

THE GREATER DES MOINES Jewish Press

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Happy Hanukkah

Hanukkah begins the evening of
Tuesday, December 16th



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

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[inside]

- 2 **COMMUNITY REPORT**
- 3 **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**
- 7 **TORAH TALK BY DAVID FRIEDGOOD**
- PROSPECTIVE TRIP TO JEWISH CUBA**
- 15 **CHEF DU JOUR BY KAREN ENGMAN**
- 18 **IOWA JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**International Day of Peace
Pinwheels for Peace**



Playing on the new Richards Playground



**Jewish Family Services
Senior volunteer Jake Nagorner**



Iowa Council for Holocaust Education



Iowa Jewish Historical Society

Community Report August - October Education

Beit Sefer Shalom

- Incredible start to the school year with 122 students registered in 12 classrooms (3 year olds-12th grade). Successful parent orientation, board training with new board members, celebration of the International Day of Peace, family breakfasts, fall student assessment and Tzedakah assembly.
- Online Learning Center is up and running for 3rd-6th graders. Plans are in place to integrate with all grades before the end of the school year. This online resource allows students to learn Hebrew based on ability and is accessible at home as well as in school.
- Revamped upper school including new class choices, guest speakers, Shabbatons, and trips to NY and DC.
- More robust arts and culture program, expanded Israel program, and rabbi rotation through ALL grades.

Engman Camp Shalom

- 59 kids attended Engman Camp Shalom this summer
- Winter Break Camp scheduled for December 22-24 and Dec 29-31
- Year-round camp events being scheduled monthly

Gan Shalom

- Gan Shalom Summer Camp 2014 was an extremely successful program with over 30 children throughout the summer. An incredible end of summer celebration carnival was held jointly with Engman Camp Shalom.
- Gan Shalom Preschool currently has 26 children enrolled for the 2014-2015 school year.
- Open House / Meet the Teachers Event on Sept. 15, 2014 was very well attended by parents, teachers, and students.

Senior Care & Family Outreach

Jewish Family Services and Outreach

- To date we have enrolled 129 children in PJ Library! This puts us well above our goal for the end of this year, even though we are only a couple months into our second year.
- We held an event at Reiman Gardens in Ames in July, and we are planning for our next two PJ Library events.
- Co-hosted the first "Kibitz and Kids" of the school year with Beit Sefer Shalom. Anissa Deay, Gan Shalom preschool director, spoke on children's temperaments.
- We have worked with United Way to entirely revise the performance measures that we report. These measures will better reflect the scope of work that JFS does on a daily basis.

Community

Jewish Community Relations Commission

- During and after Israel's war with Hamas, JCRC presented information on the topic to the media and civic organizations. Several of our letters were published by *The Des Moines Register*, interviews were conducted by WHO-TV, 98.3 FM, and WHO-AM, and presentations made to a branch of Rotary and a private luncheon club. In addition, JCRC helped facilitate the Israel Rally held at Beth El Jacob Synagogue.
- As a means of providing our community access to current information about the situation in the Middle East, JCRC co-sponsored along with Temple B'nai Jeshurun, interactive Skype interviews with journalists/analysts Haviv Rettig Gur, Shmuel Rosner, and Jonathan Spyer.
- JCRC facilitated the Iowa Council for Holocaust Education meeting at the University of Northern Iowa, assisted in logistics to bring in the executives of the Israel Federation of Chambers of Commerce, and facilitated the Kever Avot memorial services held in Jewish Glendale Cemetery.
- JCRC assisted in the production of the student-written and illustrated biography of Fred Lorber based on his experiences during the Holocaust. The JCRC will hold an event honoring Fred Lorber on the occasion of the publication of *Fritz!* on November 14th at Temple B'nai Jeshurun at 7:00 pm.

History

Iowa Jewish Historical Society

- 100th Anniversary: Most of August focused on the IJHS staff working with David Copeland to produce the slideshow for the 100th anniversary gala on August 24. The IJHS staff identified more than 1,000 pictures from the historic collection that were included in the slideshow.
In addition to scanning these pictures, IJHS began a project of identifying the people in the pictures. Collections Committee Robbie Winick has already identified the people in several hundred pictures.
- Collections: The IJHS staff continues to receive a variety of donations, including two typewriters and a binding machine from Art Kagin's company.
- Cookbook: Work continues on the cookbook. Cookbook Chair Karen Engman has completed the first draft of the book. The first draft of the recipes is being proofed by board member Marsha Miller, Karen and the IJHS staff are selecting pictures for the book. The book is scheduled to be available for purchase in April 2015.
- Membership: The IJHS annual membership campaign began in July and continues through the fall.

Connecting the Dots....



Jule Goldstein, President

I'd like to tell you a story — one that is very personal to me, and one that has meaning for all of us who are Jewish.

When my son Jacob was in 5th grade, he was bullied — not because of his size, his interests or his friends. He was bullied because he was a Jew. A fellow classmate intentionally sought him out to let him know that "Hitler had missed one" and he wondered what Jacob "would smell like if he was crispy." The comments were blatant....and hurtful...and discriminatory.

As is true with many organizations, the school wanted the problem to "go away." Over time, with appropriate interventions and, most especially, the assistance of the Jewish Federation and our wonderful Rabbis, the problem was resolved. Jacob persevered and grew.

Now fast-forward to August 24, 2014 and the 100th Anniversary Gala of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. That evening was filled with a great sense of respect, admiration and pride for our Jewish community and each of us who make up that community. Jacob, now 13, was in attendance and could see first-hand what a remarkable heritage he has — and what it means, in the most positive way, to be a Jew. He was able to "connect the dots" from what he had experienced to what is real.

The Jewish Federation has been building bridges of tolerance and understanding for 100 years. What does that mean? It means that the Federation will continue to help individuals and our community:

- To recognize Judaism as one of many religions and Israel as a Jewish and democratic state in the Middle East
- To develop awareness for the role that Jews have played in history and the contributions they have made to many cultures
- To oppose hateful discrimination and prejudice and to promote sensitivity to diversity within society
- To create an awareness of anti-Semitism as a societal problem and an understanding of the negative impact of anti-Semitism upon our communities and ourselves
- To foster and develop a positive Jewish learning environment for the next generation.
- To encourage Iowans to find meaning in the lessons of the Holocaust, emphasizing the need for each of us to take personal responsibility for the protection of civil rights within our pluralistic society.

My family has personally benefited from the Federation's important work. Many of you and your families have too. And the Federation will not stop its work — until bigotry, discrimination and anti-Semitism are a thing of the past.

Thank you for supporting the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. I hope you are as proud as I am to be a member of this great organization!

Shalom,
Jule

Beit Sefer Shalom

The Jewish Federation Community School

Tzedakah Tree

Throughout each year the students of Beit Sefer Shalom collect Tzedakah and select a charity(charities) to donate to.

Each leaf on this tree represents \$20 collected in Tzedakah.

Total collected in 2013-2014 school year:
\$650

Charity for 2013-2014 school year:
House of Wheels - בית הגלגלים

The House of Wheels is an Israeli organization which has been operating since 1979 and provides a range of services for children and adults with impaired mobility, mainly due to cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy

Thank you to all of our amazing students for your generosity!

"Tzedakah" is the Hebrew word for the acts that we call "charity" in English: giving aid, assistance and money to the poor and needy or to other worthy causes. However, the nature of tzedakah is very different from the idea of charity. The word "charity" suggests benevolence and generosity; a magnanimous act by the wealthy and powerful for the benefit of the poor and needy. The word "tzedakah" is derived from the Hebrew root Tzadei-Dalet-Qof, meaning righteousness, justice or fairness. In Judaism, giving to the poor is not viewed as a generous, magnanimous act; it is simply an act of justice and righteousness, the performance of a duty: giving the poor their due.

THE GREATER DES MOINES Jewish Press

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Opinions expressed in The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press are not necessarily those of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, its committees, or its staff.

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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The Greater Des Moines
Jewish Press
33158 Ute Avenue
Waukee, IA 50263-7538
515-987-0899
jcrc@dmjfed.org

Volume 31, No. 2

November/December 2014

BEIT SEFER SHALOM MADRICHIM



Madrachim is the plural of the Hebrew "madrach" (for a male) and "madracha" (for a female) and comes from the word "to lead." Madrichim not only aid teachers in the classroom, but are leaders in our synagogue by being role

models. Madrichim emphasize their role model commitment to their Jewish community through their continued involvement in our school and by passing on to younger students what they have learned.

Our Madrichim Program was created for 7th-12th graders interested in becoming young Jewish leaders in our community. All of our participants learn how to be leaders by use of Dugma Ishit (personal example). Madrichim work for Beit Sefer Shalom on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. The program is off to a tremendous start with 10 junior madrichim and 8 senior madrichim. Madrichim are trained throughout the year, and serve as support throughout the school. Currently, Madrichim are working in each classroom, as librarians, office and technology support, as well as Hebrew support. Outreach is another area that we will focus on with our Madrichim, to teach them how to get the word out for upcoming events and other things that may be happening within the community or throughout the world. Madrichim earn community service hours or choose to earn minimum wage. If you know someone who is interested in becoming a Madrich, please e-mail Sophie at Sophie@dmjfed.org to request an application.

GAN SHALOM IN THE SUKKAH

At Gan Shalom, our preschool children have wonderful learning opportunities during Jewish holidays. The teachers and staff work together to provide thoughtful learning experiences. Here is a glimpse:


We were able to celebrate Shabbat in our sukkah, which was great because it was a beautiful day to be outside. The children decorated the sukkah with fruit and paper chains.

Morah Sophie taught us about the lulav and the etrog. The children loved to smell the etrog, which smelled kind of like a lemon. Did you know the lulav is made of three different branches? It is made of a bundle of willow, palm, and myrtle branches. The children got to shake the lulav in all directions because G-d is everywhere. We read some great Sukkot books, too. They were *The Vanishing Gourds-A Sukkot Mystery*, *Sadie's Sukkot Breakfast*, and *Engineer Ari and the Sukkah Express*, from the PJ Library.

During this time we introduced the children to the mitzvah of tzedakah, and we started putting money in the tzedakah box while singing Penny in the Pushka. We are excited to watch the tzedakah box grow!

In Zman Ivrit (Hebrew Class), Morah Orli taught the class how to count from 1-20 in Hebrew. She also reviewed colors and read some Hebrew books to them. It's fun to watch the children at Gan Shalom learning Hebrew.





Global Day of Jewish Learning 2014

Heroes, Villains, Saints and Fools: The People in the Book

Brought to you by:
Beit Sefer Shalom, Jewish Family Services, Gan Shalom, and PJ Library


Join us and over 400 other Jewish communities from 40 different countries in 6 continents around the world for our **Second Annual Global Day of Jewish Learning!**

Mark your calendars for
Sunday, November 16th, 2014 from 9:00am-12:00pm
and meet us at Caspe Terrace for a morning filled with
interactive learning, creativity, music and crafts for the whole community.


Bring your entire family to read stories about heroes from the Torah, talk about what makes someone courageous, create crafts in our PJ Library Reading Room and help us perform *Tikkun Olam* for our greater community.

Come for breakfast at 9:00am and enjoy hands-on learning with children, parents, and community members


To RSVP for this special event, contact Mollie Giller at mollie@dmjfed.org or 515.987.0899 ext. 230. Childcare will be available for children 1 year old and up.




Beit Sefer Shalom
The Jewish Federation Community School



Jewish Family Services



Gan Shalom
The Jewish Center for Family Relationship Development



PJ Library
JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES AND SONGS

33158 Ute Avenue, Waukee, IA 50263 • phone: (515) 987-0899 • email: mollie@dmjfed.org



Engman Camp Shalom WINTER CAMP 2014

DECEMBER 22ND - 24TH, DECEMBER 29TH - 31ST
TIME: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Field Trips on Mondays and Wednesdays

Dec. 22nd - Skate West Roller Skating Party
Dec. 24th - Glow in the Dark Mini Golf
Dec. 29th - Sleepy Hollow Sports Park
Dec. 31st - Movie Mania

Cost: \$25 per day

Transportation: \$5 per day

Before Care: 7:30am - 9:00am \$5 per day

After Care: 4:00pm - 5:30pm \$5 per day

*For additional information or questions
contact Dorfat*

engmancampshalom@dmjfed.org
or 515-987-0899 ext. 232

Kibitz & Kids

*Brought to you by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines
Co-sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Beit Sefer Shalom*

Get to know other parents and discuss the topic of raising self-reliant children. Each session will cover an aspect of everyday parenting through the lens of important Jewish teachings. Our discussion will be relevant for any parent raising children in the Jewish faith.

Sundays from 11:00am-12:00pm

November 16th

(This month's program will be The Global Day of Jewish Learning from 9am - 12pm)

December 7th

January 11th

February 8th

March 1st

April 12th

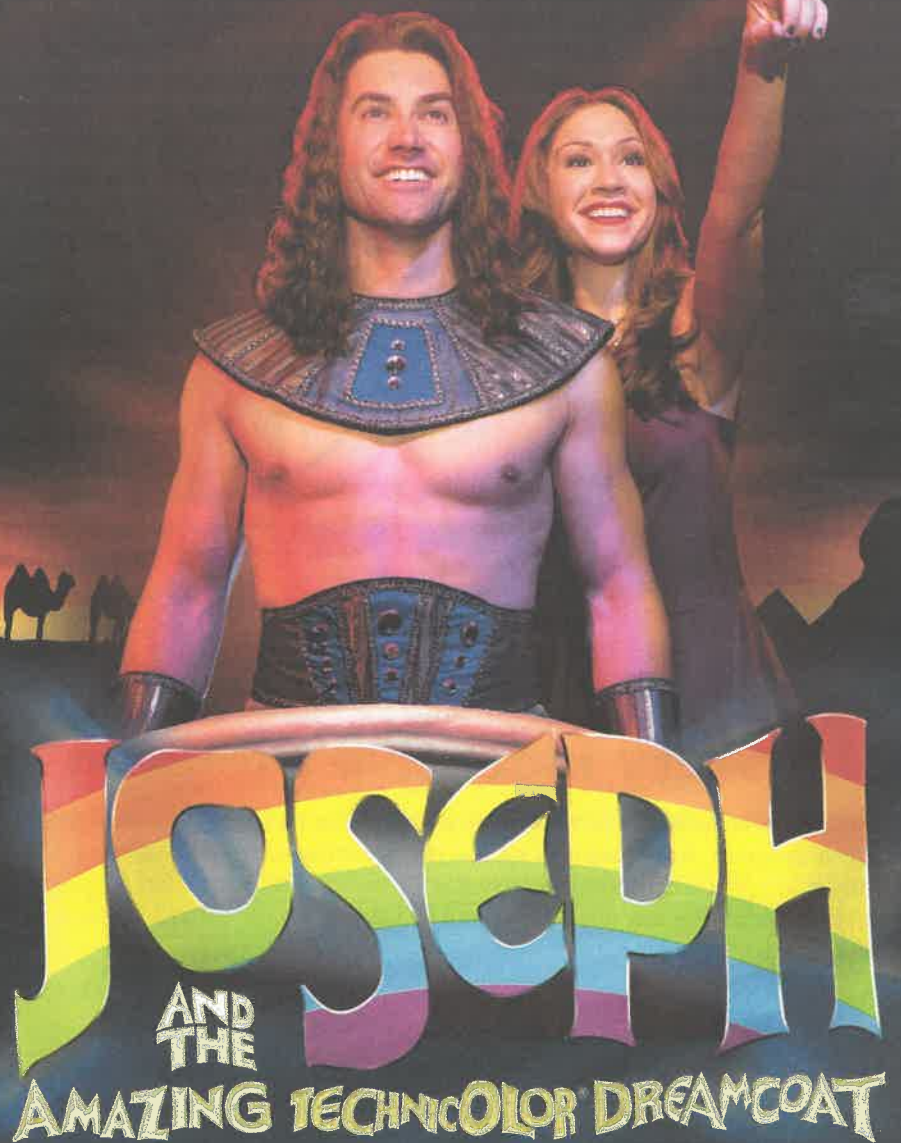
Caspe Terrace in Bookey Lodge

This is a free program for any parent with children of any age. The hour will allow for the planned discussion, snacks, and socializing. During the program childcare services for kids ages 3 and under will be provided.

Please RSVP to mollie@dmjfed.org if you plan to attend.

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THE ORIGINAL'S JOYFULNESS,
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- THE PLAIN DEALER

November 18-23

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Upcoming Events:

- **Thursday, November 13th:**
Senior Luncheon at Temple B'nai
Jeshurun from 12:00-1:30
- **Friday, November 14th:**
Event honoring Fred Lorber at Temple
B'nai Jeshurun at 7:00pm
- **Sunday, November 16th:**
Global Day of Jewish Learning at The
Casper Terrace from 9:00-12:00
- **Sunday, November 23rd:**
Kibitz and Kids at The Casper Terrace
from 11:00-12:00
- **Sunday, December 7th:**
Kibitz and Kids at The Casper Terrace
from 11:00-12:00
- **Thursday, December 11th:**
Senior Luncheon at Tifereth Israel
Synagogue from 12:00-1:30



PJ Library Incentive Program

If you know of anyone who is not already signed up for PJ Library, we have a new incentive program. For every new person you recommend to PJ Library, you will receive a \$15 gift card to Barnes and Noble! They must list you as their reference when they enroll. For any questions about PJ Library, please contact Mollie at mollie@dmjfed.org.



Meet our Seniors: Jake Nagorner



Jake is active in the programs of Jewish Family Services – both as a volunteer and participant. For many years Jake has provided transportation for senior adults to medical appointments, shopping, and other places around town they might not be able to go to otherwise. He also enjoys participating in the senior activities and likes the trips to Prairie Meadows.

Jake was born and raised on the east side of Des Moines, graduating from East High School and continues to attend their annual reunions. Jake stated that he was a frequent participant in activities at the Jewish Community Center while growing up.

After his high school graduation, Jake joined the Navy and served in the Korean War. He served on the USS Curtis as a storekeeper and gunners mate; his ship was charged with protecting convoys of battleships. Jake enjoyed California and following his discharge from the Navy, lived there and became involved in the contracting and remodeling business. After meeting and marrying his wife, he returned to Des Moines and was a successful general contractor and real estate developer for over 20 years. He did custom building and greatly enjoyed this work. After his retirement Jake and his wife returned to California and lived there until 2000, when they returned to Des Moines.

Jake has one daughter, who is a researcher at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

Jake is a very engaging person to talk to, with lots of stories from the Des Moines of years past, so please be sure to visit with him when you see him!

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PARTNERSHIP 2GETHER, THE DES MOINES – ISRAEL CONNECTION
WITH THE JEWISH FEDERATION'S P2G COMMITTEE
AND TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN'S SISTERHOOD

Present

A DISCUSSION WITH THE "WOMEN OF VISION" DELEGATION
FROM OUR PARTNERSHIP REGION, THE WESTERN GALILEE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10
PROGRAM AT 7:00 PM
FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION

THE CASPER TERRACE
33158 UTE AVENUE
WAUKEE

During their visit to Partnership communities in the United States, we will have the opportunity to welcome and hear from four outstanding professionals from different fields. We look forward to learning how they've built their careers, how they live and work in their local community, and what life is like for them in Israel.



GALIT AVIRAM-COHEN
TOWN MANAGER



DIANA BLETTER
AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR



DR. JANAN FARRAJ-FALAH
SCHOLAR ON DRUZE WOMEN



KINERET HADAR
CHIEF MUNICIPAL LEGAL ADVISOR



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT [JCRA@DMJFED.ORG](mailto:jcra@dmjfed.org)
The Casper Terrace is located 1/3 mile south of Exit 117 on I-80

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A Stiff-Necked People

by David Friedgood



Several months ago, while preparing a Shabbat Torah reading, I came across the term: "Am Kiseh Oref" – literally 'a people with stiff necks'.

God was speaking to Moses and used this phrase to describe the Israelites. I had come across the words before and wondered about their meaning. Why is it that our LORD, of infinite goodness and mercy, speaks of His people in such an apparent demeaning fashion?

It turns out that Am Kiseh Oref is frequently used in the Bible by God and Moses to describe the Jewish People. It was first applied after the incident of the Golden Calf, when Moses descends to the Israelite camp after receiving the Ten Commandments (and the rest of the Torah) on Mt. Sinai. The people had not heard from their leader for over 40 days and were afraid that he had perished on the mountain. Without Moses' guidance they feared losing their connection to God and His providence. The High Priest Aaron (Moses' brother) was forced to forge a calf of gold from the community's jewelry so the people could have a concrete image they could pray to, and which would provide them protection. God was furious and: "The LORD further said to Moses, 'I see that this is a stiff-necked people. Now let Me be, that my anger may blaze forth against them and that I may destroy

them...'" (Exodus 32:9-10) But Moses argued with his God, and persuaded Him to forgive the young Jewish nation. After all, they had only recently been released from their Egyptian bondage, and had little experience with personal freedom and religious obligation. In a sense, they were children, in the process of learning how to be a nation. These Israelites, who spent years wandering through the wilderness, never completely learned their lessons. The Bible is filled with stories detailing their rebellion and God's punishment. Ultimately this generation of slaves (and Moses) was not permitted to enter the Promised Land. It was their children who crossed the Jordan River and created a new nation in the Land of Israel.

The Jewish people, however, never did lose the stiff-necked designation. The last Biblical mention of this phrase occurs at the end of Deuteronomy. Moses is giving his final speech and instruction to the people he had shepherded for over 40 years. He is concerned about their ability to follow orders and God's law once he is gone: "Well I know how defiant and stiff-necked you are: even now, while I am alive in your midst, you have been defiant toward the LORD; how much more then, when I am dead!" (Dt. 31:27) Subsequently, several Prophets and post-biblical scholars have described the Children of Israel as stiff-necked. The question I have is: What does this mean? Is stiff-necked always a negative description of human behavior, or can it be positive? Or, both negative

and positive?

The early Hebrews were a pastoral people. They worked the earth of Israel with a plow, often pulled by Oxen. The word Kiseh is derived from the word hard or stiff, and Oref is the back of the neck, where hair grows on an Ox. An Ox with a hard, or stiff, neck relentlessly moves forward in his labor. He is not distracted, and does not turn his head to one side or another. I admit to having no experience with Oxen and fieldwork, but this behavior seems to be advantageous for the farmer behind the plow who is trying to get his field plowed efficiently. He would prefer a single-minded beast that obstinately works towards his goal. The phrase Am Kiseh Oref, then, is usually translated as stubborn or obstinate.

After the incident of the Golden Calf, Moses returns to Mt. Sinai and receives a second set of stone tablets. Moses is given a glimpse of Almighty God and learns something of God's nature. Moses pleads for his peoples' welfare: "If I have gained Your favor, O LORD, pray let the LORD go in our midst, even though this is a stiff-necked people. Pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for Your own!" (Ex.34:9) The great French medieval commentator Rashi in illuminating this verse describes a stiff-necked people as those that are inflexible and unwilling to consider different points of view. They refuse to listen and will not repent their sins. Another opinion is offered by the Spanish sage Nachmonides (Ramban). He

agrees that being obstinate is a negative trait, but that it can also generate positive results. God is in the midst of the Israelite nation because they are stiff-necked. Later commentators also note the benefit of Israelite intransience. 'The stubbornness of the Jews in the face of persecution has enabled us to remain Jewish through the centuries. (After Exodus Rabba 42:9) For over 2000 years the stateless wandering Hebrew People were able to maintain their Jewish identity despite the horrific atrocities they faced individually and as a community. Many were stubborn; they were obstinate. They refused to assimilate with the majority population surrounding them. This Am Kiseh Oref were our forbearers, our grandmothers and grandfathers. It is because of their sacrifice, their refusal to look one way or another, but to relentlessly plow forward to their ultimate goal, the Promised Land, that Am Yisrael Chai – The Jewish People lives.

"Thus said the LORD: A cry is heard in Ramah –

Wailing, bitter weeping – Rachel weeping for her children.

She refuses to be comforted, For her children who are gone. Thus said the LORD:

Restrain your voice from weeping,

Your eyes from shedding tears; For there is a reward in your labor.

They shall return from the enemy's land.

And there is hope for your future – declares the LORD.

Your children shall return to their country. (Jeremiah 31:15-17) ■

MISSION TO JEWISH CUBA



THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER DES MOINES IS NOW SURVEYING INTEREST AMONG MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION IN PARTICIPATING IN A MISSION TO JEWISH CUBA

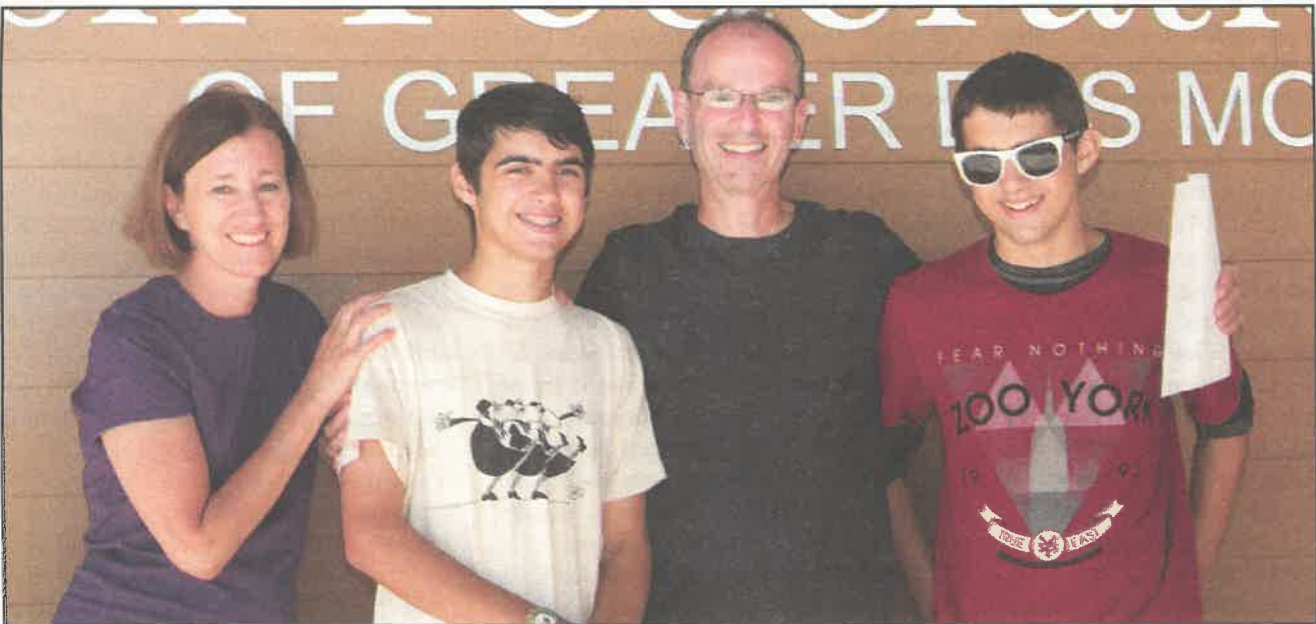
— WINTER 2015/2016 —

Learn about history, politics, and culture. Meet with Jewish community leaders and members to discuss their history and freedoms in Cuba, and see popular sites on the island.

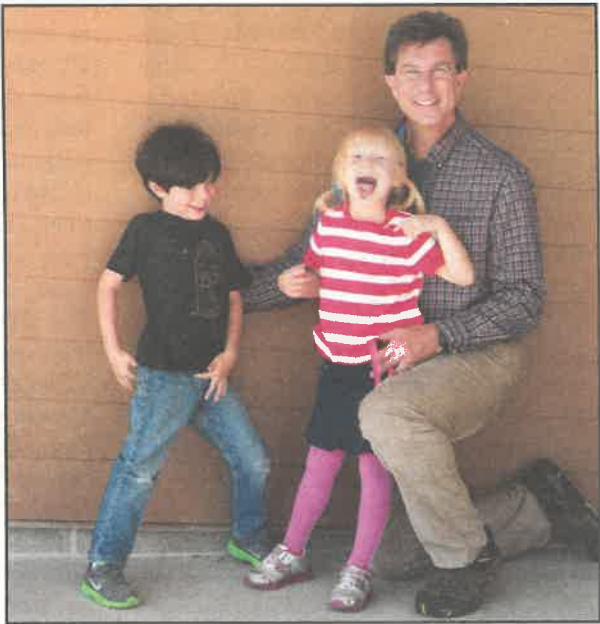
It is estimated that the cost of the trip will be approximately \$3950.00 per person, plus incidentals. If interested or for further information, contact the JCRC at (515) 987-0899 x 212 or jerc@dmjfed.org.

OCT's People to People license allows you to travel on one of its tours. Other Cuban Journeys, LLC is licensed by the US Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (CF-2014-306910-1) to organize and conduct educational exchanges in Cuba that will result in meaningful full-time interactions between the US travelers and individuals in Cuba.

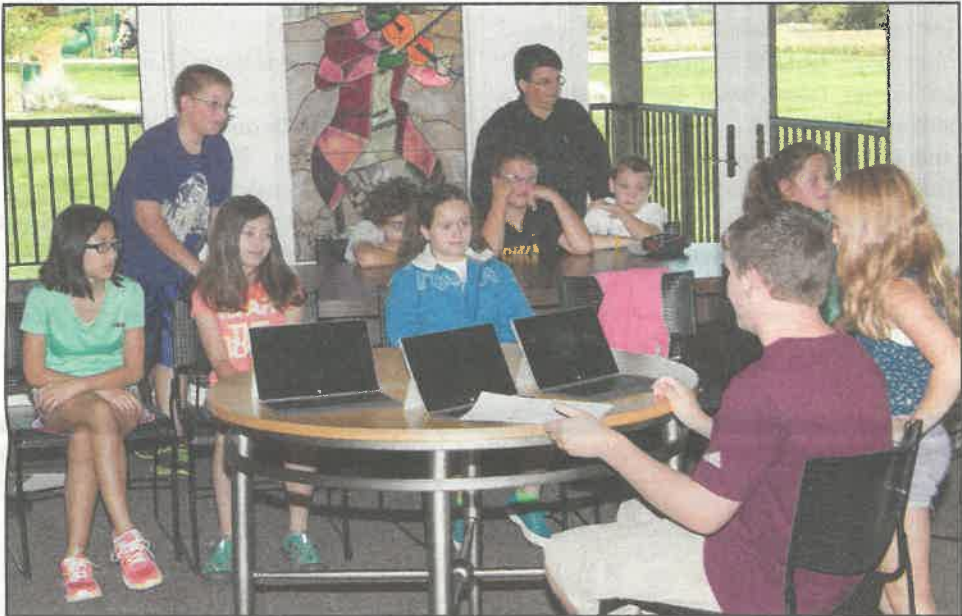
First Day of School September 28th



First Day of Beit Sefer Shalom and parent orientation.



First Day of Beit Sefer Shalom



6th Grade learning about the new Online Learning Center (OLC)



4th Grade with Orli Gubani



Stacie Franklin teaches music in the Beit Sefer Shalom Library.



Pre-K play time



Kindergarten teacher Allyson Reister

Highlight: Beit Sefer Shalom Teachers and Board



Beit Sefer Shalom Board President Gabrielle Callistein and Family



Kindergarten heads out to the playground.



1st Grade with Dori Hauser



Pre-K with Cynthia Shulman



Stacie Franklin

*Music and Israeli Dance Teacher,
Rejoined September 2014*

Family oriented, musician (guitar, piano, clarinet), dancer (Israeli, folk, tap, ballet, jazz), theater buff, enjoys athletics and yoga, loves to serve the community and support Judaism- especially with our youth!

Stacie, daughter of Mary and Irv Steinberg, grew up in Des Moines as a member of Tifereth Israel Synagogue. She studied and worked in Israel on Kibbutz Tzora and attended / worked at Camp Young Judea. After marrying the love of her life, Tom Franklin, they became members at Temple B'nai Jeshurun and raised two awesome children, Jeremy and Brittney, who they are very proud of in many ways.

Stacie is thrilled to be returning to Sunday School as a music and Israeli dance teacher! She and Cathy Mansfield jointly served as music teachers for many years in the early 2000s. Stacie currently works at Meredith Corporation as a Lead Project Manager with the Process Engineering team.

Stacie has served in many leadership roles in the Des Moines Jewish community over the past several decades including USY Youth Group Adviser, Parent Board President of Boulevard Children's Center, Temple B'nai Jeshurun Sisterhood President, JFCS Music Teacher, JFCS 9th Grade Israel Teacher, and Temple B'nai Jeshurun President of the Board of Trustees. Stacie holds a B.S. in computer science and a B.A. in religion from the University of Iowa. She has an MBA from Drake University and is certified as a Project Management Professional (PMP) and as a Six Sigma Black Belt.

Stacie's goal this year at Beit Sefer Shalom is to invigorate our community's Jewish children with the excitement of being Jewish through music and dance!



Natasha Hausmann

*At Large Member of the School Board,
Joined September 2014*

Busy wife and mother, environmental steward, fitness addict, passionate knitter/quilter (with no time to do either).

Tasha, her husband, Neil, and her two sons, Ezra (age 6) and Zeke (age 4) moved to Des Moines from Davis, California in June 2013. Since their arrival, they welcomed Felix (age 1) into their family. They were immediately welcomed into the Tifereth Israel and Beit Sefer Shalom families. Now that they are over the shell-shock of the last cold winter, they have loved exploring the beauty of the area and other Iowa oddities such as swimming in pools of corn, eating food on a stick and a rather large and famous state fair.

Tasha has been an environmental consultant for Environmental Resources Management for the last three years. She performs statistical, biological and risk assessment work for clients with contaminated sites. Before becoming a consultant, she completed her PhD in ecology from UC Berkeley, where she met her handsome husband. As a graduate student, she enjoyed teaching college-level biology and spending time doing field work. She worked as a post doctoral scholar for a year after her degree before devoting two years to her family.

As a volunteer, Tasha helped to develop a young children's Jewish program in California including regular holiday celebrations, tot shabbat programming and a Sunday school option for preschoolers. She has been delighted to bring many of the materials she developed in California to the Des Moines community.

Tasha is looking forward to serving on the BSS board and hopes to expand the Tikkun Olam and tzedakah programs, especially for the youngest children.



Rachele Hjelmaas

*Curriculum Chair,
Joined September 2014*

Rachele is a Senior Legal Counsel with the Legal Services Division of the Iowa Legislative Services Agency, where she has worked for the past 14 years.

As a volunteer, she has coached middle and high school mock trial teams in the Johnston School District for the past eight years and recently completed board service as Vice-Chairperson of the Johnston Dragon Scholarship Fund. She has also been active in the Des Moines Jewish Community, serving on the board at Temple B'nai Jeshurun, as the Director of the JCS Hebrew High School Program, and as a 4th, 5th, and 8th grade Hebrew School teacher for 15 years.

Rachele and her husband Joel, an attorney with Wells Fargo, are the proud parents of four boys: Ben, a recent business school graduate who works at Nationwide Insurance in Des Moines; Alex, a senior biochemistry pre-medical student; Jacob, a senior finance pre-law student; and Josh, a freshman business finance student, all attending college at the University of Iowa. Rachele grew up in Des Moines and is the daughter of Marvin and Kay Braverman.

Drake Hillel Open House



Executive Director Stuart Oxer presenting a gift to Drake student advisor Lilianna Bernstein and Drake Director of Public Relations and Media Management Jarad Bernstein.



Welcoming from Drake President David Maxwell



Remarks from Drake Hillel Student President Max Lasko



Rabbi Leib Bolel



Developer Gil Coosner



Dori Hauser hanging the Mezuzah



Drake VP of Alumni and Development John Smith



Photos courtesy of Drake University



Kitchen



Poker Room



Front Entry and Study Nook



Gathering on the front lawn



Jake Jacobs and Mark Finkelstein



Front of Hillel House at 1120 31st Street



Drake Alumna Hannah Rogers



David Maxwell and the Bernsteins



Social Room



Gathering on the front lawn

On Sunday, September 21st the Drake Hillel opened its new home to the community, with over 135 people in attendance for the dedication and mezuzah hanging. President David Maxwell of Drake University, Executive Director Stuart Oser of The Jewish Federation, Drake student advisor Lilianna Bernstein, Drake Director of Public Relations and Media Management Jarad Bernstein, and Drake Hillel Student President Max Lasko welcomed the crowd with remarks on the importance of the new Hillel House for the Des Moines, Drake, and Jewish communities. Student President Lasko commented that the house has increased participation levels in Drake Hillel and allowed the organization a space for more frequently scheduled programs.

It has been over two decades since Drake Hillel had a home in the Drake neighborhood. Now located at 1120 31st Street, the Hillel House is now able to provide a permanent home to the students on Drake's campus. The Hillel House boasts space for students to enjoy programs and speakers, celebrate Jewish holidays, eat Shabbat dinner as a student body, and of course hang out and have fun! Students can pop in as they please to do laundry in the Hillel basement, study, or watch TV in the Hillel living room; the refrigerator is stocked with food and drinks for Hillel students to nosh on.

There are currently 100 Jewish students signed up in Drake Hillel. Some grew up in the Des Moines Jewish community, but a vast majority are out-of-state students who have chosen to make Des Moines their new home during college. While here, Drake Hillel students serve the Des Moines Jewish community as Federation Community School teachers, aids, and camp counselors. Many Drake students also attend local synagogues.

As Des Moines grows, Drake University is seeing a larger percentage of their out-of-state student population choosing to stay in Des Moines for post-graduation employment. Naturally, some will be these same Jewish Drake Hillel students—and they can then fill in a new generation in the Des Moines Jewish community. They are our future synagogue members, Federation school parents, and Jewish community volunteers.

If you have considered how you can make the future of Jewish Des Moines a stronger place, consider supporting the Drake University Hillel. The Hillel is currently in a fund-raising campaign to permanently endow the Hillel House. There are endowment options for the entire house or individual rooms. All donations are tax-deductible through the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and can be paid over five years. If you are interested in making a difference for Drake Hillel, or would like a private tour of the new Hillel House, please contact stuart@dmjfed.org or lilianna.bernstein@drake.edu.

[local marathon man]

Rabbi Leib Bolel - Who Would Have Believed It?

Rabbi Bolel Completes The Grueling Ironman Wisconsin Race - And Raises Funds For Charity In The Process!

Impressive and inspiring are two words that characterize a recent "task" undertaken by Rabbi Leib Bolel from Beth El Jacob Synagogue. Those who know Rabbi Bolel are likely aware that he has in the past participated in sports. The details, however, most people don't know.

As reported in a recent article in *The Des Moines Register*, it was noted that Rabbi Bolel played American-style football when he lived and studied in Israel and that after he came to Des Moines, the Rabbi participated in several, progressively more rigorous triathlons races involving swimming, biking, and running. For the prestigious Hy-Vee Triathlon, the Rabbi swam 1.5 kilometers, rode 40 kilometers, and ran 10 kilometers.

One would think that would be grueling enough. But then this past April, the Rabbi participated in a Texas event called the Ironman 70.3, which included swimming 1.2 miles, biking 56 miles, and running precisely half of an Olympic marathon, 13.1 miles.

Now, unbelievably, in September the Rabbi subjected himself to an even greater challenge by entering the beyond-all-humanly-possible Ironman Wisconsin - putting himself to the test one more time and enabling him to raise funds for an admirable charity. It was just prior to his participation in this gargantuan triathlon

that Rabbi Bolel was interviewed by the *Register*, the article entitled, "Des Moines rabbi to run Ironman for interfaith cooperation."

Well, indeed, Rabbi Bolel miraculously, successfully completed the race, and this is what he had to say about the experience - in his own words.

Rabbi Bolel: "On September 7th at 7am at the sound of a cannon, I along with close to 3000 others set off on a journey that was to cover 140.6 miles; 2.4 mile swim followed by 112 mile bike ride and ending with a marathon 26.2 mile run: Ironman Wisconsin. This was the end of a journey in one aspect and the beginning in another. After many months of training, the day had arrived. With this being the only possible year to do this, as over the next few years, the dates for this particular race fall on or right around the High Holidays and the race already sold out a year before, to attain a spot, I partnered with team World Vision by raising funds, enabling us to bring clean water to approximately 2000 people in Africa for life.

With a 17 hour limit to complete the race and become an "Ironman" I was happy to complete it in 14:45:45. It is primarily the mental challenge that one needs to overcome in such a race providing adequate training has been put into it. With the many mental

challenges being overcome one at a time; from climbing 6000 feet on the bike to dehydration on the run I learned more so than ever the importance of dealing with each challenge patiently. Further lessons that I took out of the race were:

- As long as you keep on moving forward, you will reach your goal.
- An appreciation for health and the utmost importance of it is integral to our very being.
- The motivation and encouragement that family and friends give you while challenged, are priceless.
- Most importantly, the knowledge that what may seem impossible at first is really within reach when one is committed to it is paramount to success.

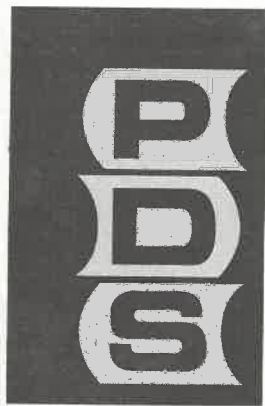
These are some of the thoughts running through my head when hearing the roars of thousands of spectators as I approach the finish line. Even though Ironman has had some scientist comparing it to sitting on a sofa for 14 hours and aging two decades, this was all worth it. Set goals, achieve and succeed."

Mazal tov, Rabbi Bolel on this great accomplishment. May you go from strength to strength.



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Jewish Federations Hail Passage of Resolution Condemning Anti-Semitism

House resolution features support from virtually entire American Jewish community

Washington, D.C. - In the face of rising anti-Semitism around the world, the House of Representatives took a clear stand on September 18, 2014 against hatred and bigotry. The Jewish Federations of North America hailed the unanimous passage of H.Res.707, which "Condemn[s] all forms of anti-Semitism and rejecting attempts to justify anti-Jewish hatred or violent attacks as an acceptable expression of disapproval or frustration over political events in the Middle East or elsewhere." Virtually the entirety of the American Jewish community came together in support of the resolution, which garnered a wide range of support from both sides of the political aisle.

William Daroff, senior vice president for public policy and the director of the Washington office for Jewish Federations, stated,

"The past few months have made it clear to all that we live in a dangerous

time, and it is comforting to know that the Jewish community has the unqualified support of our Congressional leaders. In passing this resolution unanimously, the House of Representatives has made clear that hatred and bigotry have no place in our society. We applaud and thank Reps. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), Pete Roskam (R-IL), Nita Lowey (D-NY) and Kay Granger (R-TX) for bringing forward this important resolution, and we are further grateful to the 174 members of Congress who signed on as cosponsors. Through our work with Holocaust survivors and other vulnerable populations, we at Jewish Federations have seen firsthand the importance of fighting against anti-Semitism in our communities, as well as the need to protect and be vigilant against anti-Semitic attacks against Jewish communities in the U.S. and around the world."

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.



Anti-Semitism In Germany: From The Streets Back Into The Schools

by Fabian Weißbarth for the American Jewish Committee

Over the past few weeks, following the emergence of anti-Jewish attacks and hate slogans in protests that have broken out across Germany, a nationwide discussion about the extent of anti-Semitism in this country has been sparked. Sadly, anti-Semitic assaults and hate propaganda are nothing new, yet the latest protests expose a new chapter of this ongoing problem. Meanwhile, an end to the escalation of tensions is nowhere in sight.

Responding to these developments, the popular Bild newspaper published statements from a number of prominent voices on its title page under the headline, "Never again hate against Jews." Thousands participated online in the social media campaign #stimmerheben (a German expression equivalent to "raising one's voice"), including members of parliament across all parties. Chancellor Angela Merkel called the recent anti-Jewish outbursts and hate slogans an "attack on freedom and tolerance" that is simply unacceptable.

Her rebuke, however, comes across as a paradigmatic case of too little, too late. The open condemnation of anti-Semitism permeating politics and society is vitally important, and redressing anti-Semitism requires work that extends beyond symbolic

politics. Indeed, the real work begins now. How do we go about translating the general indignation over the outbreak of anti-Semitic violence into political measures with long-term potential?

The German federal government has, to this point, failed to do its homework. Shortly before the end of the previous legislative period, the parliament adopted by a great majority a resolution geared towards combatting anti-Semitism, but only after a comprehensive report published by a third-party expert commission on anti-Semitism sat idle in a drawer for two years. The report highlighted the importance of strongly supporting initiatives and educational efforts to fight anti-Semitism and convey a different picture of Israel and Judaism. In particular, progress towards achieving these aims involves the inclusion of analysis and criticism of anti-Semitic conspiracy theories on school curricula. The most recent Gaza protests have shown just how pervasive these theories have become. A number of pro-Palestine activists recently stormed a fast-food restaurant branch in Nürnberg based on the belief McDonalds and Burger King are owned by Jews.

continued on page 16

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[culture]

Artist: Charlotte Salomon



Charlotte Salomon (1917-1943) was a German-Jewish artist born in Berlin. She is primarily remembered as the creator of an autobiographical series of paintings *Leben? oder Theater?: Ein Singspiel* (Life? or Theater?: A Song-play) consisting of 769 individual works painted between 1941 and 1943 in the south of France, while Salomon was in hiding from the Nazis. (In July of 2014, the opera was premiered to rave reviews at the Salzburg Festival in Austria.) In October 1943, at the age of 26, she was captured and deported to Auschwitz, where she perished.

Charlotte Salomon came from a prosperous Berlin family. She was sixteen when the Nazis came to power in 1933. She simply refused to go to school, and stayed at home.

At a time when German universities were restricting their Jewish student quota to 1.5% of the student body (providing their fathers had served on the front line in the First World War), Charlotte succeeded in gaining admission to the Vereinigte Staatsschulen für freie und angewandte Kunst (United State Schools for Pure and Applied Arts) in 1936. She studied painting there for two years, but by summer 1938 the anti-Semitic policy of Hitler's Third Reich meant that it was too dangerous for Charlotte to continue attending the college and she did not return, despite winning a prize.

Charlotte's father was briefly interned in Sachsenhausen concentration camp in November 1938, after Kristallnacht, and the Salomon family decided to leave Germany. Charlotte was sent to the South of France to live with her grandparents, already settled in Villefranche-sur-Mer near Nice.

Charlotte and her grandfather were interned by the French authorities in a bleak camp in the Pyrenees called Gurs. Released on account of her grandfather's infirmity, the two of them returned to Nice and there - at the beginning of 1941 - Charlotte Salomon commenced the great work that would outlive her short life.

In the space of two years, she painted over a thousand gouaches, working with feverish intensity. She edited the paintings, re-arranged them, and added texts, captions, and overlays. The entire work was a slightly fantastic autobiography preserving the main events of her life - her mother's death, studying art in the shadow of the Third Reich, her relationship with her grandparents - but altering the names and employing a strong element of fantasy. Charlotte also added notes about appropriate music to increase the dramatic effect, and she called *Life? or Theater?* a 'Singspiel' or lyrical drama.

In 1943, as the Nazis intensified their search for Jews living in the South of France, she handed the work to a trusted friend with the words, "Keep this safe, it is my whole life."

By September 1943, Charlotte Salomon had married another German Jewish refugee, Alexander Nagler. The two of them were dragged from their house and transported by rail from Nice to the Nazi 'processing centre' at Drancy near Paris. By now, Charlotte Salomon was five months pregnant. She was transported to Auschwitz and was probably gassed on the same day that she arrived there.



This series of gouaches is an extraordinary and unique document. In great detail it tells the story of Salomon's family and friends, her own internal life, the political background, and her obsessive love affair. Salomon had artistic training and her household was highly cultured. The way she tells her story is full of tragedy, but the telling also reveals Salomon's sly humour and wit. The series starts out with highly detailed and multi-

layered images of the life and relationship between her mother and father. As the story unfolds the style gets broader and more expressionistic. The last 'chapters' are almost violent in their expression, as if Salomon is aware of her impending fate and can hardly wait to write and paint the details of her story as the Gestapo close in on her life.

Life? or Theater? is intended as a Gesamtkunstwerk, a Wagnerian 'total work of art' within the tradition of the ambitious nineteenth century German idea to fuse poetry, music and the visual arts. Yet Salomon's work is a reversal of that tradition which was intended to be the ultimate manifestation of Germanic culture - instead it is a deeply moving and personal masterpiece, created by a "young woman who belonged to a supposedly alien race and who was therefore held not to even have a right to exist, let alone a place in society."

The paintings that make up *Life? or Theater?* began to be exhibited in the 1960s only, the first book with 80 reproductions was published in 1963, and drew comparisons with the story of Anne Frank. Marc Chagall was shown the paintings and was impressed.

continued on page 16

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In The Kitchen with Tom Carlstrom

by Karen Engman



in Manama. I'm salivating just thinking about it. Can you come up with a good recipe?" Tom Carlstrom

So, I, too, began my research on the internet and thought I found some promising recipes for Tom. It is considered the most famous and traditional Egyptian warm dessert. It can be made with frozen puff pastry, filo dough or croissants. Nigella Lawson's website reported, "Legend has it that Om Ali was the first wife of the sultan Ezz El Din Aybek. When the sultan died, his second wife had a dispute with Om Ali, resulting in the second wife's death. To celebrate, Om Ali made this dessert and distributed it among the people of the land."

So with numerous recipes in hand and a memory of which ingredients he wanted to include, Tom crafted his own version of Om Ali, through trial and error, to achieve the perfect consistency and satisfy his craving!

Tom was born and raised in Spencer, Iowa. He graduated from the University of Iowa in 1968 and Iowa Medical School in

1972. He started his neurosurgery residency at the Bethesda Naval Hospital but finished up at the University of Iowa Hospitals in 1979. He served in the Navy from 1979-81 in San Diego and then his reserve unit was called up during the gulf war in 1991. He was stationed in Bahrain for four months.

Tom married his first wife Cindy when they were in college and they had two sons, Adam and Jason. Several years after

Cindy died, Tom and Barb Schneider, also widowed, were "fixed up" in 1997 by Barb's brother-in-law Phil Schneider. Tom converted to Judaism in November 1998 and they were married Jan. 2, 1999. Barb has two daughters, Julie and Marci. Together they have seven granddaughters and one grandson, ranging in age from 6-14 years old.

continued on page 16

Om Ali (Egyptian Bread Pudding)

A recipe from Tom Carlstrom

Dairy

Ingredients:

5 cups whole milk
2 cups whipped cream
1 cup white sugar
1 cup chopped nuts (I use walnuts, pistachios, almonds, and pine nuts, 1/4 cup each.)

1/4 cup raisins
6 large croissants
1 teaspoon cinnamon
Brown sugar for topping

Use a 9"x13" casserole dish.

Cover the croissants with butter, and toast in the oven at 400 degrees for a few minutes until crisp.

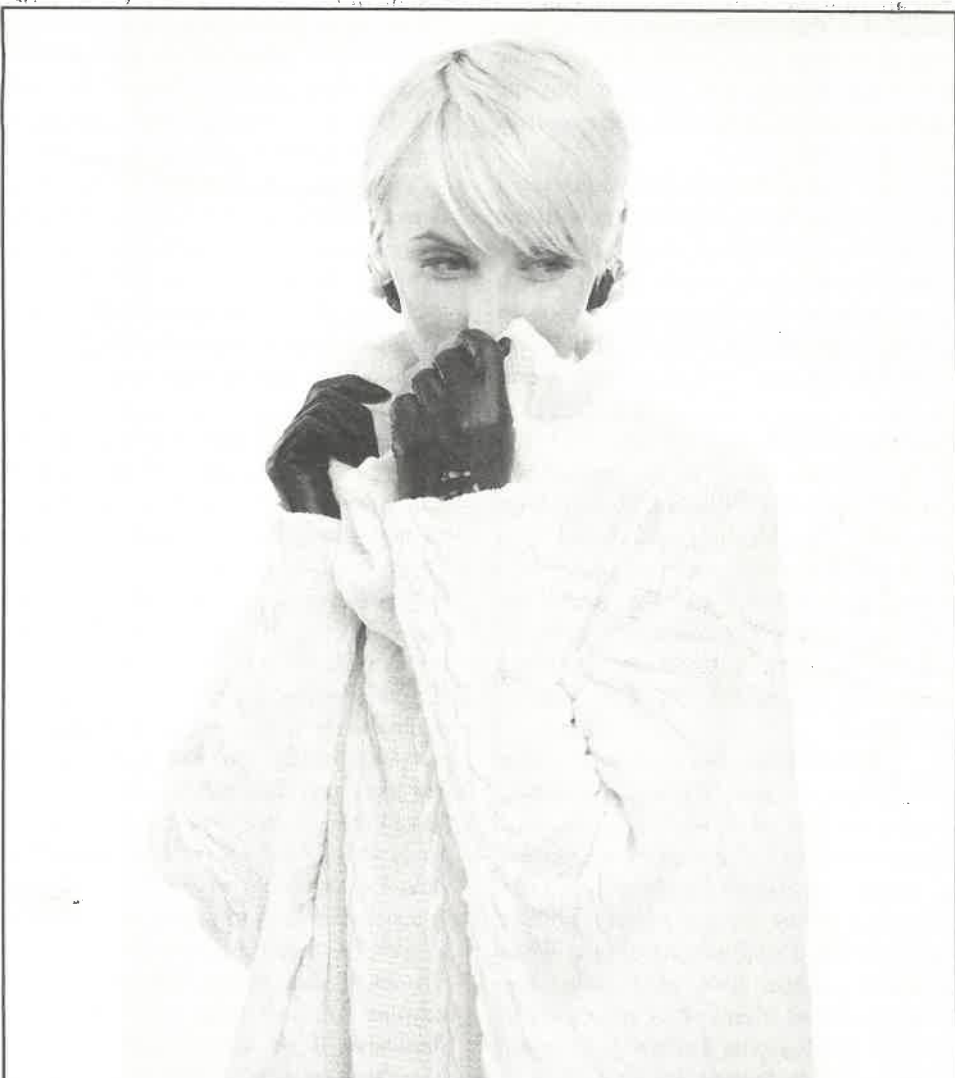
Mix the dry ingredients.

Whip the cream and add 1/2 cup of sugar to the cream. Heat the milk to almost a boil, and add the other 1/2 cup sugar to the milk. While heating the milk, put half of the croissants on the bottom of the 9 by 13 inch casserole dish, broken up into bite-size pieces.

Put most of the nut mixture over the croissants. Cover the first layer of the croissant/nut mixture with the rest of the croissants. Top off the croissants with the last of the nut/raisin mixture. Pour the milk while hot over the croissants. The casserole pan should be fairly full. Wait about 15 minutes while the croissants soak up the milk.

Cover the mixture with the whipped cream. I cover it entirely, like cake frosting. Sprinkle brown sugar over the mixture—as much or as little as you want.

Bake in a preheated oven at 350 degrees for about 20 to 30 minutes. Whipped cream should be boiling and starting to brown. Move the pan to the broiler for the last part of the cooking. The surface will brown up rapidly (less than a few minutes) so watch carefully. When the top of the mixture is browned, remove it from the oven and eat. This is a dessert you can eat warm or cold but needs to be consumed in just a day or so. This recipe feeds 8.



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Anti-Semitism from page 13 In light of the current protests, the suggestions made by the expert commission are more necessary to implement than ever. Currently, however, there is no state-supported program with the goal of dealing with the problem of anti-Semitism. Many initiatives and programs were forced to shutter due to lack of funding and support. With the summer holidays drawing to a close, the situation is increasingly urgent. What will happen when the teenagers, stirred up by the summer demonstrations, flock back into the classroom this fall? Our teachers are often overwhelmed as it is when it comes to dealing with the themes of conflict in the Middle East and anti-Semitism.

The current Gaza protests have made two developments explicit. First, Salafistic groups in Germany are gaining self-confidence and not only since the recent round of military engagement in Gaza. Currently, up to 320 German jihadis are fighting in Syria, which poses a threat not just for the armed forces.

The fighters in Syria serve as role models for many teenagers in Germany. The second development is that anti-Semitism, clearly fueled through the hate campaigns supported by Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan, is increasingly echoed in the Turkish community in Germany.

In the demonstrations that have taken place in the past weeks, more than a few Turkish flags have been visible.

It would be reductionist to place the problem solely on the shoulders of Muslims in Germany, because anti-Semitic resentment finds resonance in

all sectors of society, especially when it comes to representation of the conflict in the Middle East.

In the coming year, the German-Israeli schoolbook commission is expected to release a report on the portrayal of Israel in German educational texts. The preliminary findings are already clear: Israel is reduced solely to violence and conflict. Often, Israel is presented as a powerful "Goliath" in contrast to a weak Palestinian "David." What's more, media reports portray Israel as murderer of women and children, or speak of "eye for an eye" and retaliation. Through these representations, the border with anti-Semitism is often blurred.

Politics must assume responsibility in this situation. An emergency meeting hosted by the Minister of Culture would be an appropriate first step. A massive expansion of educational projects directed at eliminating anti-Semitism is long overdue. The coming weeks and months will show how seriously politicians are dedicated to addressing this challenge. Disapproval and outrage are important, but not sufficient to drive back a persistent wave of anti-Semitism. Anti-Semitism poses a significant threat to democratic principles in society as a whole. Both history and recent events have shown that one conclusion is abundantly clear — the fight against anti-Semitism requires the relentless attention of Jewish and non-Jewish organizations alike.

Fabian Weißbarth is the Public Affairs Coordinator at AJC Berlin. The American Jewish Committee is online at AJC.org ■

[commentary]

'DECLARE YOM KIPPUR A U.N. HOLIDAY'

By B'nai B'rith International Executive Vice President Daniel S. Mariaschin and Director of U.N. and Intercommunal Affairs David J. Michaels Op-Ed published in the NY Times, August 27, 2014.

THE emblem of the United Nations shows the planet brought together in the embrace of two olive branches. Its charter affirms the "equal rights" of "nations large and small." But in the "family of nations," some members are more equal than others. No example of this inequity is starker than that of Israel.

The State of Israel was created, in the Jewish ancestral homeland, as a result of a United Nations resolution. Its 1948 proclamation of independence refers to the United Nations seven times. Israel tries to contribute to international peace in every area in which it can help, from disaster relief to medical innovation to agricultural technology. Jewish hope in the organization — created in the aftermath of the Holocaust — can be discerned in the words from Isaiah inscribed beside the Sharansky Steps, which face the United Nations headquarters in New York City: "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

But over time, Israel has been a target for exceptional mistreatment at the United Nations. A pluralistic democracy facing extremists sworn to its destruction, Israel is routinely condemned by the body's Human Rights Council, more than any other member state. Israel's assailants at the United Nations often assert that they respect Jews and Judaism — and reserve their shrill disdain only for Israeli policies and Zionism. But the demonization of Israel calls their motives into question.

The United Nations is headquartered in the United States, the country with the most Jews outside Israel, and in New York City, which has the single largest Jewish population in the Diaspora. Judaism, of course, is an ancient, biblical religion — a precursor of the two dominant world

faiths — and Jewish communities can be found in at least 120 member states.

In 1997, the General Assembly added two Muslim holidays (Eid al-Adha and Eid al-Fitr) to the official calendar of the United Nations headquarters. Two of the 10 holidays are Christian (Good Friday and Christmas) and the other six are American federal holidays. None is Jewish.

Important United Nations events — even, sometimes, meetings related to Israel — have repeatedly been scheduled on major Jewish holidays, forcing Jewish diplomats and representatives of civil society to choose between their professional duties and their faith and families.

Yom Kippur, the most sacred day of the Jewish year, unites Jews of all nationalities, political orientations and degrees of observance. The Day of Atonement, as it is known — traditionally spent in fasting, prayer and introspection — represents the universal aspiration to self-improvement and to making amends. Last month, 32 nations — including Argentina, Canada, Israel, Nigeria and the United States — declared their support for adding Yom Kippur (Oct. 3-4 this year) to the United Nations calendar. Next month, a committee will take up the matter.

In 1999, Secretary General Kofi Annan acknowledged that, to observers, "it has sometimes seemed as if the United Nations serves all the world's peoples but one: the Jews." In 2006, his successor, Ban Ki-moon, told our organization, B'nai B'rith, that the United Nations should always be "a place where Jews and the State of Israel can feel at home." Recently, Mr. Ban felt compelled to condemn an "upsurge in anti-Semitic attacks."

One way to combat bigotry is by demonstrating respect. The Yom Kippur proposal is a nonpolitical one — unrelated to Israel's recent hostilities with Hamas — and a test of inclusiveness. All 193 United Nations members, including the 56 in the Muslim bloc, should support it.

Salomon from page 14 In 1971 the collection was placed in the care of the Joods Historisch Museum, Amsterdam. In 1981 the Museum presented 250 scenes in narrative sequence, and critics began to comment on the work. An exhibition at the London Royal Academy in 1998 was an unexpected sensation, helped by the publication of a complete catalogue.

There have been several other exhibitions of parts of *Life? or Theater?*, and a number of films and plays made about Charlotte Salomon's life, notably *Company of Angels* by the UK theatre company Horse and Bamboo Theatre and in 1981, Dutch director Frans Weisz released a feature film based on her life. The successful premiere of the opera in 2014 at the Salzburg Festival is reviewed online at <http://reut.rs/lqhoyOu>.

Adapted from Wikipedia. ■

Carlstrom from page 15 Tom retired a year ago from his neurosurgery practice and admits it is sometimes a struggle to be retired, but a pleasant one, since he enjoys having more free days to fly his single engine home-built plane. He started flying in 1977, when he was a junior resident in Iowa City. He has flown different types of planes all over the United States, Canada and Mexico. He also likes to play golf, sail, hunt and fish. He likes spending time at his home on Lake Okoboji and staying active, but also finds time to volunteer. He is a long time board member of the On With Life head injury rehabilitation facility and the Iowa Health Foundation (Unity Point). The Jewish Press thanks Tom for sharing his delicious Om Ali recipe 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) ■

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BETH EL JACOB SYNAGOGUE

Morning Minyan Times:

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

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

Tuesdays: The "Shiur" at 7:00 p.m. Covers Jewish learning on self-improvement, interpersonal relationships and weekly portion. Please contact office to attend.

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

Sunday, Nov 9th Annual Awards Dinner & Gala: 4:30 p.m.

Honoring:

Rabbi & Shirley Berg - Beth El Jacob Award of Merit
Senator Chuck and Barbara Grassley - Rob Borsellino Community Service Award
Sonya Dettmann - Friend of Beth El Jacob

Sunday, Dec 1: Hanukkah: Latkes & Brass

Celebrate Hanukkah in style, with live Brass music, Latke bar, and more. RSVP required.

TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN

Adult Education Classes Fall 2014

All classes take place on Thursdays at Temple B'nai Jeshurun from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Principles of Reform Judaism (Five Class Sessions)

Nov 6 - Origins of Reform

Nov 13 - God and Revelation

Nov 20 - Prayer and Practice

Dec 4 - The Jewish People and Israel

Dec 11 - Social Justice and Social Action

Dec 18 - What is Hanukkah All About? History and Practice

FBJ Youth Group

-ello, All

Fall is officially here in full swing, and the Youth Group is off to a great start. There are new opportunities, leadership, and fun within the group. Before we get to that, though, it is time for a segment I like to call "Corny Joke:"

Q: What do you call a lying frog?

A: An AmFIBian!

I have to say, that may be one of my better corny jokes. Anyway, the year's kickoff event, held at Glow Golf in Jordan Creek Mall, introduced our Youth Group to one another in a fun environment. Youth Groupers glow golfed and got to know one another. In addition, Youth Groupers received information on the leadership elections.

Here are the new officers for Youth Group: Michael Adato - President; Josh Sobel and Hanna Kaufman - Programming Vice Presidents; Andy Kaufmann - Religious and Cultural Vice President; Sarah-Rose Ballard - Social Action Vice President
Ethan Adato - Membership/Publicity Vice President. Congrats to all!

This fall should be a fun and involved season. Make sure to mark your calendar with our upcoming events so you won't miss out!

November 21 - World Hello Day: Install new Senior Youth Group Board

December 6 - Lock in and set up for Hanukkah Happening. This will be either overnight or until midnight.

December 7 - Hanukkah Happening: Youth Group to man the games

January 16-19 - Winter Chavurah at United Hebrew in St Louis

January 23 - National Pie Day: It will be a tasty evening!

January 25 - Prepare and serve meal at Central Iowa Shelter and Services.

Until next time,

Lulia Anderson, TBJ Youth Group

AMES JEWISH CONGREGATION

November Rabbi weekend:

Friday, Nov 14, 8:00 p.m. - Shabbat service led by Rabbi Wirtschafter; oneq following

Saturday, Nov 15, 10:00 a.m. - Torah study with Shabbat morning services

Saturday, Nov 15, 12:00 noon - Adult education: Readings on the question of war and peace from the Hartman Institute (bring your lunch if you wish)

Sunday, Nov 16, 12:00 noon - Family service

December Rabbi Weekend:

Friday, Dec 12, 8:00 p.m. - Shabbat service led by Rabbi Wirtschafter; oneq following

Saturday, Dec 13, 10:00 a.m. - Torah study with Shabbat morning services

Saturday, Dec 13, 12:00 noon - Adult education: Readings on the question of war and peace from the Hartman Institute (bring your lunch if you wish)

Sunday, Dec 14, 12:00 noon - Family service

TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

Lots happening at Tifereth. We hope you'll join us. www.tifereth.org

Recurring Events:

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

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

Special Events for November and December 2014

November 2014

Saturday, November 1st - Women's League Shabbat
6:00 pm - Havdalah Service and treats

Friday, November 7th - Sunday, November 9th - Scholar in Residence Weekend With Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg

Tuesday, November 11th - 7:00 pm - David Bear Memorial Lecture Series with Rabbi Gershom Sizomu

Saturday, November 22nd - Volunteer Recognition

Saturday, November 29th 10:30 am - Junior Congregation and Tot Shabbat

December 2014

Sunday, December 7th - Tikkun Olam Shelter Dinner prep.

Thursday, December 11th - Federation Senior Luncheon at Tifereth

Friday, December 12th - 6:00 pm - Beit Sefer Shalom Family Service and Dinner

Friday, December 19th - 6:00 pm - Mishpacha Service & YAD Hanukkah Party

Rabbi Edelman-Blank: Introduction to Judaism - Contact the Tifereth office for more information 515-255-1137

Patrick Courtney: Lev Shalev Spirituality Study Groups:

Book Discussion - Tuesdays at 5:30 pm

Weekly Torah Study - Saturdays after Shabbat Café

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

Sundays at 10:00 am

Temple B'nai Jeshurun
presents
**Hanukkah
Happening**
**Sunday, December 7
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.**
Latkes, Hot Dogs, Apple Sauce, Salad
Cookie Decorating
Games and Prizes
run by our own Temple Youth Group
Gift Shop
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Center panel of the Marshalltown Yahrzeit Boards showing the wear and tear of the past 100 years



One of the many boxes of cassette tapes in our collection that need to be digitized before we can listen to the interviews.



Some of the video tapes, in several different formats, that contain interviews, the Federation's original television program, tapes of Federation events, etc.

Behind-the-Scenes at the Iowa Jewish Historical Society

This is an exciting year at the IJHS, with numerous public and behind-the-scenes projects taking shape.

100 YEARS OF COOKING

We're producing our first cookbook, which will combine hundreds of recipes from Iowa's Jewish community alongside photographs from the IJHS historic collection. The cookbook will be the cornerstone for a series of programs in the spring. We are developing a new exhibit for the Caspe Heritage Gallery about Jewish cooking, which will include a travelling exhibit of Iowa Jewish cookbooks curated by Oliver Pollack of Omaha. The exhibit will tell the story of Jewish cooking and the important role food plays in Jewish religious and social life. The IJHS is also planning a series of luncheons and/or dinners that will feature selected recipes from the cookbook and exhibit.

AUDIO AND VIDEO TAPES

Behind-the-scenes, board and staff members are working to preserve more than 600 audio and video tapes in the IJHS collection. One of our oldest is a 1977 interview with Myron Blank about the state of the film business in Iowa. A 1976 tape is a program/interview with Abe Lieflander and Mrs. Pearlman about Jewish families in Muscatine produced by the Muscatine Area Heritage Association.

The audio and video tape collection represents more than 30 years of history of the Jewish community in Iowa. Many of these audio and video tapes are oral histories of Jewish Iowans from across the state. Topics covered include Jewish life in Iowa, interviews with survivors of the Holocaust, video tapes that record important events in the history of the Federation, and so much more.

Most of these tapes are too old to simply be played in a cassette player or VCR. Instead, each has to be carefully digitized by a professional with specialized equipment before we can listen and provide access to these personal, community, and world histories.

This past spring, we completed a pilot project, digitizing nearly two dozen audio and video tapes. The audio tapes were in good shape but several of the video tapes were not. Now we can once again hear the voices of Irvin and Phyllis Karp describe their experiences in the concentration camps and being saved by being included on Oskar Schindler's now-famous "Schindler's List." And we can hear Lou Williams describe his work at the Jewish Community Center which was so important to the life of both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities for so many decades.

But this is just the tip of the information iceberg—only 23 of the 600 tapes have been preserved. Most of these tapes originated before the IJHS was formed and, most likely, contain information about Iowa's Jewish heritage that does not exist in any other format.

The board and staff are raising funds to digitize all 600 tapes and to make them accessible to the general public through the web, through partnerships with colleges and other museums, and with researchers.

MARSHALLTOWN MEMORIAL BOARDS

Yet another important project that is underway is the restoration of the Yahrzeit boards from the Sons of Israel Congregation in Marshalltown. The boards arrived at the IJHS nearly two years ago showing their age.

The boards were relatively complete. All the plaques were in place, with only one plaque partially dislodged and only a couple light bulbs broken or missing. But several plaques were loose; the paint on the plaques as well as the finish on the boards were chipped; the electrical wiring was outdated and perhaps dangerous; and they were very dirty. These are problems that needed to be corrected before the memorial boards could be displayed in the museum.

On the surface, it looked like it would be easy to take a cloth and clean off the dust, replace a couple screws and light bulbs, and the boards would be like new. Although it sounded simple, reality was very different: the work required to restore these boards to their original beauty would be painstaking and time consuming and needed to be done by specially-trained conservators.

The boards have been sent to the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center in Omaha for professional cleaning, stabilizing of all the painted surfaces, rewiring, and other repairs. The restoration work is expected to take several more months, after which the Yahrzeit boards will be hung in The Caspe Heritage Gallery in the spring. Tom Press, a former Marshalltown resident and member of the congregation, is spearheading this project because he believes that these boards must be restored: "This is a historic commitment that we made to our ancestors with these boards. It is an eternal commitment."

These projects are part of the critical work of preserving the history of the Jewish people in Iowa and then sharing that information through exhibits, programs, and publications. In addition to these projects, the staff continues to inventory items in the collection, respond to inquiries from the general public and researchers around the world, and search out and receive artifacts to add to the collection.

We invite you to keep up with these special projects and the daily work of the Society.

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[calendar]

November - December*

Friday, Nov 7		Scholar In Residence Weekend at Tifereth Israel Synagogue
Sunday, Nov 9	4:30 pm	10th Annual Awards Dinner & Gala at Beth El Jacob
Tuesday, Nov 11		Veterans Day
Tuesday, Nov 11,	12:00 pm	Bear Lecture at Tifereth Israel Synagogue
Thursday, Nov 13	12:00 pm	Senior Luncheon at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Friday, Nov 14	7:00 pm	Dinner Honoring Fred Lorber at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Saturday, Nov 15	10:00 am	Zoe Pins Bat Mitzvah at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Sunday, Nov 16	9:00 am	Global Day of Jewish Learning at The Caspe Terrace
Tuesday, Nov 18	7:30 am	World ORT breakfast at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Tuesday, Nov 18	12:00 pm	World ORT lunch at Beth El Jacob Synagogue
Sunday, Nov 23	11:00 am	Kibitz and Kids at The Caspe Terrace
Sunday, Nov 23	12:00 pm	IJHS Gallery open
Wednesday, Nov 26		No Beit Sefer Shalom Wednesday School
Thursday, Nov 27		Thanksgiving Day
Saturday, Dec 6	6:00 pm	Youth Group Lock In at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Sunday, Dec 7	11:00 am	Kibitz and Kids at The Caspe Terrace
Sunday, Dec 7	2:00 pm	Shelter Dinner
Sunday, Dec 7	12:30 pm	Hanukkah Happening at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Wednesday, Dec 10	7:00 pm	Partnership2Gether visitors at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Thursday, Dec 11	12:00 pm	Senior Luncheon Tifereth Israel Synagogue
Friday, Dec 12	6:00 pm	Beit Sefer Shalom Family Shabbat with dinner at Tifereth
Tuesday, Dec 16		Hanukkah begins at sundown
Sunday, Dec 21		No Beit Sefer Shalom Sunday School
Sunday, Dec 21	5:00 pm	Latkes and Brass at Beth El Jacob Synagogue
Wednesday, Dec 24		No Beit Sefer Shalom Wednesday School
Sunday, Dec 28		No Beit Sefer Shalom Sunday School
Sunday, Dec 28	12:00 pm	IJHS Gallery open
Wednesday, Dec 31		No Beit Sefer Shalom Sunday School

* Details regarding time, date, and location are subject to change. Please check our online calendar for updates at www.jewishdesmoines.org

B'nai Mitzvah



Zoe Elizabeth Pins
Nov. 15, 2014
 Jeremy and Danna Pins are proud to announce that their daughter, Zoe Elizabeth Pins, will

be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah at 10:00am on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014 at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. A Kiddush luncheon will follow the service.

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Paulee Lipsman
 Gary W. Blackledge
 James Obrecht
 Betty Goodside
 Jim Vaughan
 Doris Sherman
 Anita Libbie
 Edward Glazer
 Henryk Leman
 Gloria Chappe
 Bonnie Woeppel
 Neil Sager

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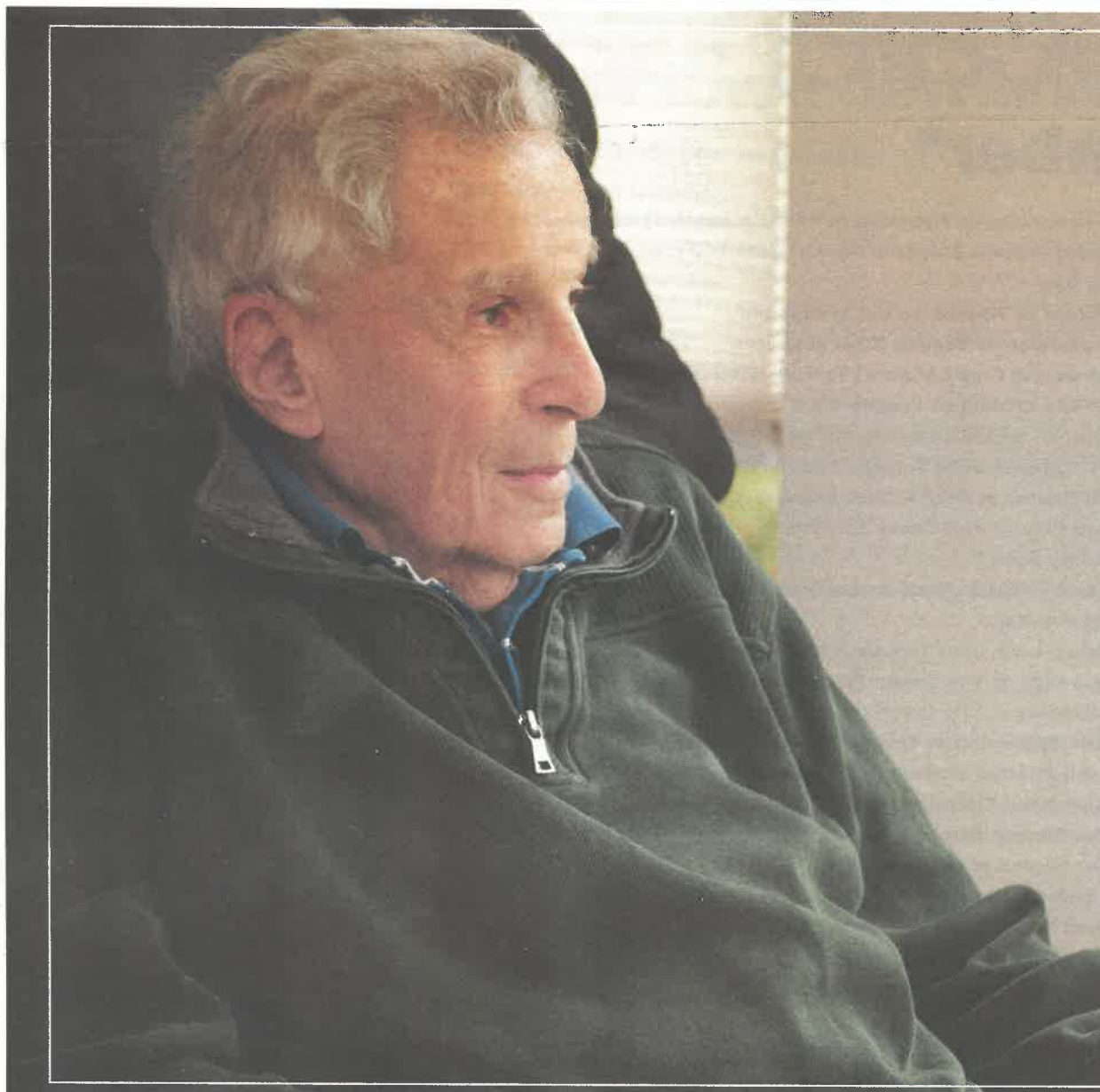
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Fred Lorber

will be honored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and Temple B'nai Jeshurun on the occasion of the publication of *Fritzi!*, his biography written and illustrated by Shirah Jacobs, Hanna Kaufman and Elizabeth Ozer.

Friday, November 14th

Temple B'nai Jeshurun
5101 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50312

Cocktails - 7:00 pm

Kosher Dinner - 7:30 pm

Program - 8:00 pm

Donations greatly appreciated to fund additional Holocaust book projects

RSVP to gayle@dmjfed.org
or (515) 987-0899 x 222



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER DES MOINES

TRIBUTE PROGRAM

What do you hold close to your heart?

Special moments in time create lifetime memories. You can honor one of life's simchas or remember a loved one through the Tribute Program offered by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. An acknowledgment card in your name will be sent to those being honored or family member being celebrated. You can designate how the Jewish Federation will use the gift or you can contribute to an existing fund managed by the Des Moines Jewish Foundation. Let someone know that you are thinking of him or her while supporting what's close to your heart.

Education

Our youth is our future. It is our responsibility to provide opportunities for them to develop into responsible Jewish adults. Many educational opportunities are available through the Federation and Foundation. Consider designating your gift to: Engman Camp Shalom, Hebrew Tutoring Scholarships, Community School Book Fees, the Student Scholarship for Trips to Israel or the Jewish Learning Institute.

Senior Care

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

Community

Our Community's boundaries extend to faraway places such as Israel, Darfur and Russia. You can provide needed funds locally and abroad for programs such as: Partnership 2Gether, Birthright, Iowa Jewish Historical Society, The Caspe Terrace Tree Fund, World ORT, General Community Tzedakah Fund, Aliber Holocaust Education Funds, Des Moines Jewish Foundation's Various Funds or Community Interfaith Relations.

History

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society preserves Jewish heritage through its collection of thousands of books, artifacts, photos, and personal papers. These items are important to an understanding of the lives and contributions of the Jewish people in Iowa. The Society also develops and joins in exhibitions showcasing some of these treasures. Some of these items, including oral histories, are being used in 100th anniversary projects.

For more information call Gayle at 515-987-0899 ext 222 or gayle@dmjfed.org.

*Independent organizations