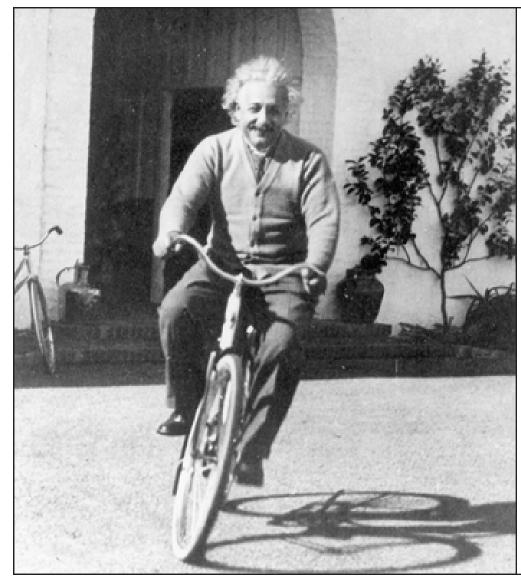
# X THE GREATER DES MOINES X Dev Contraction Contra

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



# **Des Moines Delegation to Attend Jerusalem GA in**

among the huge number of Jewish community members nationally who will soon be winging their way to Israel to tour the country and to attend the UJC's General Assembly of Jewish Federations convention in Jerusalem. Our delegation, headed by Polly Oxley, departs for Israel on November 9.

Prime Minister Sharon will be keynote speaker at the GA opening plenary on Sunday, November 16th. The event will also include performances by musical superstars Achinoam Nini and David Broza.

Organizers are pulling out all the stops as they anxiously await the great influx of the North Americans, with some 3,400 participants from the US and Canada already registered and hotels around Jerusalem booked solid. GA highlights include a massive party in the hip downtown of Tel Aviv and a day of visits to some 60 UJC sponsored sights

### [inside]

- 4 OPERATION GOOD MENSCH NOV 19
- 10 ALL-IN-CAMPAIGN: A THANK YOU
- 16 LEVITAS: ANTI-SEMITISM GROWING
- 18 IJHS EXHIBITION OPENS NOV. 9
- 18 VISIT DECORAH MUSEUM EXHIBIT

### Defying the Laws of Gravity

**Graniby** vsicist is celebrated in a new exhibit at Chicago's Field Museum.

If there is one word that embodies the spirit of Albert Einstein (besides "genius," of course), it has to be engaged. Whatever he was doing – playing the violin, fighting for civil rights, raising money to build a Hebrew University in Jerusalem, or changing our understanding of how the universe works – he was never less than fully committed to the project at hand.

Einstein's deep and multifaceted engagement with the world stands out in a remarkable new exhibition-called, simply, Einstein that takes a comprehensive look at the 20th century's most famous scientist: his life, his passions, his science. The exhibition brings to light Einstein's contradictions and accomplishments and clarifies his abstruse theories in innovative and compelling displays. Above all, Einstein shows us that even the most complex science is a fundamentally human enterprise, and that even the most revered scientists are complex human beings.

The exhibition opens at Chicago's Field Museum Friday, October 17, 2003, and will be on view through Sunday, January 4, 2004. It's free with Field Museum admission.

### JANINE ZACHARIA SPEAKS AT ISU, NOVEMBER 10

The Washington bureau chief for The Jerusalem Post, Janine Zacharia, will address the topic of U.S. Diplomacy in the Middle East, Monday, November 10, 2003 8:00 pm in the Great Hall of the Iowa State University Memorial Union.

Ms. Zacharia's presentation is part of the ISU Lectures Progam's series in coordination with ISU's Institute on World Affairs and is funded by the ISU Student Government and co-sponsored

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### volume 20 number 2

### All-In-One Campaign IRINA KAPLAN TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN



Vewish Press: Irina, you are a dynamic individual and we are very happy to have you on the Board of Directors of the Federation and now as the C h a i r of the Women's

Division of the All-In-One Campaign. On the current Board you are Co-Chair of the Financial and Human Resources Development Pillar, along with Herb Eckhouse, and prior to that you served as Secretary to the Board. We appreciate your service to the community and want to take this opportunity to have our readers get to know you a little bett e r .

Tell us a bit about how and when you came to Des Moines.

Irina Kaplan: I came to the United States thirteen years ago from the former Soviet Union, Kiev, Ukraine, along with my daughter, Inga, who was then 9-1/2, and the rest of my family: my sister and her family and my mother. Des Moines was our first destination, where my mothe

suggested we go, because it was where my brother-in-law had relatives, Naum and Rita Zaprudsky. They were the only relatives we had at the time in the United States. My mother was right in picking Des Moines; it was here that I met my husband Ken!

JP: I understand that you are a musician.

IK: Yes, I received a professional education as a classical pianist in the Ukraine and I taught at the school for gifted children in Kiev. When I came to Des Moines I was fortunate to find a position teaching at the community music school at Drake University and privately within the Des Moines school district. I had stopped teaching a few years ago but

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# real people, true stories



The Federation? It makes a huge difference.

[**Susan Talbott**, speaking about how the Federation assists her mother, Mrs. Mary Lubowsky.]

"My husband and I have been in town five years. I came to be Director of the Des Moines Art Center. About two years ago, after my father died, we brought my mother to join us. To suddenly land in the middle of Iowa was a huge cultural

leap for my mother, someone who had never in her life lived outside of New York, which is predominantly a Jewish city, or hardly ever traveled outside of New York State.

But she is extremely happy here – and among the things that make her so happy here is her contact with the Jewish Federation and the services it provides.

She enjoys conversing with other Jewish people at the Federation's Senior Adult luncheons. That itself is important. But, in addition, the Federation's staff person, whom she adores, comes and takes her to the library, because my mother is an avid reader, and she sometimes even takes her shopping. My mother just celebrated her 90th birthday, and even though she is in good health, she doesn't get around that much anymore. So it is really wonderful that the Federation enables this one-on-one interaction.

It all makes a huge difference."

The Jewish Federation can only offer its services through the generosity of people who care about our community.

Support our community. Support the All-In-One Campaign.

### [teen-to-teen]

### **Under My Grandfather's Talit**

The deep comfort of my grandfather's voice Envelopes me like the talit he has Placed so lovingly upon my shoulders. This sacred shawl, so much a part of him, Brings my childish soul The deepest comfort possible. Once a week The worn blue and white cloth, Becomes my Grandfathers haven. My Grandfather offers up his soul, Frees his mind from the troubles of the world. His talit becomes his path to heaven. Now the comfort is mine. So many sorrows have been woven through this cloth. Its weight is the weight of the world. But underneath its shelter Only the peaceful blue and white can be seen. And only the deep lull of my grandfather's voice, As he offers up his prayers to heaven, Can be heard. - Lisa Marie

Teens can write to Lisa Marie at write@ttt.org.il Lisa's poem is from the not-for-profit Jewish educational website, Teen-To-Teen, online at www.ttt.org.il

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# **Senior Adult News**



September Senior Luncheon organized by Kady Russell, Senior Services Coordinator for the Federation

### CALENDAR OF SENIOR ADULT PROGRAMS Library Group

### The Library Group meets on the first Friday of each month.

### Senior Luncheons

October 30, Tifereth Israel Synagogue, violinist Herb Rosen.

November 20, Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Guest Speaker, Gina McCrea, Elderly Outreach.

December 18, Beth El Jacob Synagogue. Presentation by Kris Thompson, State of lowa Insurance Division.

### **Casino Trip**

A trip to the casino in Council Bluffs is being planned for November. Watch for details in your Senior Adult Newsletter.

# Sponsored by the Jewish Community Services Pillar of the Jewish Federation.

For more information or to receive the Senior Adult Newsletter, contact Kady Russell, Senior Services Coordinator, at 277-6321.

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and

# **ABA Training**

ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis) training available for LAVAAS and ABLLS. A community member is making available, free of charge, to the general public, a 6 hour course to be trained in the above mentioned areas of child care intervention for children with delayed milestones and development. Great income potential for those new to the childcare field or for professionals. A job is available on completion of the course for qualified graduates.

Call 277-6321 x 213 for further information.

# **Project Elijah**

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING YOUR FREQUENT FLYER MILES TO PROJECT ELIJAH, our community-wide project to assist the Jewish communities in Argentina. We will be using your mileage to assist families in relocation to Des Moines, and for setting up missions to visit the country.

Call the Federation for details.



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.

### THE VIEW FROM ISRAEL

By former Areiva to Des Moines, Ayelet Kleinman



### Shalom everyone-

I was asked by the editors of the Jewish Press to comment upon life in Israel, to serve as your personal Foreign Correspondent. What an assignment! But I'm glad to do it. First, however, a disclaimer: as you know, of course, I am not a politician, and everything that I am going to write here is from my own personal perspective and should be taken to represent only my thoughts, my feelings.

I thought that the first article should be about my returning back home. As you can imagine, during the last year in Des Moines, I followed the news from Israel daily.

I read many articles and commentaries, I watched Israeli TV over the Internet and I really tried to be involved with life in Israel, even though I was far away. I thought, at least, that returning home would not be that hard, given that I kept in touch with my family and friends. And I thought that everything was going to stay pretty much the same.

Unfortunately, this was not the case. It has been a month since I returned to Nahariya and to be honest, I am still having a hard time readjusting. Israel has changed a lot during the past year and I guess that I have changed a lot, too – so it was not easy to get my old life back.

My life in Des Moines was very good and I was very spoiled by all of you. Life in Des Moines was very calm and peaceful, as were the people in Des Moines. Neither is the case in Israel: everyone is stressed and worried about many things like the security problems, the economy etc. and it is not easy to get used to that, again. I find since I returned home, I talk more and more about the future of the State of Israel and about the future of us – the next generation; about my generation and our future.

It is now that time of year when most of my friends are starting their masters program, looking for an apartment, looking for a job – everyone is trying to organize their life, trying to have a good start. And so am I. I was already lucky enough to find a job in Jerusalem, where I am also going to live. This, even as I will start my M.A. at Tel Aviv University. To tell the truth, I really wanted to live in Tel Aviv to take advantage of the night-life there, but I am going to live in the capital of Israel and I am sure it is going to be a great experience.

It is also that time of year that people are getting ready for Rosh Hashanah, the New Year – you should see the markets. Everyone is buying many things for the high holidays and the most common question that you can hear in the streets is "Where are you spending Rosh Hashanah/ Yom Kippur/ Sukkoth?" It gives you a good feeling to know that even though the situation is not easy, people are still celebrating the holidays with family and friends. It feels good to know that we can bridge over the gaps when we need to.

And what have I been doing as of late? I have traveled a lot for the past month, basically all over Israel. I have been to the northern part of Israel, I went to the desert, I visited the main cities and, of course I spent a lot of time at the beach! Israel is so beautiful. The views are gorgeous and The Western Galilee looks like it is growing and developing – many thanks for your contributions to Partnerhsip 2000 through the Federation.

I really missed Israel. I missed my family and I am very happy and excited to spend time with them during Rosh Hashanah. I missed my friends and it was good to know that I am not alone in all this new process of organizing one's life.

I had an amazing year in Des Moines. I know that, but only now can I appreciate how meaningful it was and how much I have changed and have grown as a person during this year.

No one said that coming back home would be easy; and as we all know – all the beginnings are hard, but that reacclimation is only a question of time. Israel is my home and it feels good to be home.

Thanks to all who have e-mailed and telephoned me since I returned home – it really warms my heart.

I miss you all!

Your friend from Israel, Ayelet

### An Emergency-Needs Fund New TZEDAKAH DISCRETIONARY FUND ESTABLISHED BY FEDERATION

The Jewish Community Services Pillar of the Federation announces the establishment of a temporary fund to help community members in times of emergency. Local needs are increasing, with the effects of local unemployment or cut-backs in hours are being felt within our community. Short-term assistance will be available to tide individuals over in such cases as a medical emergency, a need for food, clothing, or shelter. For more information or to apply for assistance, contact the Director of Jewish Community Services, Rabbi Berel Simpser, at 277-6321 x 213.

Sincere thanks are expressed to those who have anonymously donated to the temporary fund.

#### THE GREATER DES MOINES

### Jewish

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> Elaine Steinger, Executive Director

Audrey Rosenberg, Communications Pillar Chair

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The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press 910 Polk Boulevard Des Moines, IA 50312

Phone: 515-277-6321 Fax: 515-277-4069 E-mail: jcrcDM@aol.com

Opinions expressed in The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press are not necessarily those of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, its committees, or its staff. Unsigned editorials express the opinion of the paper's Editorial Board.

We are always happy to accept articles and contributions. We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity.

Vol. 20 No. 2, October 2003

### CORRECTION

The names of the Presidents of our congregations were inadvertently omitted from the list of Federation Board members, published in the September Jewish Press. We are pleased to pay honor to them: Murray Kaplan (Ames Jewish Congregation), Ron Clayman (Beth El Jacob Synagogue), Jim Christiansen (Judaic Resource Center), Anne Loeb (Temple B'nai Jeshurun), Brad Brody (Tifereth Israel Synagogue). We are thankful, as well, for the participation on the Board of our rabbis.

# We're Back On Track With Fall 2003 Operation Good Mensch!

# Sunday, November 16

Our community's popular Mitzvah Day – Operation Good Mensch – starts the New Year off right, on Sunday, November 16, at the Federation Office. This is an opportunity for everyone to come together and volunteer a few hours to help others!

We have two hands-on projects with which you can get involved! Take your choice!

• Assist senior adults with Fall Clean-Up, & Fall Cleanup at the Woodlawn Cemetary such as leaf raking and lighter outdoor yard work. You can provide the 'people power' to help make someone's life just a little easier going into winter.

1 pm-4 pm

 Visit and entertain the residents at the lowa Jewish Senior Life Center.
 2 pm-4 pm

Either way, by participating in the Fall Clean-Up or Visiting the Senior Life Center, you'll be helping someone in need. And your help will be appreciated!

This opportunity to join in the spirit of Tzedakah is being organized by the Operation Good Mensch Committee of the Jewish Community Services (JCS) Pillar, chaired by Barb Leventhal and Scott Stricker. Co-chairs of the Federation's Jewish Community Services Pillar are Michael Kuperman and Dr. Vera Aginsky.

**RSVP** today!

# Count me/us in! **I/we will help** Sunday, November 16 with

Fall Cleanup in assistance to Senior Adults (1 pm – 4 pm)

\_\_\_\_ Visiting the Jewish Senior Life Center. (2 pm–4 pm)

Registration at the Jewish Federation, Noon - 1 pm

Name(s):

Phone number:

# Here's all you need to do:

- Fill out and return the form below or call Emily at Jewish Community Services at 277-6321, to register to help on Sunday, November 16.
- 2. Sign in at the Jewish Federation, Noon on Sunday, November 16.
- **3.** Pick up bags and gloves for leaf raking or other fall help.
- 4. Visit and entertain at the Jewish Senior Life Center

Operation Good Mensch is an opportunity for us to give to others with our hands and our hearts. The work we will be doing could be done by others, but it is important to teach the younger members of our community that tzedakah can be, and often is, more important if it is a direct result of our sweat and muscle.

I personally encourage everyone to sign up now and plan to be with us in November. I also think this is a wonderful opportunity for families to do a community service project as a family.....we encourage families to show up together. Grandparents, children, grandchildren, uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews -- there truly is room for everyone.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

**Mike Kuperman,** Co-chair Jewish Community Services Pillar

### PHILANTHROPY MADE SIMPLE

president is a concern that many Jews share privately, even as the Jewish establishment and mainstream Jewish press chooses to put a positive spin on Lieberman's " b a r r i e r -

breaking" presidential bid.

When analyzing the recent upsurge in antisemitism, one thing is certain: it cannot be neatly attributed to any specific actions, real or imagined, on the part of Jews. It is certainly not being driven solely by a public backlash against a handful of Jewish neo-conservatives. Nor can it be closely linked to America's economic woes. Surveys have shown consistently since the 1960s that economic deprivation is not correlated to antisemitism....

The rising antisemitism we have seen in recent years is the result of Jews being perceived as having a major stake in highly visible social and political events, which in turn helps stimulate widely held and culturally embedded antisemitic beliefs. This is why a variety of political groups have been so successful recently in stoking the fires of antisemitism, and why we must continue to expose and combat their propaganda. Because antisemitism is fluid, it can also be driven downward, either by future events that lower the visibility of Israel and American Jews or through concerted action by Jewish groups and their allies.

This is not a time for the Jewish community to pull back from the struggle against racial and religious prejudice. Just the opposite: we need to intensify our efforts to rebuild relationships with like-minded groups, as well as strengthening ties with groups that may be critical of Israeli policies but otherwise share our values and concerns. Because the Jewish community has felt increasingly under siege since the breakdown of the Oslo peace process and 9/11, many leaders have circled the wagons and increasingly focused inward. As a result, fewer resources are being devoted to community relations and coalition building. "This agenda has not been pursued vigorously by most of the organized Jewish community for some time," says Gary Tobin. "There must be increased coalition building of all kinds between Jews and the significant proportions of Americans who do not hold antisemitic beliefs."

The most critical issue influencing attitudes toward Jews today is the Arab-Israel conflict. A great deal now hinges on the success or failure of international peace efforts....

At this historical juncture, a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israelconflict may be one of the best antidotes to the latest outbreak of antisemitism in America.

A frequent contributor to Reform Judaism magazine, Daniel Levitas is the author of The Terrorist Next Door. The Militia Movement and theRadical Right (Thomas Dunne Books/St. Martin's Press, Nov. 2002www.terroristnextdoor.com) and has testified as

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Any tax advise should be reviewed by your financial advisor.

### For more information call the Des Moines Jewish Foundation (515) 277-6321

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### **JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

### Elementary

Religious School / Hebrew School began the first part of September. By now, we have gotten into the swing of attending classes on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. Students have buckled down to continue their Hebrew and Judaic studies.

Our Sunday school met prior to our High Holidays and students learned some fascinating information about Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. They learned about our Jewish calendar and that Rosh Hashanah starts our New Year, and that Rosh Hashanah means Head of the Year. Yom Kippur is a thinking time, a period of reflection and review about the past year. If we have hurt or wronged someone, we need to ask for his or her forgiveness. If there are things we want to change, this period of time gives us a fresh start.

Some of our children heard the story of Jonah and the whale and made their own Jonah and the whale. The picture below shows the Pre-Kindergarten class, taught by Mrs. Cynthia Shulman, working on their Rosh Hashanah gifts that they were making for their parents. Our Kindergarteners made special Rosh Hashanah cards for their parents and our second graders made apple sachets to take home for Rosh Hashanah. For a snack, we ate honey and apples.

Rabbi Kaufman joined us on Sunday, September 21, to talk to our students about our New Year and the significance of Yom Kippur. Thank you very much Rabbi Kaufman.

During this time of year, our students also learned about Sukkot and Simchat Torah. They learned that Sukkot is an autumn holiday and it is a reminder that God protected the Israelites while they wandered in the Sinai Desert, living in temporary huts as they made their way from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land of Israel.

Simchat Torah is when we take out all of the Torah scrolls from the Ark and march with them around the synagogue seven times. Each parade is called a hakafah. During each hakafah, we pray, sing, dance and wave flags. On Simchat Torah we read the last words and the first words of the Torah. For Jews, the Torah is a book that has no end. **Jr/Sr High School** 

The Junior/Senior High School program also began the first part of September. Our first night was dedicated to a joint youth group conducted by Laura Berkson (Temple Youth Director for NFTY) and Mike Siegel (Tifereth Youth Director for USY).

Our students are spending the year exploring a variety of ethical issues with the aid of traditional texts. We are allowing time to discuss the issues along with their own personal views. The theme for this year, encompassing all grades is: the ways in which ethical issues and one's moral and ethical viewpoints affect one's life and the lives of others. Throughout the year, several local Jewish community members will be visiting



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our classrooms to share some of their experiences with our students.

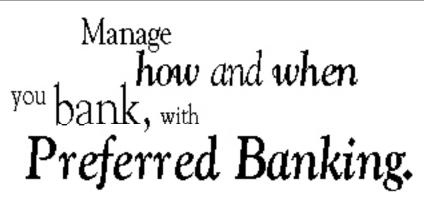
In our ninth grade class, taught by Mrs. Stacie Franklin, students will cover different aspects on Israel, including geography, politics, culture and history. One of their first exciting projects is to build relationships with other teenagers in Israel through e-mail. Students have already been introduced to an e-mail pal and have been corresponding with each other.

These are just a few items that our students will be learning throughout the year. Students meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:45 pm.

#### Dates to remember

- Oct 26 JFCS Family Education Program at The Caspe Terrace
- Nov 26 No School Thanksgiving
- Nov 30 No School Thanksgiving
- Dec 20 Joint Family Education Program (Tifereth & Temple)
- Dec 21 Jan 4 No School Winter Break
- Jan 7 First Day back for 3rd 6th grades





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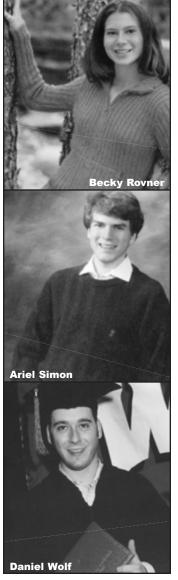
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### **DES MOINES JEWISH ACADEMY**



The influence of an excellent school is seen in the future of its students. The Des Moines Jewish Academy has been in existence since 1977. Here are just a few DMJA Alumni.

**Luba Aginsky.** Graduated top 3% Valley High School, nominated Iowa State Scholar.

University of Iowa, majoring in Actuarial Science. **Becky Rovner.** Valley State Championship Tennis Team. Dean's List -Washington University.

Allison Rovner. Graduate of Wesleyan University-Government and Economics, Senior Class Treasurer. University of Pennsylvania Law School-1st year. Sarah Sager. University of Iowa Law School, 2nd

year, top 10%.. Boris Scharansky. Attending University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business. Michael Siegel. Drake University. Pilot License. Commercial Flight Instructor.

**Mike Siegel.** Drake University. USY Director at Tifereth Israel.

**Mikey Siegel.** Drake University graduate. **Risa Siegel.** Graduate of Columbia University, Science. Jewish Theological Seminary-Philosophy and Ethics. Pursuing PhD in Biochemistry. **Ariel Simon.** Graduate with honors Harvard University. Oxford University, England. **Shira Simon.** Fourth year – Harvard University.

**Daniel Wolf.** American Intercontinental University London, England; graduated University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**Daniel Wolnerman.** Fourth year-University of Southern Cal. Nationally ranked debater.

Des Moines Jewish Academy, where a bright future beckons. For more information on enrollment call 274-0453.

### Ames Jewish Congregation Religious School We are off and running!

Religious School has begun and we are off and running with another busy school year at AJC. We are excited to welcome back many of our great teachers from last year and welcome our new teachers David and Lisa Vaknin and Emily Kawaler. Most importantly, we welcome Rabbi Rosenbloom to our congregation and our school. On August 24th, Rabbi led a teacher training session titled, "Teaching Torah." All the teachers attended this great session and everyone learned a lot! Rabbi Rosenbloom will be teaching Hebrew Level Hey in preparation for the student's Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and leading a variety of student assemblies.

Classes began on September 7th. The students found their new classrooms and met their teachers for this 2003-2004 year. Both parents and students attended our first school assembly. We began with a morning service lead by John Pleasants followed by a "Summer Camp" assembly. Thanks to Jacob Pleasants and Joey Wendel, Robbie Dennis and Aaron Ackerman, Jessie and Kevin Svec, and Sarit Luban and J e r e m v

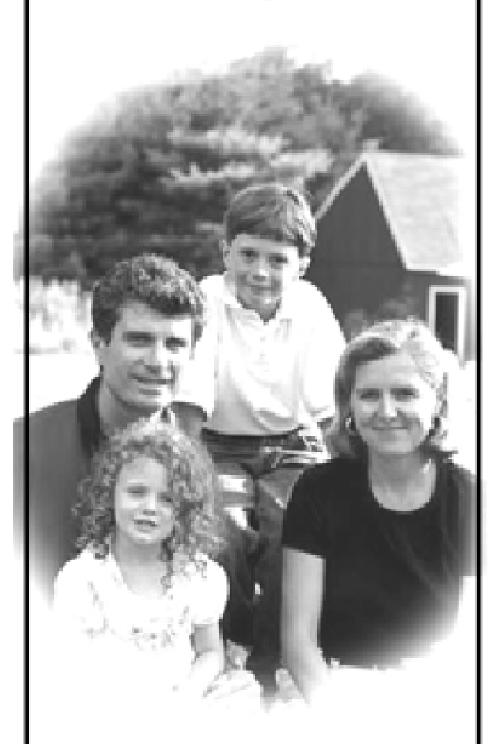
Pour-el Sacks for sharing their camp experiences with everyone. We enjoyed hearing many fun stories, seeing pictures, watching a video of a camp play and even watching some break-dancing.

This week the kids were hard at work painting tiles for our mural that will be presented at the 25th anniversary celebration October 24-26th. Each student painted 3 tiles that will be fired and assembled by Rachel Pleasants. Rachel designed the mural in a way that every student had the opportunity to take part in the artwork. This will be a special part of the school and synagogue for many years to come.

We are very excited to begin a new tradition of joint activities with the Jewish Federation Community School in Des Moines. Our 6th and 7th grade kids will meet the Des Moines students at a joint Shul-In at the Caspe Terrace on January 17th. Fun activities are planned to encourage making many new Jewish friends. On February 29th, our 2nd through 5th graders will meet up with the Des Moines kids right here in Ames at Puttin' on the Paint. We will be making Elijah and Miriam's cups. We are looking forward to building a stronger relationship with the Jewish Federation Community School in Des Moines.

Other school events planned for this year are class-led Shabbat Services, "A Chanukkah Celebration," "Torah Partners" for 4th- 9th graders with Rabbi Rosenbloom, "Jewish Communities around the World," a Purim Carnival, and finally "A Chocolate Seder" for the entire family!

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Shalom,

### Scholar and Rabbi, Joseph R. Rosenbloom Serves the Ames Jewish Congregation



The Ames Jewish Congregation is pleased to announce the appointment of Joseph R. Rosenbloom as its rabbi. After 42 years of service and retirement in June from Temple Emanuel in St. Louis, Rabbi Rosenbloom now joins

the Ames Jewish Congregation on a monthly basis.

In addition to maintaining his position as Rabbi Emeritus and Senior Scholar at Temple Emanuel, Rabbi Rosenbloom is an adjunct professor in classics at Washington University, St. Louis. He has served as president of the American Jewish Committee of St. Louis, president of the St. Louis Rabbinical Association, and a board member of the Jewish Community Centers Association, the Inter-Religious Center for Urban Affairs, the Girl Scouts and was secretary of Grace Hill Settlement House.

Prior to his coming to St. Louis in 1961, Rabbi Rosenbloom served a pulpit in Lexington, Kentucky, where he was a member of the Department of Ancient Languages and Literature at the University of Kentucky from 1956-1961. While in Kentucky, he served as president of United Cerebral Palsy of Kentucky and chairman of the Kentucky State Commission on Aging. For five years, he served as chaplain at the Federal Narcotics Hospital in Lexington.

Rabbi Rosenbloom received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1950. Following that, he earned three degrees at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati: Bachelor of Hebrew Letters, 1952; Masters in Hebrew Letters, 1954; Doctorate of Hebrew Letters, 1957. In 1973, he earned the Doctor of Ministry degree at Eden Theological Seminary.

A prolific writer, Rabbi Rosenbloom has written numerous articles that have been published in a variety of scholarly and popular journals. His books include, "A Biographical Dictionary of Early American Jewry and The Dead Sea Isaiah Scrolls: A Literary Analysis." His most recent book, "Conversion to Judaism: From the Biblical Period to the Present," was published in 1978.

Rabbi Rosenbloom is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis, the National Association of Hebrew Professors, American Oriental Society, American Historical Association and the American Association of University Professors.

Research has been one of Rabbi Rosenbloom's ongoing interests. In 1965, he spent the summer in Morocco under the auspices of a grant from the American Philosophical Society and in 1968, he was awarded another research grant by the Merrill Foundation, administered by the Hillel Foundation, for research in England. His current research

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## 12:30 pm Sunday, October 26 The Caspe Terrace

Join us as we hear from Nashi Khalastchi about growing up in the Jewish community of Iraq. Sarah Christiansen will tell the story of how Jewish religious artifacts, a Torah and prayer books, along with invaluable genealogical records were rescued from the basement of Bagdhad's Iraqi Intelligence building this past May.

> These precious items, which had been confiscated by the Iraqi government, were saved from destruction during the war. The rescue was organized in part by Harold Rhode, a genealogist and a cultural officer for the Pentagon. Rhode gave a riveting presentation about the rescue mission at the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies summer conference in Washington DC, attended by Sarah Christiansen. Materials from Rhodes' presentation, the photographs he took as the work was being done, along with a tape of the original program will be shared on October 26.

The program, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the Iowa Jewish Historical Society, the Iowa Jewish Genealogical Society, and the Jewish Federation.



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## [in profile]

# Meet Suse Lerner, Creator of MyJewishLife.com

Website seeks to capture the essence of Jewish life in our time

Last month in the Jewish Press, we included information about a new website that encourages readers to post their reminiscences of Jewish events that have had an impact on their life. The website, MyJewishLife.com, is particularly interesting because of a Des Moines connection. The site is the creation of Suse Daniels Lerner, the daughter of Alice and the late Richard Daniels. Suse was recently interviewed by the Jewish Press.

Jewish Press: Suse, tell us a bit about where you grew up and where you had lived most recently ?

Suse Lerner: I grew up in Windsor Heights in the 1970s, in a house, interestingly enough, that I'll soon be moving back into. I attended West Des Moines schools, graduated from Valley High School and went to the University of Iowa. Before moving back to Des Moines last December, I lived in Kansas City and Chicago, where I met my husband.

JP: What do you do for a living?

SL: I am a list broker. I help companies select targeted lists of addresses for their direct mail and electronic mail needs. JP: How long has your website MyJewishLlfe.com been in existence? SL: By mid October it will be 4 months.

JP: What has been your feeling about it? SL: It's been a wonderful portal for people to come and read. There are probably over 80 unique visitors to the site on a monthly basis. One of the surprises is that it has attracted international attention.

JP: I've noticed that you have contributions from such places as South Africa, Canada, and Mexico.

SL: It is very exciting. Initially, I had thought that this site would draw stories from the American Jewish community, but it seems to be taking on an international flavor. This is wonderful.

JP: In creating the website, what was it that you wanted to pinpoint and to what end?

SL: I wanted to get into the heart and soul of what people are thinking and how they're living Jewishly. My objective is to compile and publish the stories that people are sharing. (I state the objective clearly on the website so that contributors will know how their material will be used.)

JP: You're approaching the topic from a new perspective....

SL: Yes, I believe there are rabbis that are writing stories about Jewish life in our time, but I don't think they are capturing what 'everyday people' are feeling and their stories. Isaac Bashevis Singer has written wonderful short stories about Jewish life, but those are predominantly fiction. My whole goal is to compile a list of stories that are truly the product of people living more or less average lives.

JP: What do you know about the people visiting the site?

SL: The demographic information I collect from people who sign up to receive my electronic newsletter is guite interesting. I've found that the majority of readers are age 45 and above. That's great but I would also like to attract a younger crowd, because their Jewish experiences are going to be different from those of an older generation. When I update the site in the next couple of months, I'll try to include more topics to which the younger generation would likely respond. Even now, however, I include topics relating to youth groups, summer camps and Hebrew schools, hoping that if people, at whatever age, think of something poignant or funny, they'll write it down - something that may have happened 10 years ago. It doesn't matter if their story is just a quick anecdote or longer, the contributions are all welcome.

JP: What is it about the 45 year old and his or her need to put their reminiscences on the website? Or put another way, why do you think people contribute to your website?

SL: I think there is always the growing awareness of their mortality, that they want their story heard. I also believe that there are many people who are writing for the website that may have a little discretionary time. And others may just see the site as a vehicle for becoming an author without having to identify themselves by name.

JP: What have you learned about people from reading some of their stories?

SL: Well, I think that, as Jews, we have so much in common. We may speak different languages, but the history connects us all. And in many ways, it doesn't seem to matter what age you are. I seem to recall, for example, someone writing that they have found much more to talk about with Jewish people met for the first time than with some business acquaintances from the general community of longstanding. There is something about the culture that just connects. So it is a connective website. JP: About your own connections....

SL: I am a member of and grew up a member of the Temple. My grandparents Ross and Ethel Daniels were members of the Temple, as have been my parents. Being part of a close-knit family was the center of our life, along with being a member of the Jewish community. As a child growing up, we connected to every possible Jewish event, every life cycle event that occurred. JP: Is there something you would like to communicate to readers that you have not explicitly put on the website itself?

SL: In the very simplest terms, what I'm hoping for is that people see that the whole endeavor is about them. In its final form, the resultant book won't be written by a professional, it will be written by the Jewish community ... for the Jewish community. I personally want to encourage all who visit the site to enjoy the contributions and consider sharing their own story with our global Jewish Community.

JP: Suse, your efforts are making our



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The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines has made every effort to refrain from printing the names of people who requested in writing that their names not be published It is our sincere hope that our efforts were free of error.

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### **TIFERETH ISRAEL KOSHER YOGA**

Yoga classes will resume on Sunday, November 2nd at 9:30 am. Join us for yoga each Sunday morning from 9:30 am - 10:45 am in the Brody Youth Lounge. Taught by Bruria Kaufman, certified instructor by the Southwest Institute of Healing Arts. Wear comfortable clothes. If you have a yoga mat bring it along - mats will be provided if you don't. \$7 per class or 5 for \$25. Call Bruria at 223-3079 with any questions and to sign up!

#### Sip 'n Sing 'n Socialize at Tifereth's first Karaoke Night!

Saturday, November 1 at 8:00 pm. Don't miss your chance to sing your favorite song at our Karaoke Night, or just come and watch your friends! (Plenty of entertainment guaranteed!) Wine, cheese & fruit, beer, nuts & pretzels, soft drinks, coffee & desserts served. Karaoke provided by Billy's Picture Show. Only \$10 per person for more fun than you can imagine

in one night! Please send your prepaid reservations to Tifereth at 924 Polk Boulevard by Monday, October 27. Any questions, call Alice Friedgood at 223-0086.

### The Fabulous Bazaar is Coming to Des Moines Sunday, November 2!

10 am - 4 pm at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, 924 Polk Blvd, Des Moines. Hosted by The Women's League of Conservative Judaism. Come see an amazing assemblage of distinctive and unique products offered by Iowa's premier specialty merchants - all under one roof!

Find that special holiday gift, something delightfully new for your home or yourself. To participate as a seller, contact Irina Kaplan at 287-2280 or Bobbie Miller at 987-0775.

#### **Presidential Forum November 16 Sponsored by Men's Club**

Sunday, November 16th at 9:00 am. Presidential forum with several of the leading candidates running for president available to answer your questions. Doors will open at 8:00 am to those with brunch tickets and 8:30 am to general public. Brunch 10:30 am with meet and greet of candidates. Forum free, brunch: \$8.00 adults, \$5.00 children 12 and under. No one can hold seats. Video link to social hall for overflow. Tickets for brunch available at TI office.

#### **TIFERETH ISRAEL WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

Cordially invites you to A Torah Fund Dinner Theatre on Sunday evening, November 9 at 5:30 pm in the Social Hall. Program:"TORAH FUND, THE MUSICAL," by Lora Lee Spiro. Adults: \$15.00, children under 12: \$7.50. PREPAID RESERVATIONS ONLY. Please mail your check to Women's League at: 924 Polk Blvd, Des Moines, Iowa 50312 no later than Monday, November 3rd.

### AMES JEWISH CONGREGATION

#### AJC Celebrates Silver Anniversary, Weekend of October 24

A little over 25 years ago, a small group of Jews in Ames had the foresight to buy land and build a shul on the prairie. Since that time, the Ames Jewish Congregation's building has been a spiritual home for hundreds of families and a center for religious education. At a time when many smaller congregations in rural America are folding, the Ames Jewish community has much to celebrate.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Jewish community's incorporation as the Ames Jewish Congregation and the building's dedication, AJC is inviting the public to participate in two events the weekend of October 24 to 26. On Friday evening, October 24, everyone is invited to

a special Erev Shabbat service that begins at 8:00 pm. Rabbi Lane Steinger, regional director of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), will deliver the sermon. AJC's new rabbi, Rabbi Joseph Rosenbloom of St. Louis, together with John Pleasants, AJC's music director, will lead the service. A lovely Oneg will follow.

On Sunday, October 26, the Ames Jewish Congregation will rededicate its building during a special ceremony. The program will begin at 2:00 pm with greetings and acknowledgements. AJC's youth string quartet, as well as the youth and adult choirs, will provide music to celebrate the event. As part of the "L'Dor V'Dor" theme, the Torahs will be passed from the older generations to the younger generations. The Temple youth are creating a ceramic mural to commemorate AJC's silver anniversary. Rachel Pleasants, daughter of John and Barbara Pleasants, designed the mural and is directing the students' efforts.

Following the rededication, everyone is invited to visit the exhibits describing the history of the Ames Jewish Congregation and to stay for refreshments.

Both events will take place at the Ames Jewish Congregation, 3721 Calhoun Street, Ames. Please call (515) 233-1347 for directions.

### **BETH EL JACOB**

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

Adult classes taught by Rabbi Sytner; all classes open to everyone!

Sundays, starting October 29th 10:00 am – Positive Judaism: Explore and study ancient texts and philosophy which teach the positive. Approaches to parenting, marriage, friendships, self image and Judaism. Refreshments will be served.

11:00 am - Crash course in Hebrew reading, in 5 easy lessons

**Tuesdays** 10:30 am - Delve! Come and be part of this lively group as they Delve into any & all topics. Delve class meets Tuesdays in the Library. Great coffee, great people, great discussion.

Wednesdays, starting October 22nd 7:00 pm - 5-week crash course in Basic Judaism

### **GOVERNOR APPOINTS DAVID WIGGINS TO** THE IOWA SUPREME COURT



From the Governor's Office, August 29, 2003 Governor Tom Vilsack announced the appointment of David S. Wiggins of West Des Moines to the Iowa Supreme Court. He will replace Justice

Linda K. Neuman, who is retiring.

"David Wiggins is an exemplary choice for the Iowa Supreme Court. As an everyday person's lawyer, David Wiggins will take his experiences to the Court to make sure that justice serves all of the people of our great state," said Governor Vilsack. "He is extraordinarily qualified and I know he will be an extremely hard worker and a very thoughtful and dedicated Judge."

Wiggins began his 27-year legal career as an associate in the firm of Williams, Hart, Lavorato & Kirtley and was made a partner of that firm in 1979. He still practices with the successor firm of Wiggins, Anderson & Tully, P.C.

"I am honored that the Governor has selected me to serve on the lowa Supreme Court, and I look forward to serving the people of the state of Iowa," said David Wiggins. Wiggins graduated with honors from The University of Illinois at Chicago in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy. He graduated with honors from Drake University Law School in 1976. He has been a member of the lowa Bar Association since 1976, serving on its Board of Governors from 1999 to 2003, and a member of the American Bar Association and the Polk County Bar Association.

David Wiggins is a member of the

### The Life Center: What's in a Name

As we look to the beginning of a new year, we are given to reflection on the accomplishments of the one just past. Of the many accomplishments this year, one of the most important for ensuring the future of the organization was the initiation of a new marketing and communications campaign for the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center.

There have been profound changes in the ways and means of providing health care and other supportive services to our seniors. This is true nationally, as well as locally. We have seen unprecedented shifts in our resident census, and have spent uncounted hours delving into the causes of such changes, as well as attempting to determine the most effective ways of responding to the new reality.

As previously mentioned, one of our most significant responses to the challenges of the marketplace was the development and implementation of a comprehensive marketing plan. After much discussion, both internally and with our primary referral sources, it was determined that a new marketing emphasis -"re-branding" - of the Senior Life Center was called for.

The Marketing & Communications Committee of the Board of Directors met with our marketing consultant to explore

Association of Trial Lawyers of America, an advocate for the American Board of Trial Advocates, a founding sponsor of the Civil Justice Foundation, serves as Senior Counsel for the American College of Barristers, and is a fellow with the Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers. He has served as Master Emeritus of the C. Edwin Moore American Inn of Court from 2001 to present, and is a member of the Iowa Trial Lawyers Association, serving as president of that organization from 1986 to 1987.

Mr. Wiggins has served as Chairperson of the Commission on Judicial Qualifications since 2000 and has received several other appointments by the Iowa Supreme Court that have put him at the forefront of improvements in our justice system, including appointments to the Advisory Commission on Judicial Branch Redistricting (2002), the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure (1991-1997) where he helped author the civil jury instructions, the Fax Technology Committee (1992-1995), and the Special Committee on Cost of Litigation (1988).

From 1996 to the present, David Wiggins has been named among the Best Lawyers in America. In 1999, he received the Meritorious Achievement Award from the Iowa Trial Lawyers Association and received the Association's Key Person Award in 1983 and 1984. While attending Drake University Law School, Wiggins served as Associate Editor of the Law Review from 1975 to 1976 and served on the Drake University Law School Order of the Coif in 1976.

David Wiggins and his wife Marsha

how best to project the image of the facility as an outstanding center for postacute rehabilitation which is open to all members of the general community regardless of their religious affiliation. The cornerstone of this marketing approach was to begin using the name of "The Life Center" as shorthand for the lowa Jewish Senior Life Center.

The use of "The Life Center" is nothing more than a well-considered marketing tool. The name of the facility has not changed, nor is there any talk of or any intent to do so. Nothing has changed at The Life Center. The food is still kosher. There are still observances of Jewish holidays. There is still a predisposition to yiddishkeit. The only thing that has changed is the implementation of a much overdue marketing program. A program designed to raise the visibility of The Life Center in the community. A program designed to address the changing nature of our resident census over the past two years.

It is understandable that some members of our community may be concerned about the new marketing emphasis, but rest assured, the Board of Directors of the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center remains steadfast in its commitment to the values and traditions which underlay the founding of the organization almost 70 years

### IOWA AIPAC EVENT FEATURED KEYNOTE ADRESS BY JONATHAN KESSLER

On September 4th more than one hundred people turned out to honor pro-Israel student activists from the University of Iowa. The event, sponsored by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), featured a keynote address by AIPAC's Political Leadership Development Director Jonathan Kessler and AIPAC's Campus Liaison Sam Nissim. Jewish students must engage in the political process as a means of ensuring

that the future of the Jewish community remains connected to national policy-makers in the halls of Congress, Kessler emphasized.

AIPAC honored the lowa activists for their impressive accomplishments at their national Policy Conference last spring. lowa's pro-Israel students successfully completed a number of initiatives on campus this past year. For example, students garnered 1,700 signatures on a petition supporting a strong U.S.-Israel. Aside from acquiring signatures from students and profes-

sors, the University of Iowa activists secured signatures from Democratic Presidential candidates Richard Gephart and Joe Lieberman.

The event also symbolically marked a change in AIPAC lowa Council leadership. Sheldon Rabinowitz, outgoing AIPAC Council Chair, extended a warm welcome to AIPAC's new Council Co-Chairs Paulee Lipsman and Steven Schoenebaum. Bud Hockenberg, Honorary Council Chair, was also recognized for his outstanding continued dedication to building a strong pro-Isra-



Sheldon Rabinowitz, Jonathan Kessler, Paulee Lipsman and Steven Schoenebaum

el community in Iowa. Submitted by Rick Woolman, Midwest Associate Director, American Israel Public

### LOCAL DUO RESCUES AND RECIRCULATES ANTIQUE JUDAICA

The global presence of the Internet and the increasing popularity of Internet auction sites have brought rare, precious Judaica antiques out of hiding and into the global marketplace. Antique Judaica Rescue was formed in response. It is a not-for-profit effort by community members Steven Callistein and Steven Altman to obtain these ritual objects and return them to the uses for which they were originally intended.

Rescued antiques include household ritual objects such as candlesticks, Shabbat and Hanukkah menorahs, spice boxes and wine cups, as well as more obscure Judaica objects such as a Yom Kippur belt buckle and kabalistic amulets. Also included are rescued synagogue ritual objects such as large menorahs, ceremonial wedding ring holders, a Judenstern, Torah pointer and a silver Eastern European Eternal Light. Samples of these objects are on display in the Temple B'nai Jeshurun's social hall next to the Tree of Life and at the Tifereth Israel Library.

Antique Judaica Rescue's intent is to return these pieces of our heritage to Jewish hands. Items displayed in the Temple social hall and in the Tifereth library are available



for purchase, along with other items not on display. A binder with photos and descriptions of all objects is available for review. Items may be purchased for ritual use, gifts or in-home use and display.

Please e-mail judaica\_rescue@yahoo.com or call Steven Callistein at 279-1570 or Steven Altman at 221-1724 for pur-

Items from the collection of rescued Judaica are on display at Temple B'nai Jeshurun and Tifereth Israel

### \$500,000 Bookey Bequest to The Life Center

Dave Lettween, President of the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center Board of Directors, has announced a gift to The Life Center of \$500,000 from the estate of the late Morton and Lois Bookey. This remarkable and unanticipated gift is yet another part of the enduring legacy of the Bookeys and their lifelong commitment to our Community. This unrestricted gift to The Life Center's Endowment Fund will afford increased flexibility as we move into the final stages of the year-long strategic planning process. The Board of Directors is grateful to the Bookeys' children, Carolyn Lettween and Fred Bookey, for their facilitation of the transfer of this

### Job Opportunity SALES/FUNDRAISER

The State of Israel Bonds is currently seeking a sales professional/fundraiser for our Minneapolis office. 3-5 years experience preferred. The successful candidate should be a high energy/ sales oriented individual who can work with lay leaders to establish and implement campaign activities resulting in the sale of Israel Bonds. Ability to work independently essential. Series 62 and 63 required. Will train. Current license a plus.

If you are interested in working on behalf of Israel, send your resume, cover letter and salary history in confidence to: jobs@israelbonds.com

Please be sure to specify the job title, "Minneapolis Field Rep" in the sub-

# Questions Not Answered, Hopes Not Shattered

#### By Daniel Gordis, September 11, 2003

What do you say to your teenage daughter who's still awake at 11:15 p.m. when the bomb is so loud, and so close, that the house shakes, and the windows rattle?

And when the news gets turned on (because a noise like that in a place like this can only mean one thing) and it turns out that they just blew up the main street that's a five minute walk from here, and on the TV she sees her favorite cafe shredded, decimated and flowing with blood. What do you say?

And how do you wake up your younger kids the next morning? What do you tell them before they head off to school? When it's this close, there's no lying. They're going to find out anyway, and the news that they hear during the day could be so bad that it would be unthinkable not to prepare them. So what do you say? That the war's come even closer, that the people (or whatever one calls those who would do this) who want to kill them are closing in? That we don't yet know the names of the dead and wounded, but it's not unlikely that we'll know someone, or of someone? That Cafe Hillel is gone? That the block where our kids rent their videos, buy their falafel and go shopping for school supplies is now undeniably what we've long known it is – a place where they might be blown to bits?

I'd figured that we'd talk to the kids when they got dressed and came down for breakfast, so I didn't give much thought to how we'd wake them up. But Elisheva had a different thought. She wasn't taking any chances. I happened to glance into Micha's room to make sure that he was getting up and dressed for the second week of fifth grade, and I saw her sitting on the side of the bed, rubbing his back, talking to him. I didn't hear any of the conversation, but I knew what it was about. And then I heard him asking questions. Didn't hear those either, and I was kind of glad. What in the world would I have said? What do you tell a ten-year-old when the evil has gotten so close that now there's no denying – they could get him, too?

At the end of the day, a long, angry, nausea-filled day of work while anxiously reading the Web, waiting for the names to appear, I headed home from the office to make dinner and to eat with the kids. But Elisheva was in class, Talia was in the middle of something and Avi had a friend over, so when I called everyone for dinner, only Micha showed up. We sat down, but he didn't want to eat too much. Mostly, he had questions. And things to tell me.

- "How was your day at work?"
- "Pretty good," I told him. "It's sweet of you to ask."
- "Were people at your work sad?"
- "Everybody was sad. Were you sad?"
- "My teacher was crying today when she was teaching us."
- "Do you know why she was crying?"

"Because she was supposed to go to the wedding tonight of that girl who was killed with her father. But she left school to go to the funeral instead. She was crying the whole time she was teaching us."

- "Did that make you sad?"
- "Yeah, but other kids in my class were sadder."
- "Why?"
- "Yoel was sad because his doctor was killed."
- "The doctor who was the father of the girl who was supposed to get married?"

"Yeah. And another boy was sad because his sister's gymnastics teacher was killed. And Chava's mother was in the restaurant, but she was sitting in a back corner, so she didn't get hurt. But Chava was sad, too."

Seemed like a lot for a ten-year-old to process during the day. I thought maybe it would be a good idea to walk over there, so he could actually see the place, and remove some of the mystery. But again, as usual, Elisheva was one step ahead of me.

"Would you like to walk over there after dinner? At 8:00, there are going to be people saying Tehillim [Psalms] there. Would you like to come?"

- "OK. Ema took me there when I got home from school."
- "What did you see?"

"It's all boarded up, and there are lots of police surrounding it, because there's really no way that they can lock it up. All the walls are gone. The bomb blew them up. And there were lots of candles lit. It was pretty, but it made me sad."

Not much you can say to that, it seemed to me. If this doesn't make you sad, not much will. So we ate dinner, and chatted, and were eventually joined by the other two kids. The conversation turned to the guard at the Cafe. There were two guards, they knew.

"Did he get by the first guard?" one of the kids asked.

"I don't know," I told them. The papers were full of conflicting accounts (not surprising, given the pandemonium at the scene and the fact that many of the witnesses were either dead or unconscious). And besides, I didn't see the point of the conversation. What difference did it make?

"I think that the first guard tried to block him, but he pushed through, and the second guard stopped him from getting further into the restaurant," one of the kids said.

And then I got it. This was no idle chatter. They were trying to figure something out. If we have all the guards in front of every restaurant, office building, bank and other public establishment, but we're still not safe, what can we possibly do? Where can they go and feel secure, they were trying to figure out. But they knew the answer already, so didn't have to say much. They're not safe. They know it. Now they really

october 03



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### Cantorial Concert Honors Victims of Intifada and WWII Veterans, December 7



Jewish music performed by two of America's leading cantors, Emanuel Perlman and Kimberly Komrad, will honor the victims of the intifada and veterans of World War II, in a concert on the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Sunday, December 7. Open free of charge, the event will be h e l d a t

2:00 pm at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, located at Sixth and Park Streets, in downtown Des Moines. Tickets must be obtained prior to the concert and will be available as of October 19 in Des Moines at Beth El Jacob Synagogue, Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, Maccabees

Deli, Nosh Deli, Temple B'nai Jeshurun, and Tifereth Israel Synagogue. In Ames, tickets will be available at the Ames Jewish Congregation.

The concert will include selections from Nishmat Tzedek (The Souls of the Holy and Pure) a contemporary work memorializing the hundreds of Israelis killed by terrorists in the Intifada. As befits the anniversary of Pearl Harbor, part of the concert will be performed in honor of veterans of World War II, with a special ceremony in memory of the 13 Des Moines Jewish community members who gave their lives for their country. Music of Hanukkah rounds out the concert.

The two Hazzanim are of note. Hazzan Emanuel C. Perlman is a lyric tenor, whose voice has been described as "a combination of Enrico Caruso and Mel Torme." He is the son of Ivan Perlman, Cantor of Tifereth Israel Synagogue from 1955 to 1965, and many will remember "Manny" as a child.

Among the first generation of women to be ordained by the Cantors Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Hazzan Kimberly Komrad is the Cantor of Congreation Kehilat Shalom in Gaithersburg, Maryland. A dramatic soprano, Hazzan Komrad was honored by the Cantors Assembly in 1997 as one of "The Twelve Leading Cantors of Our Time."

This is the second privately sponsored cantorial concert presented by The Ad Hoc

### [book notes]

### RIGHT TO EXIST A MORAL DEFENSE OF ISRAEL'S WARS

#### By Yaacov Lozowick

Current Affairs - International; Current Affairs - Political; History - Israel | Doubleday | Hardcover | September 2003 |\$40.00 | 0-385-50905-7

### ABOUT THIS BOOK

In July 2000, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat refused to negotiate a peace offer made by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak at Camp David. At the end of September the Palestinians then launched their second intifada, an outbreak of terrorism in the heart of Israel's cities that continues to this day. The unprecedented violence drove Barak from office and brought to power the feared hard-liner Ariel Sharon.

In RIGHT TO EXIST, Yaacov Lozowick, an Israeli historian, describes his evolution from a liberal peace activist into a reluctant supporter of Sharon. In making sense of his own political journey, Lozowick rewrites the whole history of Israel, delving into the roots of the Zionist enterprise and tracing the long struggle to establish and defend the Jewish state in the face of implacable Arab resistance and widespread international hostility.

Lozowick examines each of Israel's wars from the perspective of classical "just war" theory, from the fight for independence to the present day. Subjecting the country's founders and their descendants to unsparing scrutiny, he concludes that Israel is neither the pristine socialist utopia its founders envisioned, nor the racist colonial enterprise portrayed by its enemies. Refuting dozens of pernicious myths about the conflict—such as the charge that Israel stole the land from its rightful owners, or that Arabs and Jews are locked in a "cycle of violence" for which both bear equal blame—RIGHT TO EXIST is an impassioned moral history of extraordinary resonance and power.

### **REVIEW QUOTES**

"Right To Exist, Yaacov Lozowick's j'accuse, is one of the most important political histories of our generation. A modern-day Zola, Lozowick meticulously unravels the Big Lie that demonizes Israel and Zionism and contaminates the viler estuaries of what is nowadays dubbed 'the international community'. The title alone--the scandal of calling into question a living nation's existence--ought to shame the prevaricators and defamers, whether they are professors in universities, media distorters, 'peace activ-ists' who justify terror, morally deformed intellectuals, self-deceiving unconfessed haters, or merely the herd of the easily led. Honorably and irrefutably, Lozowick reintroduces plain fact and clear truth into a world of malice and mendacity." Cynthia Ozick, author of Quarrel & Quandary and The Puttermesser Papers

### Meet Edye Beckerman



Our chef du jour, Edye Beckerman, exudes an enthusiasm for cooking and expertise in planning and executing events far beyond her 26

Edye moved to Des Moines at the age of four from Minneapolis with her mother, Wendy and father, Aaron and her siblings. She attended Des Moines schools graduating from Valley High School. Edye attended the University of Iowa as a business major and graduated from the Des Moines Area Community College in culinary arts in '98.

A product of our Des Moines Hebrew School, Edye was confirmed at the Temple and served on the boards of both USY and MoVTY (now known as NFTY). She was an advisor to the Temple's Nifty group during college as well.

Upon graduation from DMACC, Edye was employed at HyVee in the catering department and later became the sous chef at the Wine Experience. Under the guidance of the owner, Edye became knowledgeable in wines and cheeses and shared her time between the catering kitchen and the retail shop.

Edye's experiences in catering were exciting and educational and included a stint with Greenfield-Smith Caterers. Her expertise in cooking and catering were enhanced by the many restaurants and bars she managed including jobs as bar manager, banquet server and prep cook.

When Edye left the Wine Experience she moved on to the West Des Moines Marriott as banquet captain and then restaurant manager which included the hotel room service and bar. Her enthusiasm for her Marriott job is contagious. She enjoys the atmosphere and the people she associates with when she is working. Her many contacts have opened lots of opportunities for Edye.

One such opportunity was a job

DE.A

change to Methodist and Blank Hospitals where she oversees their Hospitality Program. Edye runs food carts for breakfast and lunch through both hospital campuses providing food and conversation for visitors, staff, nurses and doctors. Edye's carts enter waiting rooms allowing visitors to partake of cold food items while waiting for their loved ones. Edye's job gives visitors a brief respite from their concerns. Her job is not all about food, but making visitors to the hospital

comfortable. Edye has not left the Marriott but now divides much of her time between these two jobs, both of which she enthusiastically applauds.

When weekends come Edye can be found running her full-service catering business! Edye provides event planning as well as all the food to make an event special. She admits to being a perfectionist and loves the details associated with making cocktail parties special. Presentation is one of the most important ingredients!

Edye often caters religious events at the Temple and Synagogue. Her heart is not far from these religious events since her mother, Wendy, is so closely associat-

ed by tutoring our Bar and Bat Mitzvah children.

In Edye's spare time she is found outside biking or swimming. She doesn't miss lowa Cubs games and travels with brother, Steven, who is at the University of lowa, to all Hawkeye football games.

Edye's sister, Amy, was recently married and lives in Waukee.

Cooking was not a part of Edye's youth although she admires her mother's cooking ability. Her grandmother, Evelyn Balto, from Minneapolis, used to tell

Blintz Souffle		
A recipe from Edye Beckerman	Dairy	
1 package of frozen blintzes – cheese filled	1/2 cup melted butter or margarine	
5 eggs	1/4 cup sugar	
1 cup of sour cream		
1 Tablespoon vanilla		
1 Tablespoon orange juice concentrate frozen		
Grease an 8" x 8 " glass pan. Place blintzes evenly in pan separated slightly. Mix all the ingredients together with the exception of the butter or margarine Pour the mixture over the blintzes covering them with a thin layer		
Melt the margarine or butter and pour over the top –		
Bake at 350 degrees for 35 – 45 minutes until lightly brown.		

Freezes well – just reheat.

Serve warm. Top with sour cream or fruit filling.

StudioG Design

(Double the recipe for a 9" x 13" pan)



# HolidayOpening Reception

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> Friday November 14. Artists' reception 5pm.

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# **Understanding the Unexpected:** The Resurgence of Anti-Semitism

### by Daniel Levitas

Why, after steadily declining for half a century, is antisemitism on the rise?

In their landmark 1969 study on American antisemitism, "The Tenacity of Prejudice," Gertrude J. Selznick and Stephen Steinberg confidently declared that political antisemitism and preoccupations with Jewish power were "almost at the vanishing point." Today, almost forty years later, antisemitism and public fears about excessive Jewish power are on the rise. Consider the following statistics based on a May 2002 Anti-Defamation League (ADL) survey:

- Seventeen percent of Americans-35 million adults--were identified as "strongly anti-Semitic," as determined by their answering "yes" to six or more out of eleven statements indicating anti-Jewish attitudes or beliefs This is an increase from the all-time low of 12% measured in 1998.
- One out of every five adults in the survey (20%) agreed with the statement "Jews have too much power in the U.S. today"--nearly double the number (11%) reported by Selznick and Steinberg in the sixties.
- One of every four respondents (24%) said that Jews "have too much power in the business world" and one out of five (20%) said Jews have "too much control and influence on Wall Street," up from 16% measured for both statements in 1998.

Data from a survey conducted last May by the Institute for Jewish and Community Research in San Francisco suggests a similar reversal of the trend of steadily declining antisemitism since the end of World War II. In this study, people who are thirty-five years old and younger expressed more antisemitic beliefs than the generation of their parents, leading researchers to question whether social constraints against antisemitism are weakening.

What are the causes of this sudden trend toward rising antisemitism and what, if anything, can be done about it?...

### **Making Sense of the Reversal**

Daniel Yankelovich, a leader in the field of public opinion research, attributes this dramatic change largely to September 11, which he says "stirred up some very primitive anxieties in America.... To the extent that Jews and Israel get caught up in that emotionalism, there is a real danger." Immediately following the attack, Arab propagandists began promulgating the message that 9/11 and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict were linked. "This is a fresh, well-oiled, well-funded campaign to de-legitimize the State of Israel and demonize Jews," says Gary Tobin, president of the Institute for Jewish and Community Research in San Francisco. "It uses the media, the United Nations, terrorism on the ground--it uses any venue it can--to export antisemitism across the globe. And the crossover between anti-Israelism and anti-Semitism is becoming more frequent."...

According to pollster Yankelovich, U.S. support of Israel is itself a source of antisemitism, "because it feeds the [classic antisemitic] myth of Jews having too much power.... People with that predisposition can say that there is an influential American Jewish lobby that has all this money to contribute to the political process."

The perception of American Jews' dual loyalty, or even greater loyalty to Israel than the United States, also drives up antisemitism. In last year's ADL survey, fully one-third (33%) of all Americans agreed with the statement that "Jews are more loyal to Israel than America."

Although this represents a significant decline over the 48% figure measured in 9

subsequent surveys in 1992 and 1998 show that approximately one-third of all Americans have consistently harbored suspicions about supposed Jewish "dual loyalty." Jews in the Spotlight

In the years between the ADL's 1998 and 2002 surveys, the second intifada (which began in September 2000) and the September 11 attacks have kept Israel and Jews in the media spotlight. Given the reality that 65 million Americans still believe that Jews killed Christ, 58 million believe that Jews control Wall Street, and 48 million believe Jews control the media (Tobin, 2002), heightened Jewish visibility--or simply drawing attention to Jews – is in itself a significant spur to antisemitism.

Antisemitic myths and prejudices have long maintained a firm foothold within the



American body politic. During times when Americans feel threatened by world events in which Jews are perceived to play a central part, these archetypical hatreds are revived and heightened. We have seen this phenomenon in the past- most notably in 1945, when, at the very time that the Nazi genocide of European Jewry was constantly in the news, antisemitism in the United States rose to an all-time high: fully 64% of all Americans said Jews had too much power, compared to 41% in 1938 before the war. Victimization does not appear to elicit sympathy; in fact, the very opposite may be true when Jews suffer, be it through war or terrorist attacks, antisemitism often rises.

The constant media focus on Jews and Israel at a time when Americans are feeling increasingly vulnerable to terrorism has once again brought to the fore two classic antisemitic myths: that Jews wield too much power and that they are secretly plotting to control the course of events to further their own interests (i.e., support of Israel), even if it leads to global instability and war....

Assertions about secret conspiracies and outsized Jewish power are not limited to liberal partisans of the Palestinian cause such as Congressman Moran or to right-wing ideologues like Pat Buchanan, who wrote recently in The American Conservative that neo-conservatives (read: Jews) are a "cabal" that "harbor[s] a 'passionate attachment' to a nation not our own that causes them to subordinate the interests of their own country...." This antisemitic canard has filtered into the mainstream, finding expression on college campuses, in magazine articles, news commentary, and even late-night comedy routines—all raising Jewish visibility in a negative context.

The ABC network television news program Nightline, for example, employed the antisemitic codeword "cabal" when reporting on the political influence of neo-conservative hawks who have pushed for "regime change" in Iraq. In his introduction to the segment, host Ted Koppel announced: "Tonight, 'The Plan,' how one group and its blueprint have brought us to the brink of war.... Take away the somewhat hyperbolic references to conspiracy, however, and you're left with a story that has the additional advantage of being true." Neither Koppel nor his Nightline correspondent used the word "Jews," but, in essence, the Nightline piece highlighted how high-profile supporters of Israel had devised a plan to push America into war....

Senator Joseph Lieberman's highly visible 2004 presidential bid, as well as media disclosures about the Jewish genealogy of other Democratic presidential hopefuls, might very well help catalyze more anti-Jewish bigotry. Fully one-third of Americans believe that a Jewish president might not act in the best interests of the United States if those interests conflict with Israel's (Tobin, 2002). Of course, this is not an argument against Lieberman or others seeking the Democratic nomination. But a Jew running for



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#### Kaplan continued from page 1

IK: Well, I became involved with the Federation through a sense of thankfulness. Des Moines was a wonderful place to come to; we were embraced from day one. I owe a lot to the Federation and to the Jewish community and I will never forget that. My daughter, for example, benefited greatly. She learned English and Hebrew here. She learned more about being Jewish here than anybody in my family knew. We were welcomed here and we were helped here.

JP: If people come to you and ask, "What is the Federation?" What is the Federation to you?

IK: To me the Federation means community and a resource for those in need of the services it provides. Unfortunately, back in Russia we never had a sense of Jewish community. So now for the first time in my life, I know there is a physical community that I belong to, and it is a very comforting feeling. From the experience of my family I know that the Federation serves the community in many ways.

JP: You are now serving as the Women's Campaign Chair. Do you have a particular thought you'd like to share with the women of our community?

IK: Yes. There are numerous times in our life when we each need to connect to the Jewish community, whether to educate our children, to engage our elderly in activities, to seek information or to find a way to get through a difficult time. The Federation is

a comfortable place, here for you, and it works together with our synagogues to support the quality of Jewish life in our community that none of us can provide by ourselves.

JP: Can people volunteer to help the Women's Campaign?

IK: Certainly. In addition to providing financial support for all the essential basic Jewish services provided to the community, we can always use your help in getting the word out to others that their contributions are very much needed or even perhaps in helping plan some special events for Women's Campaign. Just give a call to Federation at 277-6321 and you will be very welcomed.

JP: Again, Irina, let me say on behalf of the Federation and its Board, how honored we are in having you lead this important aspect of the All-In-One and offer our thanks for all your wonderful

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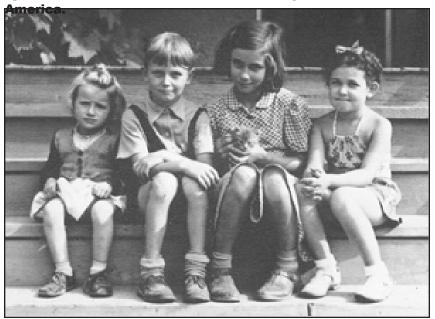
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# Special Exhibit Opening: Far from Hitler: The Scattergood Hostel for European Refugees, 1939-

From 1939 to 1943, 186 refugees fleeing Nazi-occupied Europe found a haven at Scattergood Hostel, a former Quaker boarding school near West Branch, Iowa. Despite Iocal ambivalence towards the plight of the mostly Jewish exiles, Quaker farmers and college students gave their "guests" a chance to rest before launching new lives in



### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH 2:30 PM AT THE CASPE TERRACE

Never before has an exhibit made this little-known story accessible to the public. Join us for the opening event on Sunday, November 9, or visit the exhibit through January 11, 2004 during museum hours.

This exhibit is sponsored by the **lowa Jewish Historical Society** and **TRACES** and supported by a \$10,000 grant from **Humanities Iowa**, a state-based affiliate of the **National Endowment for the Humanities**. **TRACES** executive director, Michael Luick-Thrams, conceptualized the exhibit and oversaw its creation. Former refugees and staff donated documents, photographs, artifacts and interviews.

For more information, museum hours, or to arrange a tour of the exhibit, contact the IJHS at (515)987-0899. For more information on Scattergood - www.TRACES.org

### Visit Jewish Life and Culture in Norway Exhibit in Decorah

A trip will be led by the Iowa Jewish Historical Society and Jewish Federation, within the next few months, to visit the "Jewish Life and Culture in Norway" exhibit at the Vesterheim Norwegian- American Museum in Decorah, Iowa. The exhibit is on display from November 24 through February 20. Plans are for busses to depart from Des Moines, to stay overnight in Decorah, and to possibly tour Postville, IA, which has a large Hassidic community. Details about the trip will be forthcoming.

The museum's exhibition "Jewish Life and Culture in Norway: Wergeland's Legacy," assembled by the Norsk Folkemuseum in Oslo, is on Ioan from the American-Scandinavian Foundation and has previously been on view at Scandinavia House in New York City. Decorah is its first presentation outside of New York City.

The title of the exhibition refers to the poet Henrik Wergeland's successful campaign to end the prohibitions against Jews included in the early nineteenth-century Norwegian constitution. Through pictures and artifacts, the exhibition depicts the story of Jewish immigration to Norway and aspects of daily life within the Jewish community from the 1850s to World War II. Included is an examination of local Jewish cultural, vocational and religious life, interviews and reminiscences about the lives and experiences of Jews in Norway, a history of events accompanying the Nazi invasion in 1940 and information about the economic restitution plan enacted by the government in light of wartime suffering. Additional information about the exhibit may be found on the museum's website: www.vesterheim.org.

Interested in the Decorah Program? Contact the IJHS at 987-0899 or write ijhs@dmjfed.org.

### **GA** from page 1

Our delegation from Des Moines, Omaha and Louisville will be visiting our Partnership 2000 region, the Western Galilee, where we have developed strong friendships over the past number of years, working co-operatively on projects. It was to Nahariya Hospital that our community donated an ambulance.

The national participation in this Israel Mission is expected to give the Israeli economy a \$13 million boost.

### Zacharia from page 1

In addition to serving as the Washington bureau chief for The Jerusalem Post, Ms. Zacharia also writes regularly on US Middle East policy for The New Republic magazine, and is a diplomatic analyst for MSNBC. She spent the month of March on the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt in the Mediterranean Sea as one of 600 reporters embedded with the US military. Prior to taking up her posting in Washington, Janine worked for five years in Israel as a journalist, first for the bi-weekly magazine, The Jerusalem Report, and then for the Reuters news agency.

She received a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Literary Studies from Middlebury College in Vermont and is

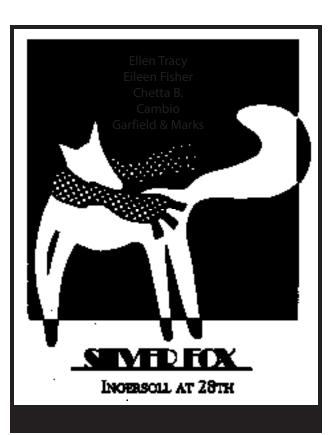
The Iowa Jewish Historical Society is supported solely by donations. Preserve the history of Jews of Iowa with your membership donation today. Call the Iowa Jewish Historical Society at 515-277-6321 for more information on how you can become a member.



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# **October/November**

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thursday	10/23/03	11:00 AM	Seniors meet at ArtHouse on Ingersoll
Thursday	10/23/03	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Thursday	10/23/03	7:00 PM	Temple Bortherhood "Steak & Scotch" Night
Friday	10/24/03		Ames Anniversary Celebration & Synagogue Rededication
Friday	10/24/03		Gendler Weekend with Rabbi Bradley Artson at Tifereth
Sunday	10/26/03	9:30 AM	Tifereth Men's Club
Sunday	10/26/03	9:30 AM	Temple Brotherhood Investment Club
Sunday	10/26/03		Jewish Community School Family Education Day
Sunday	10/26/03		Kollel Event
Tuesday	10/28/03	7:00 PM	Tifereth Board Meeting
Thursday	10/30/03	12:00 AM	Senior Luncheon at Tifereth Israel Synagogue
Thursday	10/30/03	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Saturday	11/01/03	10:00 AM	Zachary Arenson Bar Mitzvah at the Temple
Saturday	11/01/03	7:00 PM	Karaoke Night at Tifereth
Sunday	11/02/03	10:00 AM	Tifereth Women's League
Sunday	11/02/03	10:00 AM	Tifereth Women's League Bazaar
Sunday	11/02/03	6:00 PM	DM Jewish Acadamy Auction
Thursday	11/06/03	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	11/07/03		Tifereth Fundraising Dinner
Saturday	11/08/03		Tifereth Fundraising Dinner
Sunday	11/09/03	5:30 PM	Tifereth Torah Fund Dinner Theatre
Sunday	11/09/03	6:00 PM	IJHS Exhibit Opener at The Caspe Terrace
Sunday	11/09/03		Community Mission to Israel and GA
Monday	11/10/03	6:00 PM	Opening of Scattergood Exhibit at Historical Museum
Tuesday	11/11/03	4:30 PM	Executive Committee/Temple Board
Friday	11/14/03		Tifereth Fundraising Dinner
Saturday	11/15/03	7:00 PM	Sisterhood Fundraising Event at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Saturday	11/15/03		Kelilah Anne Brown Bat Mitzvah in Burlington
Saturday	11/15/03		Tifereth Fundraiser
Sunday	11/16/03	9:30 AM	Political Forum at Tifereth
Sunday	11/16/03	10:00 AM	Tifereth Investment Club
Monday	11/17/03	7:00 PM	Temple Sisterhood Board
Saturday	11/22/03	10:00 AM	Sarah Mae Swartz Bat Mitzvah at the Temple
Sunday	11/23/03	9:30 AM	Temple Brotherhood Investment Club
Sunday	11/23/03	10:00 AM	Kollel Lecture Program
Tuesday	11/25/03	7:00 PM	Tifereth Board Meeting
Saturday	11/29/03		Shoshana Berleant Bat Mitzvah at the Ames Congregation

### Mazel Tov

The Temple is pleased to announce the newest member of their congregation, Avi Gabriel Kaufman, born September 9, 2003, weight 8' 12", length 20 1/4". Proud parents are Rabbi David and

### Bat Mitzvah Sarah Mae Swartz



Temple B'nai Jeshurun

November 22, 2003

We invite the community to worship and celebrate with us as our daughter Sarah Mae is

called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah, Saturday, November 22, 2003, 10:00 a.m. Temple B'nai Jeshurun. A Kiddush Luncheon follows the service.

### In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Jenn Brody Mike Koufer Susan Powers

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# **Iowa Jewish Historical Society Fall Event**



### Life in a Jar: The Irena Sendler Story

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society's Annual Fall Event lecture told the story of Irena Sendler who as the leader of the Zegota children's branch, rescued 2,500 children from the Warsaw Ghetto. The evening's speaker, Mr. Norm Conard, Uniontown Kansas history teacher spoke to an audience made up of people from throughout the community. Mr. Conard's students, Megan Stewart, Elizabeth Cambers, and Sabrina Coons' investigation of Irena's story lead to a dramatization of her story which was awarded the National History Day prize. Their project led to a trip to Poland to meet Irena Sendler and national and international recognition for themselves and for Irena. Mr. Conard's retelling of these extraordinary events touched many in an audience made up of teachers, and members of the Jewish and non-Jewish community. A portion of the IJHS dinner contribution was donated to the Irena Sendler Project and many members of the lecture audience in the afternoon and evening contributed by placing donations in the Irena Sendler Project jar.

To learn more about Irena Sendler and the girls who rediscovered her story go to www.irenasendler.org

1. Norm Conard, the evening's speaker 2. Robbie Winick IJHS President, Fred Lorber, Crystal Johnson, State Coordinator for National History Day 3. Robbie Winick welcomes the guest for the evening. 4. Tim and Toni Urban 5. Marv Winick and Robbie Winick, Dr. Ben Nachman and Elaine Nachman, Nebraska Jewish Historical Society members 6. Dorothy Bucksbaum, Norm Conard speaker for the evening and his wife Theresa Conard. 7. Dr. Michael Stein, Simma Stein 8. Alice Friedgood and Barbara Hirsch-Giller 9. Ann and David Farber, IJHS Membership Chairs.

10. Patsy Tobis center seated with David Friedgood and Audrey Rosenberg