Jewish Press

Published as a Community Service by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, online at dmjfed.org

volume 19 number 3



Illustrated by Alex Zaprudsky, a Sixth-Grader at The Des Moines Jewish Academy



Visit Jewish Moscow and St. Petersburg with the Staroselskys in June 2003

A very special trip to Russia will be conducted by Lily and Naum Staroselsky in June 2003. The ten-day trip is being scheduled to coincide with the 300th Anniversary of St Petersburg and especially with the celebration of White Nights. Between late May and June 21 every year it remains light outdoors during the night! Then it starts getting dark! If you have an interest in visiting Jewish Moscow and St. Petersburg with the Staroselskys, contact the Federation's Travel Department at 277-6321 now! There are many requests to book hotel accommodations and airline flights to Russia in June and we would like to ensure that our tour takes first priority.

Talented Teen Israeli Musicians Perform Dec 11

at The Caspe Terrace

Two performing ensembles of young Israelis from our sister region in Israel, the Western Galilee, will be visiting with us in December, as part of an American tour. These are friends we know and work with through the Des Moines/Israel Partnership 2000 "Living Bridge Program." Everyone is invited to their colorful concert including Israeli & American popular music, classical compositions, and even jazz! Come join the fun at 7 pm, Wednesday, December 11 in the Bucksbaum Auditorium at The Caspe Terrace. The concert is free and open to the public.

We are delighted to welcome Lea Zait, director of the Mate-Asher Music School and conductor of the Mate-Asher Vocal Ensemble, her colleague Uri Chen, one of Israeli's premiere cellists and conductor of the Mate-Asher Cello Quartet, along with their talented, teen musicians.

While in Des Moines, the students will socialize with our Jewish teens and will visit and perform at Valley High School and the Des Moines Jewish Academy, in addition to concertizing at The Caspe Terrace. Thanks are offered to our host families and to the P2K committee coordinating their visit.

connect

Through the Jewish Federation

Support Education, Community, and Senior Care. Support the 2003 All-In-One Campaign

[inside]

2 ISRAFI I FILM SERIES STARTS DEC 91

SEAL PEOPLE, TRUE STORIES

19 COMMUNITY HANUKKAH EVENT

20 SHABBAT ACROSS DES MOINES

20 SOLIDARITY MISSION TO ISRAEL

The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press 910 Polk Boulevard Des Moines, IA 50312-2297

Address Service Requested

Presort Standard U.S. Postage PAID Des Moines, IA Permit No. 2506

Senior Activities

On Tuesday, October 15, 2002 forty-four community members enjoyed the Senior Luncheon at Beth El Jacob Synagogue.

Gina McCrae, from Elderly Outreach Services, assisted them in a game of Bingo. All lucky winners received prizes.

October birthdays were recognized and a door prize was awarded.

THEY DELIVER

The Federation Welcomes Newborns

We have started delivering our Welcome Baskets. The volunteers' hard work has produced wonderful baskets that new moms have appreciated.

Committee members involved in the assembly of baskets are Arlene Freeder and Ruthanne Silverstein, who stitched cute spit cloths, Pat Kroloff crotcheting baby-sized kippot and Mary Paul Even sewing bibs from Jewish-design fabric. Sharing the deliveries are Betty Goodside, Doris Chrenen, Esther Givant and Elizabeth Sherman. Federation staff advisor is Yvette Cramer.

In the last few months, new moms receiving baskets were:

- Miriam Landon for daughter Leah, born June 20.
- Elisa Rosenfeld Jones for son Reece William, born June 27.
- Ariela HaLevi for son Yehuda Samuel, born September 8.
- Jill Sudak-Allison for son Jack Andrew, born September 14.
- Jolene Givant for daughter Zoe Jade, born September 23.
- Malka Wolf for daughter Tehila Shulamis, born October 1.
- Tanya Keith for daughter Aviva Lilly, born October 11.





Shown are new moms (left) Elisa Jones and Joline Givant with their babies and baskets filled with goodies assembled by Seniors.

YOU HELP US CHANGE LIVES...

We are your **JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES** and you are our partner in preserving and

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 Ariela HaLevi, Director of JCS at 515-277-6321

Israeli Film Series Starts Dec 22 on The Caspe Terrace

By Ayelet Kleinman, Areiva to Des Moines

A Federation committee headed by Janice Rosenberg has been busy recently, arranging the details for an Israeli film series slated to begin in December, on The Caspe Terrace.

THE FIRST FILM, YANA'S FRIENDS, SUITABLE FOR FAMILY (OLDER CHILDREN) VIEWING, WILL BE SHOWN SUNDAY, DEC 22, AT 2:00 P.M.

• Yana's Friends – Parallel stories of immigrants in a Tel Aviv building, during the Gulf War. Yana, a beautiful young, pregnant woman, shares a flat with Eli, an Israeli film student. Rosa, the landlady, lost contact with her lover, Yitzhak, now an elderly, disabled WW II veteran. The two couples are united during the missile attack in the sealed room and find a common bond: their wish that the war continue.

Refreshments will be available at a nominal cost. For more information, call the

Federation at 277-6321

The film series picks up again in February. Please make note of the following schedule:

- Saturday, February 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, February 2 at 2:00 p.m.
- Children-family movie night sponsored by Beth El Synagogue, Sunday, March 2
- Saturday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 6 at 2:00 p.m.

In addition to Yana's Friends, here are the movies being considered:

- **Saint Clara** a comedy. In a remote industrial town in Israel, Clara, 13, a new immigrant from Russia, is awarded supernatural power for a few days. These powers drive the whole town mad. At the moment of truth Clara is forced to choose between keeping her supernatural powers or her first love.
- **Under the Dommim Tree** Set in the strife-torn Israel of the 50's, the film chronicles life in a teenager's youth village for the troubled Israeli orphans who survived the Nazi concentration camps. Several stories intertwine to form the powerful tale of this unique group of young people.
- **Sh'hur** A semi–autobiographical portrayal of the colorful and passionate culture of the Moroccan community in Israel. Thirteen year old Rachel is a thoroughly westernized Sabra teenager who struggles to make sense and come to terms with the white magic (Sh'hur) practiced regularly by members of her family. This mystical world of spirits and demons takes on a physical presence in the shape of her older sister, Pnina, whose supernatural powers fill Rachel with fear.
- Passover Fever A large family convenes over a Passover Eve Feast.
 Several dramas take place among suspicious looks and restrained smiles.
 Everyone–almost everyone–is there, but a dark cloud casts its shadow over the night of intrigue and surprises.
- Pick a Card (Afula Express) A human comedy about love, magic and little
 people who try to make big dreams come true in a big city. David is a motor car electrician in Afula, who one day decides to leave everything behind and move to Tel
 Aviv, with his girlfriend, Batya, to fulfill a childhood dream of becoming a magician, a
 profession for which he is unsuited. En route, Batya decides to have David face the
 facts about the gap between his dreams and reality.
- Life According to Agfa This remarkable film captures a sense of the
 complex Israeli social and political fabric of Tel Aviv. The story revolves around
 a pub owned by a middle-aged woman who, along with her patrons, is looking
 for love. Events along the way lead to surprising revelations.

The Lions of Judah and Pomegranates will present

The Second

Women's Seder

LED BY LAURA BERKSON, CANTORIAL SOLIST April 1, 2003

MARCH 2 OR MARCH 9

Days reserved to make your own Miriam's Cup at Glazed Expressions

Your minimum gift of \$36.00 to the 2003 All-In-One Campaign entitles you to make a reservation for the Women's Seder. You may have already made your gift, and it may have been more, and we thank you!

Make sure to save the dates!

YOUR CONNECTION WITH REAL PEOPLE

Real People, True Stories

Medical Problems Don't Stop Israeli From Enjoying Life

His name is Gregorii. An intelligent and kind individual, he now lives in Israel, having emigrated from the former Soviet Union. His elderly father Mischa was resettled in Des Moines by the Federation.

Unfortunately, Gregorii suffers from a severe malady from birth that has had a crippling effect on his life. His pain is constant. He is confined to a wheelchair. The effects are disfiguring. But Gregorii endures it all in good humor, and seeks, through painful medical procedures, to improve his condition to the degree that it can be improved.

He seeks medical help. On a regular basis, he is helped from his wheelchair into a car and makes the trip to local hospitals, including the hospital we support in the Western Galilee, through our Federation's participation in the project called Partnership 2000. But he needs more specialized treatment than is available in Israel.

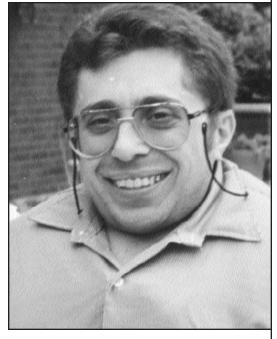
So every year for the past three years, Gregorii makes the long and uncomfortable trip to Des Moines. He comes not only to see his father, but to obtain the expert medical attention that we all hope will ease his suffering and prolong his life.

To make this at all possible, the costs to help Gregorii have been minimized through a combination of private contributions, pro bono work contributed by local Jewish physicians, and assistance from the Des Moines Jewish Federation.

During this past summer, while he was in town, Grigorii spoke face to face with members of our community. Over and over, he graciously said "Thank you, Jewish Federation." On your behalf, we said: as Jews, we bear responsibility for one another. Gregorii, you're welcome.

The truth is, we can only help Gregorii and others because you care.

Your contribution to the All-In-One makes it possible for our community to touch someone's life. Keep it up, partner!



Thank You To Those Who Connect Through The

Jewish Press. Donor names will be listed by the levels of giving defined below, unless, as an individual or as a family, there has been a request not to do so. (You may also request to be listed as "anonymous"). In addition, an asterisk will be placed by the names of those who increase their gifts during the 2003 Campaign.

This is our way of acknowledging your support for Jewish Education, Community and Senior Care. We hope that the good example of those who participate will stimulate greater numbers to connect through the Federation in providing for these needs.

Thank you for your support and involvement!

Here are the names of the levels honoring your contributions.

King David \$25,000 or more **Benefactor** \$15,000 - \$24,999

Lion of Judah (Women's Constituency) \$5,000 or more

Patron \$5,000 - \$14,999

Pomegranate (Women's Constituency) \$1,500 - \$4,999

 Guardian
 \$2,000 - \$4,999

 Supporter
 \$1,000 - \$1,999

 Advocate
 \$500 - \$999

 Friend
 Up to \$499

IT'S NOT BUSINESS AS USUAL

Maintain the Connection

YES, THE STOCK MARKET MAY HAVE FALLEN. BUT THE DOWNTURN ONLY INCREASES THE NEEDS OF OUR JEWISH FAMILY HERE IN DES MOINES, IN ISRAEL, AND AROUND THE WORLD.

Here are eight reasons why we have to go beyond the moment and maintain our support for the All-in-One Campaign – one reason for each day of Chanukkah!

- We Jews have always based our tzedakah on the urgency of the needs and not the economy. Your gift to the All–In–One is even more important, now, than in the past. More people need our Federation's help. More of our family is in crisis. We receive calls each week from community members without jobs who are in need. That alone indicates that your contributions are very much needed.
- The problems in our economy pale in comparison with the havoc the intifada has wreaked on all sections of Israel's economy or the complete breakdown of the economy in Argentina. Our gifts make a difference in the lives of those Jews who are most affected by economic disruption. In Argentina, for example, our gifts now provide food, medicine and housing support for 35,000 Jews, with a caseload increase of 1,800 each week.
- For the most part, we have been very fortunate. We're still likely to be in the position to help others. And were we in the opposite situation, we would hope that others who can help, do help. During the period when the economy was doing very well, many community members did very well. That rainy day is now here, it seems, and it is worth dipping into our past profits to help others.
- Certainly, the stock market has been volatile. But we know that investors have to weather these kinds of periods... that investments are a long-term strategy. The Jewish community is facing immediate and urgent short-term needs. Your increased gift to the All-In-One is necessary for our community to keep our promise to help meet basic Jewish needs. So your gift is needed now.
- Your commitment to the All-In-One starts now. Let us take your pledge today. And while we would like to build upon your promise today, the entirety of your gift does not need to be paid until December 31 of 2003. That's a long way off and our economy is likely to improve by then, making your commitment easier to shoulder. The market will rebound. Our investments will grow again. We have to be optimistic and we have to take care of our people.
- For most of us, the funds we have invested in the stock market are not those we use in our everyday lives. We generally don't live on that money. And it doesn't affect our commitment to the Jewish people. Ours is a lifelong commitment to our community. It's our responsibility, and it doesn't lessen with the sound of a bell.
- It gives us a good feeling to help others. To know that your gift enables people to live a fuller, Jewish life is invaluable. That feeling stays with us in good times and bad. It is something we can afford because we value helping others, the ability we have to make this a better world. This is not something that changes along with the economy.
- It is something that our own parents and grandparents would have wanted us to do, just as they have. Our elders did not let their Jewish community down during the Great Depression. Neither should we.

Look to a better tomorrow. Help all you can today, so that we can get there together!

A message from your All-In-One Campaign.



december 02

The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press

A Community that Plays Together Stays Together

The news that our local congregations are working together on programming is a sign of vitality in our community. The proposed Shabbat Across Des Moines (December 13-14), a community Hanukkah program, and the recent forums cosponsored by Tifereth's Men's Club and the Temple Brotherhood, are all instances in which two, three or four congregations are working together. Our Ames Jewish Congregation is part of the larger constellation as well, integral to the Federation, itself.

In all these instances inter-congregational cooperation is built on the mutual desire to bring our people closer together. We are seeing bonds being formed that transcend the differences between the streams of Judaism, built on mutual respect.

We applaud those who are working together to enable such programs to occur whenever logistics and scheduling factors permit. The phrase Jews use when offering congratulations on embarking on a new project may appropriately be used here. To all our congregations, in your endeavors to bring our community closer together, "May you go from strength to strength."

To community members without an affiliation, we say: there is a place for you. Come find your place within our congregations and Federation and expand your horizons.

[letter to the editor]

Don't Dismiss Arab Desire to Eliminate Israel

Dr. Gary Michael Tartakov, in the October 2002 issue of the Jewish Press, opines that the publication of an earlier column is an embarrassment to the Jewish Press. Both items relate to Israel.

Dr. Tartakov's clear message is that diversity of opinion is unwelcome and that the Arab fantasy about the founding of the Jewish State is factual - that the Arab population of Palestine "was driven out of their homes and fields ... by Israel and the Israeli army." He refers to 1947 when the United Nations divided Palestine by creating a Palestinian State and a Jewish State.

However, Arab sources document that all Arabs were directed by their leadership to leave, because the Arabs then (and now) wanted all of the land for a single Arab State, rejected the partition Plan, and five Arab armies attacked the 600,000 were promised to return after destruction of the Jewish population and the Jewish State. Many Arabs remained as Israeli citizens and Arab deception then created three generations of refugee squalor dependent on the non-Arab world.

recognize the State of Israel and are committed to her destruction by military, economic and political means. Recently, Radical Islamic terrorists in control of Arafat's Palestine Authority have added suicide murders of innocent Israelis to the traditional strategies.

Israel is a haven for oppressed Jews throughout the world. European anti-Semitism is today as serious as it has been any time post-World War II. We cannot afford the luxury of confusion

ORGANIZATIONS HOLD CANDIDATES FORUMS, REGISTER OVERSTATES

CONCLUSIONS Club and the Temple Brotherhood held three forums during October, in which the major congressional, senatorial, and gubernatorial candidates spoke about their campaign issues and fielded questions. The moderator for each was Dr. Dennis Goldford, political science professor from Drake University and media commentator.

Controversy arose after the final, gubernatorial forum due to coverage by the Register that focused more on the purported reaction of the audience than on the issues addressed by each candidate. Controversy was compounded by a subsequent commentary in which Register columnist David Yepsen, who

was not at the forum, accepted the paper's characterization that the audience had, in his words, "trashed" the Republican candidate. Based on this negative characterization, which builds upon an instance four years ago, Yepsen asks: "What purpose does it serve for a GOP candidate to show up for [forums conducted by the Jewish community]?" Can you imagine anyone suggesting that candidates from one party or another stay clear of any other ethnic group or from, say, the Protestants?

Reaction from those present at the gubernatorial forum, as expressed to me, tends to question the Register's comment that the audience was "poten-

STATEMENT

tially hostile" as overblown, if not an imprecise concept to begin with. In a letter to the editor, two prominent community members, whose candidate was allegedly treated poorly, said, in essence, that the Register's perception was inac-

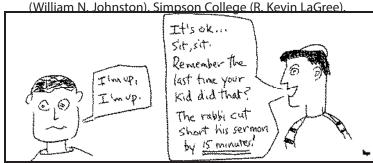
If indeed the Register's reporting was less than fully accurate in characterizing our community's demeanor, it plays into the hands of those who for h reasons choose to stereotype Jewish Americans. It also demeans the political process in which people should be

encouraged rather than discouraged to

ask challenging questions of those SOME IOWA COLLEGE PRESIDENTS **ENDORSE ANTI-INTIMIDATION**

Recent anti-Israel demonstrations on campuses in which supporters of Israel have been threatened or property has been defaced have prompted a core group of college presidents and former presidents to circulate a letter decrying intimidation on campuses. The letter drew more than 300 signatures of college and university presidents nationally, including several college presidents from lowa. The letter and the names and affiliations of those endorsing the letter were published in major American newspapers by the American Jewish Committee.

The full-page ad published in the Forward (October 25) includes the following Iowa representation. Drake University (David Maxwell), Grand View College (Kent L. Henning), Grinnell College (Russell K. Osgood), Iowa Weslyan College



Jews in May of 1948 then living in a Jewish State. The Arabs

Fifty-four years later, 20 of the 22 Arab nations still refuse to

between fantasies and facts.

THE GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines under the auspices of the Jewish Community **Relations Commission**

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

Vol. 19 No. 3, December 2002

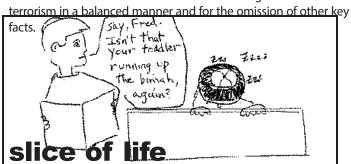
POLL: MOST EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS BACK **ISRAEL FOR** NON-THEOLOGICAL **REASONS**

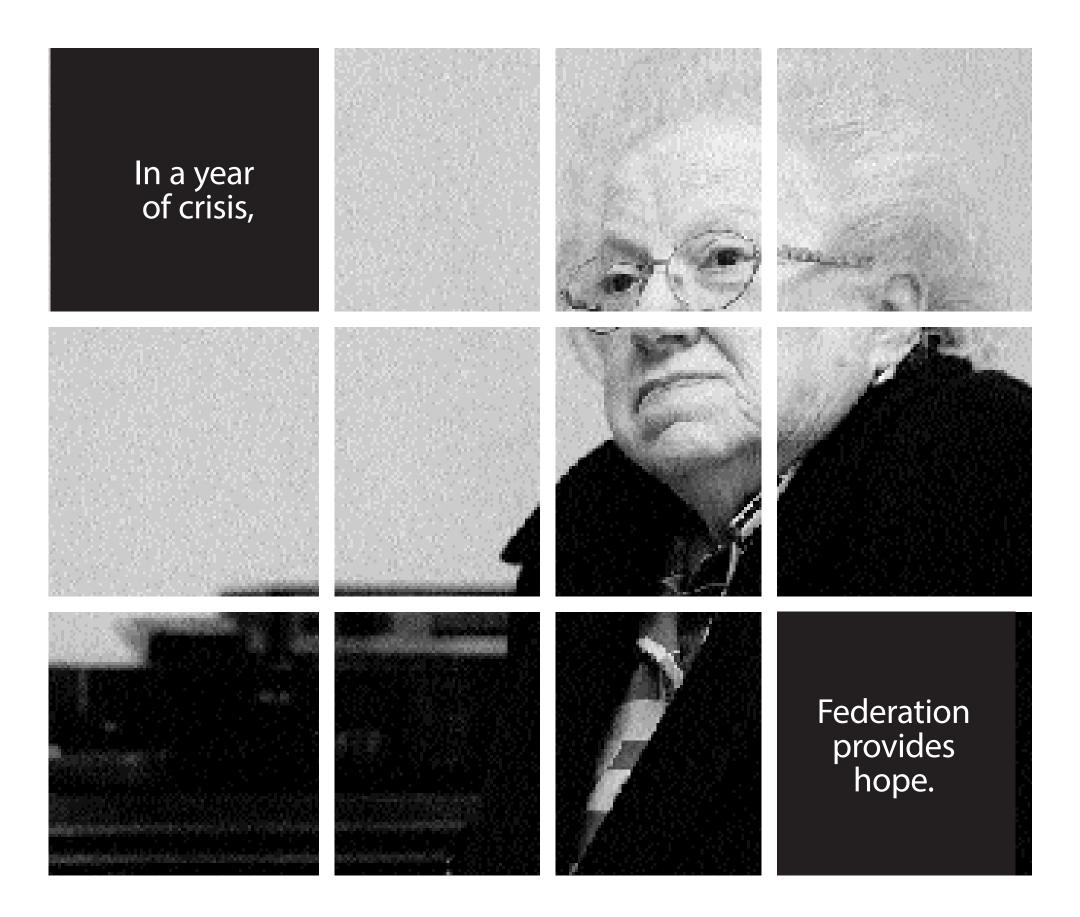
56% of Evangelical Christians that support Israel either do so because Israel is a democracy, an important ally of the U.S., or a safe haven for Jews, according to a poll commissioned by Stand for Israel, a project of the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews. Contrary to popular belief, only a minority of evangelicals (35%) cite their theological belief as why they support Israel. Of the 35%, only 28% cite reasons related to Biblical prophecy of the 'end times' as the main reason. The poll (which touched on other areas as well) was conducted by the Tarrance Group October 3-6, 2002 with more than 1,2000 adults nationwide, including an over sampling of Jews and conservative Christians. Stand for Israel is online at www.standforisrael.org.

ADL ISSUES ANALYSIS CRITICAL OF NPR SERIES ON THE MIDDLE

EAIS tonal Public Radio's weeklong series about the Arab/Israeli conflict(accesswww.npr.org/news/specials/mideast/history/ index.html) has drawn criticism from several sources. See, for example, CAMERA's critique (www.camera.org), charging bias in NPR's use of on-air experts. ADL, now, has posted its analysis of the series. Their critique is online at www.adl.org/israel/ NPR_

In brief, ADL states: "While the series did include some excellent segments, [there were] endemic problems that would lead listeners to develop serious misperceptions about the history of the Israeli-Palestininian conflict." ADL's chief criticism is that the series implies, erroneously, that "the Palestinians... were fighting for the establishment of an independent ... state that would exist alongside Israel, rather than [for] the eradication of the Jewish state" ADI also faults the series for not dealing with Palestinian





One million American Jews are over the age of 65. A new Federation initiative will create a complete continuum of care for our senior community. Care and services that enhance the quality of life and prolong independence—from transportation, counseling, adult day care and meals-on-wheels, to assisted living and skilled nursing care, acute medical and end-of-life care.

Your gift to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign delivers hope, dignity and comfort to millions of people—Jews and non-Jews, young and old, in Des Moines, 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.



JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish Federation Community School PRESCHOOL MEETS MONTHLY WITH GREAT TEACHER

Cynthia Shulman is back with us again this year teaching Jewish identity and heritage to our preschoolers. We currently have nine children enrolled in our program.

Cynthia has been in the Central lowa area for seven years. She currently lives in Ames with her husband, Mark, and her two children, Jennifer and Mitchell. She has been a Master Gardener for five years and has been assisting with the teaching of Garden Camp through the Ames Parks and Recreation summer program. Also, this summer, as a Mitzvah Project for Tifereth, Cynthia organized and planted, with the help of volunteers, a vegetable garden in one corner of the Tifereth Playground.

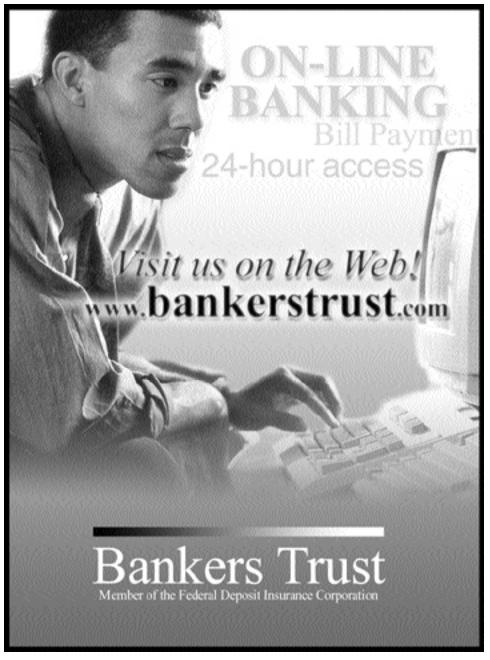
Preschoolers started meeting on Sunday, October 6th. Their first day was filled with the tastes and sounds of our New Year. The children were able to hold, feel and hear the sounds of the Shofar. A big "thank you" to Steve Altman for sharing his talents with our preschoolers as they watched him blow the Shofar. They also tasted



Left side of table: Simone Jacoby, Sophie Phillips, Josh Waltman, Gabriel Klein.
(r) Mitchell Shulman, Anna Feldstein, Megan Schnoebelen, Dahlia Callistein, Jillian Ran.

If you would like to enroll your three- or four-year old in our preschool program, please contact our office at 277-5566. Classes will be meeting on the following dates:

- Dec 8 (Chanukah) / Dec 15 (Tzedakah and acts of kindness)
- Jan 5 (Shabbat) / Jan 12 (Tu B'shevat) / Jan 19 (JFCS Tu B'shevat Program)
- Feb 2 (Havdalah) / Feb 16 (Purim)
- Mar 2 (Purim) / Mar 9 (JFCS Purim Program) / Mar 30 (Pesach)
- Apr 6 (PreK-2nd grade Seder with JFCS)/Apr 13 (Bracha's Apr 20 (Lag B'Omer)
- May 4 (Israel Independence Day with JFCS) / May 18 (last day of school review)



Meet our 5th grade class 2002-



Front row: R-L Dena Siegel, Gabe Sandler, Nathan Kaufmann, Jacob Grund, Gabriella Soria-Dunn.
Second row: Arielle Lipman, Eitan Naggar, Sam Bassman, Noah Steimel, Adam Bailin. Third Row: Ayelet Kleinman (Israeli Avrevia), Lucca Soria, Jillian Shkolnick, Jeremy Dubansky, Brandon Mazer (High School helper). Back Row: Wendy Beckerman (Hebrew), Ben Kaufmann (Hebrew), Rachele Hjelmaas (Teacher), Lyanna Grund (JFCS Coordinator). (Not pictured: Jacob Fuller, Eli Wolnerman)

Now that you have met our Fifth Grade class, here's the scoop.

Rachele Braverman Hjelmaas, (the kids call her "Mrs. H"), is starting her sixth year with the community school. Rachele and her husband, Joel, have four boys: Ben, a sixth grader, Jacob and Alex, fourth graders, and Josh, a first grader. In addition to teaching, Rachele is employed as a full-time legal counsel for the lowa Legislature.

During this school year, we are fortunate, thanks to the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, to have the use of Ayelet Kleinman, a native Israeli, who will be teaching with Rachele in the fifth grade classroom. Many of you have already seen or met Ayelet over the last several weeks. Brandon Mazer, an 11th grader from Waukee, is also assisting in this classroom.

The fifth grade curriculum consists of reviewing life cycle events, stories relating to Prophets and Writings, and a prayer-based Hebrew curriculum. Our goal for this year is to help students learn to read fluently from the siddur, understand the themes of the prayers, translate key words, learn the "roots" and structure of those key words, and actively and meaningfully participate in the prayer service.

One of the first life cycle events the students role-played was the "Brit Milah of Baby Boy Fuller." Everyone had an important role during the service to experience what a true Brit Milah service was like.



Melton Program

Melton Class Brings Heritage to Life!

Having begun our year in September, The Florence Melton Adult Mini School is now well under way. Our first-year class of twenty-three students is totally engaged in the "Purposes and Rhythms" curriculum. It is wonderful to watch the students study text and explore our rich Jewish heritage with their teachers. The exchange of ideas and questioning of text is ongoing. Several students have told me how the study they have embarked on has already made a difference in the way that they look at things.

We already have a list of people that are interested in attending The Florence Melton Adult Mini School next year. If you are interested in learning more about the program, please contact Alice Friedgood at 223-0086.

Two Upcoming Classes for Melton Graduates

Each year our Melton Graduates have an opportunity to begin new learning opportunities. This year we have the unique opportunity to study Conversational Hebrew with Ayelet Kleinman. Ayelet is a native Israeli who is spending the year in Des Moines. She is active in Jewish education and community affairs. The class is designed for beginners. It will be limited to 20 students, and will begin January 23, 2003 and continue for 10 weeks. The cost of the class, including text and materials, is \$150.

Rabbi Berel Simpser, who requires no introduction to the Des Moines Jewish community, will teach our second class. He is head of the Community Kollel and is very popular with Melton students and graduates. Come study about The 613 Mitzvot with Rabbi Simpser. The class will begin February 6, 2003 and continue for 8 weeks. The cost of this class is \$100; there will also be a nominal book fee. Melton Graduates will be receiving more information concerning these classes in the mail.

Alice Friedgood, Melton Coordinator

Ames Jewish Congregation Religious School

B'nai Mitzvah, Books and Blessings

On October 12th the Level 4 (6th and 7th graders) and their parents met with Rabbi Stiel to do a program called, "Putting G-d on the Guest List." The evening included discussions about the meaning of B'nai Mitzvah to the parent and child, several related Midrash and individual values. Most of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah dates were chosen for 2004 and the evening ended with Havdalah. Thanks to Rabbi Stiel, everyone learned a lot. There were many requests to do additional programs as the year progresses.

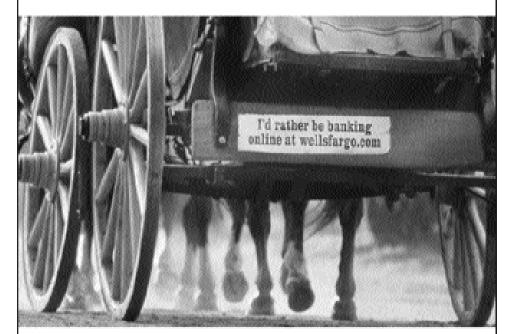
Books, books, everywhere! The Book Fair was a huge success thanks to the hard work of many people. Robyn Dennis and Sally Lapan read books during assembly to spark interest with the kids. Adah Ackerman made the contact with the book supplier at CAJE. Sally Lapan ordered and prepared the Book Fair. Sally and Mary Falk organized and priced the books. Robyn and Sally set up the books and Margaret Myers, Susan Jackson, Mary Falk and Teresa Rosenberg worked during book fair hours. The kids made wish lists to take home to their parents and the orders came pouring in!

The teachers are doing a great job each week with the kids. Level Aleph is working hard to learn their Alephbet. Level Bet and Gimel are focusing on reading and Level Dalet is learning the morning service. Jewish Studies classes are using a variety of publications in their classroom this year. BabagaNewz is a wonderful magazine discussing stories of Jewish people and events. C.Cha is a newsletter that offers stories of Jewish happenings around the world. The teachers are also sending weekly updates via e-mail. This is a great way to keep the parents informed about what is happening in the classrooms.

Look for more information to come regarding "A Chanukah Happening" scheduled for November 24th. This will be a school-wide celebration of Chanukah. Families are always welcome. Remember no AJC Religious School from November 27th through December 1.



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Ben Swartz

"They are absolutely beautiful." A typical response to viewing Ben Swartz's artfully crafted bowls made of wood. Few people are yet aware that Ben has developed the fine art of wood turning, as it is called. A member, along with his family at Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Ben is best known as a successful businessman, former Windsor Heights city councilman. But his works are being collected all around the country and are on display at the Art House gallery and restaurant on Ingersoll.

Having been introduced to woodturning in 1995, Ben has produced a variety of artistic bowls and cups, ranging from those crafted from a single piece of wood to those requiring the hand placement of up to three

hundred individual pieces. His creations are aesthetically beautiful and are adorned with attractive and colorful motifs and designs.

Watching Ben explain the process of making "constructed bowls" is an education in itself. In the well-lit and neat workshop he has set up in the third bay of the garage in their new home, Ben stocks his raw materials, along with the carpentry tools and machines he uses. The wood he employs comes primarily from bark- wrapped tree segments he has collected locally, the donations, at times, from friends whose trees have fallen. What a wide and interesting variety of woods they are. His collection is comprised of sycamore, oak, maple, and other species, each marked by its distinctive coloring and patterns. Many of his woods are exotics, which may come from Africa and South America, and are purchased from various suppliers.

Working from a design charted on graph paper, Ben proceeds to slice the wood (or multiple kinds of wood) into the small, component parts by means of an electronic lathe. The angles for each are determined by means of a precision tool so that the pieces will fit together perfectly. Ben takes the pieces and assembles them with glue one thin piece here, another of a different color there - to form a circular band. After bands of different sizes are constructed, the rings are glued one upon another to make the overall bowl shape, whether tapered at the top or open. Once the glue dries, the form is then placed on the lathe and that's when the larger, turning chisels are used. The tools enable Ben to thin out the inner and outer walls of the object. The result? A perfectly smooth and symmetrical form, blending the variety of woods, textures and

colors. Finishing touches are then applied: several types of wax are used to fill in microscopic gaps in the surface and as the material to be buffed into a high luster.

The entire project takes planning, precision, and great patience. The confluence in Ben of these qualities accounts for the fine work he has produced, work that adorns the homes of his friends and customers of his art.

How did Ben get involved in his avocation? Let's let him tell us in his own words.

"The more I looked at constructed bowls, the more intrigued I'd get. How did they get those angles in there? Then I'd start figuring them out... and at one point I said to myself: 'You know, if I had a lathe, I could do that' - a bit of bravado considering I never operated a lathe in my life (chuckling). Sometime later, a friend that had been living here, Ira Dolich, had a fifty-year old Shopsmith he wanted to dispose of. So I told him I might be interested in acquiring it. Ira said: "Jewish guys aren't supposed to know

what these are all about." I told him I know, but that I had watched someone demonstrate it once. So I inherited it, by felicity.

Then, a relative, Bud Adler, who was a woodturner, provided me a couple of books on the topic, one of which was particularly instructive. I dabbled with the projects, the first was to make a cup-sized bowl out of a piece of silver maple. The first project turned out so nice, I thought, 'Hey, maybe I'm on to something here.' And then I began to improvise a bit on some of the designs. Sometime later, we had a group of people over and it was Barbara Belin who expressed interest in one of the items I had made and who said 'I want one.' At that, other people in the room took interest and asked to



Ben's constructed-bowls are on display at the ArtHouse on Ingersoll

purchase items as well. So those were the first three pieces I sold." $\,$

And, as they say, the rest is history.



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HOW THE MIDDLE EAST MIGHT HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT—MISTAKES AND BLUNDERS, AGAIN AND

AGAIN.By Sheldon Rabinowitz

History often complicates what we think. To gain an adequate understanding of the competing claims in the Middle East, one would need to read a good deal of its history. Events and decisions change history, of course. But an overabundance of unfortunate decisions in the Middle East led to the chaos that confronts the world today.

The major root of the problem -- in contrast to our own social order -- is exemplified in the late 18th century. We in the United States were fortunate to have Founding Fathers who successfully espoused their beliefs in democratic government, separation of church and state, and respect for individual human rights. At that time the Moslem world primarily was the Ottoman Empire and Iran. The Ottoman Empire's supreme ruler was a sultan, who empowered a caliph to be the religious ruler, or appointed himself caliph. Iran's structure was identical. As few as two, and no more than four, men exercised virtually absolute control over everything and everybody in about 85 percent of what was then the Moslem world. State and religion were intertwined -- and for the most part still are in much of the Moslem world.

Although most Western countries, too, once lived under such governmental and/or religious control, a period of enlightenment or reformation culminated in the views of our Founding Fathers becoming more the norm. If a person in the Moslem

world had espoused similar views, his head would have been removed -- and he would not fare much better even today in most, if not all, Arab countries. Since the Moslem world did not learn these principles from the West -- nor seek progression of thought -- the result is absolutely the focal point of what has undoubtedly become the relative backwardness of the Moslem world. Central authority, usually intertwined with religion, has kept the entire Arab world the 22 nations of the Arab League--unable to tolerate dissent or freedom of thought. In such an environment, the progress we have enjoyed in the West has not been possible.

Before World War I, much of what we call the Middle East -- except what is now Iran but including the northern shore of the Mediterranean Sea -- was part of the Ottoman Empire, centered in Turkey. There were no borders or independent countries of Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Jordan, Israel and most of the current Gulf states. What some think of as Palestine was part of the Syrian District of the Ottoman Empire. There certainly was no Palestinian state.

At the end of World War I, administration of the territory of Palestine became the mandated responsibility of Britain—which had previously declared itself in favor of establishing in Palestine a national home for the Jewish people.

Numerous harmful decisions between World War I and World War II have had a lasting effect on issues of today. The Middle East was largely divided into separate countries, but not on logical ethnic lines. If benefiting the indigenous population had been a consideration, the Kurds and Armenians would surely have been among the most deserving of their own countries. Alas, they had no clout.

When the new state of Iraq was created, under a Hashemite ruler, the ethnic composition of the indigenous population was ignored. Additionally in 1920, to avoid conflict with the Hashemite family, an agreement was made for about 65 percent of the British Palestinian Mandate to be carved off and given to Abdullah, another son of a non-indigenous tribal chieftain, as the Arab kingdom of Transjordan. Part of that territory had been promised to the Jews as part of the Mandate.

The British, yielding to threats of Arab violence, prevented Jews from buying more land from absentee Arab landlords in what remained of the Palestinian Mandate. Britain also blocked immigration of Jews from anti-Semitic Europe who could foresee the dangers of life in Europe, especially after Adolf Hitler came to power.

After World War II, when the United Nations proposed establishing a Jewish state and an Arab state in the region, the Jews agreed and the Arabs refused. Israel was proclaimed an independent state in 1948 and its War of Independence followed, when armies from five Arab countries invaded. Israel miraculously survived, as a slightly larger state than originally proposed - but still less than one percent of the area known as the Arab world. The Arabs' harmful decision to reject the two-state proposal led to the dispersion of about 650,000 refugees to the West Bank and neighboring countries who either voluntarily fled from Israel or were driven out in the war. These are the core of the people called the Palestinian refugees.

From 1948 to the Six-Day War of 1967, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip were controlled by Jordan and Egypt, respectively. The "Palestinian state" seemingly desired today was readily available to the Arab world during that period. Why didn't the Arabs push toward creating it? The answer is simple: They wanted to destroy "the Zionist entity," Israel. They would not settle for anything less than all the remaining portion of the British Palestinian Mandate, from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. Today's Palestinian professed desires and options show that decision was obviously another big mistake. As Israel's Abba Eban once said, "The Palestinians never pass up an opportunity to pass up an opportunity."

The Palestinian refugees have multiplied to 3-million-plus, largely as a result of a high birthrate, U.N. welfare and unwillingness of Arab leaders to resettle the people. Estimates indicate that more than 75 million people worldwide were refugees in the years immediately following World War II. All became resettled. Only the Palestinians remain "refugees."

In the few years after 1948, Israel absorbed and resettled about 550,000 Jews who fled in fear from Arab countries, or were thrown out. Arab countries, with the exception of Jordan, did not grant their Palestinian Arab brothers citizenship but

kept them in squalor in refugee camps to purposely fester — which only magnified the problem and remains an ongoing issue. Not integrating the refugees into Arab countries was another big mistake.

Terror aimed at Israel was virtually constant from 1948 to 1967, in varying degrees, from Egypt, Syria and Jordan. In 1964 the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was formed, with a declared purpose of eliminating Israel by armed struggle. The related hatred led to the Six-Day War in June 1967, another Arab blunder. The results were disastrous for the neighboring Arab countries, whose armies had threatened to liquidate Israel. Instead of emerging victorious and leader of the Arab world, Egypt's President Nasser succeeded only in humiliating himself. Israel captured East Jerusalem, the West Bank, Gaza, the Golan Heights and the Sinai, while virtually destroying the Arab armies.

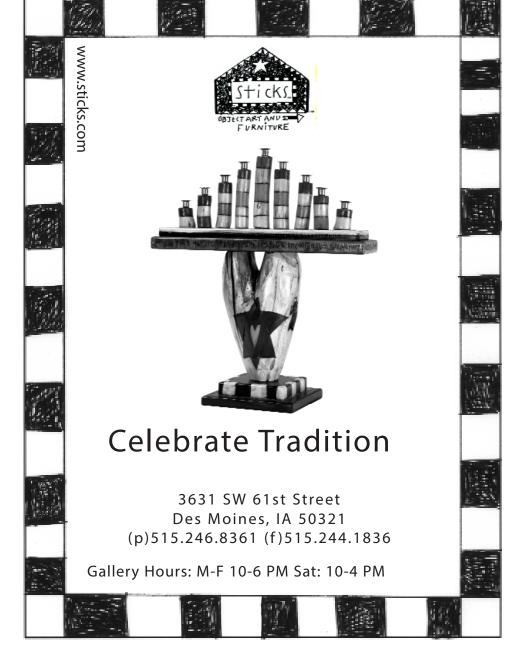
In the aftermath of the Six-Day War, a rational solution was within reach. Yet, in August 1967, the Arab League adopted its famous formula of three "noes"—no peace, no negotiations, no recognition. Another mistake.

At this point Israel probably made a serious mistake: not being more energetic in seeking a peace agreement, at least with Egypt. The lack of a peace treaty with Egypt culminated in the Yom Kippur War of 1973, with further loss of life.

In addition, Israel began to build settlements in Palestinian inhabited Gaza and the West Bank, creating a whole new set of issues in these lands seized in the Six-Day War. Arab intransigence created an opportunity for the right wing in Israel, along with a religious element that felt a claim to a greater Israel, "because God gave them the land." While God obviously was not defending the lands for them, this politically powerful minority of the Israel populace caused hundreds of millions of dollars to be spent, and wasted, on building and protecting the settlements.

Attempting to retain all of the captured lands, or anything beyond the environs of Jerusalem, was a mistake by the Israelis. They should have realized that no real peace could evolve while Israel controlled the West Bank. But even if Israel could keep the West Bank land, in no way could Israel manage or grant citizenship to all of the Arab inhabitants, whose numbers have continued to swell. It is an impossible dilemma under any circumstances. Eventually, most of the West Bank and Gaza including the settlements probably will be given up and traded for some form of negotiated or imposed peace arrangement.

Since Israel's birth as a nation, the entire Arab world and much of the Moslem world poisoned the minds of their peoples. Virulent anti-Israel and anti-Semitic propaganda has been continual in the mosques, the controlled press, and the schools. Israel has become the eternal villain to the Arab world. Dictators have always created external enemies to deflect attention from internal subjugation, failure and misery. But the religiously inspired Moslem/Arab obsession with Israel endows not only fundamentalist fanatics with hatred toward it, but the majority of Arab populations have become impossible for their governments



Palestinian Suicide Bombers, Planners Commit Crimes Against

Humanity Excerpts From Human Rights Watch's report

(Gaza, November 1, 2002) The people responsible for planning and carrying out suicide bombings that deliberately target civilians are guilty of crimes against humanity and should be brought to justice, Human Rights Watch said in a new report today.

The 170-page report* is the first fullfledged examination of individual criminal responsibility for suicide bombings against civilians in Israel and the Israelioccupied territories. The report, Erased in Moment: Suicide Bombing Attacksagainst Israeli Civilians, also provides the most thorough study to date of the suicide bombing operations of Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the groups that have claimed responsibility for almost all recent suicide bombings.

"The people who carry out suicide bombings are not martyrs, they're war criminals, and so are the people who help to plan such attacks," said Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch. "The scale and systematic nature of these attacks sets them apart from other abuses committed in times of conflict. They clearly fall under the category of crimes against humanity."

Since January 2001, 52 Palestinian suicide bombings have killed some 250

civilians and injured 2,000 more.

Well-established principles of international law require that those in authority be held accountable when people under their control commit war crimes or crimes against humanity. Leaders who order such crimes, fail to take reasonable preventive action, or fail to punish the perpetrators are also responsible for such crimes.

The top leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad have openly espoused, encouraged, or endorsed suicide bombing attacks against Israeli civilians, and indicated that they have the capacity to stop them from happening. Those leaders, such as Hamas's Shaikh Ahmad Yassin and Khalid Mish'al and Islamic Jihad's Ramadan Shalah, should face criminal investigation for their roles in these crimes. The PFLP has publicly claimed responsibility for suicide bombings and car bombings against civilians. Its leaders appear to exercise control over their occurrence and so warrant criminal investigation. In the case of the al-Agsa Martyrs' Brigades, control and responsibility appears to be centered at local levels, and those responsible should also face criminal investiga-

The Human Rights Watch report assesses the role and responsibility of the Palestinian Authority (PA) and President Yasir Arafat regarding suicide bombings against civilians. It concludes that the PA failed to take all available measures to

deter such attacks or bring those responsible to justice, and by its failure contributed to an atmosphere of impunity for such crimes

"The greatest failure of President Arafat and the PA leadership is their unwillingness to deploy the criminal justice system to deter the suicide bombings, particularly in 2001, when the PA was most capable of doing so," Roth said.

Roth said the PA's failure to take effective preventive action or to punish perpetrators outside of its control does not meet the criteria of command responsibility under the current state of international law. "But Arafat and the PA do bear a high degree of political responsibility for the atrocities that occurred," Roth said.

The PA has argued that Israeli actions, such as the destruction of PA police and security installations, undermined its capacity to act. But even when that capacity was largely intact, the PA took no effective action to bring to justice those who incited, planned or assisted in carrying out bombings and other attacks on Israeli civilians. Instead, the PA pursued a policy whereby suspects, when they were detained, were not investigated or prosecuted, but typically were soon let out onto the street again.

"The prohibition against targeting civilians doesn't depend on the behavior of one's adversary," Roth said. "Even in the face of Israeli violations of internation-

al law, Palestinian armed groups must refrain from deliberate attacks against civilians."

"Armed conflicts often involve discrepancies of power between adversaries," said Roth. "Allowing those discrepancies to justify attacking civilians would create an immense loophole in the protections of international humanitarian law."

Palestinian armed groups also assert that their targets are not really civilians because "all Israelis are reservists" or because, they say, Israeli residents of settlements have forfeited their civilian status. The report points out that international humanitarian law is clear: reserve members of military forces are combatants only while on active duty, and otherwise benefit from protection as civilians.

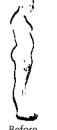
Human Rights Watch called on all Palestinian armed groups to halt attacks on civilians immediately and unconditionally, and urged the PA to ensure that those in any way responsible for such attacks are brought to justice. Human Rights Watch also urged the PA to undertake a public campaign urging an end suicide bombings and other attacks against civilians and making clear that the PA does not consider as "martyrs" people who die carrying out attacks that deliberately or indiscriminately kill or cause great suffering among civilians.

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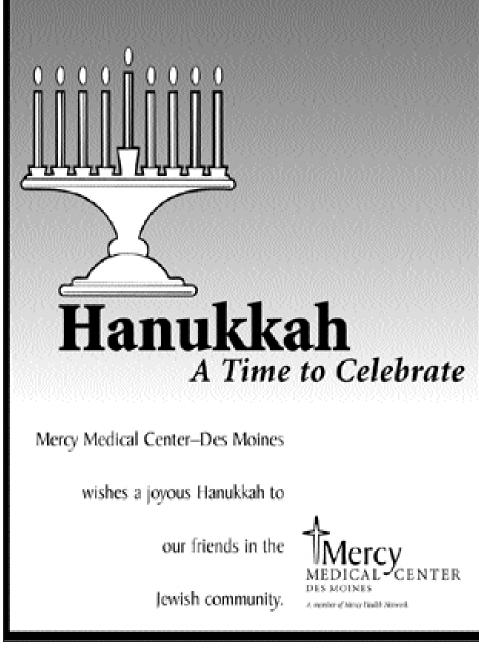


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The Greater Des Moines **Jewish Press**

Gil Mann's E-Mail Column

On America Online, there is a popular feature called Judaism Today: Where Do I Fit? (AOL keywords: Judaism Today -Non-AOL members: www.jewish.com/ news/gilemail.shtml.) People anonymously send in e-mail to the author Gil Mann and he selects one for a public response in his Jewish e-mail column. This column is now syndicated internationally in Jewish papers and websites.

THE UN AND ISRAEL: A JOKE!

Dear Readers:

Earlier this year, in a column about Israel, I wrote that the United Nations was "disgustingly anti-Israel." A reader took issue with me. That column was not about the UN and Israel...but this one is.

Hello Gil:

Let's try to be objective when calling the United Nations disgustingly anti-Israel, there are positions which some consider to be neutral, they just sound a little different than the garbage that George Bush spews. Israel can be criticized, like any other nation.

Imagine the following fictitious scenario:

On the border between North and South Korea sit neutral UN peacekeeping soldiers. North Korean troops are on their side of the border and American troops protect the South Korean Border. One day, US soldiers patrolling the South Korean border encounter a UN vehicle on the

South Korean side of the border. When the Americans approach, they are ambushed by North Koreans who have crossed into South Korea...blatant violations of International law. Three US soldiers are shot and their bodies dragged away into North Korea.

Nine months later, to the shock of the Americans...and especially to the families of the three victims, the US learns that "somehow" UN "peacekeeping" soldiers on the border had videotaped the ambush. Further, the UN had the video and incredibly, was concealing this fact. Making the scenario even more of an outrage, once the existence of the video was discovered, the UN then refused to let the US see the tape!

Something like this couldn't happen at the United Nations, right? Think again! This is what happened, including the video, beginning on October 7, 2000! The border was not Korea, but Lebanon, and the soldiers ambushed (and later declared killed) on the Israeli side of the border were Israeli. The ambushers who crossed the border were Lebanese based Hizballah soldiers. The UN was...well, the UN.

When it comes to Israel, unfortunately, the track record of the UN, is exactly as I wrote in my prior column: DISGUSTINGLY biased again Israel!

Want some more evidence?

Did you know that until recently, Israel was the only country out of 189 member countries that was prohibited from serving on the Security Council. (Which is currently chaired by Syria...speaking of a joke!)

How about the UN resolution in 1975 equating Zionism with Racism. In 1991, under intense US pressure, the UN finally repealed the resolution...but the damage was done. Over the last decades, misinformation about Zionism has been widespread. (What is Zionism really? See my column http://www.beingjewish.org/jewishemail/article050802.html). [Published in the September 2002 Jewish Press, ed.]

The anti-Israel voting records of the General Assembly and Security Council leaves the impression that Israel is one of the only countries on the planet. Of the 175 United Nations Security Council resolutions passed before 1990, 97 were directed against Israel. Of the 690 General Assembly resolutions voted on before 1990, 429 were directed against Israel.

Bias goes beyond those two UN bodies. The UN Commission on Human Rights has devoted 25% of their condemnations to Israel. Yet as noted by David Tell: "There has been a genocide in Rwanda, an ethnic cleansing in Yugoslavia, periodic and horrifying communal 'strife' in Indonesia's East Timor, the 'disappearance' of a few hundred thousand refugees in the Congo, a decades-long and culturally devastating occupation of Tibet by the People's Republic of China ... but none of those UN member states has ever been subjected to the rebuke of a General Assembly "emergency special session."

To see Tell's full article: "The U.N.'s Israel Obsession", go to: www.weeklystandard.com/Content/Public/ Articles/000/000/001/186drluv.asp

Detect a little bias at the UN yet? Try this. The UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has existed for over 50 years spending millions to administer humanitarian services in Palestinian refugee camps. Critics like Irwin Cotler, member of the Canadian Parliament, and US Congressman Tom Lantos ask, how in UNRWA schools, do suicide bombers become glorified poster boys? Or how camps like Jenin (home to 23 suicide bombers) and serviced by UNRWA. become hornets nests of terrorist activity?

How about when UNRWA Commissioner Peter Hansen lied to the world's media, claiming that Israel committed a "massacre" in Jenin and that with his own eyes he saw bodies piling up in mass graves? Months later, his quotes have been totally discredited.

There are so many other examples of anti-Israel bias, that this column could really be a book describing the UN's record against Israel. And I have said nothing of absurdities like Yassir Arafat wearing a gun holster to the podium when he addressed this world body dedicated to peace!

I agree with you that "Israel can be criticized like any other nation." But given the pathetic track record of the United Nations, any critique of Israel coming from that biased body is a sad joke with no credibility.

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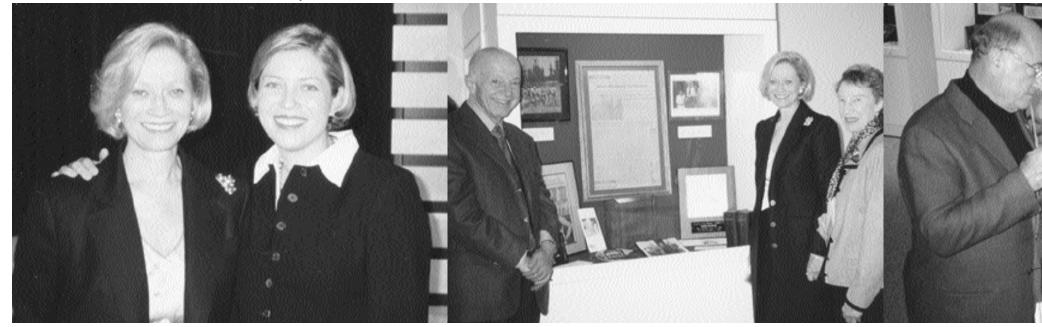
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Iowa Jewish Historical Society



Mary Bucksbaum Scanlan with mother Melva Bucksbaum

Melva Bucksbaum views artifacts from the Bucksbaum family collection with IJHS Lifetime Members, Matthew and Carolyn Bucksbaum

Stanley Engman admires a

Fall Event Gallery Opening an Elegant Evening

The Fall Event and Gallery Opening on October 27th gave the IJHS an opportunity to personally thank Mary Bucksbaum Scanlan for her generous donation of the Martin Bucksbaum Arts Wing consisting of the Bucksbaum Auditorium and new IJHS historical museum.



tifacts in the synagogue display in the Gallery

he evening began with a patron dinner in Mary's honor, followed by a program with guest speaker Elizabeth McCracken, author of "Niagara Falls All Over Again". Elizabeth's family stories about grandparents, Ruth and Harry Jacobson and their extended family and friends emphasized the importance of preserving family histories and artifacts for future generations.

Photographs of Robert S. Leiserowitz, which now hang in the lobby of the IJHS Gallery were on display for the first time and the historical museum was officially opened for public viewing, offering a glimpse into the past of the Jews of Iowa. Many visitors to the Gallery enjoyed sharing their memories as they viewed the historic artifacts from Iowa's Jewish families. Much admired was the Roman Glass collection donated by Arant Sherman.

The IJHS is seeking additional artifacts, photographs, family genealogies and histories for its collection and archives. Support the IJHS by becoming a member for the 2002-2003 season. Send your contribution of \$36, \$100 or \$500 or \$5,000 for Lifetime Membership to IJHS, 910 Polk B o u l e v a r d , Des Moines, IA 50312. The lowa Jewish Historical Society Museum is open most weekday afternoons and by appointment. For hours and additional information call (515) 987-0899 or iajhs@hotmail.com.

Jody Hramits, IJHS Program



(top to bottom) **Alan Zuckert and** Master Photographer, Robert S. Leiserowitz; **Bunnie Leiserowitz, Richard Leiserowitz and** Lifetime Member. **Rose Lee Pomerantz**; Flizabith McCra Mary Bucksbaum Scanlan; **Robbie Winick, IJHS President and** William Leiserowitz; Joyce and Ben Swartz; **David and Ann Farber, IJHS Membership Chairs**; **Ron Rosenblatt and** Suzy Robinette, IJHS **Lifetime Members**

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[book review]

BOOK PROVIDES OVERVIEW OF AMERICAN JEWISH WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS

Her Works Praise Her: A History of Jewish Women in America from Colonial Times to the Present, by Hasia R. Diner and Beryl Lieff Benderly, Basic Books, 459 pages, \$35.00

Reviewed by RUTH F. BRIN

The two authors of this book, Diner, who teaches American Jewish history at NYU, and Benderly, a writer and journalist, worked well together to produce a readable history of American Jewish women. The problem they confronted was a lack of sources until the late 19th and 20th centuries. That is, material by and about Jewish women was not saved by the men who kept historical documents. They found some interesting letters written by a German Jewish immigrant, Rebecca Samuel, to her parents in the 1790s and others in the revolutionary war period. Otherwise from the arrival of Jews in New Amsterdam, they had to infer what the women were doing or what their lives were like.

Letters from the American revolution period were written by Frances Sheftall to her husband and son, who were imprisoned by the British for their revolutionary activities. She did needlework to support her children. Some Jewish women of that period ran boarding houses, worked with their husbands at small stores or artisan's shops, and some were active in trade on their own. Sephardic families who established members in European and American ports often had major trading companies even before the revolution.

The authors write: "Two important facts about colonial Jews. First, in those days before the telephone, scattered kinfolk took their correspondence seriously. Secondly, Jewish women, especially the native-born, navigated easily in American society." A higher percentage of Jewish women were literate compared to their non-Jewish peers in colonial America.

One of the first communities to build a synagogue was Charleston, S.C., and it had a lively intellectual life. Penina Moise, a writer, provided some new prayers for the synagogue in the early nineteenth century. It must be remembered that there were no rabbis in America in the colonial and early period of American independence. Women joined with men to start congregations.

These Jews were mostly Sephardic, but Jews began to leave Germany and central Europe around 1820, and a small immigration continued until the 1880s, when pogroms and other circumstances produced a rush of Jews from eastern Europe and especially Russia.

For their material on the "German" Jews, the writers rely on what is generally known to historians. The typical German man arrived alone, peddled in the South or "the West," meaning what we now call the Midwest, going to isolated farms, bringing news and goods that were otherwise unavailable. They lived in a Gentile world. When they accumulated enough capital they would start a general store in a small town that had no store; then they would look for a Jewish bride.

Some huge stores — like Macys in New York and the big department store, Schuneman-Mannheimer in St. Paul — started this way. Sometimes they sent for a Jewish bride from Europe; sometimes they looked for a native-born daughter of Jewish immigrants, sometimes they intermarried. The wives helped in the stores, often living in an apartment above the store.

Sometimes a woman remained in Europe while her husband went to America and made enough money to bring her and any children they had. This book includes the story of a woman who arrived in St. Paul, and another who lived on Madeleine Island trading with the Indians, in 1852.

There is a lack of original materials, so much of the book reads more like a sociological history of Jews in the United States than it does of women per se. However, the authors have done their best to fill in the gaps.

By the late 19th century we have the histories of women who became well known, writers like Mary Antin, and women who founded important organizations: Hannah Solomon, who founded the National Council of Jewish Women, and Henrietta Szold, who founded Hadassah.

In the 20th century there is plenty of material, witness the two volume Jewish Women in America, a biographical dictionary of many outstanding women. Again, the authors have to generalize about the life of eastern European Jews in the early twentieth century, about their integration into American society, about the founding of liberal Jewish religious groups, and the move to the suburbs after the Second World War and about Jewish women going to college in greater numbers than the general public.

The book does discuss the opening of the rabbinate to American Jewish women, but it doesn't really follow up with a history about recent Jewish feminism. It is a readable and interesting book, without many surprises, at least for someone who is familiar with the history of American Jews printed in many previous books and publications by feminist Jews in the United States.

Ruth F. Brin's poetry is included in the Conservative movement's siddur, Sim Shalom. She is the author of two books that are currently available: Harvest: Collected Poems & Prayers and Bittersweet Berries: Growing Up Jewish in Minnesota. Ms. Brin is also the mother of Rabbi Deborah Brin, Assistant Chaplain at Grinnell College. Her book

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Since it opened in 1990, the camp has welcomed Jewish kids from over twenty-five countries, including India, France, Turkey, Canada, Russia, Ethiopia, Austria, Romania, and Israel. Szarvas Fellows pursue an intensive two-week exploration of the history and life of Jewish communities in different parts of the world. In the warm, beautiful camp setting, they meet their peers from the different countries, make lifelong friends, and personally engage in the challenges facing Jewish communities around the world today.

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In preparation for the trip, Fellows explore their own family history and genealogy, turning the experience into a personal journey. The program includes guided tours of Jewish heritage sites in different cities in Hungary. The Fellows also study the anguage and geography of the different countries represented at the camp.

Eligibility And Applications

The program is open to North American high school students from all Jewish cultural and religious backgrounds. It is intended for those who will be completing 10th or 11th grade this year. The program is kosher and Shomer Shabbat. Applications are due February 15th, 2003. For more information or to apply, visit www.szarvas.org, which includes pictures, press articles, videos, application forms, and more.

The Szarvas Fellowships are administered by The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, in cooperation with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Iowa Newspaper Covers Survivor's Presentation

The Hampton Chronicle devoted significant space in its October 30th edition to covering Mrs. Linda Fishman's speech to the Hampton Rotary Club about her experiences during the Holocaust. The article covers Linda's presentation quite closely, chronicling episodes in her life from her thirteenth birthday, when the Nazis first intruded in her life, through to her liberation by the American Sixth Army. In between these events, Linda details how she spent her teenage years in six concentration camps as a forced laborer. The article makes use of many direct quotes. For example, she explains how she was able to exit alive from one of the most infamous of concentration camps, Bergen-Belsen. As she says, "One day we were marching, and a German said he came to take 1,000 prisoners away to work on airplanes. I pleaded with him to take me. The next thing I knew I was

out of Bergen-Belsen. [Where we went,]we did work on planes - we camouflaged them." In another instance, Linda explained why she speaks openly about her experiences. Linda said, "The reason I'm telling the story is if I [as someone who survived the Holocaust] don't tell it, who will?" And she continues, " We tried [to relate what we knew] when came to America [after the war], but we couldn't speak the language. Twenty-five years later, when some said there wasn't a Holocaust, we started to speak out."

Kol haKavod to Mrs. Fishman for educating people about the Holocaust, travelling far afield at times to do so. And our commendations to the Hampton Chronicle, as well, for carrying the story.

A copy of the article may be obtained upon request to the Jewish Community Relations Commission at

Masada Listed As World Heritage Site

Last week, an official ceremony marking the inclusion of the Masada National Park on the World Heritage List was held at the site. Masada was placed on the list at the World Heritage Committee convention in Helsinki at the end of last year, together with the old city of Acre.

Inclusion on the list brings interna-

tional recognition of a historical site's importance and ensures protection, preservation, and conservation. Masada was placed on the list based on three criteria: its place as a symbol of the ancient Jewish kingdom of Israel; the remains of the palace of Herod the Great; and the history of the Jewish rebels who sought refuge at the site during

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The Greater Des Moines Jewish Press

[science news]

tool for rain prediction.

Sling Effect In Clouds Brings On The Rain

NEW FORMULA MAY IMPROVE RAIN

Renovot, "Israel—October 30, 2002—Weizmann Institute physicists have revealed that turbulence in clouds can accelerate rain formation. In a study published in Nature, they developed a formula that makes it possible to calculate how fast tiny droplets within clouds cluster into heavy, rain-producing drops. The research may provide an effective

Clouds are formed by warm water vapors rising to the sky. When a cloud cools, the vapors condense into droplets that increase in size and are eventually pulled back to earth by gravity, causing rain. Simple as this cycle may sound, when and where exactly the rain will fall is extremely difficult to predict. Precipitation is influenced by myriad meteorological factors, such as wind, pressure, warm and cold fronts, and—as the new study reveals—turbulent flow of air inside clouds.

The emergence of raindrops from the cloud occurs in two stages. First, tiny moisture droplets condense and grow gradually until they reach a diameter of 20 micrometers, or about 20 thousandths of a millimeter across. At this size, the droplets begin to crash into one another and cluster into larger drops about a millimeter in size. The collisions are mainly caused by a turbulent air flow creating vortices and eddies inside the cloud.

The Weizmann team—Prof. Gregory Falkovich of the Physics of Complex Systems Department, graduate student Alexander Fouxon and visiting scientist Michael Stepanov—has derived a mathematical formula that predicts the collision rate of droplets in a turbulent cloud, which in turn makes it possible to forecast when the cloud will shed rain.

The study included the discovery of a mechanism which the scientists call "the sling effect," which explains the link between turbulence and rainfall. It reveals that turbulent vortices within a cloud act as small centrifuges that spin heavy droplets outward, much like a sling whirled around to discharge a stone by centrifual force. The droplets "hurled" by a turbulent vortex are more likely to collide with one another than droplets floating peacefully about.

Calculations based on the formula have led the researchers to conclude in their report: "Air turbulence can substantially accelerate the appearance of large droplets that trigger rain." In other words, rain will form faster in turbulent air than in still or smooth-flowing air.

Apparently, every cloud has a turbulent lining: turbulent flows of different magnitudes exist in all clouds. The Weizmann Institute formula, which includes such variables as temperature, humidity and wind speed, may therefore prove useful for improving the pre-

summer already!?!

It is not too soon to be thinking about what you want to do next summer.

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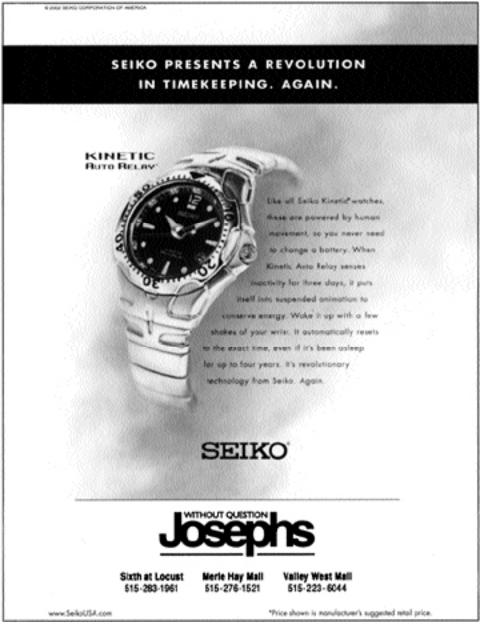
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Torah and Thought

Alternate Versions Of A Psalm Make For Interesting Reading

What Did David Say And When Did He Say It?

By Mark Finkelstein

Of all the Hebrew literature, perhaps the psalms are the best known and most beloved by people of various backgrounds. Within the Hebrew canon, the 150 psalms of David (or tehillim, in Hebrew) are found in Ketuvim, the Writings portion, within the tri-partite compendium known as Tanakh, the Hebrew Bible. Ketuvim corresponds to the kh in Tanakh.

In time of distress and of thanksgiving, Jews read tehillim. While Psalm 23 is a regular part of the memorial service, many other psalms offer solace.

Other psalms, such as Psalm 18, deal with giving thanks for having prevailed against adversity. In Psalm 18, the text examined in the present article, King David credits divine intervention for having escaped harm, especially from his most formidable rival, Saul.

The psalm itself is found in two versions, interestingly enough. In addition to its place within Sefer Tehillim, it is found in slightly altered form in the second book of Samuel, Chapter 22. Il Samuel pertains to the life of David. If you're looking for the text: The text is found in the Chumash (Pentateuch); it is the Haftarah to the weekly portion Ha'azinu (in Deuteronomy.) The Psalm is not included within the siddur (prayerbook), except in editions that contain the entire Book of Psalms.

The question arises, then, as to the differences between the two versions. You'll find differences in the English translations. For example, the word, Belial (in v. 5), is translated alternately as 'dispicable people', 'godless men', and as a reference to the netherworld. But the more significant differences are those differentiating the two Hebrew texts.

In brief*, there are several short phrases that appear in the Psalm and not in Samuel. There are several word substitutions: in Samuel, the 'heavens shook'; in the psalm, 'the mountains shook'. (cf v. 8) In several places, the verb forms differ: e.g., in the psalm, savavooni; in Samuel, sabooni -- both mean 'surrounded me. (cf v. 6) Perhaps one form is older than the other? In other places, there are differences in person: e.g. 'His nostrils' versus 'Your nostrils.'

However, arguably the most interesting differences, are those in which we find alternate word choices based on the obvious problem of discerning whether a particular letter was actually a 'D' or an 'R' which look similar in written Hebrew. In Psalm verse 11, the word is 'y-d-(a)' [yeydeh] meaning "swooped"; in Samuel, verse 11: 'y-r-(a)' [yeyrah] meaning "was seen." Take your pick. Either "He was seen upon the wings of the wind," or "He glided on the wings of the wind." In either case, we're reading an anthropomorphism (one interestingly which contrasts to a simile earlier in the text describing the omnipotent abstractly, terrestially as 'my rock' [tzur] -- as pointed out in the new Chumash 'Etz Hayim.'

One additional point of interest is found in a textual difference between the words 'mayim' [mym = water] and 'yam' [ym = sea]. Could it be, then, that water is that which comes from the sea [may - yam]?

While there is not enough information for a layman as myself to determine with certainty which came first -- the rendition in Samuel or the Psalm -- perhaps someone more skillful can detect the older text. Can you venture a guess? And.... what are the implications of one text being older than the

These and other questions await those who enjoy the study of Torah.

* See the footnotes to both II Samuel 22 and Psalm 18 in the

Teen Ensembles

continued from page 1

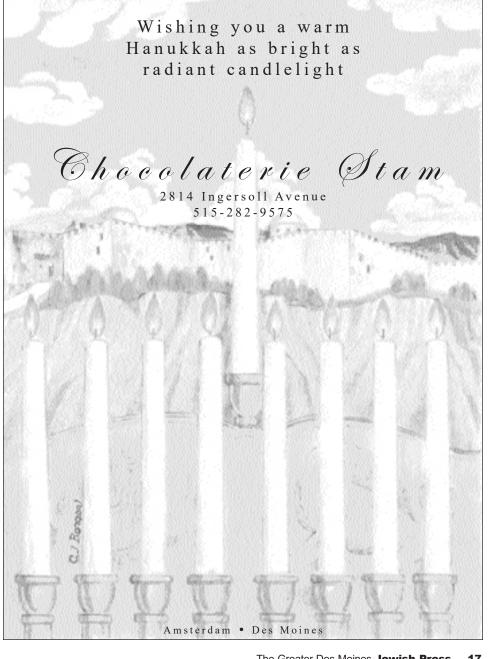
The Vocal Ensemble was founded in 1998 and performs frequently in the Western Galilee region. Many members of the ensemble study at the music department at the Manor-Cabri High School, and most are voice students at the Mate-Asher Music School. In October, the Ensemble performed a program of Madrigals and Chansons at the Yehiam Castle Renaissance Festival.

The cello quartet rehearses weekly at the Mate-Asher Music School. Since its inception in 2001, the quartet has performed at numerous concerts and events in the region. In September they participated in a chamber music course in Wesel, Germany. Members of the quartet also perform with the Mateh-Asher Senior String Ensemble, which toured Partnership 2000 communities in April 2000. They also participate in the Kibbutz Youth Orchestra, and other chamber ensembles organized by the Music School.

We hope you will come enjoy these wonderful student musicians at their performance at The Caspe Terrace.

And to get involved in the Des Moines/Israel Partnership 2000 Consortium, which is our direct connection to the people and institutions in the Western Galilee, contact the Federation at 277-6321. Our support for P2K helps people in our sister region realize their economic, social and cultural potential as a developing region in Israel, and, as you see, provides a living bridge between our com-





[by and for teens]

Remembering Malki

By Yaeli Bronstein

From the moment my father walked into my room last summer, I knew something horrible had happened. I tried to prevent my imagination from running wild. I had never, in all my seventeen years, seen a look of such complete horror and immense sadness on my father's face. He began to talk; I didn't want to hear what he was saying. I could see that words were coming out of his mouth but my mind refused to compre-

This year, and for every birthday to come, I will be thinking of Malki who will never have another birthday.

hend the words. My friend, Malki Roth, had been killed in the Sbarro terrorist bombing in Jerusalem.

What he was saying finally hit me; I couldn't escape it any longer. I broke

into uncontrollable sobbing, and my father soon followed suit. We sat on my bed drowning in our tears and I knew at that moment that nothing would ever be the same. As I continued to cry, I hoped this was all some terrible nightmare — any moment I would wake up in my bed, sweating and shaking with fear, only to realize it wasn't real. I prayed again and again for this to happen but it never did. How terrifying it is for a child to see a parent cry. I had never seen my father like this. When a child cries, the parent comforts the child and says "everything will be all right." As my father and I sat there, I felt like a scared child. I wanted my father to make it all better but my father needed comfort from me as much as I needed it from him.

Malki and I were not best friends. Our fathers were very good friends from college and our families had become close throughout the years. Her father stayed at my house whenever he came to the States. My family visited their family every time we were in Israel.

Although we were not best friends, her amazing personality shone through during the few times we spent together. Every time something happened in Israel, I thought about the victims' families but it was very difficult to feel a personal connection to each and every person. After Malki died it was completely different because I personally knew her.

It brought everything happening in Israel so close to home. The realization that there were so many families with relatives gone forever finally hit me and I felt a stronger connection to them and their pain.

Children do not understand the finality of death. When death occurs, they notice



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that grownups become serious and sad so they adopt this behavior. But children do not realize that the person who died will never come back and they won't see that person ever again. I walked through the next few days in a daze.

Looking back, it feels like a blur of time. After my initial shock, I unknowingly shut myself in a dream world and forced myself to believe that it was all a horrific nightmare. This denial allowed me to be like a child who does not understand the meaning of death

I knew Malki was never coming back but it wasn't a reality. I couldn't understand and didn't want to accept the reality that I would never see her again.

A birthday is something we usually take for granted. We aren't thankful for having completed another year of life. Your birthday is simply a day devoted entirely to you. This year I felt different on my birthday. This year, and for every birthday to come, I will be thinking of Malki who will never have another birthday. Malki was 15 when a terrorist, who knew nothing about her, took her life away. While she was in the restaurant eating pizza with her friend, only moments before her death, I was far away in a plane on my way from Israel to America. I vividly remember walking off the plane into Newark Airport and immediately someone told me that only a few hours earlier a bomb had exploded at Sbarro. I immediately thought of all my friends and family in Israel but at that moment I could not fathom how this event would change my life and so many other lives forever.

Malki was not a typical teenage girl. She was born in Melbourne, Australia, and moved to Israel at a young age. She has three older brothers, Pinny (Pinchas), Shai, and Zvi, as well as three younger sisters, Rivi (Rivka), Pesi, and Haya-Elisheva. "I am the sandwich," Malki described herself in an article she wrote for a parenting magazine at age 11. Malki's youngest sister, Haya, is mentally retarded and requires constant attention. She is now 6 and cannot speak, walk, talk, or do anything on her own. When Malki was 10 she began to help care for Haya any way she could. Malki would read stories to Haya and lie down with her before she went to sleep.

She was the only member of the family who could lighten her mother's load of responsibilities and help take care of her youngest sister. Malki's desire to help those less fortunate than her did not stop with caring for her sister. At a young age, inspired by her sister, she began to help a neighbor with her 4-year-old disabled son. Throughout her short life she continued to work with children who had disabilities. The summer before she was killed Malki and a friend worked at a camp for special-needs children. She was always thinking of everyone else.

I spoke to a girl who attended Malki's school. I heard that immediately following Malki's death it became an extremely depressing place. The girls were filled with so much pain and sadness. Every day in school when one girl would start crying all the other girls would follow suit because they, too, felt obligated to cry. In my school, I am the only person who knew Malki personally. After I found out about her death, every time I spoke to a friend I had to tell them right away. It was the only thing on my mind and I needed friends to know. My initial reaction was questioning why everyone wasn't completely destroyed after hearing my news.

Since I was so deeply affected by this I just assumed that everyone should have the same reaction. I learned a very valuable lesson while talking to someone about my frustration with people's reactions. She said that if everyone was directly affected by every occurrence in Israel we wouldn't be able to go on with our lives. I thought about this and then thought of all the people who live in Israel and who possibly know someone killed every time there is a terrorist act. They also need to go on with their lives while they are living in a constant fear for their own.

I always hear people complaining that life isn't fair. I myself have used this familiar complaint many times. Once Malki's death happened I realized that I had never before meant the full extent of what I was saying. Malki accomplished so much in her short life and she had plans for her future. That future was taken away from her in a split second when her life was so unfairly cut short. Malki has taught me that although we feel that we have our whole lives ahead of us to do everything we plan, the time is really now.

Now is the time to put your dreams into action. Tomorrow might not be another day. Malki thought she had plenty of time and she had already set some of her dreams into motion. She thought she had a whole long future to continue these dreams. I always wanted to become closer with Malki and assumed that we had all the time in the world. It's very strange, but since Malki's death I feel that I have come to know her better. From reading everything that her parents and friends have written and having written about her myself, I feel closer to her in a way that I didn't feel when she was alive.

This has really shattered my world of reality. Everything feels like it should be the opposite. An innocent 15-year-old girl is gone forever and my world has turned upside down. Nothing makes sense anymore. All I know is that the time to take action is now.

Malki's yahrzeit, Aug. 9, was the day I returned from my summer program in Hungary. The night before we left, a friend and I held a memorial service in memory of Malki and her friend Michal (who was also killed in the Sbarro bombing). It's really unbelievable how fast a year goes by. When it first happened I spent a long time trying to understand why.

Now, when an entire year has passed, the finality begins to sink in and I realize that there is no answer to why, and even if there were, it wouldn't make the pain go away.

TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN

OUTREACH HAVDALAH

Saturday, December 14, 7:00-9:00 p.m. RSVP to the Temple office: 274-4679

Join Temple Outreach for a calm December evening in front of the fireplace, including a short Havdalah service, refreshments and conversation on surviving the holiday season as part of the outreach family.



Wendy Beckerman, the Temple's B'nai Mitzvah coordinator, tutors a student in



preparation for his Bar Mitzvah.

During the Temple's Simchat Torah celebration, congregants circled the social



hall with the Torah.

A klezmer band added to the Temple's celebration of Simchat Torah.

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Temple B'nai Jeshurun Family Shabbat and Potluck Dinner Friday, December 6, at 7:30 pm.

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Hanukkah at the Temple

Friday, November 29, at 6:00 pm Erev Shabbat / Erev Hanukkah service Welcome Shabbat and Hanukkah with special music by Kol B'yachad

Friday, December 6, at 6:00 pm Family Shabbat service, potluck dinner and Jewish Family Education program.

Celebrate the last night of Hanukkah together with music and activities following dinner!

COMMUNITY KOLLEL OF DES MOINES

On October 16, 2002 the Child Abuse Prevention Council held a conference at the Botanical Center entitled "Working with a Diverse Religious Community". Representatives from all faiths participated on a panel presentation discussing child abuse, divorce, grief and domestic violence issues. Representing the Jewish community was Rabbi Berel Simpser of The Community Kollel.

Ahuva Gray, a former minister, was in town lecturing about her life's journey and subsequent conversion to Judaism. She spoke to a large crowd at The Caspe Terrace last month, sponsored by The Community Kollel.

AMES JEWISH CONGREGATION.

Gift Shop Hours:

Chanukah shopping hours will be Sunday, November 17th and 24th from 10:00 am until 12:15 p.m. Come check out our new selection of gift-wrap and cards along with our usual stock of candles, menorahs, gelt and dreidels.

Chanukah Party

The annual AJC Chanukah party will be Friday, Dec 6th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Latkes and kosher deli meat of turkey and corned beef will be served. Every family will bring a menorah for community candle lighting before dinner. Following dinner

will be songs and good times had by all.

TIFERETH ISRAEL

Chanukkah begins Friday evening November 29

Tifereth Israel Synagogue Gift Shop Hours: Wednesdays 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Sundays 9:30 a.m.- noon Or call Andi Duitch at 225-8453 for an appointment.

COMMUNITY HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

at Tifereth Israel Synagogue

Wednesday, December 4, 5:30 - 8:00 pm

- Chicken & Latke Dinner \$12.50 adults, \$7.50 Children under 12, under 3 free.
- Candlelighting
- Youth Choir Sing-along
- Boutique Hanukkah Shopping
- Carnival Games & Prizes,
 \$3.00 per child
- Face-painting
- Crafts

Sponsored by: Tifereth Israel Synagogue, Community Kollel, Tifereth Israel, Women's League, Beth El Jacob Synagogue, Jewish Federation Community School,

Call 279-7060 for more information.

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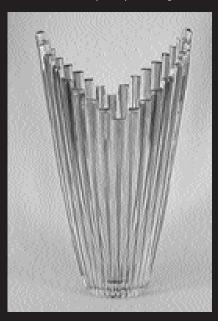
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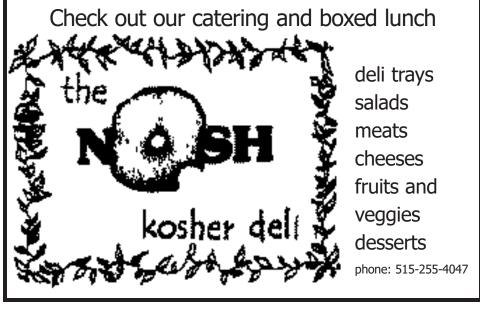
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and the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines

Erev Shabbat, December 13

TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE –
7 P.M. SHABBAT DINNER FOLLOWED BY A
GROUP DISCUSSION

Shabbat December 14th

TEMPLE BNAI JESHURUN 11:15 A.M. SHABBAT LUNCH

JUDAIC RESOURCE CENTER
4:15 P.M. THIRD SHABBAT MEAL

BETH EL JACOB SYNAGOGUE AFTER SHABBAT -- 7:30 P.M. -MELAVE MALKA & KUMZITS - MUSIC AND SPIRITED SINGING AND DINNER

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Pamensky Live, known as the Jewish version of "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus", is hosted by leading relationship

Born in South Africa and raised in Toronto, Aryeh Pamensky is on a mission to eradicate divorce. He has been teaching personal development programs and doing marriage counseling for nine years. Within 13 months of developing his relationship presentation, Pamensky's remarkable insights and simple methods have received praise from Jewish singles and couples of all ages and lifestyles.

Pamensky Live! SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 7:00 P.M., AT DRAKE UNIVERSITY OLMSTED CENTER

This event is a humorous presentation on relationships, not a comedy show.

For free tickets, please call 1-866-Pamensky.

expert Aryeh Pamensky.

Join the Des Moines Solidarity Mission to Israel

January 12- 17 or 19, 2003

Rabbi Baruch HaLevi, Rabbi Ari Sytner, along with Cantorial Soloist Laura Berkson and Rabbi Berel Simpser will participate in the Solidarity Mission in Jerusalem + Shabbat extension in the Western Galilee and Zefat.

Solidarity Mission highlights

- Briefings by leaders in politics, religion and the military
- Up-to-date analyses of the current situation and its effect on all aspects of Israeli society
- Visit with Partnership 2000 (P2K) community
- Israel Emergency Campaign Program Venues
- From Tourist to Activist: Ambassadors for Israel Program

Depart Jerusalem Wednesday, January 15 and travel to our Partnership 2000 Region, the Western Galilee. On Friday, January 17, we will make our way to the spiritual city of Zefat for Shabbat.

January 12-17, 2003 Solidarity Mission

Cost: \$1,620 /double occupancy (single supplement, \$207). Includes tips. Price does not include domestic airfare.

January 12 - 19 Solidarity + Shabbat extension

Cost: \$1,800 /double occupancy (single supplement, \$350). Includes tips. Price does not include domestic airfare.

Large subsidies available through the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines for qualified applicants.

Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center

The Blizzard Brigade

- Do you have a heart to help the Residents of the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center?
- In a crisis situation, are you available, on short or no notice, to come to the aide of the Life Center?
- Do you have access to a 4-wheel drive vehicle?
- •.Are you willing to schlep around the city, even in the most foul of Winter weather, picking up Life Center staff members who would otherwise be unable to get to work or returning said staff members to their homes?

If your answer to all of the above is an unequivocal YES, then WELCOME TO THE BLIZZARD BRIGADE

We are asking that individuals interested in volunteering to provide emergency transportation to meet the needs of Senior Life Center Residents, please call or come by and get on the Emergency Call List.

In the event that a Winter storm/blizzard makes staffing the nursing units of the Life Center all but impossible, we will turn to the Emergency Call List and ask those volunteers to come to our aide.

PLEASE REMEMBER this is a serious commitment. When the snow & ice "hit the fan" we may need your help immediately. If there is a chance you will not be able to honor your commitment, when needed, it would be preferred that you not join the Brigade in the first place.

If you're still interested in being part of a team whose existence may be vital to the welfare of Senior Life Center Residents, please call today (255-5433) and ask to speak to the Blizzard Brigade Coordinator (Stephen Blend).

We are counting on YOU!



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Discover the Difference

Meet our Chef du Jour **Susan Madorsky**



The recipe in this issue has been contributed by Susan Madorsky, our Chef du Jour.

The lure of tall corn in the fields of Iowa brought Susan and her husband, Ed Bruggemann to Des Moines in August of 1998.

Susan was born in Cleveland, Ohio as the next to the youngest of six children and the only daughter. She attended Reed College in Portland, Oregon, but left school to pursue her love - baking!

In Portland Susan first worked in a restaurant that specialized in desserts then later moved to Berkeley, California where she worked for two years as an apprentice baker at the Stanford Court Hotel in San Francisco. The Stanford Court at that time catered to high-end wine groups and convention groups looking for fine food. At the Stanford Court Susan learned the art of baking everything from scratch; the restaurant made all their own breads including croissants, pastries and desserts.

After two years at the Stanford Court, Susan journeyed to Washington, D. C. to continue her college studies, graduating from the University of Maryland. In 1988 Susan and Ed Bruggemann were married, an occasion for which she baked their wedding cake!

Ed was doing post-doctorate work at The National Institutes of Health Washington D. C. area and Susan was assistant pastry chef at the Willard Hotel Washington. Later she became the pastry chef at the Chevy Chase Club; a position she held for six years.

Susan and Ed have two children both born in Washington, D. C. Their son, Jake, is 11 years old and their daughter, Dorrie 9 years both attend Western Hills Elementary School. The family moved to Des Moines in 1998, when Ed, a scientist, took a position at Pioneer Hi-Bred International.

Susan and Ed can often be seen at the Symphony, at the Art Center series or at Drake for concerts. Susan, in addition to her love for the arts and baking, is high on gardening.

They are members of Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Susan serves on the Temple Board, the Board of the Sisterhood, and the Board of the Jewish Community

School.

Susan's expertise as a pastry chef was learned from the individuals she worked for over the years, but her prowess as a baker is apparent from the beautiful and tasty morsels she makes in Des

Susan's recipe for banana bread is tried and tested and she claims it should be a cinch for any baker. On the premise that it is never wise to waste any food items, Susan's recipe calls for the bananas to be in their worst possible state

Delicious Banana Bread!

A recipe from Susan Madorsky

2 really ripe bananas (Black ones are fine!)

1 1/2 cups sugar

2 eggs

1/2 cup vegetable oil

1/4 cup buttermilk or plain yogurt

1 tsp vanilla

1 tsp baking soda

1/2 tsp salt

1 ³/₄ cups all purpose flour

1 cup chopped nuts (optional)

1 cup chocolate chips (optional)

Mash the bananas very well removing all lumps. Add sugar and mix well.

Add the eggs and blend well.

Add the vegetable oil and buttermilk or yogurt and blend well. You can use a mixer or do by hand.

Add vanilla, baking soda and salt.

Mix thoroughly. Add flour and stir until completely blended. Add nuts or chips if desired.

Bake in a greased (line the bottom of the pan with parchment paper) 9"x 5" pan at 350 degrees until done - about 40 mins. Check to see if it is done with a toothpick. You can also bake in muffin pans or a smaller loaf pan.







Decorations for any simcha, wedding bar/bat mitzvah or s'eudot mitzvah.

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[community calender]

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	12/1/2002		NO SCHOOL -Thanksgiving
Sunday	12/1/2002	5:30 PM	Women's League Hanukkah Dinner at Tifereth
Tuesday	12/3/2002	5:00 PM	IJSLC Executive Committee
Wednesday	12/4/2002	5:30 PM	Community Hanukkah Celebration at Tifereth
Thursday	12/5/2002	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	12/6/2002	NOON	DMJA Hanukkah Program at Tifereth
Friday	12/6/2002	6:00 PM	Family Shabbat, Potluck and Magic Show at the Temple
Friday	12/6/2002	6:00 PM	Ruach Shabbat and Potluck at Tifereth
Sunday	12/8/2002	6:00 PM	Kollel Women's event at Tifereth in the Yourh Lounge
Tuesday	12/10/2002	5:30 PM	Temple Board of Trustees
Wednesday	12/11/2002	7:00 PM	Mateh Asher Ensembles, Concert by Israeli students
Thursday	12/12/2002	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	12/13/2002	6:00 PM	Shabbat Across Des Moines, starting at Tifereth
Saturay	12/14/2002	6:00 PM	Shabbat Across Des Moines, at Temple, JRC & Beth El
Sunday	12/15/2002	10:00 AM	Tifereth Investment Club
Sunday	12/15/2002	7:00 PM	Kollel Discovery Program "Pamensky Live!"/Drake Olmsted
Monday	12/16/2002	6:00 PM	Federation Executive Committee
Tuesday	12/17/2002	5:30 PM	DMJA Board Meeting
Thursday	12/19/2002	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Thursday	12/19/2002	12 Noon	Senior Adult Luncheon; Speaker: Ayelet Kleinman
Sunday	12/22/2002		NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Sunday	12/22/2002	2:00 PM	Israeli Movie at The Caspe Terrace
Wednesday	12/25/2002		NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Sunday	12/29/2002		NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Wednesday	1/1/2003		NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Thursday	1/9/2003	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	1/10/2003	6:00 PM	Ruach Shabbat and Potluck at Tifereth
Sunday	1/12/2003		Solidarity Mission to Israel departs
Tuesday	1/14/2003	5:30 PM	Temple Board of Trustees
Thursday	1/16/2003	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Saturday	1/18/2003		TU B'SHVAT
Sunday	1/19/2003		J FCS Tu B'Shvat Program
Sunday	1/19/2003	10:00 AM	Tifereth Investment Club
Monday	1/20/2003	6:00 PM	Federation Executive Committee
Monday	1/20/2003	7:00 PM	Federation Board of Directors
Tuesday	1/21/2003	5:30 PM	DMJA Board Meeting
Thursday	1/23/2003	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Tuesday	1/28/2003	5:00 PM	IJSLC Board of Directors
Tuesday	1/28/2003	7:00 PM	Tifereth Board Meeting
Wednesday	1/29/2003	7:00 PM	Temple Sisterhood Recipe Swap
Thursday	1/30/2003	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Saturday	2/1/2003	7:30 PM	Israeli Movie at The Caspe Terrace
Sunday	2/2/2003	2:00 PM	Israeli Movie at The Caspe Terrace
Thursday	2/6/2003	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Sunday	2/9/2003		NO SCHOOL - Family Education Day
Tuesday	2/11/2003	5:30 PM	Temple Board of Trustees
Thursday	2/13/2003	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	2/14/2003	6:00 PM	Ruach Shabbat and Potluck at Tifereth
Saturday	2/15/2003	10:00 AM	Aaron Eckhouse Bar Mitzvah at the Temple
Saturday	2/15/2003		Private Party at The Caspe Terrace
Sunday	2/16/2003	10:00 AM	Tifereth Investment Club
Monday	2/17/2003	6:00 PM	Federation Executive Committee
Thursday	2/20/2003	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Tuesday	2/25/2003	5:00 PM	IJSLC Executive Committee
Tuesday	2/25/2003	7:00 PM	Tifereth Board Meeting
Thursday	2/27/2003	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth

Mazel Tov

Tifereth Israel Synagogue is happy to pass along the news that Dr. Michael Mintzer and Alla Zaprudsky Mintzer are the proud parents of a baby girl, Clara Bluma Mintzer, born Sunday, October 27 at 5:44 am, weighing 7 pounds 12 ounces and 20 1/4" long. Mazel Tov to Michael and Alla!

Charles Anolik, owner of Salon Charles, was honored recently in New York City by Internationale Coiffeure deDames, Intercoiffure America and Canada, with a Lifetime Achievement Award at a dinner in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

A FEDERATION'S DONATED AMBULANCE FIRST TO ARRIVE AT TERROR SCENE

A new ambulance that was recently donated by the Jewish Federation of Pinellas County, Florida to the Menashe Regional Council (intheir Partnership 2000 district) was the first emergency vehicle to arrive at the scene of the attack at the Karkur Junction (in October) to help rescue victims. Fourteen people were killed and 50 were wounded in the attack

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Jean Aronow Ruth Kaminsky William Moskowitz

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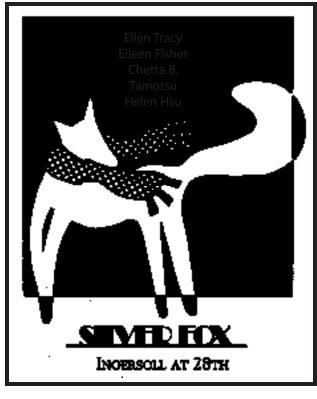
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operation good mensch







Thanks to the following families and individuals who volunteered their time and talents during Operation Good Mensch on October 20, 2002:

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Judy and Larry Deutch

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Thank You

for your contribution toward the purchase of an ambulance for the Western Galilee Hospital in our Partnership 2000 region and/or your gift to the UJC Israel Emergency Fund.

In Israel, the children aren't safe on the street, or on the bus, in a disco, a pizza parlor or in a shopping mall.

But we're able to keep many children safe, because of you.

Because of you 250 Israeli elementary schools can accommodate more children in their after-school programs ... at-risk and disadvantaged children can go to special after-school programs specifically designed to meet their needs in this difficult time ... and another 16,000 Israeli latch-key children who, without your gift, could only go home to wait for their parents – are taking part in after-school activity programs in their local community centers.

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