices to the ancient Temple, long ago destroyed but not forgotten. We witness a serious business. The worshippers believe,

they know, that prayer has the power to make their lives right. If done properly, the Most Holy will provide shelter and protect them from the evil in their world. They and their families will have adequate food and sustenance. They will not forever be hungry. They know this from endless study of God's word, printed in His Holy Bible. The words of our greatest prophet, Moses, are emblazoned on their very souls: "I will call heaven and earth to witness against you this day: I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life – if you and your offspring would live - by loving the LORD your God, heeding his commandments, and holding fast to Him." (Deuteronomy 30:19-20) This service we are watching is a serious business. This is the power

faces, and can feel the disappointment.

Rabbi Levi Yitzhak was an 18th century Hasidic sage. He was instrumental in developing Hasidism in Poland and the Ukraine (then controlled by Russia). He was (and still is posthumously), revered as a protector and champion of the common folk. Often referred to as the people's defense attorney for his willingness to defend the rights of the oppressed before man and God. This story is told to fortify his image. But, more than that, the story gives us insight into the relationship the Jewish people have developed with their Creator.

We are the children of Israel. Israel being a name given to our forefather Jacob. The word in Hebrew (Yisrael)



of prayer.

As we watch the scene, the supplicants have their concentration broken. Prayer stops and all hope of salvation is dashed. And, who brought this tragedy upon them today. It was their leader – the Zadik (righteous one) – Rev Levi Yitzhak. The one person amongst them who has a direct connection to the Most Holy. And, for what purpose – to tell them a story, a parable. Nonsense. What was the Rebbe thinking? (Though none of the congregants would dare question the Zadik openly.) We see the questioning

means 'wrestled with God'. Before he confronts his brother Essau: "Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the break of dawn... Then he (the man) said, "Let me go, for dawn is breaking." But he answered, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." Said the other, "What is your name?" He replied, "Jacob." Said he, "Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with beings divine and human, and have prevailed." (Genesis 32:25-29) As Jacob wrestled with God's Angel, so we wrestle with our faith and our LORD. Another example involves our father Abraham. When told that God was going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham bargained with the Almighty to save human life: "Abraham came forward and said, "Will you sweep away the innocent along with the guilty?.. Far be it from You to do such a thing, to bring death upon the innocent as well as the guilty, so the innocent and guilty fare alike. Far be it from You! Shall not he Judge of all the earth deal justly?" (Gen. 18:23-25) God and Abraham settled on ten. If only ten good people could be found, the city would not be destroyed. A minyan (10 people) praying together can save an entire city. Reb Levi Yithak was following an old Jewish tradition. The Zadik saw that his people needed help. They required the type of assistance that devotion and prayer could not provide. In front of the congregation he showed them a new path. He bargained with his LORD, and later pled his people's case to secular authority. He showed them that compromise and change was a very 'Jewish' way to behave, and sometimes the old traditions needed updating. This was a Hasid, a Zadik, reacting to the needs of his flock. The people wrestled with their faith and ultimately found a way to survive in a hostile environment, while still upholding their principles and following the ways of the Most Holy.

Today, we are the result of our ancestor's efforts. We can proudly affirm 'Am Yisrael Chai", The Jewish people lives. Our people are flourishing and, with the grace of our Creator, will continue to do so as long as there is life on earth. We may struggle with our tradition, and the path not always clear, but like Rabbi Levi Yitzhak we will make deals with our God to forge a better world for us, our children, and all of humankind.

## Jewish Family Services Outreach: The Greater Des Moines Neighbor-to-Neighbor Foundation

One of the ways that Jewish Family Services fulfills its mission of supporting and strengthening our community is to work with agencies and initiatives in the Greater Des Moines area who also share our vision. One of the community organizations that we have chosen to work with is The Greater Des Moines Neighbor to Neighbor Foundation. Neighbor to Neighbor helps support families and victims of violent crime in our community in a multitude of ways, and we are so happy to help contribute to this critical effort.

People may be aware of the Mike Wasike story; Mike, a husband and father of two, was brutally attacked during a carjacking in February of 2013. He suffered extensive injuries and is currently in a medical facility in Oklahoma. In response to this incident, community members came together to help the Wasike family with donations, a silent auction, and a prayer service held at Tifereth Israel Synagogue.

Through this involvement a number of community members and organizations realized the need for a non-profit organization that can provide assistance to families of violent crime. While there are some public funds available to these families, frequently they are left with many other unmet needs. Jewish Family Services serves as a partner with The Greater Des Moines Neighbor to Neighbor Foundation, having provided space for the prayer service held last year, as well as continuing to serve as lead in developing application forms and processes to help future families secure money for their needs.

If you would like to learn more about what Neighbor to Neighbor does, please visit www. dsmneighbortoneighbor.org/



## Chef Du Jour

## In the Kitchen with Lori Holtzman by Karen Engman

In this issue I wanted to share a really fun cooking website called GLORIOFFOOD. It's a play on a combination of words; glorious (glory of) food and the website author/cook's name Lori.

Lori Holtzman was born in Des Moines and graduated from Valley High School in 2000. Her parents are Jan and Lou Hockenberg. She graduated from the University of Kansas with a double major in Business Administration and Accounting. She moved to Chicago and worked for four years at a third party logistics company where she met her husband Ryan Holtzman. For the next four years she worked for a mutual fund company.

Lori says she started cooking her junior year in college by joining a cooking potluck club where they experimented with different dishes. She has always enjoyed writing so when she started taking photos of food and "styling " her prepared dishes, writing a blog about cooking seemed the natural outcome. She started her blog of recipes and restaurant reviews while still living in Chicago. Since moving to St Louis (actually the suburb Clayton, MO) with her husband, she has continued her blog, but now with a new focus on delicious and healthy recipes, that are easy to prepare for busy families. She has become busy herself after the birth of their son Gavin, who is twenty one months old.

Lori has a partnership with Cooking Light magazine, which means she blogs

#### **Pistachio Crusted Chicken**

1 cup chopped pistachios (hand chopped or pulsed in a food processor)\*  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup bread crumbs

2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

2 tablespoons olive oil

2 tablespoons honey

Salt and pepper to taste

2 large skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, pounded or not pounded and cut into 1 inch strips

Preheat oven to 500 degrees.

Lightly coat a baking sheet with cooking spray.

Mix together pistachios and bread crumbs in a shallow bowl and set aside.

In a separate bowl, stir together Dijon mustard, olive oil, honey, salt and pepper until smooth.

Dip chicken into Dijon mixture, then coat with bread crumb mixture. Place on prepared baking sheet. Place into preheated oven and immediately turn oven down to 375 degrees. Bake until chicken is no longer pink and the pistachio coating is golden brown, about 20 minutes.

\*Better coating if pistachios are finely chopped



about two recipes from their magazine each month. She blogs about three times a week and has about 3,000 "hits" per month. She calls it her hobby because it is such fun.

"Food is glorious and should be celebrated" according to Lori. She says cooking makes people happy, brings them together and even becomes woven into their life stories. Her favorite recipes are those that remind her of a special time, person or place in her life. That sounds like an ad for the Iowa Jewish Historical Society's new cookbook Beyond Matzo Balls: Celebrating 100 Years of Jewish Cooking in Iowa.

Pistachio Chicken is one of the recipes she features in her blog. Lori recommends it as an easy recipe, perfect for weeknight cooking or "impressive" enough to make for guests. She suggests serving it with a salad (her favorite is kale) or steamed or roasted broccoli and a rice pilaf. If you visit her blog (http:// glorioffood.com) you might just find another interesting recipe.

The Jewish Press thanks Lori for sharing this recipe and information about her blog with our readers. Remember, if you have a recipe to share or a cooking question I can research, please call (515-274-3300) or email (karen.engman@ gmail.com).



## THE WILLIS DIFFERENCE



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8 The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press

## Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines **Thanking our volunteers**



Hanna Gradwohl with Marsha and Marty Miller



Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines President Jule Goldstein and Education Director Sophie Homonoff



**Jacob and Meyer Lederman** 



Suzanne and Larry Engman



**Ruth Anne Silverstein and Jody Caswell** 





Steve and Kimberly Lipshutz



Marla Sobel and Gabrielle Callistein



**Devorah and Tivon Feeley** 



Rabbi Marshall Berg

**Photos courtesy of Laurie Wahlig** 

## Annual **Volunteer Dinner** Recognizes Community Leaders

On April 13th, over 60 community volunteers joined us as we paid tribute to their years of service. We recognized those who donated their time to one of the following areas: Jewish Family Services, Engman Camp Shalom, Beit Sefer Shalom Community School, the Iowa Jewish Historical Society, the Board of Directors, all who helped with the 100th Anniversary, Drake Hillel, Gan Shalom Preschool, or JCRC. Guests enjoyed food from Copeland Catering and live music.

We thank our volunteers for all that they do!



Ted Block



**Missy Wolnerman and Sidney Jacobson** 



Matt and Kay Rosen



The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press 9

## Partnership2Gether Update

## **April 2015 Update on the Jewish Federation's Partnership2GETHER** and the West Des Moines-Mateh Asher Partnership

Many of our readers are now aware that the City of West Des Moines, on the recommendation of the West Des Moines Sisters City Commission, has selected Mateh Asher, in Israel, as its first international sister city. (View the Mateh Asher website at http:// www.matte-asher-region.muni.il/eng/)

Mateh Asher is a district within the Western Galilee, the region with which our Jewish Federation is partnered along with 12 other Jewish American Federations, primarily in the Midwest. We are part of what's called Partnership2GETHER (P2G), a people-to-people project organized by the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), with its focus on culture, education, art, and medical professionals exchange projects. Our region has a wonderfully diverse population of Jews, Arabs, Christians, Muslims, Druse, Bedouins, and Circassians. (View the P2G website at http://www. jewishagency.org/partnership2gether/ program/17971) Our local, Federation the West Des Moines City Council.

On February 23rd, a formal document was signed by both Sister Cities (which the Israelis term Twin Cities) and the flag of West Des Moines is now flying in Mateh Asher.

Then on March 11th, the two sides were connected for the first time by a Skype session. Present online were West Des Mayor Steven Gaer and Mateh Asher's Mayor Yoram Israeli, in addition to members of the WDM Sister Cities Commission and executives from Mateh Asher. The virtual meeting was a great success, plus it was a lot of fun.

In late March, we received a visit from an artist from Kibbutz HaMifratz, Ada Flor and a staff member of JAFI. Miri Johnson, who happens to be an English teacher at an excellent high school in Mateh Asher, Sulam Tzur. Our guests were graciously hosted by Jeff and Andi Lipman, Jeff being the



Miri Johnson, Sophie Homonoff and Ada Flor

aspects of the Twin Cities partnership with her new friends from West Des Moines and our Partnership2GETHER As part of Miri's Committee.

> presentation S h e informed us about a new effort initiated by Mateh Asher's mayor to promote tolerance а n d friendship between Arab and Jewish Quite moving

teens. and quite pertinent.

> On the final day of their visit, Miri was provided top level tours of Hillside Elementary school, a school based on an arts infusion curriculum designed in cooperation with the Leonard Bernstein Center and Valley High School, which offers many excellent curricular offerings and top flight

tours and conversations with teachers and administrators in these exemplary schools - her cordial hosts -- made a wonderfully positive impact on her. The objective in the coming months is to establish relations between selected schools, classrooms, and children in the two school districts. As Miri noted, along with members of our West Des Moines Sister Cities Commission: we have so much to learn from one another.

facilities. Miri reported that the

The Jewish Federation is committed to its participation in Partnership2GETHER and as a support system for the new West Des Moines-Mateh Asher Partnership. Our sincere thanks are extended to everyone on the Sister Cities Commission, P2G Committee and our Israeli partners involved in this important project with so much potential.

Individuals who wish to get involved in the Friends of the West Des Moines- Mateh Asher Partnership are invited to contact Mark Finkelstein at jcrc@dmjfed.org.



Mor Borodovski, Miri Johnson, Ada Flor and Dahlia Callistein

Following the announcement of the new West Des Moines/ Mateh Asher government- to- government relationship last November, a delegation of Israeli women professionals from our P2G region visited here in December, spoke with students of the Federation's Beit Sefer Shalom school and were welcomed at a reception arranged by

chairperson of P2G is Jacob Lederman. Chair of the Sister Cities Commission and Andi, a member of the West Des Moines School Board.

> Both Ada and Miri conducted an art project with children from Beit Sefer Shalom. In addition, Miri gave a presentation over dinner for officials from West Des Moines about her environmentally-conscious high school and had an opportunity to discuss



Israeli artist Ada Flor working with Beit Sefer Shalom Students



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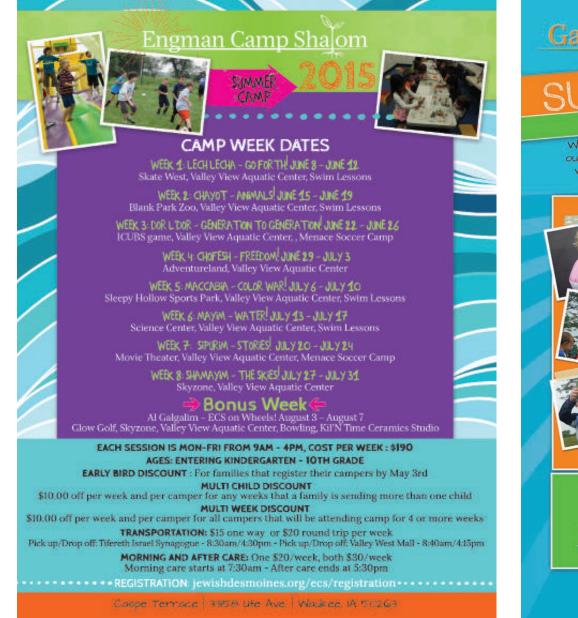


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# Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines Honoring David Wolnerman



**Wolnerman Family and Bolel Family** 



Rabbi Steven Edelman-Blank



Rabbi Daniel Wolnerman



Major General Timothy Orr and David Wolnerman



Rabbi David Kaufman



Rabbi Leib Bolel



Eli and Michael Wolnerman



Rozie Braynard and son, Jack and Sheila Beavers, Margo Nechtow, Gil Coosner and Brenda Daisy



Michael Kuperman, David Adelman, Alan Zuckert, Sen. Matt McCoy, Brian Hagedorn and Dr Robert and Cherie Shreck



David and Susan Lekowsky with RabbiMarshall and Shirley Berg12 The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press



Doro L'Dor Logo by Krista Pearl



Ron and June Daniels, Elaine Steinger, Evelyn and Miriam Mintzer and Jeff Duitch



Esahr Pildis, Martha Wagner, Rabbi Kaufman, Wendy and Edye Beckerman, Porshia Perkins and Nancy Devares



Alyce and Michael Siegel, Ronit Simon and Tivon and Devorah Feeley





Ken, Eli, Josh and Kim Waltman



The Wolnerman and Swabb Families



David Wolnerman with a Pella Central College Student



Rosie DeSio and David Wolnerman



Daniel, Allen, David, Amy and Sheri Wolnerman May/June 2015



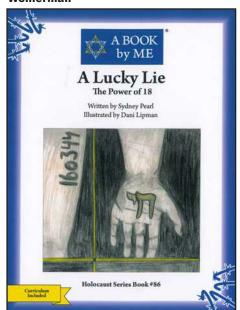
David Adelman



Rabbi Yossi Jacobson



Allen, David, Michael and Rabbi Daniel Wolnerman



Cover of "A Lucky Lie"



On stage in the Bucksbaum Auditorium to honor David Wolnerman



Student author of "A Lucky Lie" Sydney Pearl and Stuart Oxer



Bennie, Eli, Michael and Missy Wolnerman

**Photos courtesy of Michael Kroloff** 

## Holocaust Remembrance Day program honored Mr. David Wolnerman

The community honored Mr. David Wolnerman, a survivor of Auschwitz, on the occasion of the publication of a student-authored book, A Lucky Lie, telling David's story for young readers. About 200 community members attended the program MC'd by Rabbi Bolel of Mr. Wolnerman's congregation, Beth El Jacob Synagogue, followed by dinner sponsored by the Jewish Federation.

The keynote addresses were given by Mr. Wolnerman's grandson, Rabbi Daniel Wolnerman, who was raised in Des Moines. Reflective remarks were delivered by Maj. General Timothy Orr, Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard, along with Rabbis David Kaufman, Steven Edelman-Blank, and Yossi Jacobson. President-Elect of Jewish Federation, David Adelman, read a congratulatory letter to Mr. Wolnerman prepared by Governor Terry Branstad.

The www.BookByMe.com publication, A Lucky Lie, was written by Sydney Pearl of Stilwell JHS and illustrated by Dani Lipman of Valley HS. The story turns on that fact that had young David Wolnerman not lied about his age while being interrogated at Auschwitz, he would have immediately be sent to the gas chamber. This is the second book in the A Book by Me Holocaust Series commissioned by the Jewish Federation. The first book related the story of Mr. Fred Lorber.



**Major General Timothy Orr** 

## JCRC

## In Touch with Drake



Michelle Kofman, wearing a Drake Hillel tee, brought smiles to a coffee chat between JCRC chair Jarad Bernstein, Dean Sentwali Bakari, Rabbi Kaufman and Mark Finkelstein.

## **Thoughts of an IDF soldier after** a month in the West Bank

Yoav, a reservist IDF soldier, spent a month in the West Bank. When *he returned, he sat down to write this* letter and asked to share it. His one request is for you to help spread the truth.

Sitting in a War Room day after day can give you some perspective on the conflict in the West Bank.

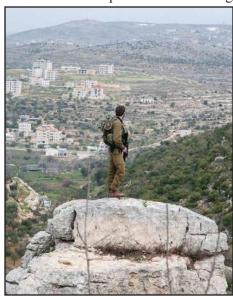
It's a perspective that you can't get from watching the media, nor from the Israeli or Palestinian politicians. Soldiers, the people "on the ground," who face difficult situations day after day, put their lives on the line for the sole purpose of maintaining peace on both sides. Yes, both sides.

I know this because I recently returned from a month as a reservist soldier (Miluim) in the West Bank, where I functioned as a telecommunications officer (ICT).

In between dealing with gear issues in our sector, I 'rested' in the brigade's War Room so I could keep track of and take care of issues concerning communications.

Well, one thing I can tell you for sure - the action in this room never ended. There were violent incidents happening every hour.

I'd like to pose the following



questions to you: How many of these hourly events have you heard about? How many made it to the news?

Maybe one or two? Ninety percent of what happened this past month never got to the media because the journalists pay so much attention to the Palestinian human rights issue (which is important, no doubt, but only a small part of the big picture.) The media - and subsequently, you- forget that the Palestinians have been living alongside Jews for a long time, and in most cases, coexistence in its most beautiful form thrives there.

As my month out there progressed, I realized that the problem wasn't really Palestinians or Israel, but foreign journalists and "human rights activists" who think they know what's going on here based on bits and pieces of information.

In the War Room, there was a big whiteboard that reported every time "human rights activists" and foreign press came to see the "show." Yes, the "show." The activists choose their location and timing wisely, as Palestinians get settled in places they know are close to where the "activists" would be--places close enough to the Palestinian side of the border, but not actually inside the villages, where terror organizations like Hamas have power and control.

I don't blame them. I, myself, don't want anyone to get thrown into a situation where a Molotov cocktail is being thrown at them (or rocks, or burning tires.) I can tell you first hand that a rock doesn't distinguish a soldier from a journalist from an activist from an innocent Palestinian.

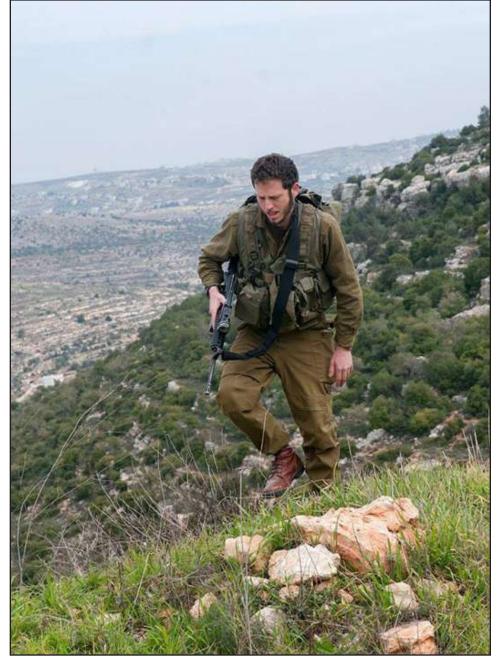
However, the problems are (1) the journalists and activists are being misled when they only visit certain areas, and (2) they mislead the public. They settle in, place their equipment, watch as Palestinians aggravate and interrupt the soldiers there, and when the soldiers finally



Marion Blumenthal Lazan, survivor of the Holocaust, pictured in February next to her sage advice engraved on the Iowa Holocaust Memorial: "[To avoid further tragedies based on hatred of the 'other,'] We must begin with our children by nurturing tolerance and respect for all people." Hers is perhaps the most important message on the entire memorial.

Mrs. Lazan's autobiography is entitled, Four Perfect Pebbles.





**on, making it seem as if the Israeli** (which often presents edited videos.) Defense Forces is all about war and conquest, and the Palestinians are weak and helpless.

I admit it was unpleasant, and even hard, to see and hear people from abroad talking about Israel, thinking they know what's going on here based solely on what they have seen and read in the international media (which chooses locations and angles that shape a David-Goliath narrative,) or

respond, they turn their cameras heard from the Palestinian propaganda

Every combat unit in the IDF has it's own combat photographer, geared with an action-camera to record both the Palestinian and the Israeli sides, first-person view, to ensure no human right is run-over, but also to show Palestinians, and the world, that Israel is now recording its actions more than ever, uncut. What a shame the international media chooses to ignore those videos...

## Don't let Iran into the nuclear club unwittingly By Gil Coosner



Why wouldn't Iran want nuclear capability? The United States has it. Russia has it. China has

it. India, Pakistan, France, England, North Korea, and, presumably Israel, all have it. These are the countries that are in the club. Iran would love to join.

Is there any realistic way to keep the Iranians out of the club they want to join so badly? It took the North Koreans decades, but, in response to perceived threats and for the purpose of political posturing, they eventually developed their nuclear program. Likewise, it seems plausible that Iran will achieve nuclear capability one way or another. That is, unless the deal that President Obama is trying to strike right now is effective. From where we stand now, this does not seem to be the case.

I do not envy the job of the negotiators in this situation. As an Israeli having been born and raised in the Middle East, I can speak to the fact that negotiation is a sport for us—we do it with the same enthusiasm that Americans bring to a three-hour game of football.

As David Horovitz pointed out recently in his Times of Israel column, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has clearly stated that any deal must include that Iran halt its regional aggression, stop terrorism, and stop its call to wipe Israel off the map. Israelis are extremely nervous about any deal that does not include these three points. We know that Iran is a threat in the Middle East. They openly support Hezbollah and Hamas financially and militarily and have continued to insist upon the annihilation of Israel even throughout these negotiations.

As I am writing this, it is Yom HaShoah. Iran is the only country in the world that is openly, with no cries of outrage from anywhere in the world, denying the Holocaust while calling for the destruction of the only state of the Jews. And we are still negotiating with them? Do we really want to see a mushroom cloud over Tel Aviv?

Today, as an Israeli-born, American Jew, I am deeply concerned about the future of my family and friends in Israel. Iran will do what they are going to do. They will probably have nuclear weapons in our lifetime. They will continue to share their military capabilities with Hamas and Hezbollah. So what are our options? We should impose harder sanctions, isolate their leadership from the world, and not unwittingly let them into the nuclear club through an inadequate deal. In doing so, we can let them feel the consequences of making choices that are outside the realm of ethical behavior for any modern country. And we can hope that the 80 million Iranians, with their rich culture, multiethnic society, and proud history, will take their leaders to task and demand a better future.

# Zionist Union's Herzog: no political division in Israel on Iran nuclear issue



#### Isaac Herzog

(JNS.org) Zionist Union party leader Isaac Herzog, who was Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's stiffest competition during last month's Israeli election, said there is "no division" along political lines in Israel on the issue of Iran's nuclear program.

Herzog said Sunday that the recently reached framework nuclear deal between Iran and world powers poses "real potential risks in the long term." He said the U.S. and Israel should reach an understanding that would "legitimize any action Israel will be forced to take to defend itself in the situation that is created."

"Israel and the U.S. must reach a strategic understanding that takes into account Israel's security needs," said Herzog. "We are committed to a determined, all-out fight to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon and continue to give full support to this cause. ... In this matter, there is no division between the coalition and the opposition."

Responding to a remark by President Barack Obama that he has not offered a viable alternative to the framework agreement, Netanyahu on Sunday offered what he called "the two main components of the alternative to this bad deal."

"First, instead of allowing Iran to preserve and develop its nuclear capabilities, a better deal would significantly roll back these capabilities-for example, by shutting down the illicit underground facilities that Iran concealed for years from the international community," Netanyahu said. "Second, instead of lifting the restrictions on Iran's nuclear facilities and program at a fixed date, a better deal would link the lifting of these restrictions to an end of Iran's aggression in the region, its worldwide terrorism, and its threats to annihilate Israel."

# Obama pursues diplomacy with Iran in cutting off paths to a nuclear

weapon By Tim Urban



Over a month ago, Israeli Prime Minister

Netanyahu gave a political speech to Congress that aggravated the partisan divide between many Democrats and Republicans over a nuclear arms agreement with Iran. He argued that Iran is an incorrigible partner to peace, as he has with the Palestinians, while he has expanded settlements in the West Bank, a position that President Obama has consistently opposed. Without this backdrop, few Americans can understand the antipathy between Obama and Netanyahu. There is little doubt the speech was aimed more to an Israeli audience than to Americans, and, as an affront to our President, blatantly political and partisan.

His speech was disturbingly like the speech made by Colin Powell at the United Nations where he outlined nefarious plans of Saddam Hussein to develop nuclear weapons, convincing the American Congress and an international coalition to invade Iraq. And what was the result? A total destabilization of the balance of power between Sunni and Shia dictators leading to chaos, the Arab "Spring", the rise of virulent Jihadism and the acceleration of Iranian influence in Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

Netanyahu urges an ideal agreement or none at all, suggesting, with hubris, that the Iranians will fold and accept a roll-back of their nuclear enrichment program. He cites their obsessive commitment to a global Jihadist movement on one hand and argues that the agreement now on the table will lead to their eventual success in developing and deploying nuclear weapons. On the other hand he suggests this same meglomanical regime will simply cave in to his demands. And most Republicans are buying it hook, line and sinker. Two weeks ago his Party was elected after his fear-mongering that gained Likud

seats from other right wing parties. This only promises a more xenophobic and radical Israeli government at a time when diplomacy must trump saber-rattling.

And where is our President? He is attempting to use diplomacy to seek a reduction in Iran's current production of fissionable uranium. He has successfully orchestrated, with other major powers, a crippling regime of sanctions on Iran that will be used to reward or punish Iran's compliance. He has also pledged to block Iranian production of nuclear weapons and has pledged, along with Israel, to use force, if necessary, and as a last resort, to enforce the agreement.

While many Americans admire Netanyahu's bluster and Cheney fearmongering, I hope more will remember that if war is his only end game, we will pay the price of Netanyahu's miscalculations. While Netanyahu outlines a path that will require Israelis to resort to an attack of Iran, most likely with U.S. complicity, Obama's pledge is to follow Teddy Roosevelt's advice to "speak softly but carry a big stick." With an incursion into Iran, both Sunni and Shia Jihadists will rejoice, suspend their in-fighting and pursue the destruction of Israel and wider terrorism incursions in the West.

The inevitable attempt by Israel with U.S. Military assistance to destroy Iran's nuclear facilities will certainly unleash a widespread war in the Middle East with Russia aligning itself with Iran and a spiral of violence few of us can comprehend--all because Netanyahu wants to play poker as he seeks another term in office.

As a Jew, I oppose the continued occupation of the West Bank by Israel and her settlement policies. I love Israel and have traveled there many times. As Netanyahu said, it is a beacon of hope for Western liberal values in the midst of tribal conflict. But I fear for her future under governments that are unwilling to compromise with her Arab neighbors and adhere to the tenants of social justice which are at the core of our values.



## Our Jewish Community **G & L Clothing** by John Zeller, Special Reporter to The Jewish Press



When you walk into G & L Clothing store, the vast inventory will amaze you. You'll find fifty work clothes brands including, Carhartt, Dickies, Wrangler, Timberland, LaCrosse and Keen -- all tightly packed on both sides of the narrow aisles and a back room stacked clear to the ceiling. Of all the big Jewish stores that graced Walnut Street over the past ninetyeight years, Younkers, Harris Emery, The Utica and Frankels, only G & L Clothing remains in Des Moines as a Jewish family-owned clothing store.

Just two years from now G & L will celebrate its centennial year and everyone will ask what the secret ingredient is that has kept the firm thriving for four generations. To come up with the

To come up with the answer we'll have to jump into the deep end of Des Moines history.

#### THE BIRTH OF G & L CLOTHING

G & L Clothing was named for its founders Louis Garsh and Meyer S. Levine, fellow Lithuanians who founded the business at 202 7th Street in 1917. G & L's first location was on the ground floor of a three-story brick block housing firstfloor businesses and upstairs apartments on the northwest corner of Seventh and Mulberry Streets.

Louis Garsh came to Des Moines in 1906 and worked for various east-side Jewish shops before owning his own store in Madrid, Iowa. He moved to Minneapolis, married and moved back to Des Moines, residing near his two brothers. (One of them, R. "Milky"

Garsh, was a partner in Tatz & Garsh Clothing.)

The other partner was Meyer S. Levine, who, like Garsh, showed up in Des Moines in 1906. Later, Levine would recall that Garsh only worked for the company for a few months, but the record shows that Garsh was in the firm for five years. Maybe Levine was mad at his partner for starting a competing firm across the street at 203 7th Street. Garsh retired in 1959 while managing S & M Clothing Company after fortytwo years in the clothing business.

Levine ran the company for thirty-seven years at the original location. During the 1930s he joined in partnership with Bernard Klein with satellite stores in Highland Park, Beaverdale and east Des Moines. After the WWII, Levine hired two returning servicemen, Harry Winner, who had worked for him since 1928, and Italian Art Nizzi. The duo became his super sales staff. In



to 313 10th Street in 1977.

Winner was made a full partner in the 50s, with the condition that Levine's second wife and his younger children be provided for after his death. Levine died in 1972 and Winner kept that promise, retaining the Levine's second family, the Hoffmans, as equal partners until the bought G & L in 1981 entered the clothing business through marriage. The family patriarch Aaron Marcovis (a founder of Tifereth Israel Congregation), came directly to Iowa from Romania in 1885. Three years later he married fellow Romanian Clara Schenach here in Des Moines. Marcovis started out by learning the tin shop business from Albert Davis,

but within a few years had his own tin shop/ hardware store in a brick three-story block of business and apatments he built at 770 9th Street.

In 1911 disaster struck after the city drastically chopped down the grade of 9th Street, leaving Marcovis' building perched precariously on stilts. It was a terrible blow to the firm when the uninsured building collapsed. The city denied any responsibility, but the undaunted Aaron rebuilt "The Marcovis," his new apartment house, bigger and better. That year Aaron and Clara's daughter Rose married Polish-born tailor Sam Burns, who moved both his new wife and business into his father-inlaw's apartments.

After a short stint in the army at Camp Dodge, Aaron's son Leo

returned home in 1919 and joined his brother-in-law Sam at the tailor shop. In 1921 Burns moved his store south on 9th Street to the corner of the recently-opened Keosauqua Boulevard. He would later relocate downtown on Locust Street.



Frank Marcovis, Art Nizzi, Menashe (Nashi) Khalastchi, Jim Marcovis, David Marcovis and Mike Marcovis

1954 Levine moved G & L across the street to 205 7th Street, and then again in 1963 to 917 Walnut, which was followed by a change of address business was sold in 1981 THE MARCOVIS FAMILY The Marcovis family that

## Our Jewish Community

Together, Leo and Sam opened another branch of his clothing store at 504 Grand Ave., which Leo soon took over and renamed "LeMarc's Haberdashery" in 1924. Within a few years it became the venerable "Marcovis Store for Men". (Burns also continued to run his own business, "Sam Burns Men's Clothing," until his retirement in 1953.)

In 1922 Aaron Marcovis hired his tenant Jacob (Jack) Kolb to work in his hardware store. Two years later Kolb would marry daughter Elsie Marcovis and go to work for his new brother-in- law Sam Burns at his tailor shop in "The Marcovis." Soon Kolb has his own shop, "Jack's Toggery," at 726 Grand Avenue. Suffering from a WWI gas attack, Kolb moved for his health to California after the stock market crash of 1929. His father-in-law, Aaron, gave up retirement to keep the business going. After his death in 1935, younger son Abe, then a Drake graduate and lawyer, ran the clothing store with help from his sister Rose until 1943.

Leo Marcovis ran his little store, "Marcovis Store for Men," on Grand Avenue six-days-a-week, except for High Holidays. In those days the intersection of Fifth and Grand was the busiest corner downtown. Next door was the all-night City Drug and across the street sat the new art deco-style Greyhound Bus depot. The big Paramount and the Des Moines Theaters kept the streets busy all evening. During the War years Leo kept the store open till



supporter of our servicemen. On Fridays Leo and his wife Mary invited Jewish girls in the WACS stationed at Fort Des Moines to spend the weekend at their home. During the war Leo helped create a Jewish Veterans association. In retirement he kept a spare bedroom as a storeroom of military insignias and battle ribbons for the servicemen who would write him for replace-



midnight on Saturdays and stationed his daughter Florence at the door to control the crowd. Marcovis liked the bustle in his little fifteen-byforty-foot establishment, where the clothing rose to the twenty-five-foot ceiling.

During the war he took son Jim on the Friday trolley car to Drake University to sell military hats, shirts and insignias to the Air Force Cadets training there who would have just received their week's pay. The Marcovis family was a real ments for lost or damaged ones. The disrespectful treatment returning Vietnam Vets received troubled him greatly,

In 1970 Leo's son Jim started a "boutique" jeans business over The Marcovis Store for Men called "The Loft." Bell-bottom jeans and tie-dyed shirts were the fashion of the day. The upstairs location and sharing the stairway with a pool hall aided in its funky charm. Jim ran five Loft locations from 1970-75 before experimenting with "Jean Scene" stores in shopping centers in Des Moines, Ames and Omaha.

#### In 1969 when Leo retired, his son Jim, who had been comptroller for Pidgeon's Furniture bought his dad's store on Grand.

#### JIM MARCOVIS BUYS G & L

Twelve years later, in 1981, Jim and son David combined with son-in-law Menashe Khalastchi to purchase G & L Clothing, with Harry Winner's stipulation that all the old employees could work as long as they liked. (In fact, Harry stayed on. He came to work the day before he died in 1990.) In 1986, the Marcovises moved the store to 9th and Locust Streets.

In January 1994 the abandoned upstairs Ewing Apartments caught fire on a Friday night. But by Monday morning their loyal utility crews, their old customers, had G & L back in business. Then, homeless people upstairs started a second fire that destroyed G&L's inventory and forced the demolition of the building. The firm moved into temporary quarters at the old WHO Building at Eleventh and Walnut Streets while it looked for a permanent home.

Fortunately, the city was seeking to close the crime-infested Chamberlain Park at 18th Street and Ingersoll Avenue. Crescent Chevrolet and G & L purchased the property and divided it between them. On Monday February 15, 1996 the Marcovis family opened the present G&L Clothing in a brandnew 14,000 square foot building at 1801 Ingersoll Avenue. In 2007 they celebrated their ninetieth anniversary, customers lined up to enter the "G & L Idol" contest, singing the company jingle: "G and L clothing – Your size – Your style- We've got it all!" (Look for it at "Youtube G& L Idol")

In 2000 son Frank brought his banking acumen to the firm. Grandson Mike, a fourth-generation Marcovis, joined the thirty employees of the store in 2002. Today, Fifteen percent of the business is done online at www.gandlclothing. com. And for a personal touch, Art Nizzi, (when he's not playing the accordion at the Friday night Christ the King fish fry) can be found loyally working G & L's back room, sixty-nine years after he was hired by Meyer Levine.

#### **MYSTERY SOLVED**

There it is! -- the magic ingredient that the Marcovis family has used to stitch together all the talents of management and staff for continued success into the 21st century. It's loyalty: loyalty to family, employees, customers and the community. And, of course, loyalty to their Jewish heritage and its tradition of "tzedakah" – justice.



## Campaign against rising Global Antisemitism

#### ... continued from page 1

To make sense of the phenomena and to help educate about what has been termed the 'New Antisemitism," the Jewish Federation, through its Jewish Community Relations Commission, has established a Committee on Antisemitism.

'Jake' Jacobs, a member of the committee, sees a variety of issues that go beyond the surface. "I think for the most part American Jews feel secure and safe from anti-Semitism. However, when we reframe our perspective and in terms of micro populations, it influences our views. For example, when we think about academic boycotts, BDS, disruption of the Jewish student events,

and harassment of student government candidates, we see that there is more than a simple uptick or rise in nega-

tive perception of Jews on College campuses. We see it similarly in our churches where increasingly congregations organize 10 day missions to the Gaza Strip, Jerusalem and the West Bank."

Core to the study of contemporary anti-Semitism is discerning what is old and what is new about it. What is shocking, of course, is that violence against Jews is being directed against Jewish individuals and institutions in both Israel and in the diaspora, and that hatred towards Jews is being expressed even in places where no Jews live. To this latter point, the French philosopher Bernard- Henri Levy has commented: "I have seen European capitals in which the destruction of the Jews was nearly total, yet where anti-Semitism still thrives. I have seen others, farther away, where no Jews have ever lived--yet where the word "Jew" is a synonym for the devil." It is surmised that much of the allegations leveled against what is perceived to

be Jewishness or innate Jewish traits are not new but merely recycled classical anti-Semitic tropes.

What is new and what is said to give shape to the New Antisemitism is the demonization and delegitimization of Zionism and the State of Israel, Israel being considered by anti-Semites as the collective body of the 'pariah Jew.'

That anti-Zionism and anti-Israelism is that which is the new component in modern anti-Semitism requires a nuanced interpretation. Not all criticism of Israel is anti-Semitic, while other 'criticisms' of Israel are indeed anti-Semitic, specifically those criticisms supposedly made of Israel's policies but which involve the use of anti-Jewish stereo-

> types, likening Israel, its armed forces or its leaders to Nazis, or calling for the destruction of the Jewish

state,

"There has been an insidious,

the state of Israel, which spills over

often into anti-Semitism." – British

creeping attempt to delegitimize

*PM David Cameron* 

As Thomas Friedman of the New York Times accurately put it, "Criticizing Israel is not anti-Semitic, and saying so is vile. But singling out Israel for opprobrium and international sanction – out of all proportion to any other party in the Middle East – is anti-Semitic, and not saying so is dishonest."

Owing to the immediacy with dealing with increasing anti-Semitism on the global level and the complexity of the issues involved, the task of the Federation's Committee on Antisemitism is a difficult one, but one that the committee has been preparing itself for and will follow through on. At its heart, this is a task that each of us should engage ourselves in, as diligently as we can. To join the Campaign, contact jcrc@ dmjfed.org.

\* Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry, Report: April 15, 2015

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## Inspirational speaker Izzy Ezagui addresses the community

Izzy Ezagui, one of the 100 named top Jewish individuals influencing Jewish life by The Algemeiner, and a member of the Shusterman-ROI Community of



Izzy Ezagui, Rabbi Bolel and Ron Daniels

young Jewish leaders, spoke in Des Moines in April, sponsored by Jewish Federation and Beth El Jacob Synagogue.

Ezagui, 26, was a member of the Israel Defense Forces who was injured in battle. He left and domihis request, reassigned as a commander. His story, which he shared with his audience, is one of relentless perseverance and determination to succeed in the face

of adversity. He was truly a motiva-

tion speaker.

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Mark Finkelstein, Rabbi Leib Bolel, Pastor M.D. Eppright and Rabbi David Kaufman



MenaceSoccer.com

## Scientific breakthrough as Israelis find cancersuppressing proteins

By Abigail Klein Leichman for Israel21C.org

A particular protein that defies the cell's normal system of tagging and banishing defective or no longer needed proteins seems to play a significant role in suppressing malignant growth, according to Israeli researchers.

The study was conducted at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in the laboratory of Professor Aaron Ciechanover, who won a Nobel Prize in chemistry in 2004 with colleague Avram Hershko and Irwin Rose of the University of California-Irvine.

Led by Dr. Yelena Kravtsova-Ivantsiv, the research team included students and physicians from Rambam, Carmel

and Hadassah medical centers. They found the previously unknown p50 protein during ongoing research on the ubiquitin system, which rids cells of earmarked proteins by sending them for destruction in the cell's proteasome area.

They discovered that p105, a long precursor of a key cell regulator called NF- $\kappa$ B, sometimes fails to be completely broken down in the proteasome. In those cases, p105 is only shortened and becomes a protein they dubbed p50.

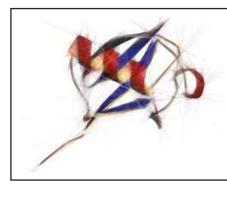
Using samples of human tumors and models of human tumors grown in mice, they then attempted to decipher the decision-making mechanism that determines whether the tagged p105 gets fully degraded or transformed into p50.

The decision between these two options has important implications. The scientists saw that when there are high levels of a ubiquitin system protein called KPC1 (which generates p50) and p50 (the product of the process), tissues apparently are protected from becoming cancerous. Inflammation and cancer

Ciechanover, now president of the Israel Cancer Society, won the 2004 Nobel Prize in chemistry, for the discovery of ubiquitin-mediated protein degradation. In response to the latest development, Ceichanover warned that it will take many more years before scientists can hope to gain a solid understanding of the mechanisms behind the suppression of cancerous tumors.

"The development of a drug based on this discovery is a possibility, although not a certainty, and the road to such a drug is long and far from simple," he cautioned.

But the current research, which was published in the April 9, 2015



edition of CELL, is also intriguing because it provides further evidence of the relationship between inflammation and cancer, first suggested in 1863 by German pathologist Rudolph Virchow and confirmed over the years.

Ever since the discovery of NF- $\kappa$ B nearly 30 years ago, many scientists have written about its multifaceted involvement in inflammation and cell proliferation, survival and transformation. NF- $\kappa$ B is activated by the ubiquitin system's KPC1 regulator.

"Overall, KPC1 regulation of NF- $\kappa$ B1 processing appears to constitute an important balancing step among the stimulatory and inhibitory activities of the transcription factor in cell growth control," the study's authors conclude.

The Technion team will continue its line of research to find more clues toward solving this puzzle.



May/June 2015

## Iowa Jewish Historical Society Publishes Its First Cookbook

Beyond Matzo Balls: Celebrating 100 Years of Jewish Cooking in Iowa features a collection of Kosher and Kosher-style recipes from 138 contributors who shared their favorite family recipes for appetizers, soups, salads, meat, poultry, desserts, and more. Some of the recipes are left in the words of the contributor in order to preserve its particular history while others were edited to conform to today's standards.

Cookbooks have long been viewed as works of history. The archives of the Historical Society house numerous cookbooks, recipe cards, kitchen utensils, cupboards, aprons, and even an enamelware cup manufactured at the Schindler factory, where so many Jewish lives were saved.

Many of these recipes have been passed down for generations and across continents. They are a link to our family histories and survival. Claudia Roden said it best in "The Book of Jewish Food:

Dishes are important because they are a link with the past, a celebration of roots, a symbol of continuity. They are that part of immigrant culture which survives the longest, kept up even when clothing, music, language and religious observance has been abandoned.

Jews across the globe have been creative in adapting the foods of the surrounding cultures to their Jewish dietary rules (Kashrut) and then carrying these new recipes with them from country to country. We are all a part of this tradition by just cooking and eating. Sharing meals is a celebration of life.

Our hope is that you will use these recipes as a launching pad to start your own family traditions, preserving them for future generations of Iowa Jews.

#### **Order your copy now!**

#### jewishdesmoines.org/cookbook

or

with the order form on back page of this edition of the Jewish Press



Iowa Jewish Historical Society

## **New Exhibit Opens June 14**

On June 14, the Iowa Jewish Historical Society will open a new exhibit on the role and importance of food in Jewish life.

Coinciding with the publication of the Historical Society's first cookbook, the exhibit will feature artifacts from the IJHS collection as well as objects on loan from members of the Jewish community. The exhibit will focus on why food is an important part of Jewish tradition and daily life; what is kosher; traditional foods associated with particular Jewish holidays—Passover, Hanukah, Yom Kippur, and Rosh Hashanah; and the meaning of other foods served at life events such as Bat and Bar Mitzvahs, weddings, funerals, etc.

The exhibit will also feature examples of American Jewish cookbooks, including the Settlement Cookbook series that started in 1901 and grew out of a need to raise funds to support The Settlement House in Milwaukee, WI. Here, Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe, as well as other immigrants, were "helped along the road of Americanization" as they learned about nutrition, sanitary conditions, etc.

Also highlighted will be the role of American Jewish women and how it changed through the years and how this has been reflected in Jewish households. The rise in the number of women working outside the house has had a tremendous impact on Jewish households.

The exhibit will open as part of the Federation's annual meeting.



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## **A Taste of Jewish Cooking**

THE IOWA JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:

A TASTE OF JEWISH COOKING Sponsored by

Bravo Greater Des Moines

What: An evening of delicious food and music.

Enjoy a buffet of brisket, kosher dogs, salads, and desserts made from recipes in the Iowa Jewish Historical Society's new cookbook: Beyond Matzo Balls: Celebrating 100 Years of Jewish Cooking in Iowa. And then stay to hear the Java Jews play a concert of "highlycaffeinated" Klezmer music as part of Windsor Heights' Music in the Park series.

When: Tuesday, June 16, 2015

5 – 7 p.m. Buffet of Jewish foods - \$7.00 per person for brisket; \$5.00 per person for Kosher hot dogs

7 p.m. Java Jews in Concert

Where: Windsor Heights Community Center in Colby Park, 6900 School Street

The IJHS's new cookbook will be for sale at this event!

## Help us identify these photos:

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society has been given thousands of pictures of community events covering the past 50 years. Many of these photos came to us without the name of the event and/or without identification of the people in the picture.

We need your help in making these pictures a more accurate part of the community's history by identifying the people, places, and events.

To start this new series of articles, we are focusing on identifying the school students in these photographs. If you know who any of these students are, please email ijhs@dmjfed.org or leave a message at 515-987-0897 ext. 216 and we will follow up with you.



Label on back reads "1969-Purim" Bureau of Jewish Education/School



Bureau of Jewish Education/School, c. 1970





**Bureau of Jewish Education/School 1977** 



**Bureau of Jewish Education/School** 



Group of children in a classroom, c. 1975



**Bureau Jewish Education/School** 



Bureau Jewish Education/School, c. 1968

## Community Information



#### Recurring Events:

Minyan: Tuesdays (NOTE DAY CHANGE) 7:00 am

Services: Fridays - 6:00 pm Shabbat **Evening Services** 

Saturdays - 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

Special Events for May and June 2015

#### May 2015

Thursday, May 14th - 7:00 pm Annual Meeting

Monday, May 18th – 6:30 pm Tifereth Book Club

Tuesday, May 19th - 6:30 pm Erev Nashim at Paradise Biryani

Saturday, May 23rd - 9:30 am Paige Kirschner's Bat Mitzvah

8:00 pm Study Session

Sunday, May 24th - 9:30 am Shavuot Services

Monday, May 25th - 9:30 am Shavuot Services

9:00 am - Abe Rissman Unveiling -Jewish Glendale

June 2015

Wednesday, June 10th - 6:00 pm Women's League Dinner & Fashion Show

Thursday, June 18th - 6:30 pm -Tifereth Book Club

Sunday, June 21st - Thursday, June 25th - Arts and Heirlooms Sale,

Times and Locations to be announced Sunday, June 28th - 2:00 pm Shelter Dinner Prep

#### **Adult Education:**

Introduction to Judaism / Conversion Class – Rabbi Edelman-Blank:

Contact the Tifereth office for more information 515-255-1137 Spirituality Study and Discussion Group - Patrick Courtney:

Sundays at 3:00 pm

S.T.E.P. (Sunday Torah Education Program) - Michael Kuperman:

Sundays at 10:00 am

Tifereth Book Club - Monday, May 18th - 6:30pm

Thursday, June 18th - 6:30 pm

## Ames Jewish Congregation Ames, Iowa

#### **Rabbi Wirtschafter to Leave** the Ames Jewish Congregation

Rabbi David Wirtschafter, who has been serving AJC for almost seven years, has accepted a full-time rabbi position at Temple Adath Israel in Lexington, Kentucky and will not be returning to AJC next year. He will be honored during a service the weekend of June 5–6.

#### **Ames Jewish Congregation** Confirmation, Friday, May 8, 8:00 p.m.

Arik Yakobsen will be confirmed on Friday, May 8 at 8:00 p.m. at the Ames Jewish Congregation.

#### **Ames Jewish Congregation Celebration Weekend June 5–6**

During the weekend of June 5–6, the Ames Jewish Congregation will honor Rabbi David Wirtschafter and cantorial soloist John Pleasants. That weekend, Rabbi Wirtschafter, who has served the congregation for nearly seven years, makes his final visit to Ames before he heads off to his new full-time pulpit at Temple Adath Israel in Lexington, Kentucky. That same weekend, the congregation will be honoring John Pleasants' 30 years of service as cantorial soloist. More details of the events of that weekend will be announced as they become available.





Please join us on Sunday, June 7 at 2:00 p.m. for our Temple Annual Meeting followed by our L'Dor V'Dor Renovation Groundbreaking Celebration! Appetizers will be served. Location : Temple B'nai Jeshurun - 5101 Grand Ávenue – Des Moines

#### \_\_\_\_\_

Temple Youth Group Update

Adapted from a speech by President Barack Obama

In 2015, our Temple Youth Group (TYG) remains strong. We know that our youth group is becoming more involved at the strongest pace in nearly two years. The attendance rate has steadily accelerated to its highest point in the same two years. Our fiscal situation is firmer, with no deficits added since I took office.

The Affordable Fun Act (AdatoCare) has helped keep fun growing, and this means better activities for TYG families and better planning for Youth Groupers looking to involve themselves here in America. More Youth Groupers are finding fun and experiencing the pride of an activity or volunteer opportunity. Our TYG is positioned for new growth and new ideas. I firmly believe that 2015 can be a breakthrough year for our TYG. As I outlined in detail earlier this year, we all know there's a lot more that we're going to have to do to create more opportunities and broadbased growth for our TYG. And that's going to require some action.

It's a good start that earlier this year, our entire board came together to plan and pass a bipartisan list of new ideas with full support from all

involved. That clears the path for programs and for activities that we need to strengthen our great Youth Group. Our Chocolate Seder, held on March 29th was a great program, uniting our great youth group with a love for each other, and chocolate. The Iowa Wild Game on March 22, truly showed that our Youth Group cares about one of America's favorite sports. In addition, the tickets were free- The Affordable Fun Act paid for all of our tickets! That's where fun comes from -- when we turn not from each other, or on each other, but towards one another, and we find that we do not walk alone. That's where courage comes from.

And with that courage, we can stand together for good programs and innovative ideas. With that courage, we can stand together for the right to have fun in the richest

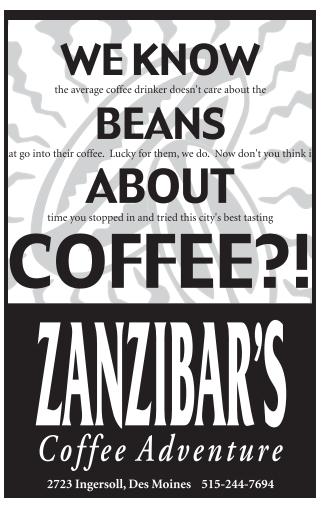
nation on earth for every TYGer. With that courage, we can stand together for the right of every Youth Grouper, from one river to the other, to get programs that stir the mind and capture the spirit, and that prepares them for the world that awaits them.

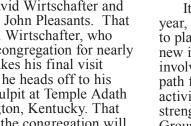
With that courage, we can feed the hungry, and house the homeless, and transform bleak wastelands of poverty into fields of commerce and promise. Congregants, I know the road will be long, but I know we can get there. Yes, we will stumble, but I know we'll get back up. That's how a movement happens. That's how history bends. That's how when somebody is faint of heart, somebody else brings them along and says, come on, we're marching.

That's the promise of tomorrow -- that in the face of impossible odds, people who love their TYG can change it. That when millions of TYGers of every race and every region, every school district, can join together in a spirit of brotherhood, then those mountains will be made low, and those rough places will be made plain, and those crooked places, they straighten out towards grace, and we will vindicate the faith of those who sacrificed so much and live up to the true meaning of our creed, as one Temple Youth Group, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

God bless you, and God bless the Temple B'nai Jeshurun Temple Youth Group.

Michael Adato, TYG President





## **Community News**



Recurring Events Morning Minyan Times: Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Monday: 6:45 a.m. Tuesday: 7:00 a.m. Wednesday: 7:00 a.m. Thursday: 6:45 a.m. Friday: 7:00 a.m. Shabbat: 9:00 a.m.

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

#### Tuesdays:

Lunch N' Learn 12:30 p.m. Join us for lunch with central Iowa Jewish students followed by a learning

#### discussion.

The "Shiur" at 7:00 p.m. – covers Jewish learning on self- improvement, interpersonal relationships, weekly portion and current events. Please contact the office to attend.

#### Thursdays:

RIE Family Hebrew Supplement Program 4:30 p.m.

#### May 2015

May 14th, Federation Senior Luncheon at BEJ 11:30a.m. May 31st, Torah Dedication followed by formal dinner 3:30p.m.

#### June 2015

June 18th, Women's Paint and Wine June 22nd, Men's Bagel Bake



## **Check Out Our E-Newsletter!**

As many of you may have noticed, we have a new weekly e-newsletter that keeps the community informed of what's going on at The Caspe Terrace as well as our upcoming events. If you would like to receive our emails, please contact Gayle at gayle@ dmjfed.org to subscribe.



### In Memoriam

#### We note with sorrow the recent passing of

John Barkley
John Smith
Mario Soria
Murray Resk
Jane Abrams
Mitchell Isenberg
Bette Kelinson

#### In Celebration We note with joy the upcoming celebration of







Please Submit your Graduate's image and information for the next edition of the Jewish Press to david@dmjfed.org

David Epstein Rimma Grigoryevna Obuhovskaya Rose Gold Isaac "Jay" Hurwitz Ronald Onnen Dr. Zane Hurkin Marilyn Kubby

**Paige Kirschner** is a 7th grader at South Middle School in Waukee where she is active in show choir and her school theater program. Paige also plays the violin and was selected to be a member of the Des Moines Youth Philharmonic. She enjoys playing tennis and swimming. Since the age of 5, Paige has been an active supporter of the Make A Wish Foundation and for her mitzvah project she will be volunteering and fundraising for this special organization. Paige is the daughter of Ellen and Matthew Kirschner and proud big sister to Emma. She will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 23rd at 9:30 am at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. A Kiddush luncheon will follow services.

Arik Yakobsen will be confirmed on Friday, May 8 at 8:00 p.m. at the Ames Jewish Congregation. Arik, currently a junior at Ames High School, is a bright, gifted young man with many academic achievements of which the community can be proud. He plays several musical instruments and speaks several languages. He also is a great athlete, competing on his high school varsity cross country and swimming teams as well as on the high school tennis team. From a young age Arik showed independence and responsibility. He has contributed many hours of volunteer time to the community; he is a member of the Key Club and also volunteers at the public library. He has worked as a martial arts instructor (he has black belt in Tae Kwon Do) and as an assistant teacher at the AJC religious school. In addition, he helps at his father's work as an electronics technician.

David and Andrea Silverstein are proud to announce that their son, **Colin Myer Silverstein**, will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah at **4:30pm on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at Temple B'nai Jeshurun.** 

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