



THE GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish Press

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

volume 19 number 4

Happy Purim 5763 - Evening of March 19!

Connect with the Campaign!

The Federation's leadership, President Don Schoen, the Board of Directors, and Chairs of Committees all have been working hard on behalf of our unified annual fundraising effort, the All-In-One. Proceeds from the All-In-One support the range of services and programs that community members have designated as absolutely essential.

"In the Jewish tradition it is both a mitzvah to give tzedakah as well as to enable others to give tzedakah," said Don. "For those who have not yet made their gift to the All-In-One, I urge you to consider the importance of your gift to the community and to take the initiative, if necessary, to contact any of our Board members, including myself, or call us at 277-6321, with your pledge."

"To those who have worked diligently on the Campaign to date," he continued, "I, the Executive Board, and your friends and colleagues at the Federation offer our sincere and abiding thanks."

Without your support, the All-In-One fundraising drive cannot be considered fully successful! Please contribute generously today! Your community depends on you.

connect

Through the Jewish Federation

Message from Federation President Don Schoen On the Road Again!

*"Country road...take me home
to the place I belong..."*



The lyrics are John Denver's. And he could very well have been singing about us!

The road that takes us home, to the place we belong, was built bit-by-bit by members of the Jewish community working together. It is a road that, like the Jewish Federation, connects us to where we as a community want to go.

In fact, people in our community just like yourself have drawn the map! Through their participation in the life of our Jewish Federation, people like yourself have told us they need the Federation to provide the essential Jewish services that none of us alone can do for one another. That is why your Federation connects with Jewish education, community, and senior care.

In each of these vital areas - education, community, and senior care - your Federation provides services and programs that help people; meet important needs, bring people closer together, and ensure our viability as a Jewish community. You can get a glimpse of what we accomplish together by reading the Jewish Press on a regular basis. But better yet, why not come to a number of

community events and see how you personally can get involved in any one of the marvelous projects we run, with help from community members.

And for a broad overview of what services are currently available, you might like to read the thumbnail sketches of Federation projects described in our publication called "Connect." If you've not received your copy of "Connect," please give us a call at 277-6321 and we'll be happy to send you a copy. I believe you will feel yourself buoyed and made proud by what we can and do accomplish together!

Coming back to our analogy, however, we all know that even the best of roads require maintenance. The fact is that we have only ourselves to support the essential services for our families and for others close to us. That is why your support for our Federation's All-In-One Campaign is crucial.

Only when you contribute your dollars to making something Jewish happen on the community level can we help people travel that road home to where we all belong. We need your help now. Because, if we don't care to connect to the Present...we probably don't have a Future.

We're 'On the Road Again' with the All-In-One Campaign for the sake of our community. You keep things rolling when you connect with the All-In-One!

Argentinean Immigration to Des Moines Envisioned



Javier Neiman from HIAS (left) with Alan Zuckert

Inspired by the prophetic voice of Jewish tradition, the Federation will endeavor to resettle Jewish families from economically ravaged Argentina. The initiative, called Project Elijah, is being enabled by a generous grant from Des Moines entrepreneur and Tifereth Israel congregants Janice and Alan Zuckert and family.

In January a top official from the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), Javier Neiman, came to speak with individuals involved with the project. The meeting brought Neiman together with Zuckert, the project's benefactor, former Argentineans Sylvia Klein, Peter and Betty Mond, Federation officials, Don Schoen, Elaine Steinger, Mark Finkelstein and other individuals interested in helping, including Rabbi Baruch HaLevi, Rabbi Benyamin Wolf, Alan Pearlman, Herb and Kathy Eckhouse, Jake Jacobs and Michele Soria.

Javier Neiman, himself a recent immigrant from Argentina, serves as Program Coordinator of HIAS' Latin American Visa Program. HIAS has been in the business of facilitating immigration for over 120 years.

*continued on page 8
related article on page 20*

Dinner & Movie Night at The Caspe Terrace March 2

SPONSORED BY BETH EL JACOB SYNAGOGUE

Beth El Jacob Synagogue, NCSY and the Des Moines Jewish Academy invite you to bring your family and join them at Caspe Terrace on Sunday, March 2, at 4:00 pm for Pizza, Ice Cream Sundaes and a Movie.

We will be viewing Stephen Spielberg's **"An American Tail,"** the animated story of the Mousekewitz family as they emigrate to America. The cost is \$20.00/family. RSVP to Beth El Jacob, 274-1551.

[inside]

- 2 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS
- 9 SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION: "HOW TO TALK TO YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT ISRAEL"
- 16 ISRAELI FILMS, APRIL 5 AND 6
- 20 THE NEW JEWISH POOR

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

103614

Jewish Community School
924 Polk Boulevard
Des Moines, IA 50312

YOUR CONNECTION WITH REAL PEOPLE

real people, true stories



MEET HELEN. She is 90 years of age. Helen lives here in Des Moines in a room in a senior citizen's apartment house. Her room contains the mementos of her life. Once athletic, Helen loves to show visitors the hat she used to wear when riding horses in Montana. She loves music and used to like reading, until her eyesight deteriorated. She is nearly blind now.

Helen depends on the Jewish Federation for help.

She needs transportation to doctors' appointments. She needs someone to shop for her groceries, since they only prepare one meal a day for her at her residence.

Funding from the All-In-One enables our community to help Helen and others like her.

Our Senior Program staff member Kady makes the rounds and helps people like Helen. Periodically delivering meals to the elderly, providing them with transportation, shopping for them, and just checking on how they are doing are mitzvot of lovingkindness.

Your Federation performs mitzvot on your behalf.

Your contributions make it possible to assist elderly Jews like Helen who are all alone. We can't do it without you.

Support the All-In-One Campaign.

Jewish Family Services Update

In the past three months, your tzedakah dollars have gone to assist many people locally with varying difficulties. In part, these have included:

- rent assistance
- energy and utility assistance
- funeral expenses
- clothing for children

Among those assisted have been homeless individuals and others whose financial situation had reached a critical stage. In addition, our counseling and referral services have been utilized by those seeking assistance in a foster care situation, and helping to find lawyers, locally and out of state, for custody disputes and alimony hearings.

At this time, the Jewish Family Services would like to thank those community members who have supported our work through their **UNITED WAY** Donor Choice Designations. Over \$16,500 came to us through your United Way 2001 donations.

If anyone would like to know more about this designated giving option, please call JFS at 277-6321.

Senior Adult News

FRIDAY LIBRARY GROUP

will be meeting to socialize and browse for books, videos etc.

Friday, March 7, 2003

Friday, April 4, 2003

If you need a ride, give Kady a call at 277-6321 and we will pick you up.

GROCERY SHOPPING

Anyone needing to go grocery shopping or needing groceries picked up for them, please call Kady. This will be done on Friday mornings.

Call Kady at 277-6321 or leave a message, ext. 224.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Central Senior Center at 4th and MLK Drive will be offering beginning computer classes again the last full week in February or the first full week in March. Classroom size is limited and there is no charge for this course. Give Sam a call at 286-3677.

Looking Ahead

BIG BAND CRUISE

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Cruise the Upper Mississippi while enjoying the great Big Band Sounds. Homemade sticky rolls & fruit, full lunch buffet and an afternoon snack. Cost for Cruise package \$39.95 plus our bus fee.

Board at 10:30 am – Cruise leaves 11:00 am – Return 3:00pm (We will probably need to leave Des Moines at 7:30 am)

Reservations need to be made early as this one sells out very fast! Please call Dorothea at 277-6321 if you are interested.

Thank You to those who Connect through the Federation

At the conclusion of the 2003 Campaign, the Federation will honor donors in 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 |

Super Bowl Party AT THE CASPE TERRACE



Thank you to all who shared this fun-filled evening with us, including Bob and Debbie Gitchee, pictured with Omaha Federation director Jan Goldstein; Tim and Julie Howald with sons Michael and Max; Bob and Linda Carpenter; and Aaron Rosenberg, flanked by Jared and Joey Farber.



2nd Second Women's Seder

Started in the 1970's, Women's Seders emphasize women's roles in the story of Exodus and in Jewish history. Women who are not mentioned in traditional haggadot, like Miriam, Moses' sister; Yocheved, Moses and Miriam's mother; and Shifra and Puah, the midwives who disobeyed Pharaoh's orders to kill all the newborn Jewish sons, are especially remembered.

The Bible describes how at the Sea of Reeds "Miriam the prophetess...took a timbrel (tambourine) in her hand, and all the women went out after her in dance..."

This is a night to join together in sisterhood, to share our own stories, to sing, dance and hear our mothers' voices who have been absent from history.

Join us for the Jewish Federation's Second Women's Seder on Tuesday, April 1, at 5:30 pm at the Des Moines Marriott.

The Lions of Judah and Pomegranates will present

The Second Women's Seder

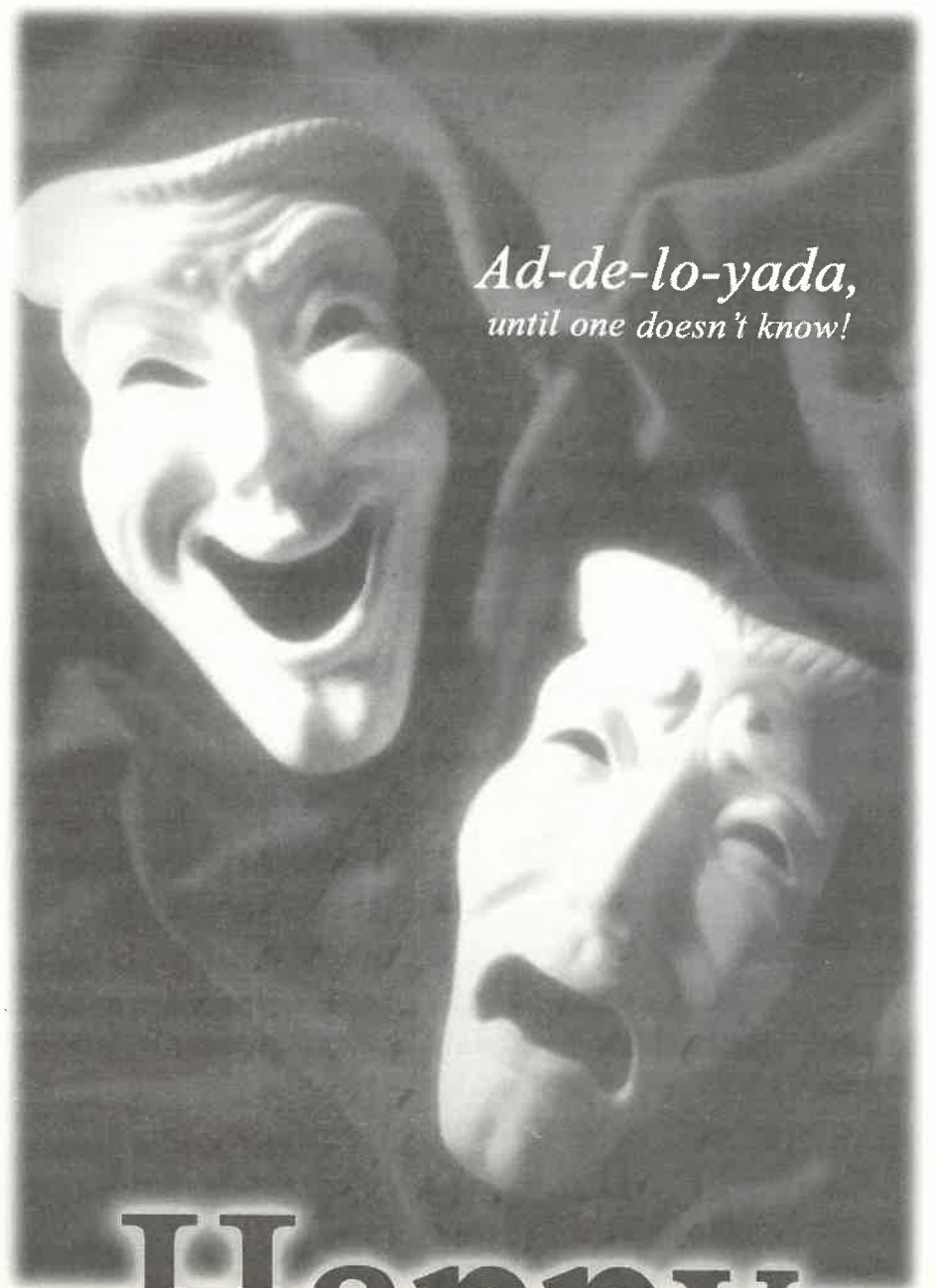
LED BY LAURA BERKSON, CANTORIAL SOLIST

April 1, 2003

MARCH 2 OR MARCH 9

Days reserved to make your own Miriam's Cupat 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!



*Ad-de-lo-yada,
until one doesn't know!*

Happy PURIM

"The Feast of Lots"

During this celebration of the miracle,

may you enjoy all the delights

of the season.

From all of us at Bankers Trust.

Bankers Trust

Member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

www.bankerstrust.com

Shabbat Across Des Moines

Dear Community Members:

We are sure that you all have heard about or participated in the monumental program that took place this past month of which the Des Moines Jewish community can be proud. All the local Jewish congregations, along with the Greater Des Moines Federation, co-sponsored a unique Shabbaton – weekend of inspiration and learning December 13th–14th. Thank you to the Community Kollel for organizing the program. Also, thank you to the host congregations – Tifereth Israel Synagogue for hosting Friday evening Shabbat dinner, Temple B'nai Jeshurun for Shabbat lunch, the Judaic Resource Center for the third Shabbat meal, and Beth El Jacob Synagogue for the concluding Saturday evening program of music and inspiration.

Despite our diversity, Jewish unity is alive and well in our city. It warms the heart to know that our local institutions are working together to bring vitality and meaning to

Judaism for all community members.

There are many other community wide programs that we are working on together. To that end, a marketing strategy for the Des Moines Jewish community has been implemented to help retain the human resources that are currently here, in addition to attract people from around the country to settle here, especially young college graduates.

We look forward to many such programs in the future and are committed to working hard at furthering these seeds of community building. We welcome any ideas and suggestions you may have, so please feel free to contact us.

Please join us in the effort to make our Des Moines Jewish community as great as we know it can be.

Cantor Laura Berkson, Rabbi Baruch HaLevi, Rabbi Berel Simpser, Elaine Steinger, Rabbi Ari Sytner

In Memoriam



Col. Ilan Ramon

"There is no better place to emphasize the unity of people in the world than flying in space. We are all the same people, we are all human beings, and I

believe that most of us, almost all of us, are good people."

Our condolences are extended to the families of all seven of the Columbia crew.

The Israel Defense Forces has created a special e-mail address where the public may express its condolences to the Ramon family and to the people of the State of Israel on the loss of Col. Ilan Ramon in the Columbia Space Shuttle tragedy. The e-mail address is: ilanfamily@mail.idf.il

All letters received by the IDF will be presented to the Ramon family.

[current issues]

Pro-Palestinian Bias in Reporting of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict by the Des Moines Register

By Pnina Luban

A detailed report (compiled by P.L.) substantiating the claim of pro-Palestinian bias was sent to the Des Moines Register in November 2002. This report was motivated by the fact that the Des Moines Register is a primary source of news for Iowans and because of many complaints about skewed reporting by the Register of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Unfortunately, the phenomenon of skewed reporting of this conflict is widespread in the media today, from the New York Times to the Washington Post to CNN and NPR. [A good source of information about bias in the media can be found in CAMERA (Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America; <http://www.camera.org>, e-mail: web@camera.org). An accurate up-to-the-minute source of daily news of the conflict can be found at <http://www.jpost.com>, which is the online service of the Jerusalem Post.

The results of this Report as well as an earlier report in 2001 prove beyond doubt that the Register's news reports are biased in favor of the Palestinians and against Israel, and suggest an underlying agenda to portray Israel as the aggressor who is the culprit in the conflict. At the same time the Register appears to make every effort to downplay Palestinian suicide bombings, shootings, and other terrorist activities that have resulted in the loss of over 700 Israeli lives and thousands of maimed and injured during the past two years.

In response to the Report the Register's editorial staff rejected the claims of an overall problem or underlying agenda, while admitting that many individual reports and headlines were indeed "not good" in terms of their balance. The Register also admitted mistakes, inaccuracies, distortions and overall pro-Palestinian bias in a 4-part series on the conflict published in July 2001. CAMERA provided a detailed list of corrections to that series in an article published in the Register shortly thereafter. Newspapers rarely admit shortcomings in their reporting, let alone admit to the distortion of news motivated by a political agenda. (An interesting exception is that of the New York Times, which admitted, albeit some 50 years after the fact, that its inadequate coverage of the Holocaust during World War II was intentional. Articles on concentration camps and evidence for the murder of millions of Jews and others were buried in small articles with benign headlines and without photos deep within the paper. It is generally accepted that this policy was formulated by the Jewish owners of the paper to avoid appearing unduly sensitive about Jewish issues.)

The following are several excerpts from the Report as well as additional information.

Analysis of ALL headlines (over 250) relating to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict which appeared in the Des Moines Register in the period January 1 - September 30, 2002 overwhelmingly proves what many people had noticed and commented on, namely, that this large pool of headlines was sharply biased in favor of the Palestinians and against Israel. Of the 116 headlines depicting Israeli actions, the great

majority (77%) explicitly included the word -Israel- in the headline, thus emphasizing Israeli initiatives. By contrast, of the much smaller number of headlines depicting Palestinian actions against Israelis (60), only a small minority (15%) explicitly identified the Palestinians as the aggressors thus masking and de-emphasizing the Palestinian identity of the suicide bombers and other types of terrorists. In many cases, major Palestinian terrorist attacks were not included in the headlines at all. Occasionally, they were mentioned in the small print of sub-headlines. This stark difference (77% vs. 15%) over a nine month period, cannot reasonably be attributed to coincidence.

These results are essentially identical to an earlier analysis of headlines and photos for the period May - October 2001. The earlier report also found, in addition to the imbalance of headlines, significant lopsidedness in the choice of photographs as judged by their content and size. During that period (May - Oct OE01) there appeared 10 large photographs of Palestinian children depicting their pain, misery, or mere curiosity in the face of violence. These particular photographs undoubtedly would give rise to deep feelings of sympathy toward the victims, and feelings of rage and disgust toward the perpetrators. On the other hand, during the same period, even though scores of Israeli children were killed, maimed, and injured in suicide bombings and shooting attacks, the Register published only 2 small photographs of Israeli children. While several huge photos of empty buildings bombed by Israel were published, (buildings used as munition manufacturing factories), large dramatic photographs portraying the carnage and horror suffered by Israelis as a result of Palestinian terrorist attacks rarely appeared.

The Register's readers have been flooded with headlines explicitly identifying Israeli aggression, but very few headlines explicitly identifying Palestinian aggression. As a result of this skewed reporting, an intelligent reader would have logically concluded that Israel practices unprovoked aggressive policies toward the Palestinians, and thus is the source of the conflict in the region, whereas the Palestinian people are merely the eternal victim. Had the Register practiced balance and fairness in the wording of its headlines, the selection of photographs, and the emphases in its news reports, a completely different point of view of the conflict would have emerged.

The damage done by the Register is two-fold:

1. It practices unprofessional journalism by failing to provide fair and even-handed headlines, photos, and reports to its readership.
2. It causes irreparable public opinion damage to Israel, at a time when Israel is struggling for its survival as an open, democratic society, and is the victim of an unprecedented wave of Palestinian terrorism. For tiny Israel, the death toll from Palestinian terrorist attacks over the past 2 years alone is proportionally equivalent to the death toll of 10 World Trade Centers.

To obtain a copy of the complete Report, e-mail a request to me at mluban2@mchsi.com.

Jewish Press

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines under the auspices of the Jewish Community Communications Pillar

Don Schoen,
President

Elaine Steinger,
Executive Director

Audrey Rosenberg,
Communications Pillar Chair

Advisory Committee

Heidi Moskowitz, Chair*

Michael Blank

Gil Cranberg*

Debbie Gitchell*

Harlan Hockenberg*

Dr. Yelena Malina

Robert E. Mannheimer

Audrey Rosenberg*

Mark S. Finkelstein*, Editor

Thomas Wolff, Art/Marketing Director

*Editorial Board

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

Phone: 515-277-6321

Fax: 515-277-4069

E-mail: jrcrDM@aol.com

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

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

Vol. 19 No. 4, March 2003

*Fruit Should Pray
For Welfare Of Leaves
- Yiddish Proverb*

[clarification] Mateh Asher Hosts

Omitted from our montage of 1 families were Bruria and Beni Kaufman pictured right, as well as Elaine Steinger and Jody Hramits and Mark Finkelstein. Thank you to all who hosted or helped in welcoming our guests from Partnership 2000 region.



Give Now, Distribute At Your Own Pace

By J. Patterson Cooper

The United States has proven time and again to be one of the most generous nations in the world. Currently, Americans give hundreds of billions of dollars each year to philanthropic causes, and contributions continue to increase. But with more than 750,000 nonprofit organizations in the U.S., picking the right charities and the amounts to give to each can be a daunting task. Donor advised funds may be just the right philanthropic tool for those interested in earmarking a specific amount of assets for charity, but want to be more organized or strategic about their giving or simply need more time to decide how to divvy it all up.

Individuals or families with considerable wealth have traditionally established private foundations to organize and administer philanthropic endeavors. Private foundations are often formed because they can be tailored to meet the particular needs and long-term philanthropic goals of individuals and families. In addition to providing flexibility, private foundations also offer other attractive benefits, including tax incentives and the ability to maintain outright control over the management and distribution of charitable assets. There are, however, administrative duties associated with establishing a private foundation, so it does require a long-term commitment. For some, the administrative responsibilities inherent in a private foundation may be a deterrent to establishing one, and in these cases, a donor advised fund may be a viable alternative.

Donor advised funds (also known as philanthropic funds) are considered public charities and enable donors to make irrevocable charitable contributions to a central investment fund or funds and remove the contribution from their estate. While donors qualify for a one-time current tax deduction for their entire contribution within IRS limits, the actual distribution of the assets can continue for many years. Technically, donors do not retain control over the distribution of assets, but instead, are permitted to advise or make grant recommendations to the Fund Trustees. Most donor advised funds honor distribution requests to any 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The Trustees, however, will not accept recommendations for activities such as using contributions to fulfill pledges, private benefits and auctions and political causes.

While the primary reason to participate in a donor advised fund should be philanthropically motivated, there are

also several tax advantages that are appealing. For example, if an individual plans to give \$50,000 every year to his alma mater, he can accelerate a charitable deduction by contributing an amount, say \$500,000, to a donor advised fund. This individual can receive a current tax deduction for the full amount within IRS limits, and can also distribute the \$50,000 each year to his school.

Another attractive benefit is the ability to contribute appreciated securities into a donor advised fund. The individual can receive a charitable deduction for the fair market value of the securities and avoid paying a capital gains tax. Again, there are IRS limitations and donors should discuss their particular circumstances with their tax advisors. In addition to the tax benefits, contributions have the benefit of being managed by professional money managers.

Many investment companies, starting in the late 1990s, launched donor advised funds. But the concept is not really new. Community chest funds or community foundations have long provided philanthropists with a place to make "one-stop" charitable gifts, but the beneficiaries of these gifts are typically limited to the confines of the locale in which the chest or foundation serves. Like their predecessor, donor advised funds serve as a central depository for a gift. Unlike many community foundations, however, donor advised funds do not have community-only restrictions and thus reach a much broader array of philanthropic initiatives. Although each donor advised program has its own provisions and restrictions, most share the following attributes:

- The ability to make irrevocable contributions in cash, securities, mutual funds and often private placements and a variety of other less-liquid assets;
- The ability to private label or name the

- account as one likes, such as the Jane and John Doe Family Foundation;
- Tax deductions occur immediately when the contribution is made, not when the assets are distributed to the charities;
- Distributions to most 501(c)(3) organizations are acceptable although they are subject to the approval of the donor advised fund trustees;
- Several investment options may be offered, ranging from conservative to aggressive.

There are, however, a number of fund-specific details that can vary, including minimum initial and subsequent donation levels; frequency and number of recommendations that can be made each year; grant recommendation procedures and a variety of other specifications that need to be assessed on a fund-by-fund basis. "It's very important to hone in on each fund's nuances and find a fund that meets your needs. Remember that contri-

butions are irrevocable so you can't change your mind and get your money back," cautions Michael J. A. Smith, managing director of Deutsche Bank Private Wealth Management's Wealth with Responsibility effort. "Participating in a donor advised fund is not exactly like having your own private foundation, but it may be a good philanthropic alternative for those who desire fewer administrative duties. And the tax benefits are very attractive too. Overall, it can be a very intelligent way to give," concludes Smith.

This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended as legal or tax advice. These solutions may not fit your individual situation, so consult your tax and investment advisor and legal counsel before taking any action.

For more information on the Donor Advised Funds at the DMJF call Elaine Steinger at Des Moines Jewish Foundation 277-6321.

| | Donor Advised Fund | Private Foundation |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Administrative Responsibilities | Recommend grants to donor advised fund | Manage assets, keep records, select charities, administer grants |
| Expenses | No start-up costs Annual expenses | Start-up costs Annual expenses |
| Distribution Requirement | None | 5% annual distribution requirement |
| Income Tax Deductions | | |
| For cash gifts | Up to 50% of adjusted gross income | Up to 30% of adjusted gross income |
| For appreciated assets | Up to 30% of adjusted gross income | Up to 20% of adjusted gross income |
| For restricted stock and real estate | Up to 30% fair market value or appraised value | Up to 20% fair market value or appraised value |
| Excise Taxes | None | Up to 2% on net investment income |
| Tax Reporting | None | Annual state and federal returns |
| Privacy | Named, or can be Anonymous if desired | Grants are part of public record Tax return (Form 990PF) is public record |
| Regulation | Self dealing restrictions do not apply | Self dealing restrictions regulated |

SUPPORT THE ISRAELI EMERGENCY FUND

with a tax deductible contribution. No administrative fees are subtracted from your contribution. Over the last two years, Israel has experienced countless horrific terrorist acts that have killed more than 700 Israelis and injured more than 5,000 individuals. In response to this difficult security crisis, the Jewish Federation is accepting emergency contributions. The funds are presently being used by the United Jewish Communities to protect Israeli school children at and on their way to and from school.

Israeli Emergency Fund

Yes. I will do my part in helping to protect Israel's most vulnerable populations. Here is my check, in the amount of \$ _____ to the Israeli Emergency Fund.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Send your checks payable to Jewish Federation earmarked "Emergency" to: Jewish Federation, 910 Polk Blvd, Des Moines, IA 50312

Jewish Federation Community School

WHAT A SEMESTER!

Even though our school year started a little late because of the High Holidays, we were off and running. We have already accomplished so much this year and we are only part way through. The following is a quick summary of what our students are learning about being Jewish:

Pre-K -

- Students have experienced a taste of our major Jewish holidays by hearing stories, making crafts, seeing and touching symbols and eating specific foods.
- In October, Steve Altman shared the sounds and notes of the Shofar (thanks Steve).
- Our preschoolers also experienced the sounds and sights of Hebrew by hearing words, seeing letters and tasting foods that start with specific Hebrew letters.

Kindergarten -

- Our students have been hearing stories and making crafts related to our recent major holidays.
- They also learned the sounds and sights of Hebrew. At the end of Kindergarten, students will have a notebook that they have created of the Hebrew Alef-Bet.
- During the year, students hear and learn about different bible stories. Students draw and color pictures of these stories to be used in second grade to make their own Torah.

First Grade -

- Students continue to learn about our Jewish holidays and the sounds and sights of Hebrew. This year, students practice putting Hebrew letters and sounds together.
- Bible stories are continued to be passed on to second grade for their Torah.
- Prayers that students have been learning are: Shema, Bar'chu, Sheheyanu and Shabbat candle blessings.

Second Grade -

- The learning of Jewish holidays is continued on an age-appropriate level.
- For Hebrew, teaching is more intense about understanding the sounds of Hebrew letters and vowels. This prepares them for third grade when they will start learning prayerbook Hebrew and learn to read prayers for their Bar/Bat Mitzvahs.
- Students finish learning about Bible stories and make their own Torah's from the bible stories they have learned since Kindergarten.

Third Grade -

- Students concentrate on Hebrew by working in their Hebrew Primer work-books and learning to read the Shema, Bar'chu, Sheheyanu, Michamocha, and V'ahavta. Students also learn key vocabulary words from these prayers and write Hebrew letters in block. Our students learn about the religious and/or historical significance of

Jewish holidays. They start using "A Child's Bible" which depicts major heroes and heroines of the Bible.

- During the year, students sequence and create a timeline from creation through Jacob's return home.

Fourth Grade -

- During this year, students concentrate on their Hebrew skills and work individually and in groups, reading prayers to each other. Students continue using "A Child's Bible" and "Welcome to Israel."
- For Israel, students have learned about Theodor Hertzl, Golda Meir, Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, Jerusalem, created a timeline and looked at national symbols.

Fifth Grade -


- Each year students spend more time learning to read Hebrew prayers and basic Hebrew words. When students cover a chapter in their Hebrew Through Prayer Book, they learn not only the prayer but a description of the prayer, vocabulary words related to the prayer, reading, and root words. Prayers learned in this class are: Avot, Gvurot, Kiddusha, Torah & Haftarah Blessings, and Oseh Shalom.
- Students also learn different life cycle events. So far this year, they have learned about: Brit Milah and Brit Bat, Bar/Bat Mitzvah's and Jewish Weddings through their "Journey of a Lifetime" booklet. Students had a "mock" bris and wedding under a chuppah.

Sixth Grade -

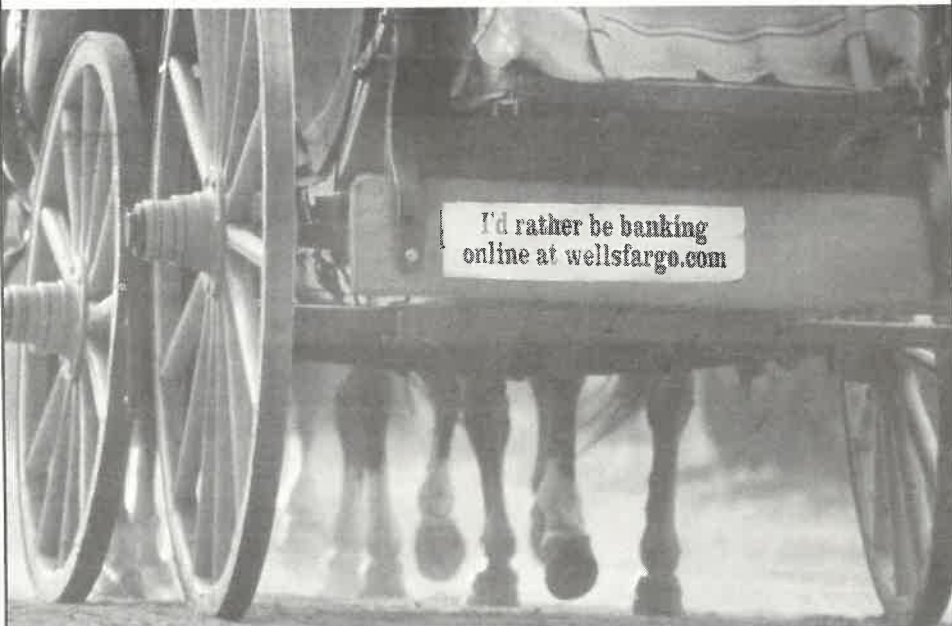
- Each class period starts with a "word of the day" and relates to what they are studying that day.
- During the year, students learn about the "Tanakh," its parts and how to use it. They also learn about each other's Bar/Bat Mitzvah parshas, review them as a class and create questions for that parsha. Parsha's reviewed: Bereshit, Noah, Naye Sarah, Emor, Terumah, and Shemini.

I would like to thank the Jewish community and those who support the All-In-One Campaign of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. Your pledge covers over 50% of our budget. Without your support, we would not be able to hire the certified teachers we have, order material that helps our teachers teach and students learn, and we would not be able to make learning fun for our students by offering extra special events. Your dollars are being used wisely towards the education of the next generation.

Lyanna Grund, JFCS Coordinator



The Next Stage®




Get free online banking at the leader in Internet banking when you sign up for Wells Fargo® Free Checking.

At wellsfargo.com, you'll get award-winning, secure access to your finances. So you can transfer funds, check balances, review mortgage activity and lots more. Anytime. And if you need someone to talk to, there's a live banker ready to help you over the phone. All day, all night. All week long.

Plus with more than 6400 ATMs nationwide, there's always one right on the way, wherever you're headed.

At Wells Fargo, we offer more routes to help you reach your next stage. Talk to a Wells Fargo banker today about free checking that offers you more convenient ways to access your money.



20 Des Moines area locations

© 2002 Wells Fargo Banks. Members FDIC.

Who is Arthur J. Gallagher?



Mike McCoy

Kent Rosenberg

We both are.

Grandy, Pratt, McCoy, Rosenberg & Associates is now Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Iowa. We're part of the world's leading risk management, insurance and employee benefit company, providing global resources with local expertise. Call (515) 457-8849, or visit www.ajg.com.



Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Iowa

Jewish Federation Community School JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL FACE LIFT

What a great beginning to the 5763 Jr/Sr High School year. The Jr/Sr High School Program is now under the administrative structure of the Jewish Federation Community School. It has been great re-acquainting myself with parents and students that are part of our family. I cannot believe how mature and grown up these young adults have become.

Parents, please consider yourselves partners in our effort to keep our standards high. Regular attendance, promptness, preparedness and participation are all cornerstones of a functioning school. On behalf of the teachers and myself, I assure you that we continually strive to do our best for the Jr/Sr High School family!

The first semester of our newly revised Jr/Sr High School program has passed by smoothly and we are now heading into our second semester with more than 65 - 7th through 12th graders registered. The following is a summary of what our students have been learning since September:

Conversational Hebrew - This was a new class being offered to all students grades 7th through 12th. Sixteen students enrolled. We now have two teachers working with two different groups depending on Hebrew speaking ability. The material being used consists of different pamphlets about events in Micah's, a young Israeli boy's, life (i.e. school, classroom, places, Shabbat, Kibbutz animals, allowance).

Ethics & Values - Main topics covered first semester were: Torah, Sukkot, Calendar, Welcoming the Stranger, Holocaust Program, Freedom, Chanukah and La Shon Horah.

Jewish History - This year our 7th grade class is using "History and You" to learn about our history. Students have learned about our Patriarchs and Matriarchs, a more detailed, age-appropriate review of our Exodus (slavery, Moses, giving of the Torah, the Promised Land), Kings David, Saul and Solomon, and the 10 lost tribes.

Holocaust - This year we added a class dedicated to learning about the Holocaust. This class is offered to our 8th graders. Students have learned about the rise of anti-Semitism, Hitler's rise to power, Kristallnacht, Nuremberg Laws and Kinder-Transport as well as viewing several videos such as "Into the Arms of Strangers" and "The Yellow Star."

Israel - This year we are fortunate to have Ayelet Kleinman teaching our 9th graders about Israel. Ayelet is from Israel and has been living here in Des Moines since September teaching in our school. Students have learned about the history of Israel up to 1948, Yitzhak Rabin, symbols of Israel and "Who is Ron Arad" - a forgotten hostage. Students also viewed "Israeli Teens Talk" a video where teens talk about their life in Israel.

Immigration - Our 10th graders began the semester reviewing what they knew about the Holocaust. They continued learning about immigration from 1654 to 1820 and from 1820 to 1880. Sally Frank was a guest speaker during the year and spoke to the class about immigration laws and quotas. Students also read letters from Jewish soldiers in the Civil war to their wives. They have also reviewed and discussed articles or cartoons about immigration.

Ethics & Values and Cooking Class - Our 11th & 12th graders have a somewhat different schedule. For Ethics and Values, students picked what subjects they wanted to discuss as a group. So far, class discussions have covered: body ethics - body piercing / tattoo's / drugs, intermarriage and their future. Cooking class has been an enjoyable time in the kitchen. Students eat what they make and take leftovers home. This semester we covered holiday foods for Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah and Shabbat.

We are very excited about how our year has gone and look forward to a great second semester.

Lyanna Grund, JFCS Coordinator

2002-2003 JFCS BOARD MEMBERS

Melanie Sandler, Chair
Judy Deutch, Education Pillar Chair
Polly Oxley, Federation President-Elect

John Mandelbaum, Past Chair
Don Schoen, Federation President

Mindy Bell
Dr. James Christiansen
Sharon Fuller
Heidi Moskowitz
Jill Sudak-Allison

Linda Bremen
Rebecca Alter
Susan Madorsky
Stuart Oxer

Rabbi Baruch HaLevi
Rabbi Ari Sytner

Laura Berkson
Rabbi Yossi Jacobson

Elaine Steinger, Federation Exec. Dir.
Lyanna Grund, JFCS Coordinator

Ann Abramson, Education Consultant

CAPTURE LASTING MEMORIES WITH A GIFT THAT LASTS FOREVER

- HONOR YOUR GRANDPARENTS
- WEDDING
- BIRTHDAY
- BIRTH
- BAR / BAT MITZVAH
- CELEBRATE YOUR CHILDREN
- REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES



"One person cannot plant a forest,
but a community can plant a forest one tree at a time."

PURCHASE A TREE CERTIFICATE
- A GIFT THAT LASTS FOREVER

Jewish Federation Community School - 924 Polk Boulevard - Des Moines, IA 50312
For \$36, a tree certificate will be mailed to the recipient. Your \$36 goes towards the purchase of trees, care, and maintenance.

College Scholarships Available through Jewish Community Services

Jewish Community Services [JCS] provides applications and information to high school students seeking college scholarships. Within the Des Moines community there are scholarships available with specific guidelines. Should you qualify for any of the scholarships listed below, you may request an application from JCS, 910 Polk Blvd., Des Moines, IA 50312, 515-277-6321.

The applications are due by **May 15, 2003**. All applications will be forwarded to scholarship committees that are independent of the Jewish Community Services pillar and the Jewish Federation.

Sidney Pruce Memorial Scholarships

- Jewish students who have completed high school in Polk County and plan to attend an institution of higher learning in Iowa

- Academic Achievement
- Leadership
- Interested in Jewish Affairs
- Financial need

Abe and Libby Pruce Memorial Scholarship

- Meritorious students of the Jewish faith in Iowa

- Must pursue course of education in field of Jewish interest
- May be used for institutions within the State of Iowa, the U.S. or abroad

Joyce Birnbach
REALTOR®

Whether you're buying, selling, or building,
it's important to have a real estate
professional working for you
who really understands your needs.

Residential
Vacation - Investment Properties
Iowa & Florida
Licensed Real Estate Sales Agent

515-249-0384
515-453-5184



Linor Vaknin's High School Experience in Israel

SPONSORED THROUGH FEDERATION'S ISRAEL ID PROGRAM



Linor (left) with friend 8-9

This summer I went to Israel on the Alexander Muss High School in Israel program. It was the most amazing time of my life. I learned 4,000 years of history in chronological order, I traveled through the most amazing places in Israel, and I shared it with great friends and the most amazing teachers I have ever had. We had a small group of twenty-one teenagers who were very individual but eager to learn about their Jewish heritage and the history of Israel. Coming from Ames, Iowa, being surrounded by others who share a Jewish background with me was a wonderful treat.

Though I left Israel months ago, Israel and all the experiences I had there haven't left me. Coming home from Israel was a hard transition. Nothing seemed good enough for me. In fact, my mom made a homecoming dinner for me and I told her it was not good. On the drive home from the airport I complained bitterly about the dull blue sky and the flat green corn rows. I got

numerous phone calls welcoming me home, including my grandma, who seemed relieved, and said, "I am so happy you're finally home." I blatantly responded by saying: "I'm not!"

I still find myself wishing I were back in Hod Ha Sharon. I miss my friends and my teachers and my small foam mattress and dusty floors, my cramped room, the treacherous heat, hard hikes, long hours of studying, inside jokes everyone knew because we were all friends, the Kineret, the beach, the twinkling stars, men wearing tzit-tzit and dark teenage girls wearing...not much. I miss feeling at home in a foreign country. Israel is the most amazing place in the world. Though we were Americans in their country we felt at home everywhere we went. Israelis thanked us for our bravery, and we realized, that as much as we loved being there, they loved the fact that we were there even more.

The AMHSI program is very different from many other programs. It is very intensive and revolves around education. Many teen tours travel the country from North to South for convenience. Our program travels from place to place as things happened in history. We learned everything from polytheism, to Abraham, to the Crusades, the Holocaust, Zionism, to the modern politics of Israel. I not only learned about my heritage and the history of the Jewish people, I also learned to love Israel. I have a fresh sense of nationalism to the country where my roots are.

My goal coming home is to encourage all people to travel to Israel and especially teach teenagers to value their Jewish identities. I left for Israel knowing that I was Jewish; I came back appreciating that I am Jewish. I am now more active than ever at my synagogue. I teach the Level One AJC Religious School class, and I am the President of the AJC Youth Group. With support from the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, from Ames Jewish Congregation and from AMHSI, as well as my parents, I was able to have the experience of a lifetime, one that I believe will continue to influence my future.

Linor Vaknin

Argentinean Immigration

continued from page 1

Their expertise will be needed overcome any prospective difficulties the process.

The task will be to match prospect immigrants with available jobs here central Iowa. Significant work has already been undertaken by HIAS, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and the United Jewish Communities in preparation for Argentinean immigration worldwide. Yet there is much to do to ensure that Argentinean families find their way to their new home and new Jewish community in Des Moines. We look forward to accomplishing this task together.



Betty and Peter Mond



Herb and Kathy Eckhouse

Large selection of kosher foods!

Here at Dahl's recognizing the needs of our customers is very important to us. Stop by any of our Dahl's locations and choose from our large variety of kosher foods.

- Pharmacy
- Delicatessen
- Cafeteria
- Bakery
- Photo Processing
- Video & DVD rental
- Dry Cleaning
- Much More



"The Markets Designed With You In Mind" Visit us online at www.dahlsfoods.com

If you often feel tired,
it could be anemia.

If you're Jewish,
it could be
Gaucher Disease.



You may never have heard of Gaucher Disease (pronounced "Go-Shay"). But it is the most common genetic disease affecting Jews of Eastern and Central European descent. In fact, approximately one out of every 14 carries the Gaucher gene - it is far more prevalent than Tay-Sachs.

Gaucher warning signs include:

- Fatigue
- Anemia
- Bone pain
- Easily fractured bones
- Bleeding problems and easy bruising
- Low platelet count
- Enlarged liver or spleen

Gaucher can affect anyone and is not age or gender specific. Fortunately, Gaucher can be detected early with a simple test. And treatment lets people with Gaucher live full, productive lives. Get the facts now.

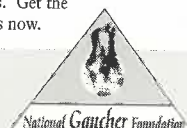
For additional information,
testing and treatment, call toll-free:

1-800-GAUCHER

© 2002, National Gaucher Foundation

A patient meeting will be held on October 5th, 2002 at the Hotel Savary, 401 Locust, Des Moines, (515) 244-2151. Please RSVP to Tanya Russel at (800) 326-7002, ext. 18603.

5410 Edson Lane
Suite 260
Rockville, MD 20852
www.gaucherdisease.org



How To Talk To Your Friends About Israel

(PART I)

Excerpted from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) document entitled "Advocacy for Israel: An Activists Guide," updated 2002. A hands-on guide for those who want to "do something" right now in their own communities for Israel, the text includes responses to common inaccuracies so you can set the record straight. The material is updated regularly on www.adl.org. For more help call the Jewish Community Relations Commission at 277-6321. Our website is www.dmjfed.org.

PALESTINIAN VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM

inaccuracy: The Palestinian use of terrorism is understandable since they have no other weapon to fight Israeli occupation.

response: The use of terrorism is never justified. Terrorism is the premeditated use of violence deliberately directed against random civilians, with the aim of killing as many as possible and sowing psychological fear and despair. There is no moral justification for terrorism.

There is no moral justification for terrorism.

Moreover, this current crisis arose just as Israel had made its most ambitious offer for a final status agreement with the Palestinians that would have created a Palestinian state in 95% of the West Bank and 100% of the Gaza Strip. Negotiations were bringing the Palestinian state closer to reality. The violence and terrorism does nothing to hasten the realization of Palestinian nationalist aspirations.

Indeed, terror tactics do nothing to promote the Palestinian cause. The randomness of terror attacks brings fear to everyday life for Israelis, who know that suicide bombs, car bombs, lynchings, knifings, and shootings can happen anywhere to anybody. Following such attacks, grief and fear are often joined by anger towards the terrorists and the people who condone, celebrate or incite terrorism. A terror attack merely forces Israelis to think that the Palestinian people do not seek reconciliation. Similarly, such acts of terrorism horrify the international community, provoking feelings of sympathy and compassion towards the Israeli victims.

While there is genuine frustration among Palestinians, bilateral Israeli-Palestinian negotiations offer the only way to achieve a more stable and secure future for all Israelis and Palestinians. However, the willingness of the Israeli public to accept substantial concessions depends on their belief that the Palestinians are truly interested in peace and reconciliation, and have rejected terrorism and violence.

inaccuracy: The Palestinian people are waging a war of independence against a colonial power.

response: In no way can Israel be considered a colonial or hegemonic power. The State of Israel is built on a foundation of thousands of years of Jewish connection to the land. Israel has no desire to empire-build, gain financial benefit, or rule over the lives of millions of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. Israel's presence in these territories is the result of a defensive war and the decades-long refusal of surrounding Arab states to negotiate peace with Israel.

Israel is committed to a negotiating process to determine a future of peace and reconciliation with the Palestinians which will entail further Israeli redeployments from these areas. As a result of the Oslo process, by September 2000, Israel had re-deployed from Palestinian population centers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, resulting in 99% of the Palestinian public living under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority. Further withdrawals will be dependent on the end of Palestinian violence and a renewal of negotiations.

Israel's presence in these territories is the result of a defensive war and the decades-long refusal of surrounding Arab states to negotiate peace with Israel.

inaccuracy: The violence that erupted September 2000 was a spontaneous reaction by Palestinians to then-Likud Party leader Ariel Sharon's deliberately provocative visit to the Temple Mount.

response: The Sharon visit offered the Palestinian Authority an excuse to unleash an outbreak of violence. Well before the Sharon visit there were incendiary calls for action on the Palestinian media and in sermons by religious leaders. There were serious incidents of Palestinian violence against Israelis before Sharon went to the Temple Mount on September 28. In the days after the visit, the Palestinian Authority closed the schools under its jurisdiction and coordinated the busing of demonstrators. Palestinian leaders subsequently have been quoted as saying that a campaign of violence was being planned as early as July 2000, when Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasir Arafat was being blamed by world leaders for the failure to reach an agreement at the Camp David Summit.

The Palestinian Authority has been fully involved in the violence against Israel. The PA authorized the members of the Tanzim – the Fatah-affiliated militia – to conduct armed warfare against Israeli soldiers and civilians. The PA has encouraged and supported terrorist attacks against Israelis, and has released Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists held in PA prisons. Israeli officials have uncovered proof of financial payments made by high level Palestinian officials, including Yasir Arafat, to members of the Al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigade who were carrying out suicide terrorist attacks. The PA leadership, including Yasir Arafat, were also fully involved in numerous arms shipments that were intercepted by Israel en route to the Gaza coast, most notably the large weapons cache found in January 2002 aboard the Karine A ship, which was on its way from Iran to the Palestinian Authority. The PA leadership and media continue to incite the population against Israel and Jews, and to venerate shahids or "martyrs" – those committing suicide attacks against Israel.

Well before the Sharon visit there were incendiary calls for action on the Palestinian media and in sermons by religious leaders.

inaccuracy: The ongoing violence and terror is conducted by Palestinian individuals or opposition groups over whom the Palestinian Authority has no control. The Palestinian Authority cannot, therefore, be expected to guarantee a complete end to violence and terrorism.

response: Yasir Arafat and the Palestinian Authority have the ability to control Palestinian violence and terror. There is no indication that the Palestinian Authority has made a serious and sustained effort to end the violence. Indeed, much of the violence has been orchestrated and implemented by Palestinian Authority entities – such as the Fatah-affiliated Tanzim militia, the Force 17 security service, and the Al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigade. These entities are under Arafat's ultimate control. As in the past, the Palestinian Authority has given the "green light" to Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the Al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigade and others to carry out terrorist attacks against Israelis. The PA has enabled the terrorist activity, provided financial resources to terrorist organizations, authorized the release of almost all of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists held in PA prisons and has refused to re-arrest them despite international pressure.

Yasir Arafat and the Palestinian Authority have the ability to control Palestinian violence and terror.

In previous outbreaks of Palestinian demonstrations and violence, such as the campaign of terrorism in the Spring of 1996 or the September 1996 controversy over the Western Wall Tunnel, the Palestinian Authority stepped in to control violence after a few weeks. The current violence and terrorism has lasted so long simply because the Palestinian Authority has done nothing to quell it.

ISRAELI RESPONSES TO PALESTINIAN VIOLENCE

inaccuracy: The Israeli army is using excessive force against unarmed Palestinians, leading to many more Palestinian casualties than Israeli casualties.

response: Israel has shown the greatest possible restraint making a determined effort to limit Palestinian casualties. Whenever possible, the Israel Defense Forces respond to Palestinian violence in a very directed manner, at carefully specified targets. These operations to root out terrorists and their infrastructure are consistent with the Israeli Government's right and responsibility to defend Israel and its population from attack.

Israel has no option but to go into Palestinian centers, since Palestinian terrorists and militia often deliberately position themselves in densely populated areas. In the early days of the violence, Palestinian Tanzim shot at Israeli forces from behind groups of demonstrating children and young men. During these demonstrations, stones, firebombs and Molotov cocktails were thrown by adults and children alike, and protestors were often seen carrying rifles and machine guns. Snipers shot guns or launched mortar shells at Israeli targets from residential areas. As the campaign of terrorism began, terrorist organizations set up their operation and training centers in the middle of heavily populated centers, such as West Bank refugee camps.

Palestinian terrorists and militia often deliberately position themselves in densely populated areas.

Indeed, Palestinian militia groups and terrorist organizations have been amassing a large and deadly arsenal, including sophisticated weaponry and mortar shells. To date, Israel has intercepted ships en route to Gaza laden with large weapons caches, including rockets, mortars, anti-missile and anti-tank missiles, rifles and massive amounts of ammunition. Other caches of ammunition are believed to have been successfully smuggled into Gaza via Egypt or by sea.

Most Palestinian casualties are individuals who are directly engaged in anti-Israel violence and terrorism. Tragically, innocent Palestinians have been caught in the crossfire. In many cases of Palestinian casualties, the Israeli military conducts internal investigations to determine whether errors were made by its soldiers. This contrasts with the modus operandi of Palestinian terrorists whose aim is to kill and maim as many civilians as possible in their attacks.

inaccuracy: Israel is indiscriminately targeting innocent Palestinians.

response: The targeting of known Palestinian terrorists by Israel is a policy dictated for self-defense in response to the great threat these individuals pose to Israeli citizens. Leaders of terrorist organizations in the territories are direct combatants in warfare against Israel, engaged in planning and implementing terrorist attacks against Israelis. These terrorists mastermind attacks in which the goal is to kill and maim as many Israeli civilians as possible. Many of these terrorists are supposed to be incarcerated by the Palestinian Authority, in accordance with the Oslo accords and subsequent agreements, and yet they remain free to organize attacks and bombings against Israelis. The PA has provided funding and support to terrorists and has released dozens of convicted terrorists from Palestinian prisons since the violence began. Their activities directly threaten the lives of Israeli citizens, civilians and soldiers alike, and since the Palestinian Authority has done nothing to stop it, Israel has no choice but to address this threat itself.

Their activities directly threaten the lives of Israeli citizens, civilians and soldiers alike, and since the Palestinian Authority has done nothing to stop it, Israel has no choice but to address this threat itself.

inaccuracy: The purpose of Israel's policy of "closure" and its system is to collectively punish the entire Palestinian population for the acts of individuals and to deliberately cause economic hardship to the Palestinians.

response: The closures and checkpoints are instituted by the Israeli government to protect its citizens. Border closures and checkpoints are the only mechanism at Israel's disposal to prevent would-be suicide bombers from entering Israeli cities. Israel understands the economic hardship the closures impose upon Palestinian civilians who cannot to go their jobs in Israel or receive and send shipments. Israel eases the closure and passage through checkpoints at the first sign that the violence has abated and the threat of terrorism recedes.

Border closures and checkpoints are the only mechanism at Israel's disposal to prevent would-be suicide bombers from entering Israeli cities.

ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN PEACE PROCESS

inaccuracy: Israel is not prepared to make meaningful compromises to achieve peace with the Palestinians.

response: Israel is fully committed to pursuing negotiated agreements with the Palestinians so that she may finally live in peace and security. Peace has proven difficult only for want of peace partners willing to recognize Israel's right to exist. Israel was able to reach historic peace agreements with Egypt (1979) and Jordan (1994) in which both sides made serious compromises for the sake of normalized relations.

Public opinion polls in Israel since the start of the Oslo process in 1993 consistently show that the vast majority of Israelis are supportive of negotiations with the Palestinians and support making extremely difficult compromises on territory,

settlements, Jerusalem and other contentious matters. Recognizing this great support for peace, every candidate for Prime Minister of Israel since 1993 has pledged to continue negotiations – albeit with different approaches. However, Israelis cannot be expected to support concessions that will compromise Israel's basic security, nor can they be expected to submit to violence and terrorism wielded as a tool to exact further concessions.

In contrast, the Palestinians have demonstrated that they are not willing or able to make the serious decisions necessary for peace. At Camp David, Chairman Yasir Arafat and his Palestinian negotiating team rebuffed significant Israeli concessions on major issues, and, clinging to maximalist positions on these issues, did not offer counter proposals to Israel to further the negotiations. Soon after, the Palestinians turned to violence and terrorism.

...the vast majority of Israelis are supportive of negotiations with the Palestinians and support making extremely difficult compromises on territory, settlements, Jerusalem and other contentious matters.

inaccuracy: The Palestinians had no choice but to reject the Israeli proposals at Camp David.

response: At the Camp David Summit in July 2000, Palestinians had the opportunity to negotiate a final peace agreement with Israel that would have provided them with a Palestinian state. Prime Minister Ehud Barak offered the Palestinians a final status agreement with concessions that went far beyond what most Israelis ever expected. Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasir Arafat refused to accept an "end of conflict" agreement, offered no counter-offer, failed to demonstrate any flexibility or willingness to compromise and clung to maximalist positions on the contentious issues under negotiation.

After rejecting the Israeli offer – which included extensive concessions on sharing Jerusalem, including the Temple Mount, establishing an independent Palestinian state in 100% of the Gaza Strip and as much as 95% of the West Bank, uprooting isolated settlements – the Palestinians walked away from negotiations. There was no reason or justification for the inscrutable Palestinian rejection of the Barak offer and their refusal to present a counter-offer after seven years of anticipating final status negotiations.

There was no reason or justification for the inscrutable Palestinian rejection of the Barak offer and their refusal to present a counter-offer after seven years of anticipating final status negotiations.

After the Summit, President Clinton openly acknowledged Israel's tremendous offer and stated that Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak "showed particular courage and vision and an understanding of the historical importance of the moment." On his return to Israel, Prime Minister Barak declared: "Today I return from Camp David and can look into the millions of eyes and say with regret: we have not yet succeeded. We did not succeed because we did not find a partner prepared to make decisions on all issues. We did not succeed because our Palestinian neighbors have not yet internalized the fact that in order to achieve peace, each side has to give up some of their dreams, to give, not only to demand."

A year after Camp David, Palestinians publicly declared that the failure of Camp David was due to lack of preparation by the Americans, personality differences between Barak and Arafat, and by Barak's "take-it-or-leave-it" negotiating posture. These excuses do not explain the Palestinian behavior at the Summit. Instead, Camp David demonstrated that Arafat and the Palestinian leadership had unrealistic expectations that they could force Israel to concede to their maximalist demands without making important compromises of their own. With the Palestinian behavior at Camp David and their turn to violence, public opinion polls show Israeli skepticism towards the Palestinian leadership as partners for peace. Ehud Barak himself says that at Camp David Yasir Arafat was "unmasked".

ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS

inaccuracy: Israeli settlements are a provocation, and their existence is the ongoing cause of Palestinian violence.

response: Palestinians first claimed the current violence was provoked by Ariel Sharon's visit to the Temple Mount, and then claimed that it was provoked by Israeli settlement activity, declaring that if only settlement activity ended, the violence could cease. Such assertions are absurd.

As part of the coalition agreement, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has declared that no new settlements will be built. Current construction in settlements is for purposes of natural growth only. The issue of settlements will only be resolved through peace negotiations and not through ongoing Palestinian violence and terrorism.

Indeed, at Camp David the Palestinians were offered the uprooting of settlements from the entire Gaza Strip and much of the West Bank. At the Summit, then-Prime Minister Barak offered to re-deploy and uproot settlements from up to 95% of the West Bank and 100 % of the Gaza Strip. Settlements in the remaining 5% of the West Bank – where the majority of the settler population lives – would be annexed to Israel. The Palestinians refused and turned to violence. Since the start of Palestinian violence in September, the Palestinian Authority has authorized the daily targeting of Israeli settlers by snipers and terrorists, leading to many deaths and injuries.

The issue of settlements will only be resolved through peace negotiations and not through ongoing Palestinian violence and terrorism.

inaccuracy: Settlements are a violation of international law.
response: Settlements, Jewish communities that were established in the West Bank and Gaza Strip after the territories were gained in the 1967 War, do not violate international law.

Israel's administration of the territory in 1967 replaced Jordan's control of the West Bank and Egypt's of the Gaza Strip. Egypt and Jordan gained control of these areas during the 1948 War with the newly-established Israel, which according to the 1947 U.N. Partition Plan, were to be part of the independent Arab state to be established alongside an independent Jewish state. Neither Jordan nor Egypt had legal sovereignty over these areas. Israel maintains that these areas can thus not be considered "occupied territories" under international law, since Israel did not "occupy" it from another sovereign nation, but are "disputed territories" over which there are competing claims and whose future must be determined through negotiations. Since 1967, Israeli governments have maintained a willingness to withdraw from areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in a peace agreement with the Arabs.

...several of the current settlement communities existed prior to 1948 when they were overrun by invading Arab armies.

Critics of Israel frequently cite Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits the forcible transfer of segments of a population of a state to the territory of another state which it has occupied through the use of armed force, as proof of the illegality of settlements. However, Israel maintains that the Geneva Convention, drafted after World War II, was intended to protect local populations from displacement, such as the forced population transfers experienced before and during the war in Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary. The situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is clearly different. Israel has not forcibly transferred Israelis to these areas. Rather, Israeli settlers voluntarily reside in areas where Jews have historically dwelled.

Jews have lived in the West Bank and Gaza Strip throughout recorded history, until 1948 when they were forced to flee the invading Arab armies. Indeed, several of the current settlement communities existed prior to 1948 when they were overrun by invading Arab armies. Kfar Etzion and other villages in the Jerusalem-Bethlehem corridor, for example, fell to Arab forces in May 1948 and those captured were massacred. Sons and daughters of those who lived there until 1948 were the first to return after the 1967 war.

inaccuracy: The continued existence of settlements violates Israeli-Palestine agreements.
response: None of the signed agreements between Israel and the Palestinians restrict the building or expansion of settlements. Indeed, the issue of settlements is specifically noted as an issue that will only be discussed during final status negotiations, the final stage of the peace process. The only prohibition in these agreements is that neither side take steps to change the status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, such as unilateral declarations of statehood or annexation, prior to final status negotiations. The Israeli Government has voluntarily frozen the building of new settlements, but recognizes the needs of existing settlements to meet the changing needs of their residents, such as the expansion of existing homes to accommodate growing families.

None of the signed agreements between Israel and the Palestinians restrict the building or expansion of settlements.

Since 1967, Israeli governments have maintained a willingness to withdraw from areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in a peace agreement with the Arabs. In such a case, it was commonly expected that at least some of the settlements would have to be uprooted, just as the Israeli town of Yamit was dismantled following Israel's peace agreement with Egypt. At Camp David in July 2000, Ehud Barak reportedly offered to uproot all Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip and the isolated settlements on up to 95% of the territory of the West Bank, as part of a final status agreement. The Palestinians rejected this offer.

PALESTINIAN REFUGEES

inaccuracy: Palestinian refugees have a "right of return" under international law – the right to reclaim and return to their former homes inside Israel.

response: Neither international law nor international statute call for a Palestinian "right of return" to Israel, but rather for a resolution of the long-standing Palestinian refugee problem. The refugee problem was caused by the war imposed on Israel by the Arab invasion in 1948. Israel is nonetheless committed to participating in an international effort to resettle and compensate Palestinian refugees.

The refugee problem was caused by the war imposed on Israel by the Arab invasion in 1948. Israel is nonetheless committed to participating in an international effort to resettle and compensate Palestinian refugees.

United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 refer not to a "right of return", but to the need to resolve the Palestinian refugee issue. The international resolutions Palestinians often base their claim of a "right" on, such as the December 1948 United Nations General Assembly Resolution 194 and Article 12 of the December 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, are non-binding. Moreover, these non-binding resolutions are inconsistent with current conditions and realities. Resolution 194 calls for a return of refugees to "live at peace with their neighbors", hardly realistic given the refugee's long-standing refusal to recognize Israel's right to exist. Article 12 refers to individuals, not a group of people, who left the country as a result of war and infers a relationship, even citizenship, between the individual and the country.

The "right of return" is also not viable on practical and logical grounds. An influx of millions of Palestinians into Israel would pose a threat to its national security and upset the country's demographic makeup. Moreover, the "right of return" of Palestinian refugees was a rallying cry in the decades that the PLO and Arab nations did not recognize Israel's right to exist and actively sought to bring about Israel's downfall and replace it with a Palestinian state to which Palestinians would return. In 1993, the PLO officially recognized Israel's right to exist and engaged in a negotiating process that was expected to ultimately establish an independent Palestinian state alongside the State of Israel. Palestinian refugees should rightly be resettled in a mutually negotiated Palestinian state, not in the State of Israel.

Israel is not responsible for the Palestinian refugee problem, since it was the result of a war forced on Israel by invading Arab armies. However, Israel has said that on humanitarian grounds it will participate in an international effort to resolve the situation through resettlement and compensation. This international effort should also provide compensation for as many as 800,000 Jews who were expelled from their native Arab nations or forced to flee as a result of state-sponsored anti-Zionist violence. Israel would also consider individual cases of family unification of Palestinians.

[music review]

Mel Lewis – a drummer's drummer

A Jewish jazz drummer? You bet. Certainly, Buddy Rich might come first to mind. But another very talented individual, known especially to New Yorkers, was Mel Lewis (1929-1990).

He was born Melvin Sokoloff in Buffalo, NY, and started playing drums at age 3. His dad had shown him how to hold the sticks and "that was it," as Mel said. Some years later, as a teen, he set off to make music his life's career. Jobs were hard to find. But when, in 1954 drummer Stan Levey left the Kenton band, Mel Lewis found his niche. And as one author relates, "many jazz critics credited him with being the first drummer to make the Kenton band swing."

After a stint in Los Angeles (during which he was recorded on the popular rock song "Alley Oop,") and after a trip to Russia with Benny Goodman in 1962, Lewis returned to New York City. It was there, in 1965, that Mel teamed up with Basie trumpeter Thad Jones to form an influential and longstanding 18 piece big band. The Thad Jones – Mel Lewis Orchestra, as it was called, started playing Monday nights at the Village Vanguard in 1966. Jazz buffs will recognize many names in the big band including Pepper Adams, Joe Henderson, Snooky Young, Jimmy Knepper, Roland Hanna and Richard Davis. After Thad left to front a band in Denmark in 1978, speaking of the breakup, it was said that "Mel got the kids," and continued on as "Mel Lewis and the Jazz Orchestra." The band continues on, after Lewis' death, as the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra.

One of the best of his recordings is The Thad Jones - Mel Lewis Orchestra, Basie, 1969, recorded live by Swiss Radio. On this recording, on as others, Lewis can be heard providing supple rhythmic phrases – not simply hanging on the ride beat, so common at the time. Lewis' playing complements the band rather than overwhelms it. We have Mel's thoughts on this practice, to look back on. In one interview, Lewis talks, for example, about how to use different types of ride cymbals so as not to acoustically cover brass soloists and how to use other types of cymbals to either blend with or support reed and keyboard soloists.

Listeners who enjoy blues based, mainstream jazz, a big band that cooks while playing soft melodic improvisations, beautifully-crafted piano voicings, and, of course, consummate drumming will enjoy the Basie recording. Happy listening.

– Mark Finkelstein

[science news]

Human Kidneys Created In Mice

Transplanted tissue could offer a solution to kidney donor shortage

Rehovot, Israel – December 22, 2002 – Instead of searching for a kidney donor, a new study suggests, one might be able to grow a new kidney. A team headed by Prof. Yair Reisner of the Weizmann Institute of Science has induced human stem cell tissue to grow into functional kidneys and has accomplished the same with porcine stem cell tissue. Published in Nature Medicine, the method could lead to a promising solution to the severe shortage of kidney donors.

The findings suggest that human or porcine fetal tissue might take on the shape and function of a healthy kidney if transplanted into humans as well. Pig tissue, as opposed to pig organs, is not expected to cause hyperactive rejection (common in cross-species transplants, as has been demonstrated by recent transplants of insulin-producing cell clusters taken from porcine fetal tissue that did not induce such rejection. The scientists hope that porcine stem cells might thus provide a ubiquitous source for those in need of a kidney.

Reisner and Ph.D. student Benny Dekel of the Weizmann Institute's Immunology Department, with Prof. Justen Passwell, the head of the pediatric department at the Sheba Medical Center, transplanted human and porcine "kidney precursor cells" (stem cells that are destined to become kidney cells) into mice. Both human and porcine tissues grew into perfect kidneys, the size of the mice's kidneys. The miniature human and pig kidneys were functional, producing urine. In addition, blood supply within the kidney was provided by host blood vessels as

opposed to donor blood vessels, greatly lowering the risk of rejection.

The scientists pinpointed the ideal time during embryonic development in which the stem cells have the best chance to form well-functioning kidneys with minimal risk for immune rejection. Their findings suggest that 7-8 week human and 4 week porcine tissue offers an optimal window of opportunity for transplantation. If taken at earlier time points, the tissues will develop disorganized tissue that would include non-kidney structures such as bone, cartilage and muscle. If taken at later time points, the risk for immune rejection is substantial.

Within this optimal time range the tissue doesn't contain certain cells that the body recognizes as foreign (antigen-presenting cells), the scientists found. These cells, which originate in the blood system, reach a developing kidney only after ten weeks.

After growing the human and porcine kidney tissue in mice, the scientists checked how human lymphocytes (fighter cells in the immune system) might react to it. They injected human lymphocytes into immuno-deficient mice (that have no immune system and thus do not interfere with the immune response). The findings were encouraging; as long as the kidney precursors were transplanted within the right time range, the lymphocytes did not attack the new pig or human kidneys – despite the fact that lymphocytes and kidney precursors originated from different donors.

The procedure is now in the pre-clinical study stage. If all goes well, a treatment may ensue within a few years.

Art

Intriguing,
but not intimidating.
Just enjoy it.

Lunch

Unique food.
Fun crowd.
Great atmosphere.

Parties

Casually elegant.
Any night of the week.
Customized for you.



Arthouse

On Ingersoll

Studio Design

2811 Ingersoll Avenue
515 243 6601 tel 515 243 8777 fax
www.arthouse-desmoines.com

STRENGTH THROUGH diversity



Your investment in Israel Bonds helps settle Jews from around the world, strengthens the Jewish homeland through building vital infrastructure and helps diversify your financial portfolio through a wide offering of targeted securities.



This is not an offering, which can be made only by prospectus. Read it carefully before investing. Member NASD, SIPC

Development Corporation for Israel
State of Israel Bonds
9666 Olive Blvd., Suite 344
St. Louis, MO 63132
Contact: Bob Aisenfeld,
Regional Representative
314-432-1172
800-989-2663

8th Zero Coupon Bond **5.90%**

Effective yield to maturity and current purchase price of \$3,382 for bonds purchased through October 25, 2002. Matures at \$6,000 10 years from issue date (first day of the month following the month in which subscription is accepted by Fiscal Agent).

3rd Jubilee (Series A) Issue Bond **4.00%**

Fixed annual interest rate for bonds purchased through October 25, 2002. Matures 5 years from issue date. Minimum Subscription \$25,000.

3rd Jubilee (Series B) Issue Bond **5.40%**

Fixed annual interest rate for bonds purchased through October 25, 2002. Matures 10 years from issue date. Minimum Subscription \$25,000.

4th LIBOR Floating Rate Issue (LFRI) Bond **2.50%**

Interest rate for bonds purchased through October 2002. Based on 75 basis points (fixed at time of purchase) plus the 6 month LIBOR rate in effect on issue date, and recalculated thereafter on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1. Minimum subscription: \$5,000 (\$3,000 or \$3,500 for IRAs only). Matures: 10 years from issue date.

Development Issue Current Income Bond

4.00% annual interest rate. \$500 and increments of \$500. Matures 15 years from issue date.

Development Issue Savings Bond

\$500 and increments of \$500. Matures 15 years from issue date at 180% of issue amount, resulting in an effective yield to maturity of approximately 4.00%.

2nd Chai Bond

Purchase price: \$136. Matures in 5 years at \$180. Non-transferable. Not eligible for early redemption. May only be purchased for/registered to an (only one) individual.

Matured Bonds: After maturity, bonds no longer earn interest. Issues subject to availability.

The Jewish World

MEXICO'S FLOURISHING JEWISH COMMUNITY

Mexican Jewry differs from other world Jewish communities in being organized according to ancestors' lands of origin.

The third International Orthodox General Assembly that convenes in Jerusalem tomorrow will include delegates from 42 far-flung countries around the world. Two of them will come from Mexico, a small but strong and flourishing Jewish community of relatively recent origin.

Mexico's Jewish population emigrated from locations throughout the world, mostly within a 50-year period. The earliest immigrants, who came in organized groups, arrived at the beginning of the 20th century, but the majority arrived from the twenties through the mid-fifties.

Mexico's synagogues are unique in that they are for the most part based on the countries of origin of the leaders who arrived three or four generations ago. Mount Sinai Congregation was established by Syrian Jews from Damascus; Magen David is for the Syrian community from Haleb; the Ashkenazi Congregation serves Jews of Eastern European origin, with a sprinkling from Western Europe; and the Sephardic community is made up of Jews from Turkey and the Balkans. Beit Yisrael was established by Conservative Jews from America who came to Mexico in the fifties. Beit El, whose purpose was to serve as a Conservative congregation for Mexico's Jews, is the exception; it was

established according to ideology, and not for Jews of a particular origin.

There are two community organizations in Mexico: The Central Committee, which deals primarily with external relations, and Sportivo Israelita, which offers leisure time activities -- sports, culture, etc.

Mexico's Jewish population is estimated at some 40,000 -- out of a total population of 98,000,000 -- but their influence is beyond all proportion to their numbers. The Jews for the most part belong to the country's small upper-middle class, and the community makes sure to support those suffering from economic hardship.

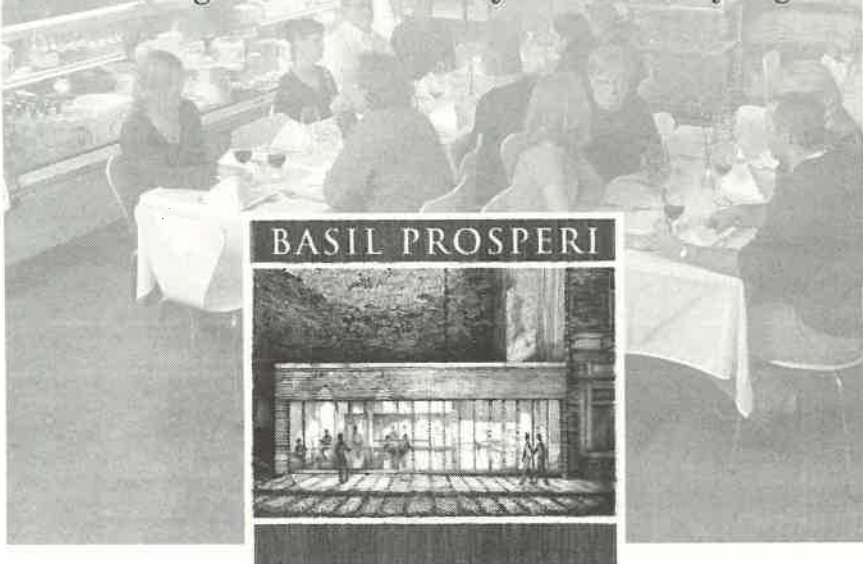
When they first arrived in Mexico, the Jews worked in small businesses or trade or were craftsmen. As they climbed the economic ladder, the small companies became big businesses -- or even industries. The Jewish community today is comprised of a large number of professionals, businessmen, and owners of chain stores and shops.

Most Jews live in Mexico City's most affluent neighborhoods and its suburbs. Only those who were unsuccessful in climbing the socio-economic ladder remain in the original neighborhoods, where the earliest synagogues were built -- together with the few who don't care about living at prestigious addresses.

Courtesy of the Jewish Agency for Israel online magazine, Agenda
www.jafi.org.il/agenda

BASIL PROSPERI

Now serving dinners on Friday and Saturday nights.



407 East Fifth Street
artisan breads, European cheeses and dining
in the heart of Des Moines East Village

call 243-9819

Join us for our Baking Seminars on Saturday mornings.

Manage how and when you bank, with Preferred Banking.

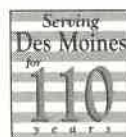
Take a look at West Bank's Preferred Checking. It's a broad range of financial solutions tailored to meet your individual needs and provide you with financial advantages you need to build your future.

- No annual fee debit/ATM card¹
- Competitive interest rate²
- Unlimited check writing³
- Free checks⁴
- Discounts on loans
- Free internet banking
- Free telephone banking
- Free ATM banking
- Free single-signature Travelers Cheques
- FDIC insurance



Sign up today for Preferred Banking. Stop by one of our eight convenient metro locations.

(1) Limit two cards with credit approval. (2) Interest rate may vary depending on balance. Interest is paid on daily balances in excess of \$1,000. (3) \$500 minimum balance to open. \$10 monthly fee if combined daily balance falls below \$10,000 during checking account statement cycle. (4) 200 standard or 150 duplicate checks per year.



West Bank
Decidedly Different.

8 CONVENIENT METRO LOCATIONS • 222-2300
www.westbankiowa.com • Member FDIC



Words for the Spirit

By David Goldman

The religious path is more a quest for meaning and values than for truth. The quest involves finding ways of talking about spiritual matters that help us on our journey in the modern era. We seek a way of speaking that does not reject the rational, but yet, in some sense, transcends it. We seek expressions that offer more than an exclusively materialistic and secular view of the world, our lives, our relationships, including our relationships with other people, our history, tradition, texts, practices, values and vision of our sages.

If the Twentieth Century has taught us anything beyond how much can be accomplished with a better understanding of the material world, it is that reason and rationality have their limits and do not provide an answer for everything. Reason is not to be worshiped as if it were God. As profoundly disappointing as this may be to us as the great-grandchildren of the Enlightenment, it is true and our reality.

*You have to be a fool to believe in God
and an idiot not to believe in God.*

— Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev c. 1740-1809 (a disciple of the Maggid of Mezerich who was the successor to the Baal Shem Tov)

Rav Yitzhak clearly saw that no amount of reasoning could yield a conclusion of belief in God. Yet, he understood that to choose, because of that, to not believe in God would be idiotic. The vision or revelation is so essential to our way of life and so vital to all that is important to us that only an idiot would choose to jettison it because its source is other than rationality.

The following Learner's Kaddish, derived from the traditional Rabbi's Kaddish, a version of which Temple B'nai Jeshurun has been "trying on" as its Shabbat Talmud Torah Kaddish, is an attempt to use language that is both faithful to Jewish tradition and meaningful to us today. It is, as are we, a work in progress.

A LEARNER'S KADDISH

May the sacredness of God be extolled. May God's name inspire awe in our world which God created and which the Eternal One, with us, is creating. May God's realm soon prevail in our own day, in our own lives, and in the life of all Israel and the life of all peoples, and let us say: Amen.

May God's name be blessed forever and ever, as we bless God's name now. May the name of the Holy One be glorified, exalted and honored, even as we humbly recognize that God is beyond being contained by words, praises and songs. May we ever strive to behave in ways that will bring honor, glory and exaltation to the name of our God, our partner in creation, as we ever strive to do the will of God.

God, who is the something where there would otherwise be nothing, God of all there is, God of the Universe, God of nature and of freedom grant abundant shalom — peace and well being — to our people, to our leaders, to our teachers and their disciples, and to all who engage in the study of Torah here and everywhere. Eternal source of hope, let there be for us all, love, compassion, grace, sustenance, and deeply-felt hope for a world where all know you as God; and let us say: Amen.

Open our hearts that we may act with kindness and do unto others only as we would have them do unto us and may the blessing of shalom and the promise of life everlasting be fulfilled, and let us say: Amen.

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| עושה שלום | O-seh sha-lom |
| במרומיו, הוא | bi-me-ro-mav, hu |
| יעשה שלום | ya-a-seh sha-lom |
| עלינו ועל כל | a-lei-nu ve-al kol |
| ישראל, ועל | yis-ra-eil, ve-al |
| כל גוים, | kol go-yim, |
| ואמרו: אמן. | ve-i-me-rue: a-mein. |

May the One who causes shalom to reign in God's realm, let shalom descend upon us, on all Israel, and all peoples, and let us say: Amen.

VOGUE
VISION

OneHour
Optical

YOUNKERS
STYLE • QUALITY • SERVICE • INTEGRITY
VISION CENTER

EYE-MART OPTICAL
OUTLET

We are here to care for your
Eyewear needs
Eye Exams are available

for the location nearest you call 1-888-367-2020

CHOCOLATERIE STAM
Pella • Des Moines • Valley West Mall

Happy Purim!



2815 INGERSOLL
OPEN 7 DAYS EACH WEEK.
515-282-9575

TIFERETH ISRAEL

Sip 'n Sing 'n Socialize with our Karaoke Night Saturday, March 8
8:00 pm Tifereth Social Hall

Don't miss your chance to sing your favorite song at our first Karaoke Night, or just come and watch your friends. Wine, cheese, fruit, beer, nuts, and pretzels, soft drinks, coffee and desserts served. Plenty of entertainment guaranteed! Karaoke provided by Billy's Picture Show. Only \$10 per person. Please send prepaid reservations to Tifereth by Monday, March 3.

BETH EL JACOB SYNAGOGUE

Come enjoy Alan Levin in Concert Hebrew and Yiddish Music Sunday, March 30

7:00 pm \$10.00 for adults, \$6.00 for students Contact the Synagogue at 274-1551

TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN

Join in the fun as Temple B'nai Jeshurun, in association with Graggers and Hammanstein, presents

THAT'S ESTHERTAINMENT!

A Broadway-style frolic through Megillat Esther

Shushan Dinner Theater Saturday, March 8

6:00 pm dinner, 7:15 pm show
Dinner: \$5 per person; (reservations required by March 3)

Shushan Brown-bag cabaret Sunday, March 9

1:00 pm
Bring your own lunch, beverages provided; doors open at noon
To make dinner reservations or for more information, please call 274-4679

B'nai Mitzvah

Ashley Hadley



March 1, 2003
Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Please join our family as we celebrate with joy Ashley's Bat Mitzvah, 10:00 am, Saturday,

March 1 at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. We would be honored by your presence at services and the Kiddush luncheon which follows.

Revital Ellie Adar Simon



March 29, 2003
Tifereth Israel Synagogue

With great pride and joy we invite the community to celebrate with us when our dear daughter, Revital, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 29. Services begin at 9:15 am at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. A Kiddush luncheon will follow.

Ronit and Dana Simon

Drew Rosenberg



April 5, 2003
Tifereth Israel Synagogue

The family of Drew Rosenberg invites the community to join us in celebration of his becoming a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 5, 2003 at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Please join us for a Kiddush luncheon following Shabbat morning services.

Kim and Randy Cain
Tracy and Steve Rosenberg

Taylor Alyssa Wiggins



April 12, 2003
Tifereth Israel Synagogue

Please join us as our daughter, Taylor Alyssa Wiggins, celebrates her Bat Mitzvah at 9:15 am on April 12, 2003, at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. The community is invited to a Kiddush luncheon following the service.

Marsha and David Wiggins

AT THE CASPE TERRACE

Israeli Film Series Continues

April 5 at 7:30 pm • April 6 at 2:00 pm • Free of Charge

SH'HUR: A semi-autobiographical portrayal of the colorful and passionate culture of the Moroccan community in Israel. 13 year old Rachel is a westernized Sabra teenager struggling to come to terms with the white magic (Sh'hur) practiced by members of her family. This mystical world of spirits and demons takes on a physical presence in her older sister, Pnina, and fills Rachel with fear. Refreshments at a nominal fee.

Hillel's Guide to Colleges Online

Whether you are trying to find an appropriate college to attend or simply want to see what Jewish resources are available on a particular campus, a good place to start your research is by consulting the Guide to Jewish Life on Campus published by Hillel: the Foundation for Jewish Campus Life. Information from this book is now also available online at www.hillel.org.

To order the hardcopy of the book, contact Hillel at (202) 449-6500.

DMJA Spring Dinner May 11

Features Natan Sharansky and Dennis Prager

Mark the Date! The Des Moines Jewish Academy has an exciting line-up for speakers to help Rabbi Baruch HaLevi promote the need for a Jewish day school in Des Moines.

This year both the focus and venue will be a little different from years past. Instead of honoring an individual, Rabbi HaLevi has been asked to honor the Academy by hosting a night of celebrated speakers on Sunday, May 11, at the beautifully remodeled Temple for the Performing Arts.

Rabbi HaLevi has not only agreed to host the event, but it was he who suggested the theme of "Building Bridges in the Community". In accordance with the theme, we plan that evening to announce plans for a new preschool and exciting changes for grades K-8.

Guest speakers will include Deputy Prime Minister of the State of Israel, Natan Sharansky and renowned speaker Dennis Prager. They will speak to the importance of a Jewish education.

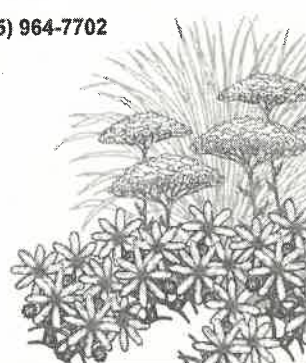
Please save this date, May 11, for the DMJA's "Building Bridges in the Community" spring dinner. We promise an energetic and exciting evening that is of the utmost importance for our children and our community. Contact the DMJA at 274-0453 for more information.

PERENNIAL GARDENS

BY LINDA GRIEVE

1633 N.W. 84th Ave. • Ankeny, Iowa • (515) 964-7702

- **DESIGN**
Master plans
Commercial/residential
- **GARDEN MAINTENANCE**
Weekly, monthly, seasonal, special occasions
- **INSTALLATION**
Construction
Walls, patios, ponds
Plant installation
Trees, shrubs, perennials
Garden aesthetics
Trellises, fountains, lighting
- **EDUCATION**
- **RETAIL SALES**
By appointment



Design • Installation • Maintenance • Education

FUSION FURNITURE
Tues-Fri 11-6
Sat 10-4
500 E. LOCUST ST • DES MOINES •
515.244.2303
Asian Antiques • Vintage Metal • Original Metalwork

You have it - we'll cater it!



- Baby Namings
- Bar & Bat Mitzvahs
- Weddings
- Graduations
- Birthdays
- Shiva meals

Now open for private parties after hours

Meet Karen Engman

by Toni Urban



The only Iowa State Fair ribbon that has eluded our chef du jour is the one for her Heavenly Hash Candy, extolled by those who have tasted it!

Karen Engman was born in a suburb of St. Louis and never ventured far from the Midwest. She attended the University of Wisconsin where she earned her BA in Art History and met her husband, Arny, a Des Moines native.

Karen's marriage to Arny brought them to Des Moines where Arny joined the family business, Emco. Karen's move to Des Moines truly kept her a Midwesterner. And, as many of you know, that is synonymous with the Iowa State Fair!

Karen began baking as a child, making brownies and cookies with her friends and continued her baking and cooking as a wife and mother of three. Karen and Arny's children are Katie, now 29 and living in San Francisco, Allison 27, in her third year of Medical school at Tulane in New Orleans and Todd 24, living in Seattle.

Betty and Macy Abrams, Karen's parents, are frequent visitors to Des Moines from St. Louis. Karen has followed her mother's lead and that of the Engman women in becoming a good cook. Arny's mother, Eskie, who lived in Des Moines for

many years, travels here from her home in California for all special events.

Karen's accomplishments in the Des Moines community are many including her reputation as an outstanding competitor for Blue Ribbons at the Iowa State Fair. Karen has lost track of her numerous ribbons, which adorn her kitchen in Des Moines; the total is somewhere over two dozen!

Although there was never a category for challah amongst the competitive breads at the Fair, Karen's first entry was in the Holiday Bread category where her challah won her her first Blue Ribbon. In other years Karen's challah or variations of her challah have been entered in the egg bread, ethnic bread, cheese bread, onion bread and raisin bread categories. Karen's poppy seed challah, which was adapted from a recipe from Ruth Rissman, was also a winner. Karen has won ribbons in the overall bread category, the Fleischman's contest and the ethnic category as well as for ice cream and pumpkin bread.

Karen was President of the Children and Adolescent Guidance

Center, the Greenwood PTA, The Roosevelt High School Alumni Foundation and the Bureau of Jewish Living. She has served as the chair of the Jewish Federation All-in-One campaign and served on the boards of the Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center and the Federation. She was on the board of the Junior League of Des Moines, the Des Moines Symphony and was a docent at the Art Center. Karen presently remains an active member of the Jewish community participating as a

board member of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society.

Karen stays active now as a member of the sales staff at Betts Lexus on the Betts Auto Campus!

Karen has graciously shared her recipe for Heavenly Hash with us with a disclaimer: Karen does not want the recipe reproduced, except for our 1500 copies, and does not wish to see it at an event to which she is invited! This author agreed to these concessions just to share this special recipe with everyone.

Heavenly Hash Candy

A recipe from Karen Engman

Dairy

5 – 6 lbs. of bulk milk Chocolate (or 6 large Hershey Bars)
3 lg. bags of large marshmallows (or 6 10 oz. Bags)
2 (8 oz) bags chopped walnuts
2-3 bags caramels

Adapt the quantities above as you see fit!

Melt half the chocolate in a double boiler with lid on; stir often. Spread chocolate on two large jellyroll pans lined with wax paper. Place marshmallows in rows on chocolate while it's warm, covering the whole surface. Sprinkle nuts over the top letting them fall into the "cracks" between marshmallows. Melt caramels with 2 tbsp. of water in a microwave – stir often and don't burn. Drizzle caramel quickly over marshmallows before it hardens (spread with spatula). Melt remaining chocolate and pour over top. Place two trays in the freezer until firm, then lift sheet of candy off wax paper and cut into strips and then small squares. Repackage in ziplocs and store in freezer.

This recipe can easily be cut in half. In fact, exact measurements are not needed – just layer ingredients in whatever quantity you need.

The amount of chocolate may vary depending on how thick you prefer to make the top and bottom layers of the candy. It holds together better for slicing if the bottom and top layers of chocolate are thick. Dark chocolate may also be used!



◆ Minolta Digital Copiers



◆ Computer Network Solutions

◆ Novell
◆ Windows NT

◆ Sharp Facsimile

◆ Plain Paper
◆ Thermal

◆ Award-Winning Service

The Original... for Copier & Fax Equipment

4201 NW Urbandale Drive • Urbandale, Iowa 50322

(515) 283-0607 • 800-362-1646 • Fax (515) 283-1723



Landmark Luggage & Gifts Travel Center

- Luggage • Business Cases • Gifts
- Small Leather Goods • Travel Accessories
- Free Gift Wrapping & Monogramming
- Gift Certificates • Layaway Plan
- Luggage Repair

See the entire collection of Tumi at:

Valley West Mall 223-0999

TUMI

Joyce Birnbach REALTOR®

Whether you're buying, selling, or building,
it's important to have a real estate
professional working for you
who really understands your needs.

Residential
Vacation - Investment Properties
Iowa & Florida
Licensed Real Estate Sales Agent

515-249-0384
515-453-5184



Turning ordinary
events into ones of
magical distinction

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

We use balloons, fabric, lighting and
special effects to make your occasion
distinct and magical.

Located in West Des Moines
by appointment only.
call Amy Ratekin today!

Little Elf

Tel: 515.221.2322

email: maratekin@littleelfevents.com

[community calendar]

| Day | Date | Time | Event |
|-----------|-----------|----------|--|
| Saturday | 3/1/2003 | 10:00 AM | Ashley Hadley Bat Mitzvah at the Temple |
| Sunday | 3/2/2003 | 10:00 AM | Tifereth Women's League |
| Sunday | 3/2/2003 | 4:00 PM | Dinner & Movie Night at The Caspe Terrace sponsored by Beth El Jacob |
| Thursday | 3/6/2003 | 7:00 PM | Melton Classes at Tifereth |
| Saturday | 3/8/2003 | 6:00 PM | Shushan Dinner and Purimspiel at the Temple |
| Saturday | 3/8/2003 | 8:00 PM | Karaoke Night at Tifereth |
| Sunday | 3/9/2003 | | JFCS Purim Program |
| Sunday | 3/9/2003 | 1:00 PM | Shushan Brown-bag cabaret at the Temple |
| Sunday | 3/9/2003 | 4:00 PM | Iowa State Russian Club Concert at The Caspe Terrace |
| Tuesday | 3/11/2003 | 5:30 PM | Temple Board of Trustees |
| Thursday | 3/13/2003 | 7:00 PM | Melton Classes at Tifereth |
| Sunday | 3/16/2003 | | NO SCHOOL - Spring Break |
| Sunday | 3/16/2003 | 10:00 AM | Tifereth Investment Club |
| Sunday | 3/16/2003 | 11:00 AM | Purimspiel at the Temple |
| Monday | 3/17/2003 | | Purim Celebration at Beth El Jacob |
| Tuesday | 3/18/2003 | | PURIM |
| Tuesday | 3/18/2003 | 3:00 PM | Kollel Purim Dinner at The Caspe Terrace |
| Sunday | 3/23/2003 | | NO SCHOOL - Spring Break |
| Monday | 3/24/2003 | 6:00 PM | Federation Executive Committee Meeting at The Caspe Terrace |
| Tuesday | 3/25/2003 | 5:00 PM | IJSLC Board of Directors |
| Tuesday | 3/25/2003 | 5:30 PM | DMJA Board Meeting |
| Thursday | 3/27/2003 | 7:00 PM | Melton Classes at Tifereth |
| Saturday | 3/29/2003 | 9:15 AM | Revital Simon Bat Mitzvah at Tifereth |
| Sunday | 3/30/2003 | | JFS program on Jewish Genetic Diseases at The Caspe Terrace |
| Sunday | 3/30/2003 | 7:00 PM | Alan Levin Concert at The Caspe Terrace sponsored by Beth El |
| Tuesday | 4/1/2003 | 5:30 PM | Women's Seder at the Des Moines Marriott |
| Thursday | 4/3/2003 | 7:00 PM | Melton Classes at Tifereth |
| Saturday | 4/5/2003 | 9:15 AM | Drew Rosenberg Bar Mitzvah at Tifereth |
| Saturday | 4/5/2003 | 7:30 PM | Israeli Movie at The Caspe Terrace |
| Sunday | 4/6/2003 | | Pre-K - 2nd grade Seder |
| Sunday | 4/6/2003 | 2:00 PM | Israeli Movie at The Caspe Terrace |
| Tuesday | 4/8/2003 | 5:30 PM | Temple Board of Trustees |
| Wednesday | 4/9/2003 | | 3rd - 6th grade Seder / Jr. & Sr. High |
| Thursday | 4/10/2003 | 7:00 PM | Melton Classes at Tifereth |
| Saturday | 4/12/2003 | 9:15 AM | Taylor Wiggins Bat Mitzvah at Tifereth |
| Saturday | 4/12/2003 | 6:00 PM | Private Event at The Caspe Terrace |
| Saturday | 4/12/2003 | 8:00 PM | Russian Film with English sub-titles at The Caspe Terrace |
| Sunday | 4/13/2003 | 3:00 PM | Russian Film with English sub-titles at The Caspe Terrace |
| Monday | 4/14/2003 | 5:30 PM | DMJA Board Meeting |
| Wednesday | 4/16/2003 | | NO SCHOOL - Passover |
| Thursday | 4/17/2003 | | PASSOVER |
| Thursday | 4/17/2003 | | 2nd Annual Beth El Jacob Family Seder |
| Thursday | 4/17/2003 | 6:00 PM | Congregational Seder at the Temple |

Mazel Tov

Owen Henry Kenneth Baxter
was born Friday, January 24, 2003.
Proud parents are Ken and Lisa Baxter.

Jennifer Shulman

On November 23, 2002, the Ames Figure Skating Club hosted their first annual Basic Skills/Beginner Competition. This event hosted 50 skaters from all over Iowa. Congratulations to Jennifer, daughter of Marc and Cynthia Shulman of Ames, for being awarded a gold medal in Basic 4 Compulsories and a gold medal in Basic Freeskate B, Group A.

Jennifer is a second grader at the Jewish Federation Community School.

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow the recent passing of

Shirlee Gotsdiner

Inez Lande

Sue Reinwasser

Alice Wolf

Dunn's Funeral Home

2121 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312
515-224-2121

CHESS CLUB

"The Getting Along in Years Eldership," a Chess Club, meets weekly at Borders in West Des Moines to pursue a mind-enriching hobby.

The origin of Chess dates back to the 8th Century, and according to one story began in India from whence it spread to Persia and Europe. The game as we know it arrived about 400 years ago.

There are four of us who usually play every Tuesday. Though you may not have played in recent years -- that's o.k. Meet with us from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., have a coffee, and enjoy.

Shalom, Adele A.

freshness: /fresh/adj 1: is determined from the time the fish is out of the water to the time it gets to your table...and nobody gets it there faster than Waterfront Seafood Market Restaurant • Wholesale •



Waterfront Seafood Market • Restaurant Wholesale

Clocktower Square
2900 University Avenue
West Des Moines, IA 50266
515-223-5106

We'll Make You Look Great!



Industrial, Medical
Career Apparel, Postal,
and Public Safety
Uniforms & Accessories
For Function,
Comfort, & Style



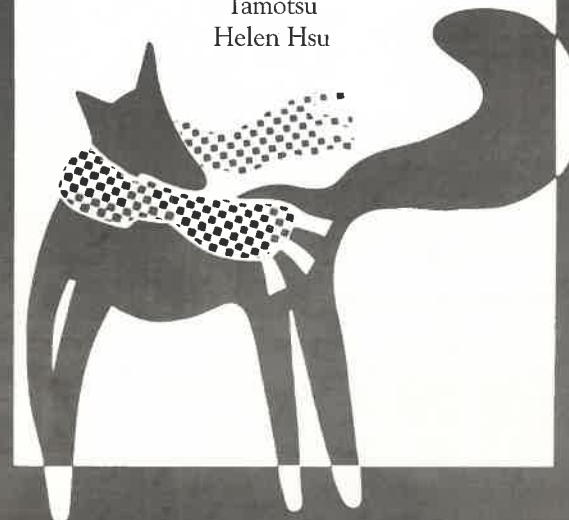
Embroidered and
Imprinted Sportswear
& Promotional Products
for Special Events,
Business Casual Wear,
Premiums & Awards

For All Of Your Workwear & Promotional Product Needs



5801 THORNTON AVENUE
DES MOINES • IOWA 50321
PHONE: (515) 283-1985

Ellen Tracy
Eileen Fisher
Chetta B.
Tamotsu
Helen Hsu



SILVER FOX
INGERSOLL AT 28TH

Iowa Jewish Historical Society Presents: Revisiting Your Life: The Art of Memoir



**Tuesday Evenings,
7-9 pm
April 8, 15, 22, 29 and May 6**

**Instructor,
Joanne Brown**

**Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Redstone Room
Cost: \$25**

Participants will explore the techniques of bringing their memories alive through language, writing about memorable people, events and places in their lives. Weekly sessions will include suggestions from the instructor, in-class writing exercises, and small group work.

Joanne Brown just retired as an English professor at Drake University, where she taught courses in writing fiction and personal essays, plus a range of courses on American literature. She has published short fiction and essays in addition to two books on literature for young adults.

REVISITING YOUR LIFE: THE ART OF MEMOIR Registration Form

Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____

Fill out this form and return with your check for \$25 to the Iowa Jewish Historical Society, 910 Polk Boulevard, Des Moines, IA 50312.

Students must register for the course before the April 8th class. This course is filled on a first-come, first-served basis and limited to 15. Register early to be assured of a place. For more information, contact Jody Hramits, IJHS Coordinator 277-6321



Dr. Arnold Gordon of Des Moines,
served as Winston Churchill's doctor
during World War II. (IJHS Archives)

Seeking photographs, stories, papers and materials related to World War II and Korean Service. The Iowa Jewish Historical Society is interested in expanding its archival materials on World War II and Korea. Preserve your personal history while helping us to learn more about the significant contribution of Jewish Iowans to the war effort. Donate your memorabilia to the IJHS Archives and Caspe Heritage Gallery. Photos and documents can be copied and the originals returned to you. Questions? Contact the IJHS at 277-6321 or by e-mail at iajhs@hotmail.com.



A Jewish Hoedown? You bet!! The Iowa Jewish Historical Society is interested in any information related to this event or the people pictured. If you can identify anyone or contribute any information, please give us a call at 277-6321 or contact us by e-mail ijhs@hotmail.com

Gallery Hours: Monday & Thursday 1 pm - 3:30 pm and by appointment. 987-0899
Please come and see the exhibit!

HILLYER CLEANERS
IN THE ROOSEVELT CENTER
COMPLETE DRY CLEANING, TAILORING & LAUNDRY
ALTERATIONS ARE A SPECIALTY WITH US.
863 42ND ST.
PHONE 277-0793 • PICK-UP & DELIVERY
7-6 Mon.-Fri. • 7-4 Sat.

TALK TO US ABOUT YOUR
PRINTING
810 East First Street • Pella, Iowa 50219
515-628-1130 • 800-326-6491 • Fax: 515-628-2826
TOWN CRIER, LTD
PRINTING & PUBLISHING

SIMON TIRE
Tel (515) 282-0205
www.SimonTire.com
201 East Walnut Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
Tire Outfitters Since 1914

Signature MORTGAGE GROUP
CATHY S. FAUSEL
V.P. OF SALES AND MARKETING
CATHY@SIGNATUREMORTGAGEGROUP.COM
2924 104TH ST URBANDALE IA 50322
515-270-9990 EXT. 321 / FAX 515-270-9991
TOLL FREE 877-861-2705 / CELL 515-710-7155
WWW.SIGNATUREMORTGAGEGROUP.COM

**PATRONIZE OUR
ADVERTISERS.
TELL THEM YOU SAW
THEIR AD IN THE
JEWISH PRESS.**

[To advertise in the Jewish Press,
call us at 277-6321!]

The New Jewish Poor

By Neil Greenbaum and Leonard Glickman

Imagine a largely well-off, Western-oriented Jewish community with European immigrant roots. Most members of the community have ancestors who escaped persecution and poverty and sailed across the Atlantic in hope of a better life for themselves and their families. They largely succeeded and through the years built a Jewish infrastructure in their new homeland that fostered diverse Jewish communal bonds and a love for first the idea and then the miracle of Israel. As a community, today they wrestle with the challenges of assimilation and intermarriage.

While this may sound like our own American Jewish community, it is in fact a description of the Jewish community of Argentina. We recently traveled there because it is a community in crisis.

Most of us associate the Argentine Jewish community with the unresolved terrorist bombings of their kehila and the Israeli embassy, during the early 1990s, which resulted in over 100 deaths. It is an important association and the community itself will be forever affected by these terrible events. We spent Shabbat at Tefilat Shalom synagogue in the southern part of Buenos Aires as that congregation remembered those who lost their lives as a result of the bombings. It was the Shabbat before the anniversary of the bombing of the AMIA building. One did not need to speak Spanish to feel their deep pain.

The crisis now, however, is not just one of bombings or the failure of two major Jewish owned banks. It is a community in peril because stitch by stitch it is unraveling as the fabric of its society deteriorates in the midst of Argentina's economic upheaval. While it is still the world's fourth largest Jewish community, its numbers have diminished to fewer than 200,000 people. Reports are that some one-third of them are at or below the Argentine poverty line.

It is difficult to write an opinion piece about an economic crisis and the resulting human hardship. Jobs are scarce and those who have managed to keep theirs are absorbing pay cuts of up to 50 percent. It will take many months and perhaps years for Argentina to climb out of this financial morass.

The Jewish community is struggling financially to keep its institutions intact. Synagogue and community center mergers are occurring. Once stable neighborhoods are being disrupted. Sadly, the situation appears to be worsening.

It is in fact so bad that a phrase has been coined for the impoverished in the Jewish community: "the new Jewish poor." Jewish businessmen, teachers, and other "professionals" are jobless with little hope for future employment. In a country where the social safety nets we take for granted do not exist, Jews are going to the synagogue not just for tefillot or socializing but for a weekly food ration. People who should be in the prime of their careers must struggle not just to feed and shelter themselves and their own children but to provide food and shelter for their parents. We even heard of Jewish families living dangerously under highway bypasses and in shantytowns – neighborhoods haphazardly constructed of corrugated metal shacks.

We of course knew of the community's problems before we arrived. We became increasingly concerned, however, as more and more Argentine Jews began contacting HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, for migration help. Similarly, we grew alarmed as reports reached us that some of them were coming to the United States ostensibly as tourists but staying so that they could work (without employment authorization). We decided to see what was happening with our own eyes and to meet with the top volunteer and professional leadership of the Argentine Jewish community.

As we have been for 120 years, HIAS is willing to help. Ironically, many of the Argentine Jews we are helping have ancestors who came to Argentina through HIAS.

At our recent immigrant scholarship ceremony the audience was told about a number of places in the Talmud that speak to the phrase "All Israel is responsible one for the other." We bear that responsibility each and every day. We are pledged to assist our brothers and sisters and when they hurt we feel it and want to help.

We and HIAS' Vice President for Operations Rachel Zelon (who once lived in Argentina and speaks Spanish fluently) returned to the United States with mixed emotions. We are sad for our brothers and sisters who have lost and continue to lose so much in Argentina. We are proud of how the Jewish community continues to be responsible for each other's well being through the fine relief and social welfare work of such American Jewish organizations as the Joint Distribution Committee and local Argentine organizations such as AMIA and the Buenos Aires-based Tzedakah Foundation. Our hearts and spirits are always lifted when we meet someone who was able to make a new life for his family especially through HIAS' help. We look forward to helping Argentine Jews embark on a migrant journey for a new life; a journey we Jews know all too well.

The Federation, through Jewish Community Services, is now working to help bring Jewish Argentinean families to Des Moines. If you would like to be part of this effort, please contact us at 277-6321.

Neil Greenbaum is Chair of the Board and Leonard Glickman is President and CEO of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.

Israel Mission Participants Come Home Safe, Sound and Energized

I feel more of a kinship with the Jewish people than I did before the trip And although it had been 32 years since my last visit, I am already planning my next trip – Neil Salowitz

"If the opposite of depression is not happiness but vitality, a journey to Israel is my prescription for anyone who seeks to 'renew our days'

– Journalist Nessa Rapoport

At the January meeting of the Federation's Board, the six Des Moines participants in the most recent Israel Solidarity Mission spoke cogently about what the trip meant to them personally. In each instance, the travelers described their experience as being very important, very moving, and not ever having felt themselves to be in personal

danger. The six participants were Rabbi Ari Sytner (Beth El Jacob Synagogue), Rabbi Baruch HaLevi (Tifereth Israel Synagogue), Rabbi Berel Simpser (Community Kollel of Des Moines), Elaine Steinger (Federation Director), Craig Kelson (Temple B'nai Jeshurun) and Neil Salowitz (Tifereth Israel Synagogue).

Here are excerpts from what Neil Salowitz had to say about the experience.

".....It was an intense five days.I didn't know what to expect after 32 years (my last trip to Israel). I was struck by how modern the country has become, but also saddened by the state of the economy and the psychic stress that comes from both the economic situation and the Intifada. Having said that, I was impressed by the resilience and determination of the people I met. Shopkeepers are struggling, but they're determined to stay open.

.... It's clear that we need Israelis as much as they need us. It's relatively easy to be a Jew in the United States, particularly in Des Moines. Although Israel is a Jewish state, there's a paradox in that it's in some ways more difficult to be Jewish there, what with the hatred displayed daily toward Israelis in particular and Jews in general by Palestinians and other Arabs. We need that reminder--that being Jewish is worth the struggle. ... I feel more of a kinship with "Am Yisroel" than I did before the trip.

Regarding the Partnership 2000 component of the trip, it was great to see what has been accomplished with our donations and support. The hospital was as modern as any I've seen in the States. It was also gratifying to learn how our donations support a youth drop-in center. Touring our P2K region made me realize how important our support--financial and otherwise--is to Israel.

For people with a limited amount of time, or people who want to understand how their contributions to the Federation and to P2K make a difference in the lives



Visiting the Emergency Vehicle donated by our community at Nahariya Hospital



Meeting with Partnership 2000 representatives in the Western Galilee



In front of the Children's Museum at the Ghetto Fighters' House (from left) Neil Salowitz, P2K JAFI Representative Damon Rose, Rabbis Berel Simpser and Ari Sytner, Federation Director Elaine Steinger, Craig Kelson, Rabbi Baruch HaLevi and GFH Director Simcha Stein

of Israelis, a mission is a great way to get a sense of the issues facing Israel, and how we as American Jews can help. Although it had been 32 years since my last visit, I'm already planning my next trip."

If you are interested in visiting Israel, inquire about the Federation's subsidy policy. Call 277-6321.