



# THE GREATER DES MOINES Jewish Press

Published as a Community Service by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines

volume 20 number 1

## Happy New Year 5764

**ROSH HASHANAH  
BEGINS THE  
EVENING OF  
SEPTEMBER 26.**

This holiday is mentioned in the Pentateuch as "a day when the horn is sounded" (Numbers XXIX:1) and a "sacred occasion commemorated with loud blasts" (Leviticus XXIII:24). The sounding of the shofar remained its characteristic rite.

It was the day when the Lord of the universe passed judgement on His creation, and preparation was made for it by a month of penitence during which the officiant sounded the shofar night and morning.



The shofar blower, Germany, early fifteenth century: he has his right foot raised on a massive step; the illuminator has not taken into account this time the popular belief that it was the three legs of the stool - like any object with three points or angles - that counteracted the influence of the demon. Cambridge, University Library, MS. Add. 662, folio 65 recto (detail).

## Exclusive Interview: Sharansky Comments On Peace Process, Community Involvement



Prominent former refusenik Natan Sharansky, who spent many years in a Soviet jail for the alleged crime of advocating for the Jewish people and who is now a

member of the Israeli cabinet as Minister for Jerusalem and Diaspora Affairs, was in Des Moines recently and gave the following interview to the Jewish Press.

Jewish Press: I understand that you met with Senator Grassley today. How did your meeting go?

Natan Sharansky: It was a meeting of old friends. Senator Grassley was very active in the Soviet Jewry movement. When I was in prison, even before I was in prison, he was one of the principal advocates for our struggle. When I was released, I remember, I came to the Congress where I received the highest awards and honors. He was one of the leaders, then, of our activity. It was nice to remember our initial victories but it was also very important to discuss, though briefly, the [Middle East] situation today, and how it is important, now in view of new efforts, to encourage the peace process not to go back to the mistakes of the past [which contributed to the failure of the Oslo peace process.]

Continued on page 26

## Controversy Surrounds Ames Library Sponsorship of Film Series

Concerned individuals and community organizations in Ames, including the Ames Jewish Congregation, along with the Jewish Community Relations Commission, are examining the details behind the Ames Public Library's sponsorship of a seven-part Palestinian film series. The films scheduled to be shown at the library were likely selected by The Axiom Foundation of Ames, which has a markedly pro-Palestinian bent, critical of Israel. There are other co-sponsors of the series in addition to the public library.

At this time it appears that the library's sponsorship of the politically partisan series goes beyond the simple use of the library's facilities. Not in question is the right to show the films or even the right of the films to be shown at the library. JCRC will continue working on this issue in conjunction with the Ames Jewish Congregation and the Anti-Defamation League.

## Donor Recognition Planned for The Caspe Terrace

The recognition wall at The Caspe Terrace, which will honor those individuals who have so generously supported the facility since its inception, will be erected during the next several months.

All those who have contributed \$1,000 or more to The Caspe Terrace will be listed on the walls as you enter the Bookey Lodge with individual plaques representing birds, animals, the sun and moon, being designed by Sarah Grant Hutchison and Sticks.

It is the hope of the Gift Acceptance and Recognition Committee of The Caspe Terrace that those individuals who have expressed an interest in contributing to the building and grounds have an opportunity to be represented on the wall. For further information about The Caspe Terrace contributions please contact the Federation at 277-6321.

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## A public screening of the film **Relentless:** The Struggle for Peace in Israel

A powerful one-hour documentary using primary source video clips to examine the history of the Mideast conflict and how the Peace Process unraveled in a surge of violence.

Relentless reveals a side of the Middle East story that most people are unaware of due to a lack of exposure by traditional media outlets.

**Tuesday, October 21, 2003  
7:30 PM  
at the Caspe Terrace  
Free of charge.  
Refreshments. Bring your friends!**

*"I strongly recommend the film 'Relentless' to all those concerned with peace in the Middle East, as it provides a comprehensive understanding of the critical issues facing Israel and the Western World today. It is a must-see for anyone who cares about a better future for both the Palestinians and Israelis."*

— Natan Sharansky,  
Minister for Jerusalem and Diaspora Affairs, Israel

*Every informed person of every faith must see this work. It is powerful, informative and accurate. I give it my highest endorsement."*

— John Loftus, Attorney & Author,  
'Secret War Against The Jews', and 'Unholy Trinity'

"Relentless" is recommended for ages 18 and over, due to graphic footage. Sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, American Israel Public Affairs Committee, and Iowa AIPAC. For more information contact Sheldon Rabinowitz at 279-5012 or shelrabin@mchsi.com

## Senior Adult News



Seniors taking in the Iowa State Fair, pictured: Jeanette Rosen, Thelma Kardon, Hebert Rosen, Sig Nussbaum, Kady Russell, (Senior Activities Coordinator) and Naomi Mercer.

The Library Group meets on the first Friday of every month at 10:00 am at the Urbandale Library. Please join us. If you need a ride, call 277-6321.

A trip to the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo is planned for Monday, September 22. We will leave from Beth El at 8:30 am and return early evening. Admission is \$7.50, our bus fee is \$4.

The September Luncheon will be on Wednesday, September 24, at 12 noon at Beth El Jacob Synagogue. Speaker: Kris Thompson; Topic: What's New with Medication and Prescription Drugs.

Mark your calendars for the Luncheon on Thursday, October 30 at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Please call Dorothea at 277-6321 to make your reservations.

**JOIN THE DES MOINES COMMUNITY FOR AN  
Interfaith Service highlighting  
hunger in America and abroad  
Wednesday, October 15 at 7 pm**

**St John's Lutheran Church, 600 6th Avenue, Des Moines**  
In conjunction with the World Food Prize Seminar including Eric Shockman, Executive Director, MAZON and Chair of the American coalitions against hunger. For information, contact JCRC at 277-6321 jcrc@dmjfed.org

## YOU HELP US CHANGE LIVES...

We are your **JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES** and you are our partner in preserving and strengthening the Jewish family.

### What services do we offer?

- Jewish Family Services Counseling - Individuals, families, seniors and children
- Senior Adult Programs - Senior Adult luncheons and case management
- Resettlement Program - Case management and health services to new émigrés
- Jewish Family Life Education - Operation Good Mensch
- Outreach - Baby baskets, welcoming newcomers
- Volunteer Opportunities - Numerous volunteer projects

### How you can help!

- Donate today! Your gift will directly help individuals in need.
- Volunteer today! You are an essential part of our program.
- Use our services! We are here to provide services to strengthen the Jewish family, which will strengthen our Jewish Community.



**Jewish Community Services is a Pillar within the Jewish Federation.**

JCS programs include those offered by Jewish Family Services, Senior Adult Services, Resettlement and other various committees.

For more information please call Rabbi Berel Simpser, Director of JCS at 515-277-6321

## TRIBUTE TO HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

**Reunion of a Special Family  
November 1 and 2, 2003  
Washington, DC**

On the Museum's 10th Anniversary, we are honoring America's survivors and their families, as well as liberators and rescuers.

Invited guests include President George W. Bush and Nobel laureate and Founding Museum Chairman Elie Wiesel.

Please join us for this exclusive event.

Registrations forms available in early August or go to <http://tribute.ushmm.org>  
No fee to register.

Special hotel rates and home hospitality available.

**Saturday, November 1:**  
TRIBUTE TO SURVIVORS DINNER  
Renaissance Washington DC Hotel

**Sunday, November 2:**  
TRIBUTE TO SURVIVORS DAY

The Museum will be closed to the public so that our special guests can enjoy exclusive, behind-the-scenes programs and reunite with old friends.

For information contact Martin Goldman at 202 488-0414, [mgoldman@ushmm.org](mailto:mgoldman@ushmm.org); or Betsy Anthon at 202 314-0399, [eanthony@ushmm.org](mailto:eanthony@ushmm.org).

Tribute to Survivors Leadership Committee in formation. Partially supported by a generous gift from the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors.

**UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM**  
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW Washington, DC 20024-2126 | [www.ushmm.org](http://www.ushmm.org)



## A MESSAGE FROM THE FEDERATION PRESIDENT



Dear Reader:

This is my first letter to you since I was elected President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines in June. First let me say that it is a great honor to accept this position. I am following able and dedicated presidents before me. They envisioned and responded to the tremendous changes in our community and this organization. With the help of a strong Board and an outstanding professional staff, I hope to continue to strengthen the Federation from both an operational and financial standpoint.

Because I've not yet met as many of you as I'd like, let me tell you a bit about myself. I grew up in Minneapolis, where my family belonged to Temple Israel. I came to Des Moines when I enrolled at Drake University, where I met my husband Bob. After graduation, we decided to make Des Moines our home. Our daughter Allison is 22. She just graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, and is now working for The Jewish Free Loan Association of Los Angeles. Bob is the Iowa Marketing Manager for Partners Mutual Insurance Company, and I am the Territory Manager for ACUITY, which is also an insurance company.

Bob isn't Jewish. When we married in 1977, couples like us did not receive a welcome from the Jewish community. Fortunately, Rabbi Steven and Sally Fink moved across the street from us in the mid-1990s. Steven and Sally are responsible for getting me involved in this community. I joined the Temple and later enrolled in the Federation's Melton Adult Mini-School. In 1998, Debbie Gitchell, who was in the same Melton class, asked me if I would be interested in serving on the Federation's Planning and Budgeting Committee. I agreed to do so, and things mushroomed from there.

What is the moral of this story? As Don Schoen likes to say, "This is not your father's Federation anymore." While we continue to benefit from the stability of families who have made their homes here for several generations, this is now a community that integrates newcomers in leadership positions. Des Moines is a welcoming place for Jews that come in "many different packages." I took an interest in this community, and I committed myself to learning about it. The fact that I am in this leadership position only strengthens the argument that if you are interested in what happens in the Des Moines Jewish community, you have the opportunity to make a tremendous impact on our future.

I invite you to learn more and get involved wherever your interests lie. I look forward to the next two years. If they are anything like the last five years, I will learn a lot and I'll work with wonderful people. I can't wait.

L'Shanah Tovah,  
Polly Oxley

## LETTER OF THANKS

This letter is to express my deepest gratitude to all the people and organizations who did their best to help me go back to my homeland, Israel, after unexpected sad circumstances. Des Moines is a great city with beautiful people.

Three people however I want to mention by name, since they have demonstrated "walking" their talk and kept their word. Those are Rabbi Simpser and Elaine Steinger from the Jewish Federation, and Rabbi Sytner from Beth El Jacob Synagogue. Particularly I want to extend my deep appreciation and love for Rabbi Sytner for being a true Rabbi, a teacher, a friend and mentor. No only was he so committed and compassionate with the energy of money, to help me go back to my homeland, but more than that for his spiritual and emotional guidance. He did not give up on me and made me realize why I was going through so much suffering and what is my future mission in Israel. "Hats off", dear Rabbi, God Bless you.

Having said all the above, it in no way diminishes my gratitude for everyone who helped me. Thank you all very much and God Bless you all.

Sherry Tall

## DEAR EDITOR,

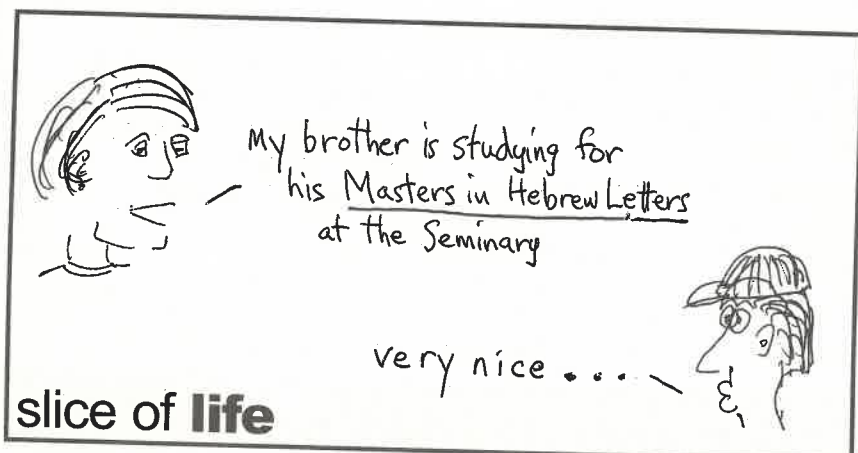
I just wanted to let the Federation and JCRC know how much I appreciate all you did in organizing the trip to the US Memorial Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. Both the teacher I roomed with and I commented several times on how well organized the trip was and what a great opportunity for us to learn and take back to our students a new, personalized vision. Thank you!

Sue Boyle, Johnston Schools

## DEAR JCRC,

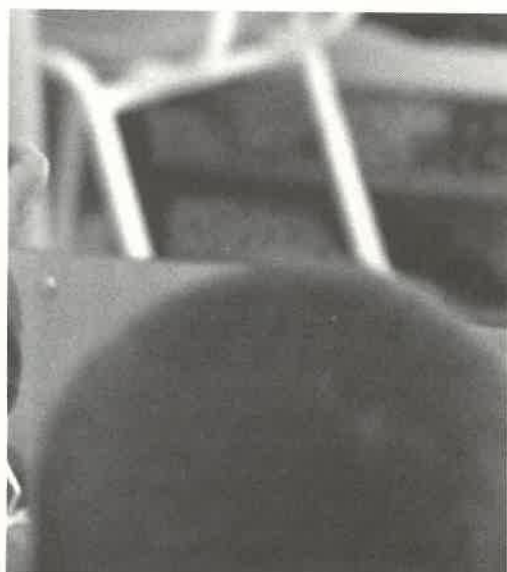
Thank you for the video you sent showing a Holocaust survivor from Des Moines addressing an audience. My students were very interested in his story. I feel the tape has very good qualities and I will use it in my room in the future. I've also told the other English teachers about the tape and they too have said they would be interested in using it. Once again, thank you for making the tape accessible to Indianola High School and myself. It is a valuable learning tool.

Lisa M. Stone, Indianola High School



The staff and volunteers of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines wish you and your family a Healthy and Happy New Year!

In a year  
of crisis,



Federation  
provides  
hope.

72% of all Israeli Ethiopians live below the poverty line. A new Federation initiative will help. Providing early childhood programs, remedial classes and group homes, college scholarships, psychological counseling, parent/child clinics, morning-to-night care for mothers and children, computer and language classes, job training, skill-building programs and more.

Your gift to the Jewish Federation annual campaign delivers hope, dignity and comfort to millions of people—Jews and non-Jews, young and old, at home, in Israel and around the world. People who are alone or feel alone. People who turn to Federation and people who have never even heard of Federation.

Even in a year of crisis, these needs continue to grow. Give generously. And give NOW.





# Estate and Financial Planning

## Full Retirement Benefits

YEAR OF BIRTH	FULL RETIREMENT AGE
1937 or earlier	65
1938	65 and 2 months
1939	65 and 4 months
1940	65 and 6 months
1941	65 and 8 months
1942	65 and 10 months
1943 to 1954	66
1955	66 and 2 months
1956	66 and 4 months
1957	66 and 6 months
1958	66 and 8 months
1959	66 and 10 months
1960 and later	67

## Bonus for Working Longer

YEAR OF BIRTH	ANNUAL BENEFIT INCREASE
1930	4.5%
1931-1932	5.0
1933-1934	5.5
1935-1936	6.0
1937-1938	6.5
1939-1940	7.0
1941-1942	7.5
1943 or later	8.0

## Noteworthy Numbers

A total of 89% of U.S. households gave to charity in 2001. The average annual contribution was \$1,620.

Source: Giving and Volunteering in the United States 2001, Independent Sector

## Social Security Bonus for Those Who Retire Late

Many people hope to retire early, but what about those who want to continue working long after the age for full retirement benefits? There's actually a bonus in the form of additional Social Security benefits for each year worked.

Workers born in 1938, who turn 65 in 2003, will have to wait until age 65 and 2 months for full Social Security benefits. The age for full benefits is scheduled to gradually increase (see chart). But for every year beyond full retirement, there is an increase in benefits. The credit for delaying Social Security benefits is scheduled to increase gradually (see chart).

Should you retire early and take a reduced benefit, work until full retirement age or continue working long after you're entitled to the gold watch? That depends on your health, additional sources of income, savings and other factors. Keep in mind that if you begin drawing Social Security at age 62 but continue working, your benefits are reduced by \$1 for every \$2 of earned income in excess of \$11,520 in 2003 (adjusted annually for inflation). The Social Security website ([www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)) has information that will help you determine your potential benefits.

## Settlements and Awards: Think Taxes, Not Just Dollar Signs

Multi-million dollar lawsuit awards and settlements command headlines, but the articles rarely disclose how much the IRS will take. Taxes are important, however, for anyone considering a settlement offer. The exact tax treatment generally depends on the nature of the dispute, but there are some general rules:

- If the dispute involves an individual's employment, the settlement is subject to income tax and federal withholding.
- For will contests, settlements are excluded from income, as a bequest would be. However, the settlement must involve a dispute over a bona fide interest under state law.
- Payments for personal injury claims are excluded from tax, although interest paid on such awards is taxed.
- Most punitive damages, which are designed to deter certain behaviors, are subject to income tax.
- Taxation of settlements and awards can be highly technical so, before agreeing to any proposal, ask your financial adviser to explain the treatment.

## Kids and Capital Gains/Losses

In 2003, unearned income in excess of \$1,500 for children under age 14 is taxed at their parents' highest tax rate, not at the lower rate available for single taxpayers. One strategy for avoiding this "kiddie tax" has been for parents and grandparents to give younger children shares of growth stock that is expected to appreciate in value. After the child reaches age 14, he or she can sell the shares and pay tax at a low capital gains tax rate of 5% that applies to individuals in the 10% or 15% tax brackets.

But what if a child owns shares with a capital loss? Capital losses in excess of capital gains can offset up to \$3,000 of ordinary income each year, and additional capital losses can be carried over to future years when the child has sufficient ordinary income or capital gains.

**For more information about Estate Planning call Stan Richards, Marvin Winick or Elaine Steinger at the Des Moines Jewish Foundation 515-277-6321.**



## JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**WELCOME!** We are excited to begin our 2003-2004 new school year. JFCS is about making friends and making memories, learning about our culture and heritage, and learning about what makes us special.

By now, those of you planning to enroll your child(ren) in religious school have received our parent handbook and registered your child(ren). The beginning of a new school year is always exciting. Students are coming back older, meeting a new teacher, and seeing their old friends.

### Elementary School

For this year, the elementary school staff is: Preschool – Cynthia Shulman, Kindergarten – Julie Seidenfeld, 1st – Juli Margolin, 2nd – Krys Phillips, 3rd – Pat Johnson, 4th – Jane Abrams, 5th – Rachele Hjelmaas, Hebrew – Wendy Beckerman and Ben Kaufmann, 6th – Aaron Schwarzbaum.

Classes for Preschool through fifth grade began on Sunday, September 7th. Sunday classes are meeting from 9am – Noon. Third through sixth grades began on Wednesday, September 3rd. Wednesday classes are meeting from 4:00pm – 6:15pm. All classes will meet at Temple B'nai Jeshurun – 5101 Grand Avenue in Des Moines. Classes are being held in the school wing.

### Junior/Senior High School

The Junior/Senior High School program will once again be under the auspices of the Jewish Federation Community School. We are very excited about the classes we have developed and look forward to sharing these with our students and parents.

Our staff for the 2003-2004 school year is: Rabbi HaLevi, Rabbi Kaufman, Jody Hramits, Stacie Franklin, Krys Phillips, Rabbi Schwarzbaum, Mike Siegal and Steve Gold. Laura Berkson and Mike Siegal are the youth directors and will be in charge of the youth group meetings that are being offered once a month.

Junior/Senior High classes began on Wednesday, September 3rd. Regular classes will begin at 7pm and end at 8:45pm. Those students enrolling in conversational Hebrew will begin classes at 6:30pm. All classes will meet at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, 924 Polk Boulevard in Des Moines.

### The following classes are being offered to our Jr/Sr High School students:

- 7th grade – Jewish History – this class is a general overview of 1800 years of Jewish history, highlighting main Jewish historical heroes/heroines and major trends in Jewish and world communities from the destruction of the second temple to the rise of anti-Semitism.

- 8th grade – Holocaust – this course focuses on the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe, the chronology of the Holocaust and the roles assumed by Jews during this period. During the year, students will have an opportunity to visit the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.
- 9th grade – Israel ID – this class will explore modern Israel and her history, people, culture, institutions and sites.
- 10th grade – American Jewry – this course looks at the development of Judaism in America, beginning with post WW II immigration through the present day. At the conclusion of this class, students will be offered the opportunity to visit Ellis Island, the Tenement Museum and other sites in New York City.
- 10th grade – Confirmation – span of Jewish ethics and values and discussion with Rabbi HaLevi and Rabbi Kaufman.
- 11th & 12th grades – College: Being Jewish Away from Home – students will explore and discuss how to stay Jewish and survive during college or just living away from home.
- 11th & 12th grades – Jewish Cooking – students will have the opportunity to prepare Jewish foods associated with major holidays.

Conversational Hebrew is being offered to any student 7th through 12th grades. Students will learn the practical use of conversational Hebrew.

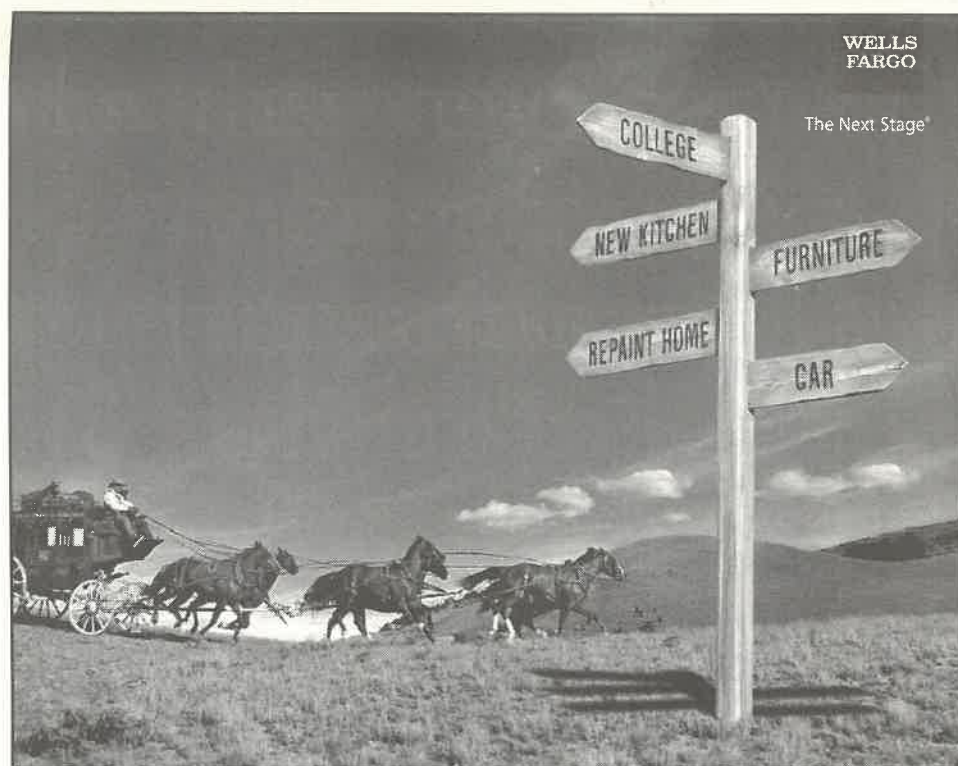
We are also offering to all grades Ethics & Values where students will be provided tools to continue their quest in answering “Why Be Jewish?” and “What does it mean to live a Jewish life?”

The opportunity for Youth Groups to meet is being offered once a month through our youth directors. Youth Groups will be broken into Junior and Senior youth groups. While one group is meeting, the other group will attend a Current Events class. This class is designed for students to discuss and explore, from a Jewish perspective, various issues of current Jewish concerns locally, nationally, and internationally.

If you did not receive our parent handbook and/or would like to register, please contact our office at 277-5566.

The JFCS staff welcomes you to a wonderful and exciting new year.

—Lyanna Grund, Coordinator,  
Jewish Federation Community School



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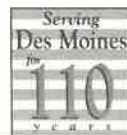
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## FLORENCE MELTON ADULT MINI SCHOOL

### Full Enrollment Greet Opening of Melton Classes!

It's that time of year again! On Thursday, September 4, 2003 we started our sixth year of Melton. The first year class will study The Purposes of Jewish Living with Dr. David Friedgood as their instructor. Rabbi Berel Simpser will be teaching The Rhythms of Jewish Living.

The members of the in-coming class are: Phil Bear, Robin Bear, Marcie Berkson, Ed Berkson, Andi Duitch, Bob Duitch, Chris Feeley, Gary Greenberg, Teena Greenberg, Susie Kimelman, Josh Kimelman, Gail Klearman, Barb Lettween, David Lettween, Mary Reavely, Herb Remer, Maryanne Remer, Cindy Rovner, Mike Rovner, Ricki Shine, Michael Stein, Simma Stein, Kathleen Trinder, and Steve Wolf. This is our largest first year class and we look forward to a wonderful year of learning and friendship.

Welcome back to our former Melton Students who have successfully completed their first year of Melton! This year the second-year class will be studying The Ethics of Jewish Living with Rabbi Berel Simpser and Rabbi Baruch HaLevi. Elaine Steinger and Rabbi Berel Simpser will be teaching the Dramas of Jewish Living. The following second year students will be graduating in 2004: Vera Aginsky, Pamela Bass Bookey, Harry Bookey, Kathy Elsner, Steve Adelman, Gary Bremen, Linda Bremen, Herb Eckhouse, Kathy Eckhouse, Arny Engman, Karen Engman, Bernie Feldman, Barb Hirsch-Giller, Harvey Giller, Jan Hockenberg, Louis Hockenberg, Julie Howald, Edward Loeb, Anne Loeb, Alan Pearlman, and Toni Urban.

We are all looking forward to another exciting year of Jewish study and learning.

### First Time Ever: Melton Summer Graduate Classes

This summer was the first time that we offered Melton Summer Graduate Classes.

Rabbi Berel Simpser taught a four-week course on Abraham: Lessons For Our Time. Abraham, the Patriarch of the Jewish people, struggled through issues that challenged his moral integrity. Today, thousands of years later, though we live in totally different circumstances, we face these very same issues.

Dr. David Friedgood taught a class on Maimonides - "A Famous Jew". Four one-hour discussions centered on a review of the life and influence of the Rambam - Rabbi Moses ben Maimon - Maimonides. As the most famous commentator of the "Golden Age" of Jewish study in Medieval Spain, Rambam revolutionized Jewish thought and practice. He taught a rational, philosophical Judaism, which enhanced life as it was lived by his generation and which was designed to bring us closer to our ultimate goal as human beings. He remains a major influence on how we think and behave as Jews.

Our summer classes were attended by Jeanette and David Bear, Bud and Dorothy Hockenberg, Silvia Kein, Lena Malina, Shirley and Jim Macovis, Roselind Rabinowitz, and Audrey Rosenberg.

- Alice Friedgood, Melton Coordinator

The Florence Melton Adult Mini-School is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines

## Full Scholarships Available at Des Moines Jewish Academy!!

What a great opportunity. Many of you are already aware of the Des Moines Jewish Academy - a gem of a certified Jewish day-school. The DMJA is celebrating its 27th year in consecutive operation. Its generous benefactors have announced that they are offering ten fully paid tuition scholarships for any NEW student attending the DMJA for the 2003/2004 school year. The scholarships are now available and the DMJA is accepting new student enrollments for this exciting opportunity.

The DMJA's state accredited kindergarten through grade 7 program has been very successful and has enjoyed a wonderful reputation. The DMJA's excellence in education was not only touted by its parent group, but was complimented by the Department of Education for the state of Iowa.

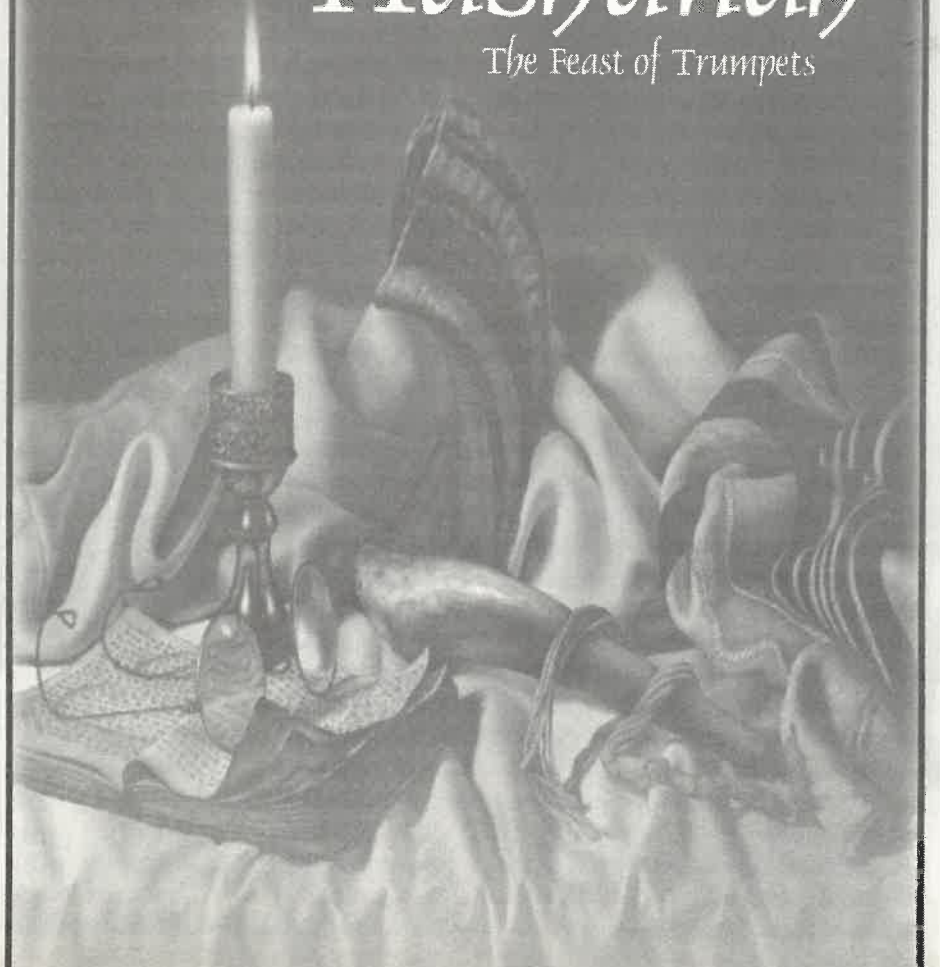
The Department of Education stated the following during its site visit last fall:

- Close attention is given to student individual needs and abilities;
- The DMJA has a tightly coupled curriculum present - where the curriculum taught and student evaluations go hand in hand;
- Opportunities for community events are made very accessible;
- Children are grouped according to ability levels;
- The DMJA maintains open and on-going communications between the parents, students and staff.

When the Department of Education conducted its exit interview, it stated that the Des Moines Jewish Academy "has a caring, supportive, safe environment." Students reported that they felt "nurtured and secure in the school" and that "they viewed themselves as partners in their educational process." Also, the DMJA repeatedly scores in the 95 to 99 percentiles on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, some of the best scores in the nation.

**If you want a chance for your child to learn in a warm and caring atmosphere with highly qualified and certified staff, please contact the DMJA at 274-0453.**

## Celebrating the season of Rosh Hashanah The Feast of Trumpets



*During this festival of  
introspection and  
prayer, may you  
enjoy all the  
peaceful delights  
of the season.*

*From all of us at  
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[in profile]

## CHRIS FEELEY

### Urban Forester To Work On World Trade Center Project



Jewish Press: Chris, you are a member of Tifereth Israel Synagogue, but many people might know you from another source. Chris Feeley: I'm on the Horticulture Call-In Show on WOI Radio.

JP: What topics do you discuss?

CF: I am an Extension Urban Forester at Iowa State University and discuss everything having to do with trees. Disease, planting, pruning, insects, you name it.

JP: It has come to our attention that you have another high-profile project.

CF: That's right. I'm one of the foresters selected to review the landscaping projects for the World Trade Center.

JP: How were you selected for this job?

CF: I worked a couple of summers as a forester in Central Park and while Mayor Giuliani was still mayor, I was asked by the designing committee to join in the project and do a blind review of the plans.

JP: What do you think the landscaping is going to look like?

CF: The plans were recently decided on. The design developed by Daniel Libeskind [architect of Berlin's new Holocaust museum] was selected. In this plan there will be a 1776 foot tall spire that will extend up above the building that will have different varieties of trees and plants from around the world planted as a memorial. In addition, there will be part of the first tower's wall left and the names of those who lost their lives will be inscribed on this wall. Lastly, there will be a memorial building placed just outside of the two new towers.

JP: Will this be a short project?

CF: No, it will be a long-term project.

It is projected that the buildings will be done in 5 to 6 years and all the landscaping within 10 years. It takes a long time for trees to get established.

JP: Do you think there will be many types of trees planted?

CF: I think we're going to concentrate on one large tree outside. The one we've been looking at is an American Beech. Each floor in the spire will have another

tree or another type of plant.

JP: What other projects are you involved with these days?

CF: I'm involved with forest health for the entire State of Iowa. I'm on the Urban Forestry Council, I'm on the Governor's Council. I do a lot of different things, all forest related.



JP: Tell us a little about yourself?

CF: Well, I'm 29 years old. I grew up in Iowa. My parents were archeologists and we traveled a lot. For a brief period, we have been in just about every state and many countries. And during college I traveled a lot as well.

JP: Where did you go to school?

CF: For most of my undergrad and graduate work I went

to Iowa State.

JP: How long have you been in your present position?

CF: I've been in this career position for about 6 years.

JP: Was your work in Central Park interesting?

CF: It was. But I don't think they had the same respect for foresters as in other places. They think you're out there taking down the trees, and that's not always the case.

JP: What do you like to do in your spare time?

CF: I like to spend time outdoors: fishing, canoeing, in particular.

JP: Well Chris, lots of good luck on this very exciting project, and thanks for the interview!

CF: Thank you.



## Rosh Hashanah

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## A "Thank You" Letter To The Des Moines Jewish Community from Ayelet



It is very hard for me to say good bye and try to summarize my year here.

I arrived to Des Moines one year ago as an "Areiva"/"Shlichah" (emissary) of the Jewish Agency. I came from your partnership 2000 area, totally by coincidence. When I tried to find some information about the Des Moines community, people in Israel knew very little about it or the Jewish community here.

Many of you asked me during the year, "How did you get to Des Moines?" or "Why did you choose Des Moines?" My answers were that I honestly didn't know. I had no special reason for choosing Des Moines. What I do know is that when Elaine and Lyanna interviewed me over the phone- it just felt right and I felt that it was the place I should be next year and I have no regrets at all.

I came to your community, now mine as well, as the first "Arieval." It was scary and I had a lot of questions on my mind: What am I going to do there exactly? How is my boss going to be? Are they going to like me? Are they going to be satisfied with my job? Am I going to have any friends there? What is the weather going to be like? And many more questions.

I remember when Lyanna picked me up from the airport, I felt so lonely and was not sure that I had made the right decision. As time went on I knew I was in the right place.

I have believed that my goal all along as an "Arieval" was not only to teach Hebrew or to talk about Israel but let people know me as Ayelet. By knowing my family, my past and my stories from different times in my life they would feel closer to Israel. I am hoping I have accomplished this goal.

I have had a lot of titles during this year and I have worked with many wonderful people. This is the time to say that I have enjoyed every single one of them. I have enjoyed working with and learning from a wide variety of people, not only about the Jewish world outside of Israel, but also about myself. I want to thank you for trusting in me by giving me these amazing opportunities that I would never have imagined.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank some wonderful people:

The Jewish Federation Board of Directors and the Staff for helping me find my place in the office, for teaching me how everything works and for treating me as one of their own.

I would like to thank the "Senior Life Center" and Steve Blend for having me with them my first month in Des Moines.

The families that I have stayed with: Pam and Harry Bookey, Suzanne and Larry Engman and Toni and Tim Urban - for opening their house and their hearts for me.

My local grandparents, Rosie and Sheldon Rabinowitz, for all their love and support through the year.

Gary Galinsky and Harry Simon, members of the Board of Directors, who helped me drive and talk on the phone - but not at the same time...

The Rabbis of the community, for opening their house for me every Shabbat and Holiday.

Lyanna Grund, who was not only my supervisor during the school year and summer camp, but was much more than that - she was a friend. I thank her for the interview that made me want to come here and gave her the confidence that I could do it.

Last but not least, I would like to thank from the bottom of my heart Elaine Steinger. Elaine was my supervisor, my mom, my sister and mostly - my friend. It was through her I got to know all of you and it was from her that I received the good words and advice I needed. She did this with all the love in the world. She made me feel Des Moines is my home.

During this year you were always there for me anytime I needed.

I wish I could mention all of you who were there for me, but I am afraid I might forget some because there are so many. I just want to thank you with all my heart for taking such good care of me during this year. You are all a family to me.

As the New Year is coming, I want to wish you all "Shanna Tova" - Happy New Year. May all your wishes come true. I wish you all good health and joy in your hearts, and most of all I wish us all peace.

This year was more like a dream for me than a reality and I guess dreams cannot last forever. I am going back home to my real life, but I want you all to know that I will always cherish this year in my heart and I will always have good memories from this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

I hope to see you all in Israel soon and I promise to come and visit you in the near future. Shalom, Toda Raba, and thank you very much!

Ayelet Kleinman,

Arieval to Des Moines, Iowa, U.S.A, 2002-2003

klayelet@hotmail.com



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*Amy, Brad, Zachary and Brittany Brody*

*Wishing everyone a Healthy  
and Peaceful New Year  
Heidi, David, Michael  
and Adam Moskowitz*

*Best Wishes for a Healthy  
and Happy New Year  
Bud and Dorothy  
Hockenberg*

*L' Shana Tovah  
for Israel  
The Steinger Family*

*Best Wishes for a Happy  
and Healthy New Year  
Dr. Harvey Giller and  
Barb Hirsch-Giller*

## TEACHERS VISIT THE US HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM WITH JCRC



Teachers from Des Moines, Johnston, Ames, and the Jewish Federation's Community School were among the group that visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and viewed Shabbat services conducted by Maryland's Kol Shalom Synagogue in August. The trip to the Washington D.C. area was organized by the Jewish Community Relations Commission with the assistance of former Des Moinesian Deb Finkelstein, now Executive Director at Kol Shalom. Participants in the Museum trip to Washington: Jane Abrams, Sue Boyle, Carol Brown, Carolyn Cox, Kory and Melissa Dammeier, Cantor Marsha and Lee Fensin, Mark Finkelstein, Dorothea Gamel, Lyanna Grund, Cecilia Homer, Amy Lane, Roselind Rabinowitz, Harlan and Audrey Rosenberg with grandson Jacob Fuller, Lynn Simpson and Barbara White.

Roselind Rabinowitz, past president of the JCRC and head of its Holocaust Task Force, served as Chairperson for the trip, which was initiated in response to interest expressed by teachers at the JCRC's Teachers' Institute held earlier this spring. "It is one of our responsibilities to promote Holocaust education so that the lessons of the Holocaust will be learned by school children," said Roselind. "While there are a number of fine exhibits within the United

States dealing with the Holocaust, including artifacts displayed within our own Jewish Historical Society's gallery at Caspe Terrace, nothing quite compares the Holocaust Museum's comprehensive presentation of the subject."

The museum devotes four floors to thorough and sensitive examination of Holocaust, tracing the history of Semitism and the political ascendancy of Nazism in 1933 through to its defeat in 1945 -- and then considering its aftermath. All the while, the materials emphasize the individual. Employing family photos, actual film footage of events, handwritten documents in many cases, personal belongings, and (for example) salvaged remnants of the actual paving stones from the Jewish ghettos of Europe, the story told is a personal one. Included are narratives of the heroes of the Holocaust, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

As a complement to our visit to the museum, our attendance at synagogue services helped introduce an aspect of contemporary, vibrant Jewish life to the teachers, most of whom had never experienced synagogue service. To provide perspective the group was addressed by Kol Shalom rabbi, Jonathan Maltzman, formerly of Tifereth Israel.

A personal introduction to the exhibits at the Holocaust Museum was provided by the museum staff, arranged by Hockenberg, a member of the US Holocaust Council. Travel costs for the trip were subsidized for the teachers by the Mischkiet-Spiller Holocaust Education fund administered by the JCRC. A travel discount offered by ITA Travel in Des Moines.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to all who made the trip possible.

## MISCHKIET-SPILER FUND SUPPORTS HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Proceeds from the Mischkiet-Spiller Holocaust Education Fund, administered by the JCRC, were used to subsidize the cost for teachers wishing to participate in our trip in August to the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

The Fund was created in 1981 by Helen Mischkiet-Edell, who grew up in Des Moines, from the estate of her late parents who were survivors of the Holocaust. In doing so, Helen and her family wished to ensure that the lessons of the Holocaust are remembered and to honor the memory of Helen's parents, Fela and Monek Mischkiet and their dear friend and fellow Holocaust-survivor Selman Spiller.

Many in our community will remember Fela, Monek, Helen, and Selman (Sol). Fela and Monek came to Des Moines in 1951, sponsored by the Des Moines Jewish Federation. Selman, who had befriended Monek in Dachau, came a year later. In 1969, PBS produced a documentary about the Mischkiet's life during the Holocaust, they being among the earliest of the survivors to be willing and able to reflect upon their experiences. Monek worked as a tailor until his death in 1980. Selman was a dental technician and served as president of the Des Moines Jewish Culture Club. He passed away in 1979.

A grant from The Mischkiet-Spiller Fund enabled the development and publi-

cation of the Holocaust instructional curriculum approved for use by the Des Moines Public Schools and used elsewhere in Iowa and around the country. The 1995 committee that worked on the project included the late Rabbi Robert J. Addis, Executive Director of the Federation Bureau for Jewish Living, whose Ph.D. was in Holocaust studies, Carol S. Brown, Social Science Supervisor, Des Moines Public Schools, David Goldman, Chair of the JCRC, and Elaine Steinger, JCRC Director.

In the past the Fund has been used to provide copies of Gerta Klein's book "Promise of a New Spring" to area elementary schools, and for the public commemoration in 1995 of the 50th anniversary of liberation of the concentration camps which a booklet profiling local survivors authored by Adele Anolik. The Fund also has been used recently to provide teaching materials with copies of videotapes of local Holocaust survivors speaking to student audiences. Appreciation is extended to Ms. Helen Mischkiet-Edell for her generous provision of funding and for her initiative on behalf of Holocaust education and to those who have subsequently contributed to the Fund. Contributions to the Mischkiet-Spiller Holocaust Education Fund may be directed to the Jewish Federation's Jewish Community Relations Commission at 910 Polk Boulevard, Des Moines, IA 50312.



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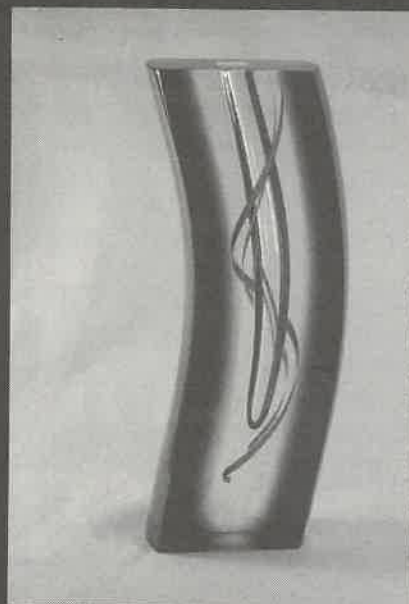
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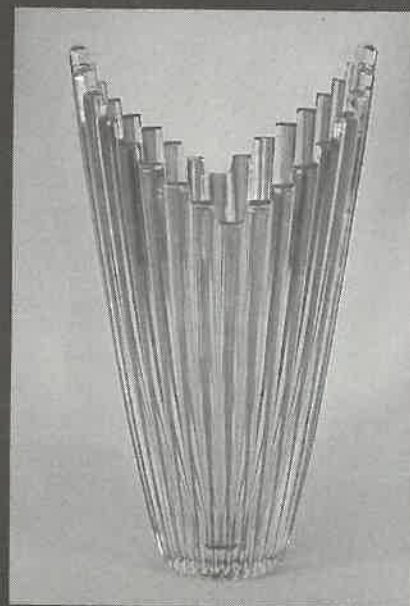
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## Israel Scouts Perform to 'Standing-Room Only' Crowd!

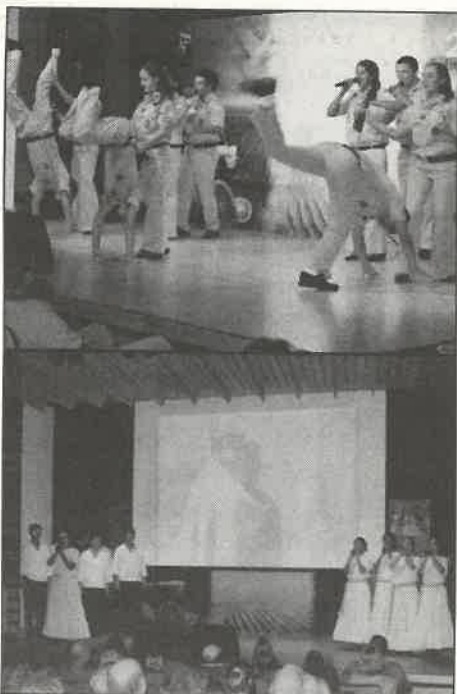
By Ayelet Kleinman

As part of their national tour, the  
"Tzofim Friendship Caravan" of talented  
Israeli scouts was here in Des Moines July  
21st performing at The Caspe Terrace in  
the beautiful Bucksbaum Auditorium.

Their performance excited all of the  
campers and community members in  
attendance (a record crowd) and even  
got a few to dance and sing along!

It was obvious that the Scouts have  
worked hard to perfect their show and we  
felt so fortunate to have had them here to  
share it with us.

After the performance and the won-  
derful dessert reception, the Scouts partic-  
ipated in activities with some of Engman  
Camp Shalom older campers. It was, as we  
promised, a program full of ruach (spirit)!  
The visit was sponsored by both the Jewish  
Federation and the Jewish National Fund.



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and Happy  
New Year

Audrey and  
Harlan Rosenberg

L'Shana Tovah 5764

Don and Margo Blumenthal  
Anne Blumenthal  
Joscelyn Blumenthal

May the sounds of the  
Shofar signal peace and  
unity for Israel  
and good health and  
contentment in our lives

The Board, Staff  
and Members of  
Tifereth Israel Synagogue

Best Wishes for a Healthy  
and Happy New Year  
Floyd and Maryan Nadel  
Steve, JoEllen and  
Isabella Nadel

Wishing you  
Peace, Joy  
and Prosperity

Janice and Alan Zuckert

Wishing you  
Peace, Joy  
and Prosperity

Abe, Ruth, Dan  
and Joe Wolf

Wishing you a  
New Year bright  
with Promise,  
filled with Hope  
and blessed with  
Peace and Joy

Silvia, Carola  
and Ari Klein

Thank you for a wonderful  
first year here in Des Moines  
L'Shanah Tova  
Baruch, Ariela, Yehuda  
and Shuki

May you have a Good  
and Sweet Year  
Lois and Dick Brown

Wishing you  
a Happy,  
Healthy and  
Peaceful Year

Neecy and Lew Caspe

Best Wishes  
for a Healthy  
and Happy  
New Year

A&D KWIK KARWASH  
Joyce Rovner,  
Gloria and Sonny Rovner

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for a Healthy  
and Happy  
New Year

Marvin and  
Marcella Leibow

Happy New Year  
Gwenn and Stephen Copple  
and Gertrude Greenhill

Best Wishes for a Healthy  
and Happy New Year  
JFCS Board and Staff

Wishing you Peace,  
Joy and Prosperity  
Paulee Lipsman

Wishing everyone a  
Healthy and Peaceful  
New Year  
Rosita and Uby Rabinovitz

Remember the Holocaust  
Charles Anolik



# Year 5764

*Best Wishes for a Healthy  
and Happy New Year  
Rose Szneler*

*May you have a Good  
and Sweet Year  
Rita Loeb*

*Best Wishes  
for a Healthy  
and Happy  
New Year*

*Eva and Peter Pintus*

*May the sounds of the Shofar  
signal peace and unity for Israel  
and good health and contentment  
in our lives*

*The Kirsner Family*

*Wishing you a New Year  
bright with Promise,  
filled with Hope and blessed  
with Peace and Joy  
JCRC*

*May you have a Good  
and Sweet Year  
Lyanna, Shaynna and  
Jacob Grund  
Pat Kroloff*

*Best Wishes  
for a Healthy  
and Happy  
New Year*

*Shelley and Marty Brody*

*Wishing you a New Year  
bright with Promise,  
filled with Hope  
and blessed with  
Peace and Joy*

*Jill and Howard Musin  
Randi and Chris Carr  
Robyn and Aaron Schwartz  
Caroline and  
Suzanne Musin*

*May you be  
inscribed for a  
Happy and  
Good Year*

*Debbie and Bob Gitchell*

*We wish You a Healthy  
and Happy 5764,  
From our Home to Yours  
Jeanette and David Bear*

*May you be inscribed for  
a Happy and Good Year  
Charlotte Raush  
and Family*

*May you be  
inscribed for a  
Happy and  
Good Year*

*Robbie and Marvin Winick*

*Best Wishes  
for a Healthy  
and Happy  
New Year*

*Temple B'nai Jeshurun*

*Wishing you  
Peace, Joy  
and Prosperity*

*The Howald Family*

*May you be inscribed for  
a Happy and Good Year  
Genya Rappoport*

*Wishing all of you a Good  
Year to come.  
May peace come  
to Israel soon!  
Ayelet Kleinman*

*Happy New Year  
Pamela and Harry Bookey*

*Best Wishes for a Healthy  
and Happy New Year  
Yale and Mary Kramer*

*Best Wishes for a Healthy  
and Happy New Year  
Ingrid and Marvin Mazie*

*Best Wishes for a Healthy  
and Happy New Year  
The Jewish Federation  
of Greater Des Moines*





The Annual Meeting brought our community together in June to thank our very energetic and creative leadership and to elect the new Federation Board, headed by Polly Oxley. Our guest speaker was Senator Chuck Grassley.

Thank you to all who attended!

eighty-ninth

# Annual Meeting

## The 2003/2004 Board of Directors:

Polly Oxley, President  
Toni Urban, President-Elect  
Harry Simon, Treasurer  
Terry Myers, Secretary

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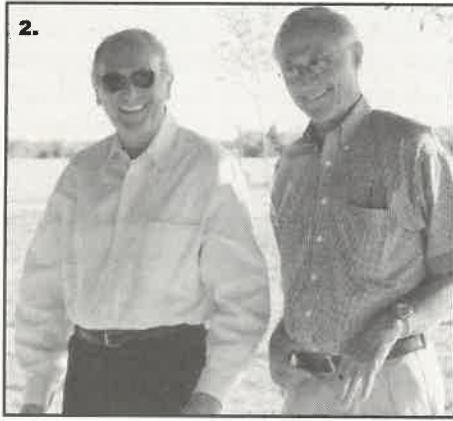
Barbara Hirsch-Giller  
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Silvia Klein  
Neil Salowitz  
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Arnold Engman  
David Bear  
Ileen Gilson  
Tom Franklin  
David Grossman  
Julie Howald  
Judy Rosenberg  
Marina Staroselsky

**Above: Outgoing Federation President Don Schoen receives a token of our thanks from Executive Director Elaine Steinger. At right, our new President, Polly Oxley, enthusiastically applauds Don.**





1. Our guest speaker Senator Grassley with Lew and Neecy Caspe; 2. Alan Zuckert (left) with Bud Hockenberg; 3. Israel Consul General Moshe Ram with our Israeli Cultural Director, Ayelet Kleinman; 4. Members of the Oxley and Myers families enjoy the picnic along with camp counselors; 5. President-Elect Toni Urban addresses the audience; 6. Thank yous to Dr. Phil Bear, Judy Deutch and Marilyn Hurwitz; 7. Herb Eckhouse and Peter Mond; 8. Tom Hutchison shares thoughts with Elaine





## Respect For The Jews Of The Arab States

By Dr. Avi Becker

I was invited recently to participate in a discussion by the U.S. House of Representative's Committee on International Relations on the Jewish exodus from the Arab states in 1948. Together with reports from experts and the testimonies of refugees, we presented the exodus of some 900,000 Jews as part of an anti-Semitic policy that included anti-Jewish legislation and incitement, the seizure of assets and pogroms.

From a legal point of view, as portrayed by jurist Carol Bazri, the daughter of Jewish refugees from Iraq, the process was one of blatant "ethnic cleansing."

After the documents were submitted and the testimonies were heard, a congressman said to us: "The things I have read in the material submitted to me and the things I have heard in the testimonies are astounding. The systematic persecution and discrimination against the Jews is reminiscent of Germany in the 1930s; and the physical persecution, including merciless killing by hanging, is similar to the extermination of the Jews in the 1940s. Why haven't we heard about this? Why doesn't the government of Israel tell the world the story of the Jewish refugees from the Arab states?"

The awakening of public interest in the exodus of Jews from the Arab states stems from a number of factors - developments in the political arena, changes in the Jewish refugees' perception of collective and individual memory, and a fresh

look at the Zionist myth and ethos.

The 10 conferences held by the World Jewish Congress around the world have seen a repeat of the phenomenon we have also witnessed among the Holocaust survivors - the need of the refugees to recount and share their memories after many years of repression.

Many of the Jews from the Arab states who had lived in homogeneous communities, with traditions and cultures dating back thousands of years, suffered greatly from the sudden move to refugee status. The testimonies we heard from Jews who left Iraq, Libya, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and elsewhere were emotional and sometimes accompanied by tears. Family members who were present said they were hearing the stories in full for the first time.

While one can explain the repression of painful personal memory, it is more difficult to understand the silence of Israel's governments and society on an issue that touches the very heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and demonstrates, in fact, that the Middle East saw a process of population exchanges. The number of Jews who left the Arab states and were absorbed, for the most part, by Israel is far greater than the number of Palestinians who left during a long war (18 months), mostly in response to the calls and incitement of Arab leaders.

Drawing an analogy between the stories of the Jewish and Palestinian refugees gives rise to a moral and just

argument against the Palestinian demand for "the right of return"; and it is difficult to understand why no consistent use is made of this argument.

What is the meaning of the Israeli silence?

The Israeli left finds it difficult to cultivate an explanatory argument that appears to emphasize moral supremacy for the Jewish side, which absorbed and rehabilitated the Jewish refugees, over the Arabs, who worked to perpetuate the suffering and nurture it as an anti-Israeli tool. Among the left, the Zionist ethos was learned with much guilt feelings about us being the cause of the refugee problem; while the radical left voices sweeping (false) accusations that the Israel Defense Forces, the Haganah, the Palmach and the Irgun were involved in the systematic massacre and deportation of the Palestinians.

According to the New Historians and post-Zionists, the State of Israel was born in sin. These arguments have found their way into the public discourse and have been adopted by academe and among the tone-setters in the Israeli culture and media.

The Israeli right has seen the development of inhibitions of a different kind. Right-wingers and government representatives, too, believed that we shouldn't use the term "Jewish refugees," because it is antagonist and doesn't reflect the Zionist revival. As far as they are concerned, we should emphasize that most of the Jews from the

Arab states were drawn to Israel by Zionist ideals and did not come here as refugees. Many of Israel's Jews from the Arab states chose to adopt the Zionist interpretation.

The Zionist ethos doesn't accept the fact that the vast majority of Israeli residents, Ashkenazim and Sephardim, came to the Promised Land as persecuted or deported refugees. There was, of course, an active Zionist elite in Europe or the Arab states; but as is the case with a pioneering leadership, it was limited. The masses arrived by means of a far less heroic process. This does not detract from the historical justification for the Zionist revolution.

When, in the summer of 2000, Yasser Arafat and his representatives raised the demand for "the right of return" for 4 million Palestinians, the Israeli representatives were surprised. After the facts were presented to former U.S. president Bill Clinton, he explicitly determined that there are two refugee problems in the Middle East that require justice and compensation - a Jewish and an Arab one.

Postmodernism rejects claims of ideological righteousness and views them as one-sided interpretations of history. But we don't have a choice. The battle against "the right of return" rages on, and it requires us to adopt a realistic and see-right approach to the Zionist ethos and the Zionist justice. The writer is the secretary-general of the World Jewish Congress.

This column originally appeared in Ha'aretz.

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[about town]

## A First: Klezmer at the Fair

The Java Jews (The Temple B'Nai Jeshurun Klezmer Band) performed at the Iowa State Fair by invitation of Drake University



### Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center

## The Life Center Welcomes New Members to Board

Dave Lettween, Life Center President, welcomed new members Dr. Harvey Giller, Fran Fleck, Larry Kirsner, and Guild President Becky Swartz to the Board of Directors at its August 5, 2003 meeting.

As The Life Center embarks on an exciting phase of growth and development in delivering the highest quality of rehabilitation and nursing services to our

community, the energy and dedication of its Board members is essential to the fulfillment of the Center's mission.

Several long-standing Board members completed their tenure this past year, including outgoing President Anne Loeb, Dr. Craig Shadur, Brook Rosenberg, Barbara Shlaes, and Steven Nadel. The leadership and dedication of these individuals will be greatly missed.



[science news]

## We May Have Succeeded In Reproducing Matter As It First Appeared in the Universe

Rehovot, Israel - June -12, 2003 - Recent results of a joint experiment conducted by 460 physicists from 57 research institutions in 12 countries strongly indicate that the scientists have succeeded in reproducing matter as it first appeared in the universe; this matter is called the quark-gluon plasma. The experiment, called PHENIX and conducted at the Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island, New York, has brought together physicists from Brazil, China, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Japan, South Korea, Russia, Sweden and the United States. The Israeli team is led by Prof. Itzhak Tserruya, head of the Weizmann Institute's Particle Physics Department. Tserruya and his colleagues have designed and built unique particle detectors that are a central part of PHENIX's detecting system.

In the first millionth of a second after the Big Bang, the atoms of different elements as we know them today did not yet exist. The main components of atoms, protons and neutrons, had not yet been "born" either. The jets of blazing matter that dispersed in all directions in the first few fractions of a second in the existence of the universe contained a mixture of free quarks and gluons, called the quark-gluon plasma. Later on, when the universe cooled down a bit and became less dense, the quarks and gluons got "organized" into various combinations that created more complex parti-

cles, such as the protons and neutrons. Since then, in fact, quarks or gluons have not existed as free particles in the universe.

Scientists studying the unique physical properties of the quark-gluon plasma have been trying to recreate this primordial matter using an accelerator, called RHICy built especially for this purpose at the Brookhaven National Laboratory. This accelerator creates two beams of gold ions and accelerates them one towards the other, causing a head-on collision. The power of the collisions (about 40 trillion electron volts, also termed 40 tera electron volts) turns part of the beams' kinetic energy into heat, while the other part of the energy turns into various particles (a process described by Einstein's well-known equation  $E=mc^2$ ). The fast stage in the creation of these new particles, like the first stage of the creation of matter in the Big Bang, is assumed to be the stage of the quark-gluon plasma.

One of the ways to identify the quark-gluon plasma is to observe the behavior of particles entering the plasma. When a single quark propagates through regular matter (containing protons and neutrons), it emits radiation that slows down its progress somewhat. In contrast, when it enters a very dense medium like quark-gluon plasma, it will slow down much more. That's precisely the phenomenon that has recently been observed and analyzed in the PHENIX experiment.

# Art + Food + Style

## New Paintings from Israel

**Hanan Milner and Olga Oreshnikov** in their second Iowa exhibition.

Artist reception

**Friday October 10, 5pm**

Open for dinner from 6 to 9pm.

Entertainment by Willie James Shay.

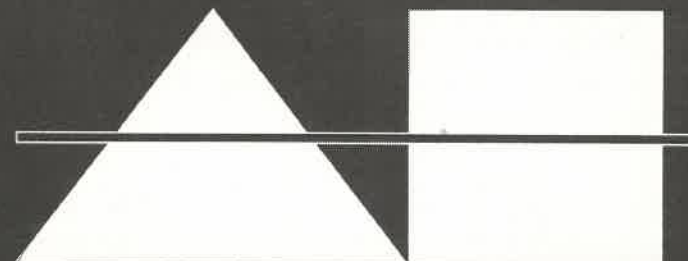
Exhibition runs through November 10.

### Restaurant

Monday - Saturday  
Lunch 11:00-2:30  
+ Special Events

### Gallery

Monday - Friday 9:00-5:00  
Saturday 9:00-3:00



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## TIFEREETH ISRAEL

### Arts & Heirlooms Sale

Sunday, September 21st (9:00 AM-5:00 PM)  
Monday, September 22nd (9:00 AM-12:00 PM)  
Come see our large collection of donations!  
\$1.00 Admission

### Men's Club/Jr./Sr. Hebrew High Class

Wednesday, October 8 – In the evening our Men's Club will be working with the Jr./Sr. Hebrew High Class to decorate our Sukkah for Sukkot.

### Potluck Dinner

Friday, October 10 – Join us Friday evening for a Potluck Dinner in our Sukkah following Erev Sukkot Services at 6:00 pm.

### Sukkot Day

Saturday, October 11 – Sukkot Day 1 Morning Services at 9:15 am  
Sunday, October 12 – Sukkot Day 2 Morning Services at 9:15 am

### Book Club

Monday, October 13 – The Book Club is meeting in the Caspe Library at 12:00 noon

### Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah

Friday- Sunday, October 17-19 – Rabbi Daniel Greyber, Director of Camp Ramah in California, will join Tifereth Israel Synagogue to lead our services this weekend for Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah. Friday evening and Saturday morning services for Shemini Atzeret will focus on our adult membership, while Saturday evening and Sunday morning services for Simchat Torah will be geared towards our youth.

### Tifereth Israel Jewish Theological Seminary Cultural Weekend

Friday-Saturday, October 24-25 – Our Guest Scholar will be Rabbi Bradley Artson, Dean and Vice President of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies and author of It's a Mitzvah!: Step-by-Step to Jewish Living and The Bedside Torah.

"Bradley Artson is one of the most insightful and articulate rabbis of his generation."  
– Rabbi Harold Kushner

### Leisure Time Luncheon

Tuesday, October 28, at 11:30 am, featuring Rabbi HaLevi.

### 2003 HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

#### At Tifereth Israel Synagogue

#### SELICHOT – Saturday, September 20

Shared Selichot Service at Temple B'nai Jeshurun at 8:00 pm

#### MEMORIAL SERVICES AT GLENDALE CEMETERY

Sunday, September 21	Holocaust Memorial Service	1:00 pm
	Community Memorial Service	1:30 pm

#### ROSH HASHANAH – September 26-28

Friday, September 26		8:00 pm
Saturday, September 27	Sanctuary	8:00 am
	Jr. Congregation and Children's Services	10:30 am –noon
	Mincha Ma'ariv	7:00 pm
Sunday, September 28	Sanctuary	8:00 am
	Sounding of Shofar	10:45 am
	Children's Services	10:30 am –noon
	Mincha at Beth El	5:45 pm
	Tashlich with Beth El Jacob at Colby Park	6:30 pm
	Ma'ariv at Beth El	7:45 pm

#### YOM KIPPUR – October 5-6

Sunday, October 5	DMARC Food Drive	5:45 pm
	Kol Nidre	6:30 pm
Monday, October 6	Sanctuary	8:45 am
	Yizkor Memorial Service	10:45 am
	Children's Services	10:30 am –noon
	Healing Service	4:00 pm
	Mincha Neilah	5:00 pm
	Conclusion	7:38 pm

#### BRING YOUR OWN SHOFAR FOR THE CONCLUSION!

Women's League and the Board of Trustees cordially invite you to attend the Break-the-Fast following the conclusion of Yom Kippur.

## AMES JEWISH CONGREGATION

### High Holiday Service Schedule:

#### Selichot:

Saturday, September 20	8:00 p.m. dessert social
	9:00 p.m. service

#### Erev Rosh Hashanah

Friday, September 26:	8:00 p.m.
with Rabbi Rosenbloom conducting the service. An oneg will follow.	

#### 1st day Rosh Hashanah

Saturday, September 27	Morning service:	9:30 a.m.
	Children service:	3:00 p.m.

#### 2nd day Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 28	Morning service:	9:30 a.m.
	Tashlich service:	11:15 a.m.

#### Yom Kippur

Sunday October 5th	Kol Nidre	8:00 p.m.
Monday, October 6th:	Morning service:	9:30 a.m.
	Children's service	3:30 p.m.
	Afternoon service:	4:30 p.m.
	Yiskor:	5:45 p.m.
	Neilah service:	6:15 p.m.

## TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN

New members, prospective members, and those "just looking" are invited to a special Shabbat Service on October 24th at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Service will begin at 6:00 pm with a festive Oneg Shabbat to follow.

### Worship Schedule

Saturday, September 13	9:00 a.m. TORAH STUDY – Ki Tavo (Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8)
	10:00 a.m. SHABBAT SERVICE
	Adam Moskowitz Bar Mitzvah
Friday, September 19	6:00 p.m. MUSIC/NEWCOMERS SHABBAT
Saturday, September 20	9:00 a.m. TORAH STUDY – Nitzavim/Vayeilech (Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30)
	10:00 a.m. SHABBAT SERVICE
	8:00 p.m. SELICHOT SERVICE at Tifereth
Friday, September 26	7:00 & 9:00 p.m. EREV ROSH HASHANAH
	Sermon by Rabbi Kaufman: "Looking Back on the Jewish Year: A Year of Hopes and Heroes"
Saturday, September 27	8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE
	11:00 a.m. INFORMAL ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE
	Sermon by Rabbi Kaufman: "Rebel Well, The Art of Standing Up for What You Believe"
	1:00 p.m. CHILDREN'S ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE
Sunday, September 28	12:00 noon – TASHLICH SERVICE
Friday, October 3	6:00 p.m. EREV SHABBAT T'SHUVAH
	8:00 p.m. UPB CLASSIC SHABBAT
Saturday, October 4	9:00 a.m. TORAH STUDY – Ha'azinu (Deuteronomy 32:1-52)
	10:00 a.m. SHABBAT SERVICE
Sunday, October 5	7:00 & 9:00 p.m. KOL NIDRE
	Sermon by Rabbi Kaufman: "Renewing the Jewish Mission"
Monday, October 6	8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL YOM KIPPUR SERVICE
	11:00 a.m. INFORMAL YOM KIPPUR SERVICE
	Sermon by Rabbi Kaufman: "Through Our Darkest Valleys"
	1:00 p.m. CHILDREN'S YOM KIPPUR SERVICE
	2:00 p.m. MUSICAL INTERLUDE
	3:15 p.m. AFTERNOON/HEALING/TORAH SERVICE
	4:30 p.m. YIZKOR/NEILAH SERVICES
	6:15 p.m. BREAK-THE-FAST

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## TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN

### NEW RUACH (SPIRIT) GROUP FORMED AT THE TEMPLE

Temple B'nai Jeshurun is excited to announce the formation of RUACH, a group designed to meet the needs of Des Moines' young Jewish community. RUACH's goal is to attract Jewish and interfaith singles, couples and parents in their 20's and 30's to increase their participation in the Jewish life of our city by offering social, educational and community action programs.

The series of events planned for the year was launched with a September 7th RAGBROY (RUACH's Annual Great Bike Ride Over Yonder), which started in Waterworks Park and cruised leisurely along the Great Western Trail, returning to the park for a picnic lunch.

#### Other events scheduled are:

September 19, 7:30-11:00 p.m. Creating Your Own Family Shabbat Traditions – a potluck dinner at the home of Ross Daniels and Amy Ward, 1069 21st Street, West Des Moines.

October 11, RUACH Sukkah Party – celebrating the harvest under the sukkah.

December 2, An Evening with Peter Pintus

The RUACH Dinner Club will select a different restaurant the third Friday of each month to enjoy dining and fellowship together after services at the Temple. For more information, to join the e-mail list, to offer ideas, or to let Ross and Amy know of your desire to participate in any of these activities, e-mail Ross at ross.l.daniels@wellsfargo.com or call 224-4883.

### INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM CLASSES TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER

The 20-session Introduction to Judaism course will begin on October 23rd at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Subsequent classes meet on Thursday evenings through April 1st, with Rabbis David Kaufman, Baruch HaLevi and Ari Sytner alternating leadership responsibilities and with meeting sites rotating among the three synagogues.

Beginning at 7:00 p.m., the first forty-five minutes will be spent in the nationwide program, "Read Hebrew America," to acquaint participants with basic Hebrew. There is no charge for this language study and attendees are welcome, whether or not they choose to participate in the actual Introduction to Judaism academic study which follows.

The ITJ segment, from 7:45 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. will cover basic Judaic beliefs and observances, history, lifecycle events, and an overview of several movements within Judaism. Cost of this course is \$75.00 for textbooks and materials.

Both Read Hebrew America and Introduction to Judaism are open to Jews as a refresher course, and to non-Jews, whether considering conversion or just interested in learning more about the faith. To receive further information by mail, including specific class dates and topics, please call the Temple office – 274-4679 – with your name and address.

### Natan Sharansky from page 1

And not to permit the Palestinian leadership to undermine the possibility of peace, by not doing anything, on their side, to dismantle the infrastructure of terror. It is clear that their strategy is to say that they are too weak, that they cannot do anything, and that Israel should be pressed to make more and more one-sided concessions. So, they are expecting that the Americans will do it, [i.e. will make these demands on Israel]. That was the concern I expressed to Senator Grassley. And he said that he fully shares my sense of the situation and that he will make sure he conveys this message to the President.

Jewish Press: Our community last year purchased an ambulance for Nahariya Hospital. We have a regional relationship with the Western Galilee, within Partnership 2000, a project of the Jewish Federations and the Jewish Agency.

Natan Sharansky: I am very familiar with Partnership 2000, P2K. It is very important that our cooperation will not be only expressed in general efforts, but that it be very specific, where people can see the end results and will feel a connection between communities, and that's why I think it is a good project.

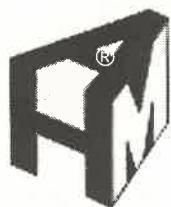
As to assistance to the Western Galilee, I don't have to remind you how serious is today's situation on the northern border. A few days ago we had a government meeting to discuss the provocations of Hamas and Hizbullah, and the Chief-of-Staff said that the main attacks are still ahead of us. After the meeting, I called

one of the officials in Shlomi [in the Western Galilee], and when I called him, he was just receiving news that nearby bombardment from Hizbullah had killed one and injured two. After a number of years of quiet, this had happened. This illustrates, of course, that the situation in the region is critical and that is why your involvement in P2K is important - not only to raise money, or to purchase the ambulance, but also to be there to visit. I encourage all the members of the Jewish community, now is the time to visit Israel. Jewish Press: In fact, we hope to have a number of people with us for our community mission to Israel and the General Assembly in November.

Also, you may know that over the past decades, our community has endeavored to make a home for as many of the immigrants from the Former Soviet Union as possible. We have in fact resettled over 300 individuals, a large number considering our small size. We were very happy to help.

Natan Sharansky: Well of course, it is important to provide a home, but now it is important that there will be a close spiritual connection between these people with the Jewishness of which they were deprived [by the Soviets], so that they will feel themselves part of the Jewish community and part of the family connected to Israel. We hope that your community will do the best to do it.

Jewish Press: Thank you for your comments, Mr. Sharansky.



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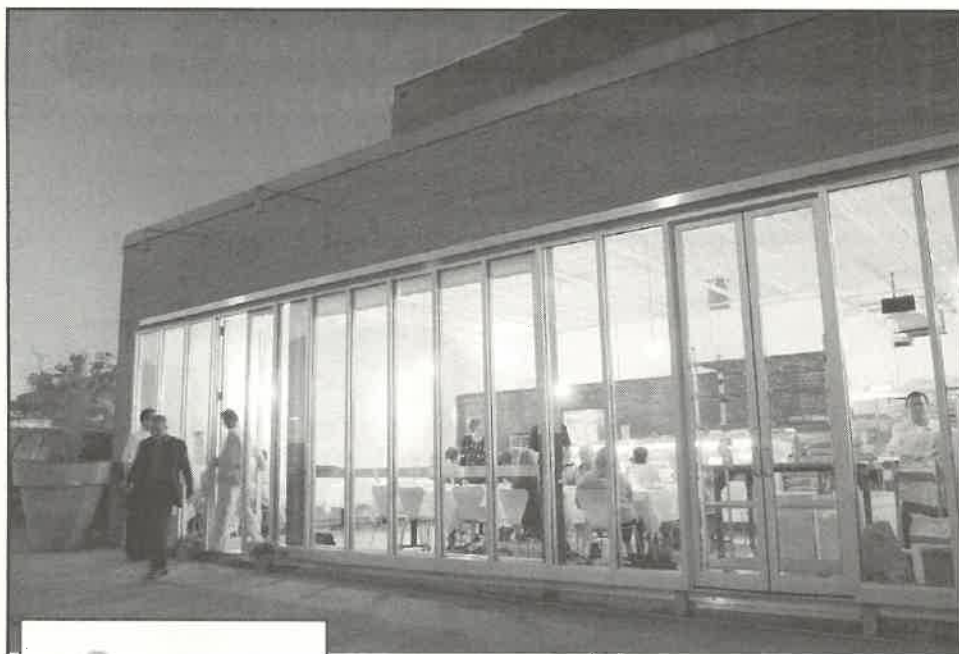
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## Mazel Tov

We are pleased to announce the newest Temple congregant, **Aidan Alan William Walsh**, born August 5, 2003. Proud parents are **Sara and Matthew Walsh**. Equally proud grandparents are **Herb and Maryanne Remer**.

The Des Moines Business Record selected **Pamela Bass-Bookey** and **Michele Soria** as among this year's Women of Influence in Central Iowa.

The Iowa Council for International Understanding honored **Fred Lorber** and **Isak Sivi** at Passport to Prosperity: A Celebration of Iowa's Newcomers.

Congratulations to **Miriam Weiner** former Des Moinesian who received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Association of Jewish Genalogical Societies at its conference this summer. Miriam grew up in Des Moines, graduated from Roosevelt H.S. and attended Drake University. One of the world's preeminent researchers on prewar Polish Jewry.

**Daniel Khalastchi**, son of **Bobbi and Nashi Khalastchi**, graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Daniel received the Felix Pollack Poetry Thesis Award and third prize in the university poetry contest. He will be attending graduate school in the Writer's Workshop at the University of Iowa.

## B'nai Mitzvah

**Sarah Lillian Fandel**



October 18, 2003

Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Linda and Gary Fandel invite you to join them when their daughter, Sarah Lillian, is called to

the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 18, 2003, at 10 am at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. A Kiddush luncheon will immediately follow services.

**Zachary Benjamin Arenson**



November 1, 2003

Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Please join our family in celebration as our son, Zachary Benjamin

Arenson, is called to the

Torah as a bar mitzvah at 10:00 am on Saturday, November 1st, at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. The community is invited to a Kiddush luncheon following the service.

**Kelilah Anne Brown**



November 15, 2003

Temple Israel

Tom and Karen Brown announce the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Kelilah Anne

Brown, to be held on November 15th at the 5:30 pm Havdalah services at Temple Israel, Burlington, Iowa.

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def: taking place or located in the open air

# all good

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## Announcing

# Tifereth Israel Synagogue Jewish Theological Seminary Cultural Weekend

Friday and Saturday, October 24 and 25



## Our Guest Scholar will be Rabbi Bradley Artson

Dean and Vice President of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies and author of "It's a Mitzvah!: Step-by-Step to Jewish Living" and "The Bedside Torah."

"Bradley Artson is one of the most insightful and articulate rabbis of his generation."

— Rabbi Harold Kushner

Join us at Tifereth Israel Synagogue for Erev Shabbat Services on Friday, October 24 at 6:00 pm and Shabbat morning services on Saturday, October 25 at 9:15 am for our Jewish Theological Seminary Cultural Weekend featuring Rabbi Bradley Artson.

Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson is the Dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies and Vice President at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, where he teaches Ancient and Medieval Jewish Philosophy, as well as Senior Homiletics. The author of 5 books, and a weekly email commentary on the Torah portion that goes to almost 12,000 subscribers, he served as a congregational rabbi in Southern California for ten years. During that time, his synagogue grew from 200 to almost 600 membership units, and he helped over 200 people convert to Judaism.

On the editorial board for several journals and magazines, Rabbi Artson has written over 160 articles and is a frequent lecturer and teacher. Rabbi Artson is on the faculty of the Wexner Heritage Foundation and speaks frequently for UJA/Federation communities. Prior to rabbinical school, he was a graduate of Harvard, and then served as a Legislative Aide to the Speaker of the California State Assembly. He lives with his wife, Elana, and their twins, Shira and Jacob.



## Meet Thelma Kardon

by Toni Urban



Boldly painted over the sink in Thelma Kardon's kitchen is the phrase "Don't forget to smile!" How apropos for a woman whose smile brightens her every move.

In 2001 Beth El Jacob Synagogue honored Thelma for 54 years of devoted service. As a volunteer Thelma cooked, baked and organized activities at the Synagogue that centered around the kitchen.

Today, as a mother and grandmother, Thelma still spreads her warmth and wonderful baked goods to everyone she knows.

Thelma was born in Chelsea, Massachusetts in 1921 to a hard-working family with 5 children. Of Thelma's surviving siblings, a brother, Jack Sherman, a retired CPA, lives in Newton, Massachusetts; Thelma speaks to him each day at 6 p.m. Her sister is in a nursing home in Atlanta.

The family business, manufacturing raincoats and jackets, was not of interest to Thelma, so after high school she moved to Connecticut for two years and then on to San Francisco where she lived with an aunt and uncle. Thelma's aunt, concerned that Thelma would become the consummate "old maid", encouraged Thelma to join the army where she would meet eligible men.

So, in 1942 Thelma Sherman joined the Women's Army Auxiliary Corp which in 1943 became the Women's Army Corp.

Thelma was sent to the first WAC training center which at that time was in Des Moines, where she was a WAC MP for three years.

And, as her aunt had wished, Recie Arenson, a friend, introduced Thelma to the very handsome Fred Kardon, at the USO. A real romantic, Fred proposed to Thelma 18 months later during the holidays. A box of candy passed around the table, contained the ring Fred had purchased for Thelma, the ring she still proudly wears today.

Fred and Thelma were married February 11, 1945 at the Des Moines Jewish Community Center at Ninth and Forest Avenue with the WAC's orchestra playing!

Fred was born in Fargo, North Dakota and had moved with his family to Des Moines as an infant. At 18, Fred began working for his uncle, Morris Feintech and continued working for Morris at Morris Auto Parts for 62 years until Fred's untimely death at the age of 80.

Fred and Thelma enjoyed a long and happy life together raising two sons, Dennis and Randy. Both boys attended Roosevelt High School.

Dennis went on to Yale and is now an artist in New York City. His wife, Shelley Lewis, is from Omaha and is an executive producer at CNN; granddaughter Julia is in high school. Randy, single and living in Iowa City, attended the University of Iowa and the University of Iowa Medical School. He is doing research and is a doctor of neuro-ophthalmology at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

For many years at the encouragement of her friend, Ruth Kagin, Thelma volunteered at the Child Guidance Center,

often taking her portable sewing machine to make costumes for the children. At the center Thelma logged 500 hours.

But, as Thelma's boys went off to college, Thelma pursued other directions. Decked in her white fox hat and Persian lamb coat, Thelma applied to work at McDonald's at 63rd and Grand Avenue. The manager bet Thelma wouldn't last a week, but 15 years later Thelma retired after a heart attack. She proudly wears her McDonald's ring emblazoned with a diamond. *Continued on page 26*

## Taiglach

A recipe from Thelma Kardon

Pareve

- |                           |                                      |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 teaspoon cardamon       | 1/4 cup canola oil                   |
| 2 teaspoons baking powder | 1 tablespoon sugar                   |
| 3 eggs                    | 2-1/4 cups "bread" flour             |
| 2 teaspoons ginger        | 2 pounds honey                       |
| 1 teaspoon vanilla        | shredded coconut - walnuts - raisins |

Mix the first 8 ingredients (exclude the honey, coconut, walnuts and raisins) together with a mixer, then remove the ingredients from the bowl and divide dough into 4 equal pieces. Roll each piece into a rope.

Cut each rope into 12 pieces (there will be a total of 48 pieces). In each piece add 2 dark raisins and 1/2 of a walnut. Then roll each piece into a small ball.

Put 2 pounds of honey in a Dutch oven. Let the honey come to a boil. Place all 48 pieces in the honey while it is hot. They will turn light brown in about 15 minutes. Then place the Dutch oven (no cover) in the oven at 350 degrees for 45 minutes, stirring every 15 minutes. Take the Dutch oven out of the oven and pour 1 cup of hot water in the pot and stir.

Leave the balls in the pot on the kitchen counter until the honey is thick. Strain the mixture in a colander and roll the balls in coconut or crushed nuts. Place balls in small fancy paper cups to serve. Can be frozen.

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# GFH Holocaust Museum in Our P2K Region Unique

An interview with Simcha Stein, Director General of the Ghetto Fighters' House



Simcha Stein with members of the survivor community David Fishel, Meyer Shnurman and Rose Szneller

Simcha Stein is an Israeli scholar on the Holocaust, a member of the The Ghetto Fighters' Kibbutz located in our Partnership 2000 region and head of its renowned Holocaust museum. He was recently in the States for the semi-annual meetings held by our P2K Consortium and came to Des Moines to speak with several groups. While here he was kind enough to give us an interview.

Jewish Press: Simcha, from having visited the Western Galilee in our Partnership 2000 region, many of our community members know the Ghetto Fighters' Kibbutz [Kibbutz Lochamei Hagettaot] and Museum first-hand. For those who don't, tell us what makes it unique as a Holocaust museum and as a kibbutz.

Simcha Stein: First of all, ours is the only Holocaust museum built by survivors (of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising) just after World War II. The founders were intent on creating a settlement, a kibbutz, to build a future and part of the settlement was a museum to remember the past – their parents, their friends and the Partisans who perished during the uprising. Second, this museum is unique because of its mission –

to perpetuate the spirit of the founders. The museum is not telling the "regular" story of the Holocaust but tells the story of the Holocaust through the eyes of the founders of the kibbutz, meaning that they are not just relating their own experience but how they see all the Holocaust and the story of life prior to the Holocaust. They tell the story from their perspective, as proud Zionists, concerned with the life of the Jewish people. This is the perspective that we emphasize in our museum. Third, we don't focus on what the Nazis did to the Jews. The center is not focused on death. What we place in the center is the story of the human being: how Jews resisted in numerous ways – not just armed resistance; but also through spiritual resistance. So we have the story through the eyes of the Jews, which means we are not dealing with death. We are dealing with life in the shadow of death.

JP: You've related to me elsewhere that in building the museum, the members of the kibbutz opted to live in tents while the building itself was being constructed. Who inspired such self-sacrifice and dedi-

cation? How did the museum documents and artifacts get compiled?

Simcha: In each movement that ultimately creates something unique, there have to be leaders. In our case there were two charismatic leaders that came from Warsaw. They were a married couple, Antek Itzhak Zukerman, deputy to Modechai Anileivicz, the leader of the ghetto uprising, and Tzivia Lubetkin, whom people considered the moral commander of the fighters in the uprising. It was they who insisted that there should be a settlement just of fighters and survivors and second that there be this museum. They were such charismatic leaders, they just asked and the people complied. So the people collected documents, wrote their own memoirs, sent to get documents from all over Europe. As a result, we have the largest collection in the world of art that deals with the Holocaust, more than 3,000 items and close to one million documents in our archive. And again, we, as the second generation, are carrying the torch – this is our job to do; it is a unique mission.

JP: When most people think about a Holocaust museum in Israel, I suppose that they think first of Yad Vashem, in Jerusalem. Where does the GFH museum stand in relation to that? When was Yad Vashem created?

Simcha: Yad Vashem, which is of course an excellent institution, was first of all created by law, authorized in 1953 along with the nationally-observed Day of Remembrance (Yom HaShoah). But our museum was actually the first museum, started in 1949. It is connected with the founding of our kibbutz. The date: April 19, 1949 – exactly 6 years after the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

The museum is one of the 7 largest museums in all fields, in Israel. In terms of the Holocaust, it is second only to Yad Vashem in terms of attendance. We welcome more than 120,000 visitors per year, and in Israel, that is a lot.

JP: The GFH museum is strong on education, is it not?

Simcha: Yes, our forte is education. In most museums, the public comes in just to pay a visit. In our museum, more than 80 % of those that come to us, come in contact with staff from our educational department, and, in fact, the educational department has many sub-departments. A major responsibility for us is to produce many new educational projects that are relevant to the needs of the Western Galilee, to the needs of Israel and to the needs of the Jewish communities in the Diaspora. So for example, we have one project, called The Humanistic Center, aimed to bring Arab children and Arab teenagers a multicultural perspective on the Holocaust. The students come for 12 meetings, and later on many of them bring their parents and help in

instructing their parents in Arabic. And I want to tell you that this is not easy. But it is the only bridge that we have now in Israel between Arab Israelis and Jews, in order to try to do something, at least not to fear each other. Another relevant project we are doing is with policemen in Israel. With the help of the national commander of police, we built a project emphasizing the humane and responsible use of weapons. A similar project helps our soldiers, who come in with their platoons from the West Bank and Gaza for two days of special programming. It is very important.

In addition to our original museum, we also have a new and special museum called Yad Layeled. Yad Layeled, which opened six years ago, tells the story of the 1.5 million Jewish children that perished in the Holocaust. And this museum is just for children. It is unbelievable how popular it is, and from it, many projects have developed. Some of them are being conducted internationally, like the Book Sharing Project in which 42 schools in Israel, each paired with one in the United States, are having their students read the same book, do the same assignments, and chat with each other over the computer. For other examples, the Ghetto Fighters' House conducts special seminars for teachers, we have a special department for the new immigrants that are still coming from the former Soviet Union, and we have a pedagogical center for local schools.

By the way, Partnership 2000 is very much involved, because the partnership communities, including Des Moines, found that the Ghetto Fighters' House can serve as resource not only for Holocaust studies but also for Jewish identity. Our institution can serve the Jewish American communities by sending people to give lectures and I think that P2K helps the Ghetto Fighters' House, as well, become more involved in our own community, the Western Galilee. So our continuing relationship is mutually beneficial. Plus which, you have all of us as friends, when you come to visit Israel!

JP: Thank you, Simcha, for sharing part of the story about your wonderful and continually developing institution in the Western Galilee, the Ghetto Fighters' House. I hope our readers will view your very informative website at [www.gfh.org.il](http://www.gfh.org.il) and that they will come and visit the kibbutz on their next trip to Israel. Kol tuv.

## Des Moines Doctors Participate in Emergency Training in Israel

Three physicians from Des Moines were among the group of 13 that flew to our Partnership 2000 District in Israel in June and engaged in a dry-run of procedures to be employed in case of a national emergency. The group participating in the preparedness activity included Drs. Alan Koslow, Lena Malina and Stephen Wolf. The hospital at which they trained was the Western Galilee Hospital in Nahariya.

An article from the Jerusalem Post covering the event included quotes from Dr. Koslow:

"Israel has experienced the most extensive medical consequences of terrorist attacks," said Dr. Alan R. Koslow, senior vascular surgeon at the Iowa Heart Center in Des Moines and one of the participating physicians. "Therefore, it will

be an ideal place for American physicians to train on how to deal with these special types of medical emergencies.

"I look to this being a pilot for hundreds, if not thousands, of American physicians being trained on how to deal with the medical consequences of terrorism," he added. "The original scope of the trip was to train U.S. physicians to be volunteers in the case that Israel needed emergency medical relief. I feel, both as an American and a physician, an obligation to help if the need arises."

"To go at this time with a specific mission that has a concrete outcome of developing a program for responsiveness in case of a disaster, and where we as individuals living in the Diaspora can help in a meaningful way, is critical. What really matters are actions, not just words."



Simcha surrounded by students from the Jewish Academy, where he spoke.



## Jewish Truisms....

- a. As a general principle, Jewish holidays are divided between days on which you must starve and days on which you must overeat. Many Jews observe no fewer than 16 fasts throughout the Jewish year, based on the time-honored principle that even if you are sure that you are ritually purified, you definitely aren't.
- b. Though there are many feasts and fasts, there are no holidays requiring light snacking. Note: Unlike Christians – who simply attend church on special days, e.g. Ash Wednesday) – on Jewish holidays, most Jews take the whole day off. This is because Jews, for historical and personal reasons, are more stressed out.
- c. The Diet Guide to the Jewish Holidays
  - Rosh Hashanah – Feast
  - Tzom Gedalia – Fast
  - Yom Kippur – More fasting
  - Sukkot – Feast
  - Hashanah Rabbah – More feasting
  - Simchat Torah – Keep feasting
  - Month of Heshvan – No feasts or fasts for a whole month. Get a grip on yourself.
  - Hanukkah – Eat potato pancakes
  - Tenth of Tevet – Do not eat potato pancakes
  - Tu B'Shevat – Feast
  - Fast of Esther – Fast
  - Purim – Eat pastry
  - Passover – Do not eat pastry
  - Shavuot – Dairy feast (cheesecake, blintzes etc.)
  - 17th of Tammuz – Fast (definitely no cheesecake or blintzes)
  - Tish B'Av – Very strict fast (don't even think about cheesecake or blintzes)
  - Month of Elul – End of cycle.
  - Enroll in Center for Eating Disorders before High Holidays arrive again.
- d. There are many forms of Judaism:
  - Cardiac Judaism – In my heart, I am a Jew.
  - Gastronomic Judaism – We eat Jewish foods.
  - Pocketbook Judaism – I give to Jewish causes.
  - Drop-off Judaism – Drop the kids off at Sunday school and go out to breakfast.
  - Two-Times-a Year Judaism – Attend services Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.
- e. By the way, they have found a lost scroll that says that there is a food than can be eaten on Yom Kippur. "McDonalds" because it is a FAST food.



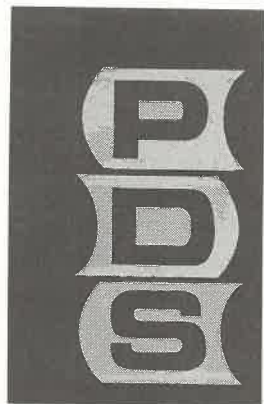
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# Owned by Succession of Jewish Women, Letter Perfect Celebrates 25th Anniversary

By Mark Finkelstein



Toni Urban (center), owner of Letter Perfect with Jeanne Levitt and Robbie Winick

There is something to be proud of when a local business succeeds and more so whenever it passes a significant milestone. That is why our community can take pride in the longevity of one of our area's most unique stores, Letter Perfect, owned for the past 15 years by Toni Urban. A full-service stationery store located at 2900 University Avenue, in Clocktower Square, Letter Perfect just celebrated its 25th anniversary in business!

This West Des Moines store, which was recently the subject of a major article in the Des Moines Register, is special for several reasons. From a commercial per-

spective, there is no other store locally that offers exactly the same services, nor as comprehensive a supply of items. Luxurious is an apt word to describe the store's inventory. At Letter Perfect you can find ready-to-use cards of all kinds, invitations and announcements to be sure. In addition, you will also encounter an array of products that can be personalized through in-house imprinting. (It's the premier shop for Bar and Bar Mitzvah and Jewish wedding invitations.)

But there's more. For folks who would like to do all their shopping for congratulatory items in one place, the store conve-

niently carries a wide selection of gift items: baby clothes and toys, and wedding accessories. And everyone who enjoys personalizing by hand letters and notes to friends, relatives and business associates or those who have an interest in calligraphy can find the high quality stationery and comfortable writing implements, including fountain pens, that suit their taste perfectly. For these reasons, the store serves not only local clientele but maintains customers from all across the country.

The store is special also in that it is one of the few community institutions, broadly defined, that involves itself in the full range of life-cycle events, an aspect of the business that provides a great deal of satisfaction to Toni. As she says, "It gives one a good feeling to be able to take care of people. We serve people when they joyously send out birth announcements, and celebrate graduations and weddings, and we are there when they need to express their condolences."

The store is also significant in that it represents a lineage of 25 years of ownership by women in the Jewish community. Founded on June 12, 1978, Letter Perfect has had several owners. The original owners were Jeanne Levitt and Robbie Winick, and the store was located in the Roosevelt shopping center. In 1983, the store was owned outright by Robbie Winick and then in 1988 was purchased

by its current owner, Toni Urban.

Robbie relates the story of how both she and Jeanne had independently mentioned to a common friend how much they would love to open a stationery store. Robbie and Jeanne were friends but apparently hadn't mentioned the idea to each other. It was the common friend who suggested that the two get together and talk to each other, because, as Robbie (with a chuckle) remembers her friend saying, if we opened two of the same store, she wouldn't know which one to go to!

Robbie has another fond recollection to share, the story of their first customer. As she states, "We hadn't even unpacked everything when our first customer came through the door! We had no furniture yet so we sat with our customer on the floor in the back room and looked through the few of our albums that had come in."

Toni ran Letter Perfect from the Roosevelt location and then added a second venue, her shop in Clocktower Square, in 1992. In 1996, she decided to concentrate her efforts on the store in Clocktower, it having a perhaps more advantageous location and twice as much as space as the Roosevelt shop, which was then closed.

The store has endured and grown over the past twenty five years. Mazel tov on this significant anniversary to all who have been involved with it during this time and best wishes for continued success!

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# Argentine Jews Must Depend On Outside Help To Survive Financially

By Larry Luxner

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) - Argentina may have a new president, but life is still a struggle for thousands of Jews in what was once South America's most prosperous nation.

President Nestor Kirchner was inaugurated last May after his main rival, Carlos Menem - who governed Argentina from 1989 to 1999 -, dropped out of a runoff election.

"Last year people were expecting riots and even the possibility of a civil war," said Rabbi Tzvi Grunblatt, director general of Chabad-Lubavitch Argentina. "People felt they didn't own anything. It was like the floor was moving underneath your feet. That's why nobody was spending a penny. They didn't see any future here. But today, there is optimism."

Economists expect Argentina's GDP to grow by 3 percent to 4 percent this year, after shrinking nearly 11 percent in 2002 - the worst performance in a century.

Even so, an estimated 60 percent of the country's 36 million inhabitants, and 35 percent of the country's 200,000 Jews, live below the poverty line. Unemployment is well over 20 percent.

"I think the new president has the best of intentions and has a very good team, but he cannot make miracles," said Bernardo Kliksberg, an economist at the Washington-based Inter-American Development Bank who has been asked to advise Kirchner. "The suffering of Argentina's Jews will continue, and we very urgently need more help from the American Jewish community. Every day, there are new Jewish poor in Argentina."

Even for Jews who are not impoverished, the country's economic crisis has triggered changes - some subtle and some not so subtle - in their daily lives.

"As a precaution we never kept our money in Argentine banks, but in my practice the crisis affected us terribly," said Freddy Rosenmeyer, 71, a Buenos Aires dentist. "Our expenses jumped by 300 percent, but we couldn't increase fees for patients. We lost business because people couldn't afford dental care. I belong to a health insurance plan in which 50 percent of the patients were dropped because they couldn't pay their monthly premiums."

Rosenmeyer shares his practice with his wife Alicia, 62, who's also a dentist. In his spare time, he volunteers at the Asociacion Filantropica Israelita, a Jewish charity in nearby Belgrano.

"We've had to live much more modestly these days," he said. "For example, I drive a 10-year-old car and my wife's car is seven years old. Before, we used to change cars every two or three years. All my sons have economic difficulties, and my daughter Deborah is an architect, but she works as a secretary in my practice because nobody's building anything."

Despite the difficulties, Alicia Rosenmeyer said, "we've never really thought of leaving Argentina."

Neither has Norma Vilks, who manages a paint factory in suburban San Martin and is married to Alfredo Vilks, an orthopedist.

"A lot of our competition had loans and were importing things on credit, and they went into bankruptcy," she said. "But not much happened to us because I had a healthy business. That really saved me from all this mess."

Mario Ringler, president of the Marshall T. Mayer Latin American Rabbinical Seminary in Buenos Aires, said the current crisis began in 1998, as Menem's second term of office was winding down.

"He was trying to change the rules of the constitution to be elected for a third time. Everything was politicized and corrupted," said Ringler, a lawyer. "In 1999, when the Peronist Party lost the elections, things got out of control. Suddenly, from a level of 16 percent, unemployment skyrocketed to 22 to 24 percent. Argentina's whole financial structure collapsed."

The Jews were affected more than others, Ringler said. "In the first place, most Jews were either economically active or lived from rents" (on stores or apartments) "that produced income," he said. "All found themselves with their properties but nobody to rent to, so they began selling their things. Many businesses closed, and about a third of Argentina's 200,000 Jews have passed below the poverty level. Now they're getting social assistance through special programs."

Grunblatt said his Lubavitch organization alone provides 8,000 of the poorest Jewish families in Buenos Aires with food, electricity and financial assistance.

"We have seven relief centers and four soup kitchens. We give out an average of 100 meals a day in each kitchen," he said. "Before the crisis, we had maybe 1,000 poor Jewish families. That's why, if America stops helping us and Argentina doesn't have the funds, all these people will be in big trouble."

About 10,000 Jews have left Argentina since the crisis hit, Grunblatt said. About 6,000 moved to Israel, while the rest relocated to the United States or other countries.

The departure of so many Jews has made it nearly impossible to raise funds in the local Jewish community. In years past Chabad's budget was \$4 million, but only \$600,000 of that went to social relief; the rest was spent on educational activities and youth programs. This year, Grunblatt has a budget of nearly \$8 million; most of it will go to emergency relief.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is extensively involved in relief efforts in the country. The JDC allocated \$15.7 million - raised mostly from American Jews - for programs over the past year.

Financial difficulties also have fueled an alarming increase in physical and sexual abuse of Jewish children by their parents.

"We never dreamed we would have so many children here," said Karina Pincever, director of Ieladenu, a shelter for abused kids in the Buenos Aires neighborhood of Once, which is predominantly Jewish.

Pincever said Ieladenu began in 1999 with two children. By January 2002 the program had grown to 96. Today it assists 200 children, with another 250 on the waiting list. All have been exposed to family violence, sexual and emotional abuse, malnutrition, social isolation, orphanhood, psychiatric problems, delinquency, neglect or abandonment.

"All these kids are at risk," she told JTA. "If they were orphans, they could be adopted. But they have their own parents and the law is different than in the United States," she said. "Because the crisis has destroyed the social fabric and the family structure, the same parents who used to take care of their children have begun to abuse them."

Pincever said caring for the children costs an average of \$252 per child per month. Of the 200 children benefiting from Ieladenu, 30 participate in the "Small Home Program," which offers a safe and supporting place to protect children under extreme risk. "Our work is to save the family," Pincever said. "We have to cure the parents so we can return their children to them."

While Argentina's economic crisis has wrecked thousands of lives, Jewish and non-Jewish alike, Grunblatt sees a silver lining.

"This crisis definitely got a lot of people who were already out of the community back into the community," the rabbi said. "Since December, we're having a brit mila almost once a week of grown children who were never circumcised. All these families are finally reconnecting to the community."

*The Des Moines Community and the Zuckert Family Charitable Foundation have contributed over \$5,000 to the Ieladenu Shelter for Abused Children.*



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Join us for the opening event on Sunday, November 9, or visit the exhibit during museum hours.

For more information  
contact the IJHS at (515) 987-0899.

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society is supported solely by donations. Help to preserve the history of the Jews of Iowa with your generous membership donation today. Contact the Iowa Jewish Historical Society at (515)-277-6321 for more information on how you can become a member.



## Federation Trip To Israel in November

Representatives from our Federation are ready to go on the Israel Mission departing November 9. The itinerary includes visiting our P2K partner region the Western Galilee, Tzfat, and Jerusalem. The General Assembly of Jewish Federations will be held this year in Jerusalem. It runs November 16 - 19. Federation President Polly Oxley, who is Chairperson of the Mission, states, "We very much look forward to visiting our P2K friends who have been in Des Moines - including Ayelet! - and in making many new friends on this exciting trip." Our trip will be conducted along with P2K Consortium members from Omaha, Louisville and San Antonio.


For more information, contact the Federation at 277-6321 or see [www.ujc.org/ga\\_home.html](http://www.ujc.org/ga_home.html)

### Thelma from page 21

Thelma has always been known for her baking. As a self-taught baker, Thelma not only baked for Beth El, but taught cooking classes at Beth El. She also taught cooking to kids in her basement at home, gave lessons at summer camps teaching children to make sticky rolls and taught classes for five years at adult education programs in Des Moines.

Thelma's freezer is full to the brim with bagels, kichel, biscotti, and taiglach which she graciously doles out. Her recipe for taiglach is "simple" and is a tasty sweet for the holiday table.

And, as for Thelma, you can find her working out each morning at 7 Flags.



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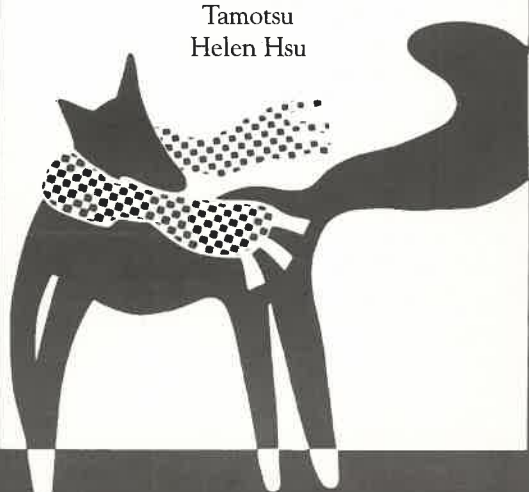
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# September

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday	09/13/03	10:00 AM	Adam Jacob Moskowitz Bar Mitzvah at the Temple
Sunday	09/14/03	10:00 AM	IJHS Cemetary Tour
Sunday	09/14/03		Pancake Breakfast at Tifereth
Monday	09/15/03	12:00 AM	Book Club at Tifereth
Monday	09/15/03	6:00 PM	Federation Executive Committee Meeting at The Caspe Terrace
Monday	09/15/03	7:00 PM	Temple Sisterhood Board
Thursday	09/18/03	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	09/19/03	5:30 PM	Shabbaton at The Cape Terrace with Ben Wolf
Friday	09/19/03	7:30 PM	Ruach Program at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Saturday	09/20/03	8:00 PM	Community Selichot Service at Tifereth
Sunday	09/21/03	10:00 AM	Investment Club at Tifereth
Sunday	09/21/03	10:00 AM	Sisterhood Brunch at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Sunday	09/21/03	12:30 PM	NCCJ Walk As One at Gray's Lake
Sunday	09/21/03	6:00 PM	Woman of Year honoring Barb Leventhal at Beth El
Sunday	09/21/03	9:00 AM	Tifereth Arts and Heirlooms
Monday	09/22/03	8:30 AM	Senior Adult Trip to Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha
Tuesday	09/23/03	7:00 PM	Tifereth Board Meeting
Wednesday	09/24/03	12:00 PM	Senior Adult Luncheon at Beth El Jacob Synagogue
Thursday	09/25/03	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Saturday	09/27/03		ROSH HASHANAH
Sunday	09/28/03	12:00 PM	Tashlich Service (Temple)
Sunday	09/28/03		Tashlich at Colby Park (Tifereth)
Thursday	10/02/03	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Sunday	10/05/03	10:00 AM	Tifereth Women's League Meeting
Monday	10/06/03		YOM KIPPUR
Wednesday	10/08/03		Men's Club & Jr.-Sr. Hi Class decorate Sukkah at Tifereth
Thursday	10/09/03	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	10/10/03		Tifereth Potluck Dinner in Sukkah
Saturday	10/11/03	10:00 AM	Adult B'not Mitzvah at the Temple
Saturday	10/11/03		SUKKOT
Monday	10/13/03	12:00 AM	Book Club at Tifereth
Tuesday	10/14/03	4:30 PM	Executive Committee/Temple Board
Friday	10/17/03	6:00 PM	Simchat Torah/Kindergarten Consecration at Temple
Saturday	10/18/03	10:00 AM	Sarah Fandel Bat Mitzvah at the Temple
Saturday	10/18/03		SHMINI ATZERET
Sunday	10/19/03		SIMCHAT TORAH

## In Memoriam

We note with sorrow  
the recent passing of

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Charlotte From  
Sorita Greene  
Don Rovner  
Charlotte Wolf

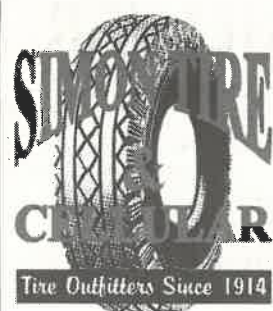
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## [web news]

## MYJEWISHLIFE.COM

A new website, MyJewishLife.com, connects us with the rich and meaningful world of Jewish culture and life experiences. It is a meeting place for people who like to read and write about how the way we've lived has had an effect on us, our families, and our surroundings. And the website, read internationally, has Des Moines roots! Find out more about this in our next edition.



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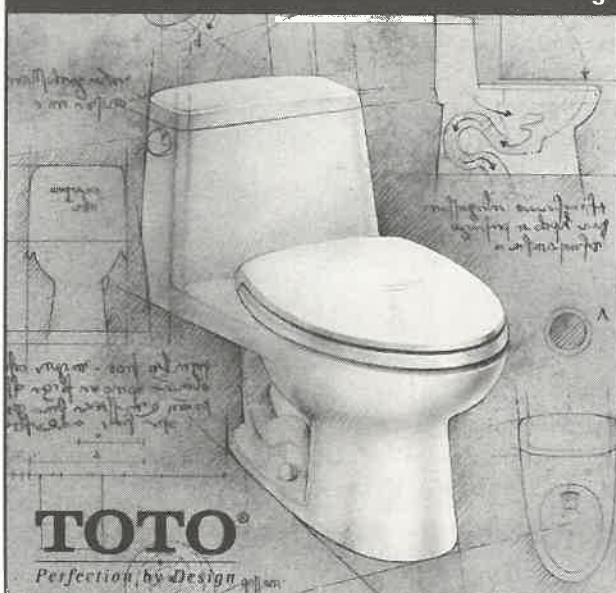
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# Reflections on Engman Camp Shalom 2003



**O**ur wonderful summer camp season has come to an end. It is hard to summarize the eight weeks. We have done so much together, shared so many stories and experiences, and made so many great memories. The staff and the campers, all of us grew together during this summer.

Our younger campers, Camp Kibbutz (kindergarten - 2nd grade), were engaged in many activities throughout the summer. There were sports and swimming lessons - the children really seemed to improve their skills! Then there were activities such as arts and crafts and drama, where the children expressed themselves through creative projects that were a delight to us all.

Our older campers, Camp Maccabim (3rd- 6th grade) were permitted to choose between special week-long activities. Some of the specialties for this year were: Hip Hop dancing, Kosher cooking with Sara Simper's kosher kitchen, horseback riding, woodworking, computers at Hamilton college, Soccer with the Menace, Week on the water, Celebrating Art with the Des Moines Art Center, Tennis club, gardening, Common herbs in our life, baseball, discover the magic. No matter what activity they chose to do, the campers have learned a lot about themselves, about being a team player and have used the activities to improve their personal skills.

Our new program for 7th and 8th grades - Camp Sabra - was for campers who wanted to focus on Israeli culture. As the summer progressed, the campers covered many aspects of Israel and Israeli life with Erga and Orly, our Israeli Shlichot. I am sure the campers learned a lot and that their experience with native Israelis helped whet their appetite to know more about the land of our people.

We took exciting field trips every week: we went to Blank Park Zoo, Miniature Golf, Bowling, The Science Center, University Water Park and much more. After every field trip, we had BBQ for the campers - the campers loved the idea of the staff cooking for them!

We ended every week with a Shabbat Service where we had a blessing over the wine and the Challah, lit candles, sang songs and danced Israeli Folk Dances - a great and relaxing way to start the weekend.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank some wonderful people:

Our previous Camp Director, Christy Bender, for giving her heart and her soul to the camp and the campers.

Our Kibbutz team leader, Emily Engman, and our Macabim team leader, Freda Surki, for being so responsible and for helping a lot throughout the summer.

Our drama specialist and swim instructor: Nina Givan who comes back summer after summer to lighten our camp.

Our counselors, Assistant Counselors and CITs: Joe, Luba, Daniel, Ari, Emily, K, Jessica, Elizabeth, Justin, Shaynna, Andrew, Savanna and Julia for being so supportive, for showing creativity and for helping to make this camp a better experience for everyone.

Many thanks to Erga and Orly, our Israeli Shlichot, for bringing Israel to our camp and for helping us learn a lot about how wonderful Israel is!

Our lifeguards Mike and Scott for taking good care of our campers in the swimming pool.

Special thanks to Ben Weiss who spent a lot of time with us taking our pictures and videotaping us and to Mike Drob for helping every Friday with our BBQ!

I would also like to thank the staff that stayed at the back, whose voices the parents heard their but whom they did not always see: Kathryn Ellerhoff, our Camp Assistant, who was a great addition to our summer camp this year and inspired us all with her wonderful writing, and Lyanna Grund, the Camp Administrator - who was there for all of us and always knew to give good advice when needed.

Finally, I would like to THANK YOU, the parents, for helping us through the summer and volunteering whenever needed, and mainly, for letting us meet and be with your children, and for trusting us to make the best summer possible!

I will be leaving for Israel soon and I will have a lot of good memories from this year. But this summer and this summer camp is by far one of the best. Thank you all: staff, parents and campers for making this summer unforgettable. I hope to see you all someday in Israel!

Shalom, Ayelet Kleinman, Camp Director



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