



Jewish Press

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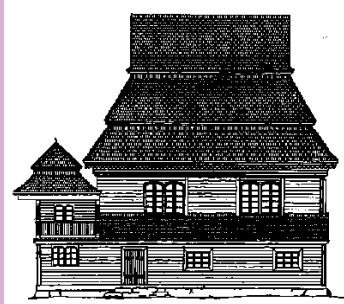
Purim

begins the evening
of Saturday, March
6

Happy



"Ask the Rabbi"
- page 6



**Community Holocaust
Commemoration and
The Lost Wooden
Synagogues Program,
Sunday, April 18**
- page 2

An Open Letter to the Greater Des Moines Jewish Community

Dear Community Member:

The Jewish Federation will close the 2004 All-In-One campaign in just a few weeks – after which we get down to work on planning and budgeting for the coming year. About this time of year, people concerned about the future often call and ask: Will the Federation be able to continue providing the essential Jewish services that we need?

To answer a question with questions ...

- Have we each pledged what is in our ability to give, to support the Jewish community?
- Have our gifts kept pace with increased costs over the years?
- Are we at the very least pulling our own weight, so that others are not called upon to cover the costs of what we can easily afford?
- Or, for that matter, have we contributed at all when called upon?

Friends, if you have answered 'no' to any one or more of the above, would you please stop for a moment and consider the value of having a viable Jewish community in which to live. And think about the number of communities in Iowa that used to have a living Jewish community and no longer do.

The bottom line is: this year we must

raise additional funds in the next few weeks to even maintain the same level of essential services as we have in the past.

We have done our part. We have reduced budgets in every way possible, cut staff, and have found creative ways to provide the high quality services you demand. And yet, we may now be forced to reduce services to our seniors and to our youth and may have to scale back our newspaper and other avenues of communication.

Any serious reductions are bound, of course, to decrease the vitality of our community – at a time when the needs of our community are, in fact, increasing! As our community ages, we will need to provide additional services to our seniors. As well, there has already been an increase in the number of people who turn to the Federation when seeking employment or temporary assistance. (We are, of course, glad to help, whenever we can.) In addition, as you may well know, we are living through a time when anti-Semitism has increased significantly internationally. In response to these troubling attacks, many of which are blamed on Israel, your Federation must respond in ways to help our youth understand and deal with situations which would otherwise prove corrosive to their Jewish identity. Federation, through our

Message from the Federation President Polly Oxley

To Support Jewish Education Locally, Take Advantage of Local Opportunities and

In the commentary above, Michael Steinhardt calls for strengthening Jewish education to help counteract the increasing erosion of Jewish identity in our young people. This makes good sense. With "the fading of this generation," as he puts it, we owe it to our children to do all we can to engage them in experiential activities that build knowledge and encourage our young people to identify with the Jewish people and lead Jewish lives.

On the local level, we can help build Jewish identity several ways.

One is to have our family members participate in as many of the available Federation and congregational educational programs as possible, enlarging not only the peer group of students but increasing parental interaction with programming and its planning.

Second, as adults, we have a wonderful resource in our community. It's called the Melton Adult Mini-School. Working together in a small group setting, students are introduced to, examine and grapple on their own terms with the major concepts of Judaism, as structured in curriculum developed at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Come get involved in Melton. It will enrich your life.

Third, to ensure that our Jewish Federation Community School and, in fact, our grantee Jewish day school, the Des Moines Jewish Academy, has sufficient funding to provide community programming, please give generously to the All-In-One Campaign, from which they are funded. Jewish education is subsidized by the Federation to keep costs to parents down. Please consider increasing your gift to the Campaign so that a Jewish education may be in reach of all who desire it.

Polly Oxley, President
Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines

USHMM'S 1936 OLYMPICS EXHIBIT OPENS

On April 19, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's traveling exhibit called "The Nazi Olympics, Berlin 1936" will open at the State Historical Building. Through pictures, text, and audio, this fascinating exhibit places the 1936 Summer Olympics in historical context. It tells of the debate to boycott the Nazi –controlled Olympic games, the Nazi propaganda endeavoring to present an image of a peaceful, tolerant Germany, and the fact that African American victories in track and field, at the games, disproved the Nazi claim of white racial superiority.

The exhibit is well worth seeing. It will be on display until October at the State Historical Building, 600 E. Locust,



Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines
910 Polk Boulevard
Des Moines, IA 50312-2297

Address Service Requested

[inside]

**3 NEW PROGRAM INTRODUCES B'NAI
MITZVAH STUDENTS TO
PHILANTHROPY**

**3 JEWISH PERSPECTIVES ON GIBSON
MOVIE**

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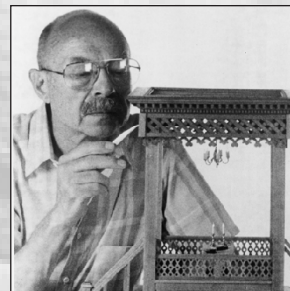
Lost Wooden Synagogues

lecture and documentary

For 400 years prior to World War II, the Jews of rural Eastern Europe built wooden synagogues, marvels of indigenous craftsmanship and artistic expression. For decades, the world believed that all of these structures were lost, destroyed in the path of Hitler's campaign to obliterate Jewish life and culture.

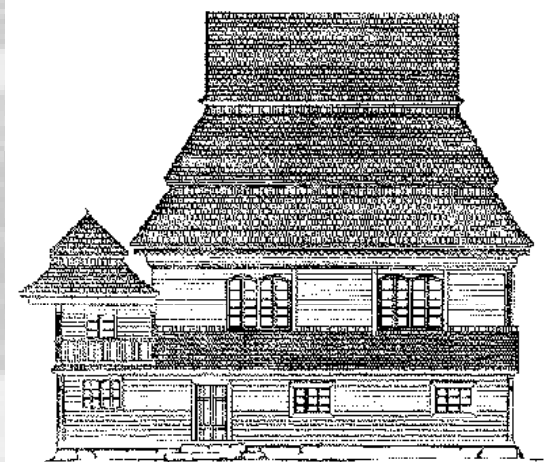
Then, a few years ago, a team from Hebrew University traveled to Lithuania and Latvia and discovered ten of the wooden synagogues that have miraculously survived both the Holocaust and 50 years of additional neglect.

Come and discover this exciting part of Jewish heritage for yourself, as told by the award-winning filmmaker Albert Barry.



Photojournalist **Albert Barry** has researched and collected rare photographs of the Eastern European wooden synagogues for the past forty years. He has lectured around the country and appeared in a four-part series on public television. More than 50 newspapers and magazines in North America have featured his work and research.

"The Lost Wooden Synagogues of Eastern Europe" Narrated by Theodore Bikel, tells the story of the lost synagogues, the life that surrounded them before the war and what happened to them in the last fifty years. The documentary has won awards in five film festivals and has received rave reviews from Elie Wiesel.



Sunday, April 18, 2004

The Caspe Terrace

6:15 - 6:45 pm: Community Yom HaShoah Service

Speaker: Harlan (Bud) Hockenberg

Member, U.S. Holocaust Council Washington, D.C.

7:00 pm: The Lost Wooden Synagogues

Lecture by Albert Barry and documentary film.

A reception follows the program.

Seating is limited and available on a first-come basis only. For further information call Federation at 277-6321.

This program was made possible by the Rebecca & Louis Nussbaum Adult Lecture Series and the Charles S. Steinger & Milton Liebman Memorial Fund.

Before their Bar or Bat Mitzvah, there's something you should

After the Hebrew lessons, after the parties, after all the fun, how can you help make your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah be the meaningful, life-changing experience that you hope it will be?

We have an engaging solution: The B'nai Tzedek program. A program that will provide your child with the opportunity to learn about, and participate in, the process of philanthropy. Each B'nai Tzedek participant will join his or her peers in learning about Tzedakah Values. They will then be exposed to our diverse group of Jewish organizations, each of which is working hard to change the world. This process of learning and participation in philanthropy will continue throughout your child's high school years.

We all want to teach our children to care about the world they live in. They just need a way to express how much they care. This is the perfect time to empower them, to begin to make their voices heard within our Jewish Community.

It is the hope of the community that these B'nai Tzedek children will go into the world with skills and knowledge that will shape their lives as participating Jewish adults.



know what they really care about.

B'nai Tzedek is simple. Here's how it works: your child contributes \$150 from his or her Bar or Bat Mitzvah gift money. The money is matched with

\$350 from the Suzanne & Larry Engman Fund of the Des Moines Jewish Foundation, totaling the \$500 B'nai Tzedek Fund established in your child's name, the interest of which is dispersed under your child's direction.

At your child's Bat or Bar Mitzvah they will receive a B'nai Tzedek Certificate welcoming them into the program. The Jr/Sr High School Program of the Jewish Federation Community School will have a Tzedakah program that will integrate B'nai Tzedek values.

Each spring, B'nai Tzedek participants will meet together, listen to presentations from the various local Jewish organizations and then choose which they wish to fund. They will meet and function much as a synagogue or Federation budget committee. After age 18, they may add to their personal account, and after age 25, they may start designating interest income to any Jewish organization 501(c) 3 of their choice. If a fund is inactive for more than five years it reverts to the General B'nai Tzedek Fund.

Des Moines Jewish
Foundation
Suzanne and Larry Engman
B'nai Tzedek Fund

B'nai Tzedek
Children of Righteousness

For more information, please call your congregational rabbi or call the Des Moines Jewish Foundation at

THE GREATER DES MOINES

Jewish

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

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

Vol. 20 No. 5, March/April 2004

PANEL TO DISCUSS MEL GIBSON'S FILM, "THE PASSION" MARCH 14

Much had already been written about "The Passion," even before its scheduled opening. Controversy surrounding this film, Gibson's interpretation of the story of the last 12 hours of Jesus' life, was based largely on the reactions of those who had either seen private screenings of preliminary versions or who studied drafts of the script. Some authorities familiar with the text of the Christian Gospels have identified elements in the preliminary versions that were either not historical or can be taken out of context, reinforcing negative stereotypes about Jews.

To help community members evaluate the contents and the potential impact of Gibson's movie in the version that has been released, JCRC will sponsor a panel discussion about the film as viewed from a Jewish perspective. Our panelists will include Rabbi Baruch HaLevi, Rabbi David Kaufman, and Robert Wolfson, Director of the Plain States ADL, in Omaha. The panel will be moderated by JCRC Director Mark Finkelstein. All are

real people, true stories

Celebrating the Volunteerism of Mrs. Shirley Berck

"Reach Out & Touch Someone" is not simply a slogan to Mrs. Shirley Berck. It is a reality.



For over a year, Shirley has taken it upon herself to check up on a number of seniors by telephone each morning. "It is an easy and friendly way to make sure everyone is OK," says Shirley, adding that some of the people she calls are housebound, as she herself is, since a recent set of surgeries.

"They're always happy to receive a call," she reports. "And if by 8:30 am I haven't called, the people on my list call me."

What a wonderful gift – the gift of caring – Shirley Berck brings to the community.

"Maybe others would like to start their own calling list?" she asks. We promised we would convey her idea far and wide.

Thank you, Mrs. Berck.

Mrs. Shirley Berck, a longtime resident of Des Moines, with a Bachelors and Masters degree in Education from Drake University, retired in 1989 after 38 years of teaching, mostly Kindergarten. She enjoys quilting, attending the Jewish Community Services senior luncheons, and belonging to a variety of clubs.

This column is brought to you by the All-In-One Campaign of the Jewish Federation, urging you to make a difference. Contribute to your community. Give generously to the All-In-One Campaign.

College Scholarships Available

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, 2004**. 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



**JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES IS A PILLAR WITHIN
THE JEWISH FEDERATION.**

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

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

Senior News Calendar of Events March

Tuesday, 9th - Botanical Center

Meet at Beth El at 10:00 am, visit the Botanical Center – Lunch at Noah's Ark Restaurant.

Sunday, 14th - Lakeside Casino

Leaving Beth El 10:00 am and returning mid-afternoon.

Thursday, 25th - Senior Luncheon

Noon at Beth El – Program will be on Medicare waste, fraud and abuse. Please call Dorothea at 277-6321 for reservations by Tuesday the 23rd.

April

Wednesday, 21st - Perry Trip

We will be leaving Beth El at 10:00 am for Perry to Thymes Remembered Tea Room. Over 6,000 feet of gift shops and tea room offering gifts, clothing, garden, bath and floral items, dolls, decorative accessories and a wonderful dining experience.

Thursday, 29th - Senior Luncheon

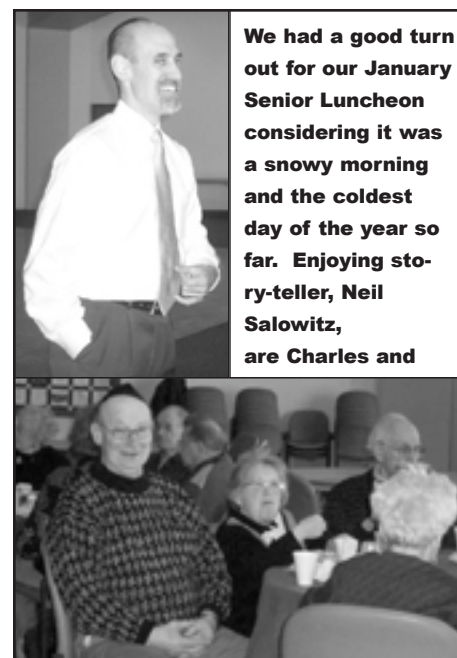
Tifereth Israel Synagogue at noon. Please have reservations made by Tuesday the 27th.

May

Thursday, 6th - "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing" We hope to have a limited number of Playhouse tickets for "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing", a family audience play at the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre at 7:00 pm. Tickets available, for you and your spouse, on Wednesday, May 5th, on a first-come basis.

Friday, 7th - Pella Tulip Festival Activities going on all day or just enjoy admiring the blooming tulips. We will leave Beth El at 9:00 am and return in the early evening.

To be scheduled sometime in May: Trip to the 1936 Olympics Exhibit at the State Historical Building.



We had a good turn out for our January Senior Luncheon considering it was a snowy morning and the coldest day of the year so far. Enjoying story-teller, Neil Salowitz, are Charles and

Project Elijah

Jewish Family and Community Services' Project Elijah, the community initiative to assist Argentinian Jews struggling from the last few years of economic disasters, is in full swing.

Currently, one family will be relocating to Des Moines by next month. Mr. Gerardo Badgen will be here in March and his wife and two school age children, ages seven and eleven, will join him soon after. Gerardo owned his own business in Argentina and is an accountant by profession. He will be using those business and finance skills here in Des Moines working for South American Beef Company. Many people are eagerly awaiting their arrival and looking forward to welcoming them to our community.

The Jewish Federation would like to thank the Zuckert Family Foundation for the initiating grant of \$100,000 to begin Project Elijah, and the efforts to assist Argentine Jewry along with Alice Friedgood, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Mond, Silvia Klein, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Fritzler and Philip and Elana Schneider for all their effort and offers of assistance.

Another program the JFCS is coordinating is a campaign by our synagogue youth groups to assist the Jewish orphanage, Yeladeinu ("Our Children" in Hebrew), in Buenos Aires. It is generally unheard of for a Jewish community to not be able to care for their young and especially to have to start an orphanage. This shows how severe the crisis in Argentina really is and how the repercussions of the economic crisis will be felt for many years to come. The orphanage provides a home for over 50 children who have no home of their own to sleep and eat in. There are over 150 more young children who may live at home but are fed and clothed daily at the orphanage. Yeladeinu provides a wide array of social, nutritional and educational needs for the struggling community.

The youth groups are planning a Bowl-A-Thon, auction, and possibly a theater production to raise funds for the orphanage and their youth. A trip to Buenos Aires is being planned for representatives of the youth groups and their advisors to visit other youth groups there and to see the activities of the orphanage first hand. This trip is expected to inspire our teen leaders to rally even more support from Des Moines' Jewish youth in the future. The youth groups and their advisors are very excited about these opportuni-

Israel Independence Day Community Event SUNDAY, APRIL

In Profile: Alex Roytman



Currently a freshman in Pre-Law at the University of Chicago, it hasn't been easy for 18-year old Alexander Roytman. When his parents Irina Yanovskaya and Peter Roytman immigrated to Des Moines from Kiev in 1994, Alex – or Sasha, as he is known to friends – was just 9 years old. The family came with assistance from the Jewish Federation, which they gratefully acknowledge. Neither Sasha nor his parents knew any English. Sasha learned the language by going to Camp Shalom and interacting with children, including other young people from Russia,

some of whom spoke some English, and then, when he was a student at the Des Moines Jewish Academy, he was enrolled in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. Eventually, the youngster, who, according to his parents, was a good student in the Ukraine, learned English.

This "good student" then blossomed during high school. At Des Moines' East High School, he took advanced courses at Central Campus, compiled a GPA of 4.25 and was selected class Valedictorian. Awarded a Presidential Scholarship to Truman University in Missouri, Alex opted to attend the University of Chicago.

We learn a bit about Alex from what he says he enjoys. He loves playing soccer, chess ... and poker. His travels have taken him to Germany, Finland, Poland, through Russia and the Ukraine, and across America. He takes pride in defining himself as an ultra-conservative in political ideology as well as a libertarian in economic beliefs.

As college is a stepping-stone to future accomplishments, we, at the Federation, hope he will go – as they say in the language of Judaism – "from strength to strength."

Shabbat Across America – Shabbat Across Des Moines

.....A Weekend of Inspiration.... A Shabbat of Introspection March 12-13

Program highlights (Look in your mail for details and registration forms):

March 12th - Shabbat Dinner at Temple B'nai Jeshurun 7 p.m.

March 13th - Shabbat Lunch at Tifereth Israel Synagogue 12 Noon at Judaic Resource Center 6 p.m.

After Shabbat – Melave Malka and Kumsitz at Beth El Jacob - 8 p.m. music spirited singing and dinner

Co – sponsored by Jewish Federation, TBJ, T.I., BEJ and organized by the Community Kollel of Des Moines, in conjunction with the National Jewish Outreach Program. For information, please call the Kollel office at 279-7060.

JCRC EVENT

Sharing with our neighbors: A Passover Workshop for Jews and Christians, March 29

For all who wish to enjoy a taste of Passover and deepen their knowledge of the holiday, the Federation's Jewish Community Relations Commission will offer a program at the Caspe Terrace, Tuesday, March 29, with gift and food items on display from 6:00 pm and the program from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. The program is \$3.00 per person, requiring pre-registration by Thursday, March 25.

The program will feature presentations on aspects of Passover by the rabbis, including a special session for members of the Christian community. Both Maccabee's Deli and The Nosh Kosher Deli will have samples of Passover food for the tasting and a selection of goods for sale. And one or more of the congregational gift shops, including Temple B'nai Jeshurun's Gift Shop, will be on hand with holiday items.

The Caspe Heritage Gallery, located on the ground floor level of the Bucksbaum Arts Wing, will be open from 6 pm - 8:45 pm for your convenience on March 29. The Gallery is operated by the Iowa Jewish Historical Society and has an outstanding display of artifacts illustrating the story of Jewish life in Iowa.

The three workshops will run concurrently, twice.

Session I begins 6:30 pm. The three workshops will be repeated at 7:15 pm, for Session II (Passover in the Christian Tradition will continue with new material during Session II)

"More than Matzah and Mishagas: The Spiritual Journey of Passover" with Rabbi Baruch Halevi, Tifereth Israel Synagogue

"Passover in the Christian Tradition" with additional reflections on Gibson's film "The Passion" with Rabbi David Kaufman, Temple B'nai Jeshurun



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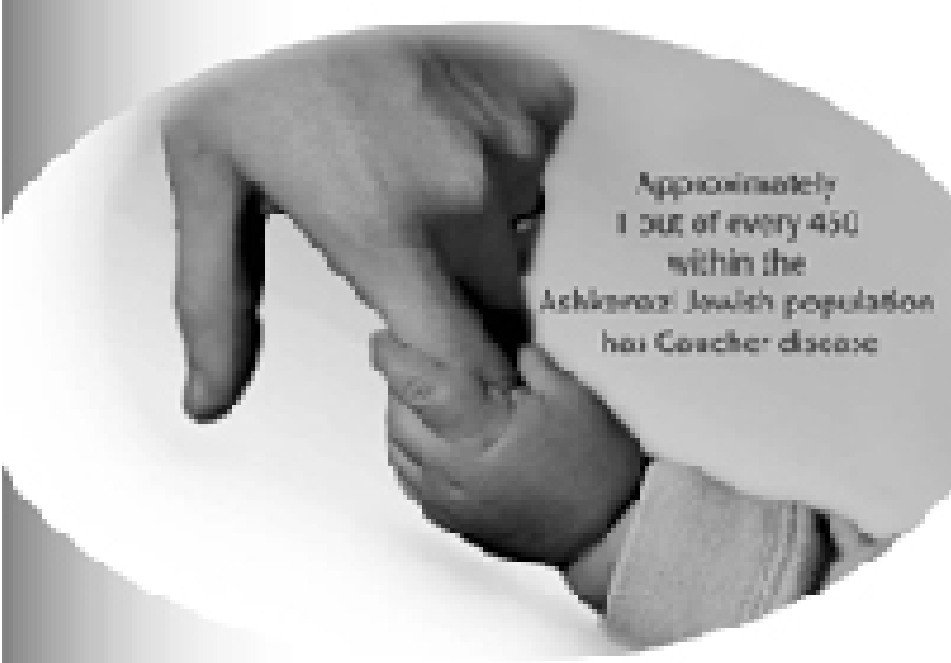
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JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY

Since January, students have continued their Judaic studies in all grades concentrating on Hebrew language and prayer with third through fifth grades.

In February, students in preschool through sixth grade were busy once again selling Barton's chocolate Passover candy. Sales went well. For students, it is always fun receiving their special gift from Bartons at the end of their sales.

We also took a chartered bus to Ames to do a joint program with the Ames Jewish Congregation's religious school students. We had a great turnout, everyone had fun and it was great for our Des Moines students to meet these students from Ames.

CALENDAR

March 17 – 3rd – 6th grade Seder (changed from March 31st)
 March 21 – March 28 – no school – spring break
 March 25th – March 28th – Jr/Sr High School students' trip to New York
 March 31 – Wednesday – school resumes for 3rd through 6th and Jr/Sr H.S.
 April 4 – Sunday – Pre-K-2nd grade Seder
 April 4 – Engman Camp Shalom registration – 9:30 – 11:30 Temple B'nai Jeshurun
 April 6 & 7 – office closed – Pesach
 April 7 – no school – Pesach
 April 12 & 13 – office closed – Pesach
 April 17 – 3rd – 6th grade – end of year school party (replaces Shul-In)

Wishing you a happy, safe and joyous Passover with your family and friends – JFCS



1. JFCS students attended the wedding of Charity Brigham and Sam Weinberg, two fifth-graders from Mrs. Hjelmaas' class. Officiating the wedding: Cantor Lilly Steimel, Rabbi Dorrie Bruggemann, and Rabbi Zvi Cramer. (This mock wedding was performed by the fifth-grade class as part of their Jewish life cycle studies). 2. Preschoolers were busy finger painting their special Tu B'shevat trees in Mrs. Shulman's class. 3. Ms. Abram's 4th graders took time out from their studies to work with Susan Bassman

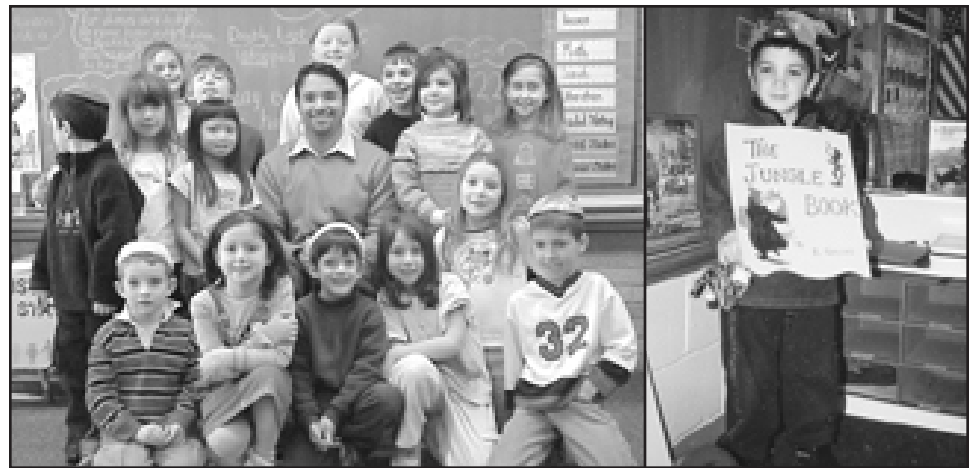
DES MOINES JEWISH ACADEMY

Rabbi HaLevi explores many topics during his bi-weekly sessions of "Ask the Rabbi" with the students of the Des Moines Jewish Academy. The students come prepared with their own questions for Rabbi HaLevi and Rabbi never fails to provide an answer or more interesting question to pursue. His emphasis on "learning" as one of the most important aspect of Judaism is an inspiration for the students. Besides "Ask the Rabbi", the students celebrate Havdalah each Monday morning under the direction of Dr. D i e r d r e F a r r .

The students raise their voices in song as Dr. Farr lights the Havdalah candle and the children smell the beautiful spices. They sing Shavuah Tov, "a good week," as they return to class for a week of challenging study.

The Des Moines Jewish Academy is dedicated to excellence in education in religious and secular studies. Fridays are "Fine Arts Day." Students enjoy activities in Art, Music and Athletics with extra time to explore good literature in the Library. Yishai H e i f e t z (on right) is dressed as his favorite book. In Art, the students have studied Matisse and applied his artistic techniques to their own creations, decorating the halls with their art.

Small class size and individual attention from well trained and experienced teachers ensures that students are working to their potential, and often surpassing stan-



The DMJA is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2004-2005 school year. Call (515) 274-0453 for your enrollment packet or to make an appointment to visit the school. Come visit and see how exciting learning can be.

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AMES RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

From A to Z at AJC

Our month of January began with our first ever "Torah Partners" parent/child program with Rabbi Rosenbloom. Parents joined our 4th through 7th graders on January 11th to discuss the Prophet Amos. There was great interactive discussion regarding the characteristics of a prophet and what made Amos special. Rabbi Rosenbloom taught us that Amos was considered a "lesser prophet" that made a significant contribution as the first real monotheist.

On January 17th our 6th and 7th graders traveled to the Caspe Terrace in Waukee to join students from the Des Moines Jewish Federation School for a Shul-In. Everyone had a great time although sleeping was not part of this experience. John Pleasants led the kids in song and conducted the Havdalah service. Steve Kawaler led some great discussion about how stargazing helps to determine when Shabbat is over. Do you know how they determined when to celebrate Shabbat on the space shuttle? It was a beautiful clear winter evening. We all enjoyed viewing Saturn through Steve's telescope.

The kids played games, ate pizza, and watched movies till the wee hours of the morning. The best part was watching the kids making new Jewish friends. From A to Z...guess what ZZZZZzzzzzz stands for?

Senior Youth Group: conducted a clothing drive from February 6-29th. Clothes are being donated to local charities. Friday, January 23rd they had a Shabbat dinner where the proceeds went to Mazon. Over \$150 was sent. Following the dinner they led the Friday evening Shabbat service.

Shalom,
Adah and Robyn

From Hadassah

Regional Hadassah Members to Advocate in Washington May

The Upper Midwest Region Hadassah has organized a "Day on the Hill" to meet with members of Congress, the Israeli Embassy, and Jewish and women's advocacy groups. They will discuss U.S.-Israel relations, separation of church and state, and women's health concerns with top government officials. For more information contact Laurie Rosenwasser at (952) 924-4002.



Superbowl The Party

An occasion like the Super Bowl is a good enough excuse just to bring people together!



if you could change the world,
what would you do?

HADASSAH
Join Us

Hadassah is committed to changing peoples' lives in Israel,
the United States and around the world through medicine,
teaching, advocacy, education, land reclamation
and youth programs.

Our work is far from finished.

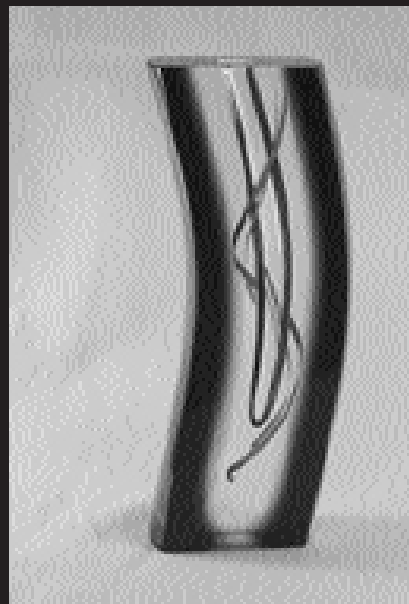
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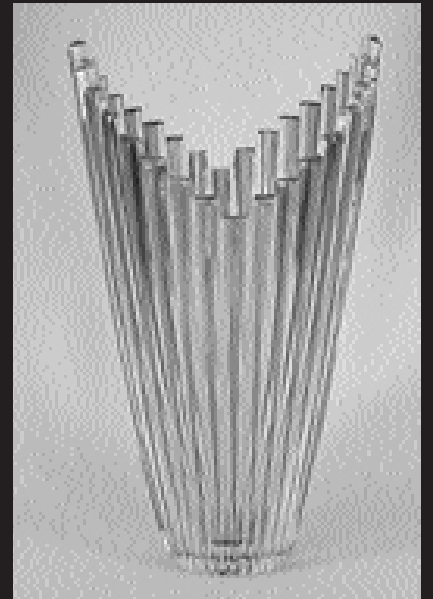
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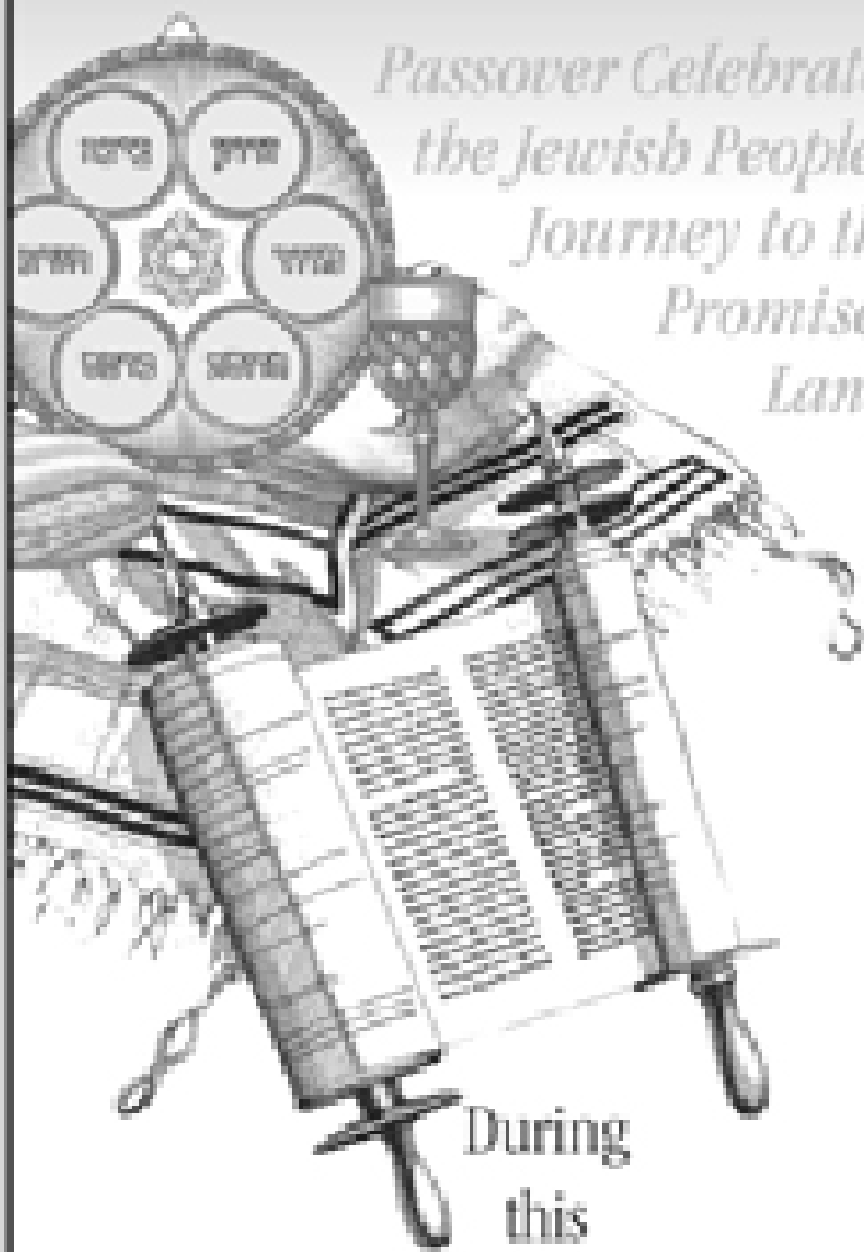
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[education]

FLORENCE MELTON ADULT MINI-

Oh what a wonderful year of learning at the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School in Des Moines! It's hard to believe that as you read this article we have completed 24 of the 30 classes that make up the first and second year Melton



Program. We have met on Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:15 pm at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Next year our Melton Program will be meeting at Temple B'nai Jeshurun.

Rabbi Berel Simpser has been teaching Rhythms of Jewish Living, and Dr. David Friedgood is teaching the class titled Purposes of Jewish Living to our first year class. This class has twenty four students in it, which is the largest class that we've ever had in the history of Melton in Des Moines!

Our second year classes have been taught during the first 15 weeks by Rabbi Berel Simpser who taught Ethics of Jewish Living. Elaine Steinger, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation, taught Dramas of Jewish Living. During the last 15 weeks of the year Rabbi Baruch HaLevi is teaching Ethics of Jewish Living and Rabbi Berel Simpser is teaching Dramas of Jewish Living. The second year class has had a wonderful combination of educators.

On February 5, 2004 Melton Graduates came together to continue their studies. This year we offered "A Smorgasbord of Jewish Learning." We had a class on The Modern Jewish Poets with Dr. Melvin Wilk as our instructor. Mark Finkelstein taught a class on The Law of Return: Israel's promise of Refuge. Reconstructionist Judaism; the basic idea, the basic problem was taught by Dr. Allen Scult. Rabbi David Kaufman taught Passion Plays and Persecution: Why we worry about Gibson's Passion. This was an impressive group of scholar educators teaching our Melton students. Our second hour was taught by Dr. David Friedgood. He taught a class on Maimonides-"A Famous Jew" which he first taught last summer and it has been very well received.

Thursday evening in Des Moines has been a special time of Jewish learning. We regularly have over 50 students coming together to study Judaism and Jewish topics. The active interplay between students and teachers has been constant and is always

Interested?

The Florence Melton Adult Mini-School, a project of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is an innovative concept for Jewish learners from all backgrounds, aimed at enabling Jewish adults to learn seriously about our heritage and culture in a challenging and inspiring course of study.

The unique curriculum is pluralistic, introducing every Jew to the shared heritage of our people. The 2-year program consists of 30 sessions per year, held weekly for 2 hours, plus a short break.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines is proud to sponsor the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School in Central Iowa. We invite you to join 15,000 adults in more than 50 communities throughout the Jewish world, whose lives have been changed by this internationally acclaimed school of study.

There are no grades or required examinations. Upon completion of the program, graduates receive a certificate of Jewish Learning from Hebrew University. All graduates of the Melton Mini-School are eligible to attend the Melton Mini School trip to Israel.

FIRST YEAR

The Purposes of Jewish Living

This course explores the meaning and purpose of life from a Jewish perspective. We present essential Jewish theological concepts as they unfold in the Bible, the Talmud and other sacred texts. Instructor: Dr. David Friedgood

The Rhythms of Jewish Living

This course deals with the daily and cyclical Jewish experience. Students study the central ideas, beliefs and practices that define Jewish life. Instructor: Rabbi Berel Simpser

SECOND YEAR

The Dramas of Jewish Living

This course looks at the dramatic developments, experiences and issues from different periods in Jewish history, as reflected in historical texts.

The Ethics of Jewish Living

This course addresses the relationship between Jewish life and ethical behavior. It presents a text-based approach to Jewish ethical foundations dealing with issues such as justice, life and death, sexuality and community.

Schedule: First-Year Class: Thurs. 7:00-9:15 pm at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Classes begin Thurs. Sept. 9. Space is limited. Enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis. Class minimum: 15 students. Enrollment deadline: May 3, 2004. Tuition per year: Individual \$375 plus \$100 material fee. Couple \$650 plus \$100 material fee (couples share materials). A non-refundable \$100 deposit per person is due at time of registration. For More Information: Contact Alice Friedgood, Coordinator

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10 ways to leave a legacy

There's more than one way to leave your imprint for future generations.
Consider the following suggestions from the Jewish Federation's Endowment Department and the Leave a Legacy Campaign, sponsored by the National Committee on Planned Giving:

- Prepare a will. Only 50 percent of Americans have one. Without a will, you may lose control of your belongings.
- Leave a gift in your will for the Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign. With a will, your property goes where you want it. Fewer than 6 percent of American households have included charities in their estate plan.
- Leave a specific dollar amount or a percentage of the assets in your estate to a charity you care about.
- Consider using appreciated stocks, bonds, CDs or real estate for your charitable gifts. Such gifts provide double tax savings.
- Name the Jewish Federation or one of its agencies as the beneficiary of your pension plan or IRA and save taxes of up to 80 percent.
- Purchase a new life insurance policy naming your favorite charity as the beneficiary.
- Create a Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE) Fund using the proceeds from an existing life insurance policy or current gift of appreciated stock.
- Remember loved ones with memorial gifts. Many naming opportunities are now available through the Jewish Federation.
- Encourage family and friends to leave gifts to the Jewish community in their wills.
- Ask your financial advisor to include charitable giving as part of his or her counsel to clients.

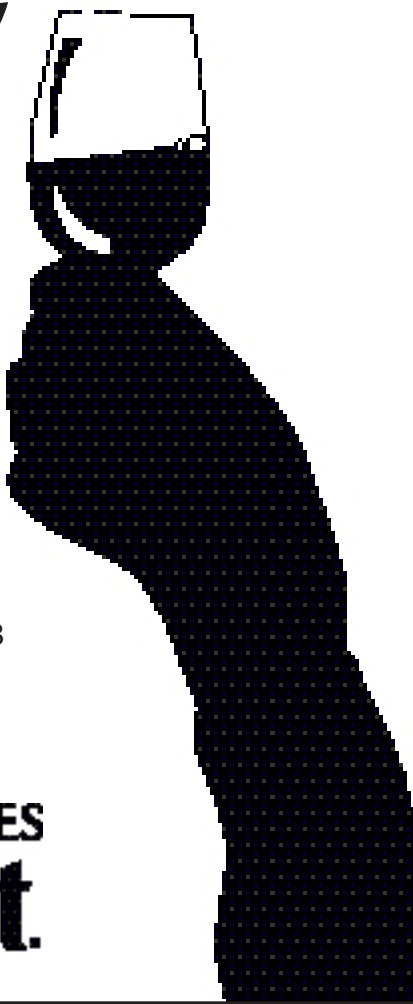
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Future of the Jewish Community Depends on Bolstering Jewish Education, Now.

Excerpts from Michael Steinhart's
Address at the 2003 General Assembly
Our Young People are Adrift Jewishly

There is no question that Israel faces serious problems – externally, with its seemingly intractable existential threats, and internally, with its pressing economic and social problems.

But whereas Israel captures the world's headlines, the state of the Diaspora is a focus of relatively few, even though, in some respects, it is far more vulnerable.

In almost all countries of the Diaspora, the non-Orthodox community is at best stagnant; in many places in decline. The decline, alas, happens almost imperceptibly, and thus eludes attention and concern. Yet the cumulative erosion has gravely weakened the vitality of Diaspora Jewry.

For the majority, the surge in assimilation is outstripping our efforts at renewal. Yes, there have been pockets of reawakening. But the recent National Jewish Population Survey, whatever its flaws, will confirm that overall, the decline continues. Indeed, if the vibrancy of our community hinges on the Jewish education of its constituents, then this part of the Diaspora community, its majority, is in crisis. Our people are adrift, their urge to live Jewishly or even to remain Jewish, enfeebled.

By the measure of devotion to Israel, the generational difference is immense. Young Jews today have a mere fraction of the attachment to Israel of my generation. And Jewish literacy – knowledge of our books, our history, our culture – is arguably at an all-time low. Our intermarriage rates remain at record levels.

Only Jewish education can bolster Jewish identity.

If there is one Jewish value that dominates our history, it is education. Many, myself included, would attribute our achievements to this emphasis on learning.

In modern times, we focus on the general disciplines to the neglect of Jewish education. We feel it to be the highest honor when our children graduate from Harvard – but shockingly we feel no shame when our children, Harvard diplomas in hand, do not know a single word of Hebrew.

Growing up in post-World War II Brooklyn, even those of us with little formal Jewish education found it easy to remain in the fold. We were immersed in Jewish culture: the sounds of Yiddish, the aromas of Jewish cooking.

There was an influx of refugees with numbers on their arms, and awareness of the immigrant experience on the one hand and anti-Semitism on the other, served to unite the community.

Today, with the fading of this generation and the unprecedented acceptance of Jews into mainstream society, we have lost a natural connection to Jewish culture. Thus, more than ever, our survival depends on the next generation's becoming educated. We need to bring about a Jewish renaissance for our young people.

Consider how little many of us know about our history, our culture, our language. We do not know enough about our religion to take true pride in it. We remain Jewish on the vapors of cultural memory.

I ask: Does anyone wake with a start in the middle of the night and say: "Our children know little about their people. They do not know why being Jewish should be important to them. What are we going to do about this?"

I don't think we are seriously considering this question at all, certainly not in a challenging and sustained manner....

It takes wisdom greater than mine to anticipate what will resonate spiritually for our future generations. But I feel it is time to articulate a vision of a common Judaism which will speak to all Jews, regardless of geography, ideology, or level of observance.

We can identify several key concepts:

- The pre-eminence of Jewish peoplehood as a unifying ideal;
- The centrality of the State of Israel

to the Jewish soul;

- The imperative of Jewish education to maintain and reinforce Jewish life;
- Tzedakah as the life spring of our community; and
- a keen respect for meritocracy.

Perhaps for the contemporary Jew, theology is less important than the Jewish values that have persisted for 3-4,000 years.

We should listen to our children who have been alienated.

They yearn for a Judaism which will emphasize Jewish joy so that all, regardless of background, can take part in the simcha and revelry of Shabbat and Passover and Sukkot.

They yearn for a Judaism which will be a viable alternative to the competing ideas swirling around them: Eastern cults, New Age movements, Christianity and, above all, the secularism that pervades all aspects of society.

To meet this competition in the free marketplace of ideas in an open society, Jewish offerings will have to be far more resonant. Our people will no longer determine Jewishness by lineality but by choice. Whether they lay tefillin or keep kosher will matter less than whether they throw their lot in with the Jewish people.

Jewish education is the only way to pave this yellow brick road – and we must ensure that this education be far more

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Stacie Franklin And Her Son, Jeremy, Travel Israel For Two

Jeremy and I want to extend a sincere thank you to the Des Moines Jewish Federation! We truly appreciate the support that you gave us to help us with a travel subsidy to Israel. This trip was very meaningful to both Jeremy and I.

We hope that the Federation will be able to continue to promote and support future visits for others from Des Moines to Israel, especially to our Partnership 2000 area in the Western Galilee, who were so very warm and hospitable towards us. Thanks again for this special

From 12/23/2003 – 1/6/2004, we experienced about as much of Israel as humanly possible. Each day was packed with adventures and building relationships with Israelis. It was through this experience that Jeremy and I could really begin to understand the mindset of the Israelis, the incredible connection that Jewish people from all over the world have with Israel, and what makes that state such a special and unique place.

Obviously there are risks with traveling to Israel, but there are also risks with staying at home or traveling to any part of the world. It was apparent to us, once we arrived, that we were not alone in our assessment that the risks are low enough now for general touring of Israel. We never felt scared, except, of course, while driving in some of the Israeli taxis at what seemed to exceed the speed of light.

There were many Des Moines connections for our trip. We went back and visited Kibbutz Tzorah where I lived in 1982-1983. My host family at that time was a former shaliach from Des Moines, Motti and Atara Arad. We also visited

with Ayelet Kleinman, who of course, was a recent shaliach last year in Des Moines. Another visit we had was with Sigal Mazor, who stayed with us two summers ago while she was working in Camp Shalom as one of the Israeli Scouts. I also had a nice conversation with Dr. Norman Loberant, who is president of a reformed temple in Nahariya that is a Partnership 2000 (P2K) partner to our Temple B'nai Jeshurun.

Because I teach the 9th Grade Israel Class at the Des Moines Jewish Federation School, I had a unique opportunity to learn more about the P2K Education efforts under the outstanding leadership of Yehuda Peled. I joined a teacher delegation from Ohio and attended five days of working with the schools and touring in our partner region of the Galilee. I was extremely impressed with the professionalism from everyone associated with the Partnership 2000 and the Israeli partner schoolteachers and principals themselves. Not only are they instilling an incredible education for their young generation of students, but they are also

amazing individuals in their own right.

I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to partner with a terrific teacher through P2K, Hava Herer, who teaches at the Ort Roz Junior High in Akko. She has selected 16 students (out of many, many more who applied) to work together with our Des Moines class of 13 students on a project for the remainder of the school year. This will indeed be a great learning experience for both sets of students and could lead to long-term friendships for many years to come.

We also met another teacher, Sharon Zohar, and her students from The Stella and Charles Guttman Ort Comprehensive School in Netanya. These students have already been communicating with our students here in Des Moines through email during the first half of the school year.

Touring the state of Israel was incredible. We visited and learned about sites that are special to a wide diversity of people. We met special individuals who are working hard to bridge the gap between the various religions and cultures. This was particularly evident in the programs sponsored through the Ghetto Fighter's Museum and the college in Akko. We participated in an archeological dig and dug up pottery remains which had not been touched by human hands for over 2000 years. It was really exciting to understand some of Israel's ancient history through hands-on experiences such as that.

Please feel free to view our personal photo album online. It can be referenced

by clicking on the hyperlink "Israel Photos" on the Temple B'nai Jeshurun website found at <http://www.templebnaijeshurun.org/>.

Jeremy and I had an amazing time while touring Israel. It was a growing experience for both of us. Perhaps you will also be able to consider a trip in the near future to experience and support Israel.

Jeremy's Comments On The Israel Trip:

My trip to Israel was the most exciting trip I've been on yet! When we went to the airport on the way to Israel, everybody was speaking in different languages and it was hard to communicate. The airplane journey was 16 hours long from Des Moines to Israel. And there was an eight-hour time change. It took a week to catch up with the time change. You might all ask, "Did you get bored on the airplane ride?" Well, actually, it was ok because they always had a movie or a show going on all the time on the airplane.

The main places that we went to were Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Akko, the Dead Sea, the Galilee and Mount Massada. Jerusalem was definitely an experience for me. I had a blessing at the Western Wall for my Bar Mitzvah. All of Jerusalem is made out of Jerusalem stone, even the sidewalks. Akko was another experience of a lifetime. In Akko, most of it was ancient Turkish and Roman Crusader ruins. But when you go there, you can actually get a feel of what it was like back then. On the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, we watched huge waves crash against the rocks. The Dead

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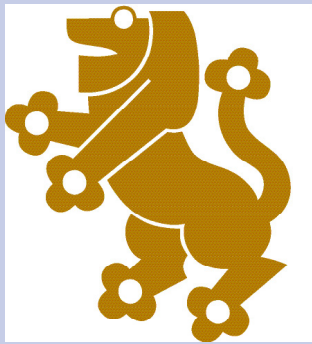


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Lion of Judah

In the Bible (Genesis 49:9), Jacob's fourth-born son, Judah, is described as a lion's whelp, poised to spring at his enemies in defense of his people. The courage that made Judah a noble leader is symbolized in Aryeh Yehuda, the Lion of Judah. Therefore, it is appropriate that the lion is also the symbol of the Women's Campaign, as together we provide courage, strength and inspiration for our people.

A History of the Lion of Judah Society

Introduced in 1972 for the Miami Women's Division campaign, the Lion of Judah pin has firmly established itself as a symbol of commitment to the world-wide Jewish community.

The diamond inset 14-karat gold pin was created for the woman making a personal pledge to the annual campaign of \$5,000 or more. When the program started, there were 16 women who qualified; by the end of the 1970's there were more than 400 women in Miami who were Lions. Today, over 13,000 women worldwide proudly wear the Lion of Judah pin.

In 1980, guidelines developed by leaders of the Miami and UJA National Women's Campaign enabled other communities to participate in the program by adding their individual logo designs to the copyrighted pin. This is the only variance permitted except for Or L'Atid - symbol of the Lion of Judah Endowment.

In 1983, a national logo was created for the pin. Regional and National Lion of Judah events have helped expand the program, which has also been adapted by Keren Hayesod.

In 1985, a Lion of Judah pin with a ruby inset was established in recognition of an individual woman's personal commitment of \$10,000 or more to the annual campaign.

As the decade of the 1980's ended, the program was extended to recognize even higher levels of women's giving. A sapphire inset acknowledges contributors of a minimum of \$18,000, and an emerald inset for those women who contribute \$25,000 or more.

In 1992, to mark the 20th anniversary of the pin, a new \$50,000 level was established with a canary diamond inset; the stone and the category it represents are known as the Zahav (golden) diamond.

In 2001, two new levels were created. The Sabra level recognizing gifts of \$75,000 or more, with a cognac diamond. For women contributing at least \$100,000, the Prime Ministers Council pin was created in white gold with a black diamond inset in the eye.

Women's Campaigns have assumed an increasingly significant role in raising funds for the UJA Federation Campaign. More than 13,000 women from communities throughout the United States, and through Keren Hayesod, proudly participate in the Lion of Judah program. The Lion of Judah symbol has come to signify the dedication and commitment to mobilize ideas, as well as human and financial resources, to pursue justice and repair the world.

The Lion of Judah Endowment Program

The Lion of Judah Endowment program is the National Women's Philanthropy Major Gifts component of the Perpetual Annual Campaign

honor and commitment is symbolized
by membership in esteemed Jewish women's division philanthropic

Pomegranates

History of the Pomegranate

In 1981, Sybil Baiman, who was then the President of the Allentown, PA Federation, and Jeanette Eichenwalk, then Campaign Chair, determined to develop a pin which would enhance giving in the upper divisions. Working with Kenneth L. Mayer, a talented goldsmith and gemologist, they came up with the prototype for the Pomegranate Pin.

The Pomegranate Symbol

The pomegranate is an ancient fruit often identified in our Holy Scriptures. The Oxford English Dictionary states: "a large roundish, many-celled berry with many seeds, each enveloped in a pleasantly acid, juicy reddish pulp, enclosed in a tough rind of a golden color tinged with red." Also, "...the flower of the pomegranate is usually scarlet."

Ita Aber, in *The Art of Judaic Needlework*, writes: "As a Jewish symbol, the pomegranate is recognized as one of the most perfect spheres in nature. As a symbol of fertility and plenty, it is one of the so-called 'seven species' (of those fruits and grains of Biblical Israel). It is supposed to come close to having 613 seeds, representing the number of commandments referred to in the Bible. Because it was so loved by so many people, it was not unusual that this fruit was frequently used for synagogue decoration.

The Song of Songs refers to the pomegranates thusly: "Thy shoots are a park of pomegranates, with precious fruits. Thy temples are like a pomegranate split open behind thy veil." In Exodus 39: 24-26, "And they made upon the skirts of the robe pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet and twined linen. And they made bells of pure gold and put the bells between the pomegranate; a bell and a pomegranate upon the skirts of the robed 'round about, to minister in, as G-d commanded Moses." These are descriptions of the priestly garments for Aaron and his sons.

- The Pomegranate is a community within the Jewish Federation for women whose individual giving begins at \$1,500 to the Jewish Community Federation's Annual Campaign.
- Belonging to the Pomegranate connects you to a unique group of Jewish women and allows you to meet other women who, like you, are committed to bringing Jewish values to life through Tzedakah, righteous giving. Developing a more tangible understanding of how your contribution impacts thousands of lives worldwide will strengthen this bond.

Through our programs and activities, we will create a more meaningful link to other women in our community, and enhance our understanding of the sig-

Pomegranates

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SARA CHRISTIANSEN

ALYSEANN GALINSKY*

BARBARA HIRSCH GILLER*

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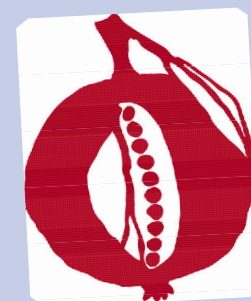
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To find out more about upcoming Lion of Judah or Pomegranate programs and activities please call the Federation at 277-6321.

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[book notes]

The New Anti-Semitism: The Current Crisis and What We Must Do About It

By Phyllis Chesler.

Wiley, John & Sons, Inc. July 2003

In this intensely passionate and compelling book, the best-selling feminist and Jewish writer Phyllis Chesler demonstrates how old-fashioned anti-Semitism has become newly fashionable, even politically correct, and how this plague threatens the Jews of the world, America, and Western civilization.

A dangerous, worldwide coalition of Islamic terrorists, well-intentioned but profoundly misinformed students, right wing fascists, left-wing ideologues, pious academics, feminists, opportunistic European politicians, and sensation-seeking international media have joined together to once again blame the Jews and the Jewish state for the current world crisis. Today, lethal activism against the Jews often takes the form of anti-Zionism. Osama Bin Laden, for example, blamed the 9/11 World Trade Center

attack on U.S. government support for Israel. Since then, hundreds of synagogues have been burned, cemeteries destroyed, and Jews threatened, boycotted, beaten, and killed. Jews have been blamed for huge stock market losses and for the decline of the world economy. The long-ago disproven Protocols of Zion, which accuse the Jews of an alleged world-conspiracy to conquer and control the world, have been revived and promulgated in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East.

So what must we do? "Fight against the Big Lies," Chesler says. (No, the Jews do not control the world's money and media, and the Jews did not kill Christ.) Avoid rigid, dogmatic ideologies. Focus on the world's real problems (disease, poverty, illiteracy, violence) instead of scapegoating the Jews and demonizing the Jewish state. Be fair to Israel. Form

United Jewish Communities Secures \$4.9 Million In Federal Funding For The Aging in NORCs

The United Jewish Communities (UJC) Washington, working in partnership with 21 Jewish federations across the country, has secured \$4.9 million in federal funds for federation-supported agencies serving the elderly, Charles S. Konigsberg, UJC vice president for public policy, announced yesterday.

The Consolidated Appropriations Bill (HR2673) for the 2004 fiscal year, signed into law Friday, includes funds for Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORCs) in Albuquerque, Atlanta, Atlantic and Cape May Counties (NJ), Bergen County (NJ), Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Denver, Indianapolis, MetroWest (NJ), Miami, Ocean County (NJ), Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Providence, Richmond, Rochester, Sarasota, Seattle, Tidewater (VA), and Tucson.

NORCs are neighborhoods or residential buildings in which a large segment of residents are 65 years of age and older, have aged in place over several decades and desire to continue living where they are, rather than in institutional settings.

There are an estimated 4,500 NORC communities throughout the country where approximately one-third of the nation's senior population - 12 million people - reside. The phenomenon is expected to grow, as nearly 90 percent of all seniors want to, or by necessity will, age in place even as they become frail and at greater risk.

In recognition of these demographic trends and Jewish community commitment to care for its elderly, the federation-wide NORC initiative aims to deliver health and supportive services cost-effectively; increase availability of services; organize cooperative health promotion, crisis prevention, and community improvement initiatives; and develop new human, financial, and

neighborhood resources for the benefit of older residents.

The new appropriations mark the third consecutive year of federal funding for the national NORCs demonstration project. UJC Washington, working in collaboration with more than 30 Jewish community federations, has led development of NORC models and is conducting evaluations and collecting data and research in support of the project.

"This initiative emerged in response to Jewish federations' needs for greater resources and capacity to sustain and expand services to seniors," said Michael Gelman, chair of the UJC Human Services and Social Policy Pillar and president of The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, a NORC grant recipient last year.

"Our leadership in this area stems from the recognition that American Jews are aging at a rate nearly twice the national average, creating demands for immediate senior health and supportive services for the Jewish elderly that will not become a reality for the rest of the population until the mass retirement of the baby boomers occurs over the next two decades," Gelman added.

"The NORCs initiative is a recognition that the dramatic demographic trends in aging call for innovative planning to ensure that we continue to effectively serve communities and our elderly well into the future," said Stephen H. Hoffman, UJC president and chief executive officer. "We are proud to have been able to partner with our local communities to help bring money home to meet the growing needs of our seniors."

Added Anita Altman, deputy managing director of resource development at UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York: "NORC supportive service



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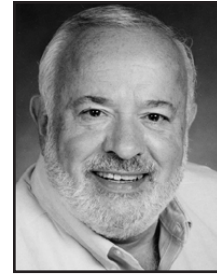
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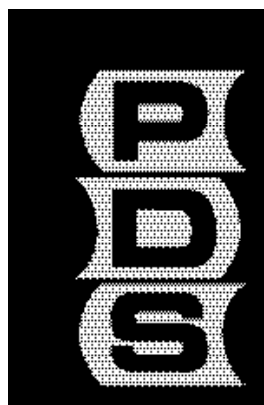
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[from our congregations]

BETH EL JACOB

Candle Lighting Times If you did not receive your 2004 Candle Lighting Times refrigerator magnet and would still like one, please call the Beth El Jacob office at 274-1551 and we will be happy to send you one.

Chevra Kaddisha On Sunday evening, February 29th, 6:00 PM, Dunns Funeral Home will sponsor a dinner at Caspe Terrace honoring our past and current members of the Chevra Kaddisha, the Jewish Burial Society. The whole community is invited. Seating is limited, so RSVP to Beth El Jacob, 274-1551, by Monday, February 23rd.

Megillah Reading Saturday night, March 6th, Beth El Jacob and Tifereth Israel Synagogues will have a joint Megillah reading at Beth El Jacob. Costumes, food and entertainment for the whole family.

Purim Brunch Sunday morning, March 7th, the Beth El Jacob Sisterhood will have their annual Purim Brunch. During the Brunch, they will honor past Sisterhood presidents. Brunch is \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 10.

Shalach Manos Gift Boxes Order your Shalach Manos gift boxes from Beth El Jacob. Boxes are \$8.00 this year. Call the office and place your orders by March 4th to be picked up by Purim.

Hamentaschen Order your Hamentaschen from those busy "holy-rollers", the Beth El Jacob Sisterhood. The fruit-blend filled hamentaschen are \$7.00/dozen and will be available for pick-up after February 22nd. Orders needed earlier than that can be arranged for when you place your order.

Place your order with: the office at 274-1551, Charlotte Raush at 279-0844, Shirley Berg at 274-0771 or Barbara Leventhal at 279-8756.

Bill Ohringer II Weekend Save the week-end of March 20th for the Bill Ohringer II weekend with guest lecturer Rabbi Ephraim Schwartz. There will be a Friday night Shabbos Dinner and Oneg, a Saturday kiddush lunch and an afternoon study session. Havdalah and Saturday night will be a dessert buffet and lecture. Cost is \$40.00 for all events, \$20.00 for Friday night, \$20.00 for Lunch and no charge for Saturday evening.

Bnai Mitzvah

Jared Stephen Farber



Saturday, April 3,
at 9:15 am

Tifereth Israel
Synagogue

Jared Stephen Farber, son of Jeff and Jan Farber, will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m. Saturday, April 3, 2004 at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. The community is cordially invited to join the family for services and

Joshua Lacher



Saturday, May 8,
at 10:00 am

Temple B'nai Jeshurun

The entire congregation is invited to celebrate with us, as our children, Joshua and Julia, honor the Jewish people by becoming b'nai mitzvah on May 8, beginning at 10 a.m. A kiddush luncheon will follow.

— Ira and Lisa Lacher

Mazel Tov



In recognition for her outstanding contributions to Central Iowa, the Des Moines Register awarded Maddie Levitt the Iowa Star Award and the Aurora prize.

The Federation congratulates Ms. Levitt on this recognition of wide-ranging impact on Des Moines, the city she

Olympics from page 1

Information about exhibition hours will be available by calling 281-5111.

It is hoped that the display will open about the time of the Drake Relays, to promote interest in the exhibit's contents. Of definite educational value, the exhibit is intended to stimulate thought about tolerance and the nature of discrimination. Among the activities intended to correlate with the Olympics exhibit, it is anticipated that the Federation's Jewish Community Relations Commission will hold a workshop on the Holocaust for teachers, on site at the State Historical Building in May. Keynote speaker for the event is tentatively Gerda Klein, survivor of the Holocaust and noted author and authority on educational materials pertaining to the Holocaust.

In addition to public sponsorship of the exhibit, private sponsors of the exhibit include the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and the Iowa Jewish Historical Society.

Special coverage of the exhibition



[next generation]

MICHAEL MOSKOWITZ EXPRESSES HIMSELF



If you're engaged in a conversation about creativity or self-expression, don't be surprised if you find Michael Moskowitz in close proximity. The sixteen year old sophomore at Valley High School finds multiple outlets for self-expression and naturally surrounds himself with creative people.

Michael began playing guitar about four years ago, but has become a more serious player in the last couple of years. Although he enjoys many different types of music, he has been influenced most by today's contemporary music and the artists that create it. Early on, his favorite bands included Nirvana, Smashing Pumpkins and The Beatles. He enjoyed a B.B. King concert that he and his father attended together last spring and developed a liking for rhythm and blues.

Michael enjoys using his musical talents to help others. Last year Director Lyanna Grund hired Michael, and the band he plays with, to entertain the third, fourth, and fifth graders at a Hebrew School Shabbaton. Both Michael and the students greatly enjoyed the experience. Currently, under the tutelage of Cantor Laura Berkson, Michael is learning Jewish melodies on guitar and often assists the Cantor playing songs during services at Hebrew School.

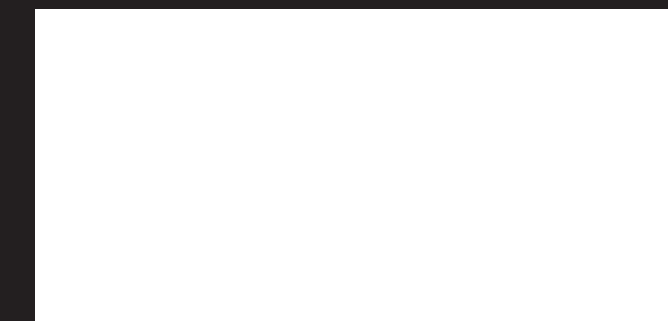
Michael also has a part-time job helping Saley Nong, a local party planner and florist. Saley's sister, Su, runs a popular Chinese eatery in Valley Junction and Michael sometimes helps out there, as well.

Last summer Michael had the opportunity to travel to California and work for his uncle, a successful entrepreneur in Los Angeles. Michael helped his uncle who, at the time, was busy building and opening an art gallery. During the time Michael was in L.A. he had the good fortune to meet Joseph Lieberman at a political fundraiser his uncle hosted. Michael says he walked away from his summer experience with the knowledge that it is important to "enjoy life, be successful, but find work that you love and also have time to be with your family".

Born in Rockville, Maryland, Michael has lived in Des Moines for over three years with his mom, dad, and younger brother, Adam. Although he has met many friends since moving to Des Moines, he often travels back to Maryland to visit the close friends he had growing up.

When Michael isn't busy with his music, he enjoys reading nonfiction. He is especially interested in philosophy and the works of David Hume and Ludwig Wittgenstein. He admits his favorite author of all time is Kurt Vonnegut, and reads everything he can by this writer.

Looking for a Great Summer Job?



A quality day camp for kids K-8!

The Jewish Community is now accepting applications for counselors for summer positions at Engman Camp Shalom. If you are a college student or a senior in high school and are at least 18 who loves working with children and enjoys the outdoors, this could be the perfect summer job! If you are between the ages of 14 and 17, you are eligible to become a CIT (counselor in training).

College students may be eligible for internship credit.
For further information, contact Lyanna at 277-5566 or
EngmanCampShalom@aol.com
Camp runs June 21 – August 13.
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[from our congregations]

TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN

DAN NICHOLS "unplugged" - Saturday, February 21, 7:30pm
a free concert for all ages

Temple B'nai Jeshurun will present dynamic singer, song leader, educator, composer and recording artist DAN NICHOLS in a solo concert at the Temple on Saturday, February 21, at 7:30pm. Dan's warm, rich vocals and engaging performance style are sure to inspire concert-goers of all ages. The concert is free.

Since May of 2000, Dan has gone on to work with E18teen full time, touring the U.S., playing to Jewish audiences of all ages. Last summer, Dan served as Artist-in-Residence for 10 of the 12 Union camps throughout North America, including Goldman Union Camp Institute, where many of our Temple young people have gotten to know Dan and his music. Dan has served on the faculty of Hava Nashira, a national song-leading program held at Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute in Wisconsin. In the past year, he has also been a featured performer at the NFTY national convention in Washington, DC, and at the UAHC Biennial in Minneapolis. For more information about Dan and E18teen, visit his website at www.jewishrock.com.

Purim at the Temple, March 6-7!!! Travel back in time as we take you to the city of Shushan... in the...1950s?!... with Schmaltz* A Rock and Roll-in-the-aisles rendition of Megillat Esther **Schmaltz – the music of "Grease" and other '50s hit songs
Erev Purim, Saturday, March 6

5:00pm - Megillah reading and service in the sanctuary
6:00pm - "Shushan High School Reunion" Dinner* Costume contest for ADULTS and CHILDREN! Prizes for best 50's outfit; best Purim characters; most original...
7:30pm - Purimspiel performance *DINNER: \$8 - adults & children 12 and up; \$5 under 12
Dinner RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by February 27
Sunday, March 7
1:00pm - Purimspiel performance, Bring your own lunch, if you wish
For dinner reservations or more information call 274-4679

The Mavens

Most people who understand and speak Yiddish know what they mean when they call a person a Maven. It stands for an "expert," a "connoisseur" and is really "Yinglish" par excellence.

Well, this is also the name of a new group which formed itself last Saturday night at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. It's really not that new, because it existed a long time in the past as "the Renaissance group", a group of members of 50+ agewise, people who have been around for awhile and were too old to join all the young people activities that the Temple offered.

And so last Saturday twenty of us joined together for a wonderful dinner (complete with wine that someone found in the Temple kitchen) to map out a future for the group. We struggled a little bit over a proper name but that was solved quickly when someone proposed the Mavens, which perhaps describes us well: experts in the art of living and connoisseurs in having a good time. We discussed what we can do together from watching ancient movies ("oh you blessed memories") to sing-along (the golden-oldies like "let me call you sweetheart") trips in and out of town and many other things that wouldn't put too much strain on our bodies and pocket books. But mainly to enjoy each other!

So we will come together on March 20, 2004 at the Temple for potluck dinner. We will get a mailing out before that as a reminder, but if by any chance we should overlook you (not intentionally), call the Temple office 274-4679 or Peter Pintus, Assistant to the Rabbi at 279-2138 for information. (Don't call the Rabbi, he is too young for this group. Just joking!) And remember this is not only for couples but for singles as well. And you don't have to bring your birth certificate. We take your word!

See you on March 20 (put the date on your calendar NOW)

Peter Pintus, Coordinator of the MAVENS

Tot Shabbat Saturday, March 27 at 11:00 am at Temple B'nai Jeshurun
A special Celebration of Shabbat for young children, preschool age through grade 2 and their families. Stories, songs and more!

TIFEREETH ISRAEL

Celebrate Purim together with Tifereth Israel and Beth El Jacob Synagogues on Saturday, March 6 in the evening at Beth El Jacob, 954 Cummins Parkway. Come in costume for the Megillah reading, stay for Hamantashen and good food, and lots of other fun!

The Book Club – The Book Club will meet at Tifereth Israel Synagogue on Tuesday, March 16, at 12:00 noon in the Caspe Library. Rabbi HaLevi will be doing the book review.

It's Time for Pesach! Winter should be over and spring on its way for Passover this year! We invite you to join us for our Second Night Seder bringing our Congregational families and friends together in celebration of Pesach at Tifereth Israel Synagogue on Tuesday, April 6, 2004 at 6:00 pm. There will be lots of opportunities for your participation, and a few surprises are certain to await you this year! The cost is only \$20 for adults and \$13 for children (ages 3-10). To RSVP or for more information, please call the Tifereth office at 255-1137.

Family Shabbat and Potlucks at Tifereth! We have a wonderful tradition this

Meet Harriet



Harriet Pidgeon's vivid memory recalls her early years growing up in Des Moines as the daughter of Sam and Rose Kimmel. Harriet had two sisters, Rhoda Morrison, who was head of audiology at Massachusetts General

Hospital, is now deceased and Elizabeth Bucksbaum who lives in Cedar Rapids. Harriet attended North High School and married her sweetheart from Junior High, Abe Pidgeon from Des Moines, at the age of 19. Abe was the youngest of the Pidgeon 13 children. (As an aside, the issue on Diane Pratt published in December told of her mother, Shirley Dubansky, and her grandmother, Dora Wolfson. Abe's sister was Dora Wolfson.) Soon the Des Moines Jewish community became Harriet's relatives!

Abe was in the grocery business, as were most of the Pidgeon children, and later worked for Pidgeon's furniture. Harriet was a mother at home taking care of their daughters, Linda and Susan. She was a gardener and seamstress who made her children's clothing all through college, and cook and baker for her family. She participated in her daughters' activities such as Brownies and Bluebirds and was a circle chairman at the Synagogue many times. Harriet volunteered weekly at Younkers helping to send out packages to our troops overseas during World War II.

Although Harriet never thought of herself as a baker or cook and knew nothing of those skills when she married, she was often called upon to bake and cook for various occasions and always wondered why she was not called upon to bring the paper goods instead!

Harriet's daughter, Linda, is married to Bill Lapp and they live in Minneapolis. Harriet's granddaughter, Sarah Jane, is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Brown University where she majored in creative writing. She received a Fulbright to Prague and received her Master's degree in film making at the Art Institute in Chicago. Today she makes documentary films.

Susan, Harriet's other daughter, is married to Arnie Zuckman; they live in San Francisco. Harriet's grandson, Matthew, attended the Rhode Island School of Design and is a website developer in San Francisco. Susan is an exceptional baker and cook, having inherited her mother's talent.

Today, Michelle Drucker, Harriet's niece (daughter of Elizabeth Bucksbaum) is Harriet's only relative in Des Moines. Michelle is head of the legal department at Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The name Pidgeon, once so well

known in Des Moines, is no longer. There is still extended family here but not like the past.

After Abe's death Harriet went to work at Helzberg Jewelers where she remained for 15 years. She has continued her baking and provides sweets for bar and bat mitzvahs as well as friends. She confides that gardening is her real love and that she laments the fact that she no longer has a yard to plant. Her home is filled with fresh flowers and plants and she has enjoyed her visits to Texas where she has gardened at her niece and nephew's house, Zona and

Barry Pidgeon.

Harriet's skills make her a modern day Martha Stewart (the positive aspects) with her love of gardening, plants and vegetables, her flower arranging, sewing skills and her baking and cooking. Harriet is the envy of friends for her many talents. Besides these skills, lies a very warm and wonderful person.

Harriet has belonged to Tifereth Israel Synagogue for over 50 years, having a certificate to prove it. She also was given a clock from Banker's Trust for being a cus-

Mandel Bread

A recipe from Harriet Pidgeon

Dairy

2 sticks butter or margarine	1/4 teaspoon salt
4 eggs	1 cup chopped pecans
1 lb. dark brown sugar	2 teaspoons vanilla
5 cups sifted flour	2 teaspoons almond extract
1 teaspoon baking soda	

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees

Cream sugar, eggs and butter in mixer until they are well mixed.

Mix flour, baking soda and salt together and with mixer on low add flour mixture little by little to the sugar, eggs and butter. Add the chopped pecans, vanilla and almond extract.

Refrigerate for a few hours and then place a large tablespoon full of dough on a floured board and roll into a roll with your hands so that the roll is approximately 1" wide. Place it on a greased cookie sheet about 2" apart. Repeat the process.

Bake until golden brown – about 15 minutes. Cut the rolls on the diagonal about 1/2" apart. Lay the pieces on their sides on a cookie sheet and put back in the oven to toast at 375 degrees for about 10

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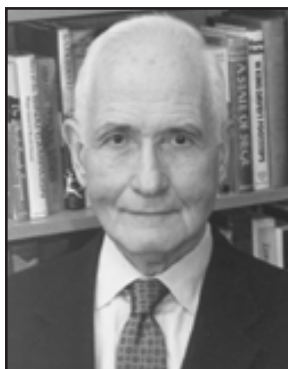


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“Israel's Quest for Peace: Past, Present, and

A coalition of concerned citizens in Ames and Des Moines has put together a scholarly lecture series designed to provide an historical perspective of the Middle East conflict and the present-day realities facing Israel in her continuing struggle for peace.

The series, entitled "Israel's Quest for Peace: Past, Present, and Future," features



Dr. Howard Sachar

lectures by three renowned scholars coming to Ames this March, April, and May.

Dr. Howard Sachar, Professor of History at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., will be the first lecturer. Dr. Sachar, an expert on Jewish, Israeli, and Middle Eastern history, has authored 14 books on these subjects. He has twice been the recipient of the National Jewish Book Award. Dr. Sachar has been asked to present an historical perspective that touches on the long-term Jewish presence in the region, the circumstances regarding the establishment of the State of Israel, and events that have led up to the current situation in that country. Dr. Sachar's lecture, entitled "Israel in Modern History: An Escape from Polemics" will be on Thurs., March 25, at 8 PM in the Ames City Auditorium at 6th and Clark.



Dr. Jessica Stern

Dr. Jessica Stern, lecturer in Public Policy and a faculty affiliate of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University, will be the second speaker in the series. Dr. Stern, renowned expert on terrorism, has numerous publications on that subject and has received many prestigious awards and honors. She was the subject of a 1995 film, "The Peacemaker," starring Nicole Kidman. As part of this lecture series, she will speak on her recently published book, Terror in the Name of God. Dr. Stern's lecture will be on Wednesday, April 21, at 8 PM in the Sun Room at ISU's Memorial Union.



David Horowitz

David Horowitz, editor of the Jerusalem Report, will be the final speaker in the series. Mr. Horowitz is a recipient of the B'nai B'rith International Award for Journalism and frequently provides commentary for CNN, BBC, and NPR. He is the author of several books, the most recent of which, entitled, Still Life With Bombers: Israel in the Age of Terrorism, will be published in March. Mr. Horowitz will speak on Thursday, May 6, at 8 PM in the Ames City Auditorium at 6th and Clark.

Dr. Steffen Schmidt, professor of Political Science at ISU, will introduce the speakers and serve as moderator for the series. There will be a reception and book signing following each of the presentations.

This series is being organized by the Ames Coalition for Peace, made up of Ames community members who believe that a scholarly speakers series, describing the true facts about Israel and the conflict in the Middle East, needs to be presented to the community. The organizers are proud to present these eminent scholars and extend a special invitation to the Des Moines Jewish community to share in this unique opportunity.

This lecture series was made possible in part by support from the Des Moines Jewish Federation's Jewish Community Relations Commission; the Ames Coalition for Peace (ACP); and through Iowa State University's Hillel, the Miller Endowment, Inc. (established through the generosity of the late F. Wendell Miller), the Committee on Lectures, and the Institute on World Affairs (funded by the Government of the Student Body). For more information, call Murray Kaplan at (515) 292-3781.

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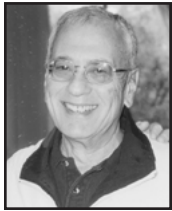
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Keeping Informed With Credible Israeli News



by Sheldon Rabinowitz

There is an endless amount of worthwhile reading material and current news available, especially if you have access and know how to use a computer. In fact, it is more of an information overload, as it would be virtually impossible to read it all.

Most of the regular media channels are skimpy on Israeli news. TV, especially ABC and CNN, show their bias giving Israel a bad rap most of the time. The print media, obtaining most of their information from Associated Press and Reuters are more often filled with half-truths, one-sided, or anything that could embarrass Israel. But there are good sources of news that you can obtain with a little effort.

I suggest the following to help keep you well informed:

Obtain the DAILY ALERT by e-mail from the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, prepared by the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs. It is free of charge. It has a short synopsis of Israel, Mideast, and Jewish Issues from all over the world, as well as links to articles from numerous publications covering each subject more completely. It is the best, in my opinion, for keeping up to date. Send a request to daily-subscribe@jcpa.org That should work.

Subscribe to the daily e-mail edition of the Jerusalem Post. Merely click on to www.jpost.com and buy a daily e-mail subscription. It is cheaper than subscribing to the weekly overseas edition hard copy and far more current and complete. You can obtain some of their material free from their website, but not complete access. The cost is nominal and worth it.

I could tell you about more websites, and I will—but not now. It might make this col-

[view from Israel]

Career Planning

By former Areiva to Des Moines, Ayelet Kleinman



Shalom everyone!

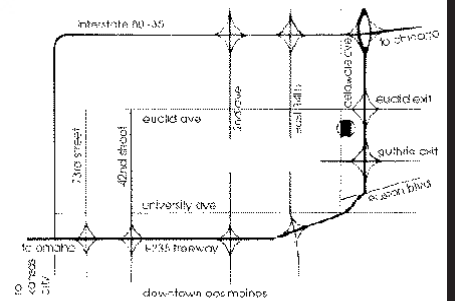
Let me tell you a bit about how young people in Israel tend to plan their careers. The process starts in earnest only after finishing one's military service. After the army, most Israelis travel abroad. Personally, I think this is a very interesting phenomenon - but not too surprising: it's a way of releasing stress. While in the army, you are (relatively) far from home, you hardly get to see your old friends from school or the Youth Movement, and you are subjected to a lot of discipline. All are constraints to be cast off, once you are free to. So most of us travel, mainly to either the Far East or to South America, for the period of half a year.

If you are 20 or 21 (depends if you are a female or male) when you leave the service, and then you either spend half a year traveling, followed by half a year working to earn some money (or the other way around), you could be either 22 or 23 by the time you enter university. I know this is not the case in the U.S., where people enter college, usually right out of high school (age 18.) Whether the Israeli or American pattern is better, I can't say. But I can definitely state that most Israelis take their university studies very seriously, and it's something that we hunger for. Think about it: it has been at least four years since your brain has been challenged by the rigors of high school, and after seeing part of the world, you feel you have a bit of life experience under your belt (to help you make sense of university education.) It's time to settle down and start thinking about your future.

In my case, I started my B.A. at Bar Ilan University at 23 and graduated at 26. I am now in a Master's program at 27 at the Hebrew University and I feel that I am ready to apply myself. I can't tell you that I enjoy every single minute of the coursework (after all, I am a typical student...) but I feel that I have found the subject I am most interested in and I am content with my decision. What with all my part-time job (with the Jewish Agency) in addition to my studies, I just hope I have the energy to complete the M.A.!

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Harry Pomerantz

On a second reading of our article on the Pomerantz Genealogy in the last Jewish Press we realized one of the grandchildren of Jacob Pomerantz was missing. Upon further reading it was discovered to be child number 7, Harry. We apologize for our error and want his family to know that Harry holds a special spot in the history of our community.

Harry Isaac Pomerantz, grandson of Jacob Pomerantz, and seventh child of Alex Pomerantz and Minnie Lande Pomerantz, was born in Carroll, Iowa on June 7, 1924. He would be followed by Marvin Alvin and Roselind who were born in Des Moines. Harry and his extended family served as prime examples of the American Dream. His father and grandfather came to Iowa with the hope of religious freedom and a better life for their family. Through sheer perseverance and struggle, the family worked its way up the ladder of life. Before Harry's death in April, 1998 he achieved great success as a family man; as a business man, establishing First Midwest Corporation, serving as its CEO; and as a leader in the Des Moines Jewish Community and the Community at large.

Harry married Margaret "Peggy" Alcorn in 1953 at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Peggy earned her nursing degree at Iowa Methodist Hospital and her Masters at Washington University in St. Louis. They were the proud parents of Robert, Jeffrey and Michelle.

Harry Pomerantz was an active participant in the Jewish community. He was a

Leadership Donor for the Jewish Federation, was Campaign Chairman for the United Jewish Appeal, and served on the Board of Governors. He was Co-chair of the Passage to Freedom Campaign, the initial part of Operation Exodus, which helped with the settlement of Russian Jews in the Des Moines Community. In 1997 he received the Des Moines Jewish Academy Hall of Achievement Award for Educational Excellence.

Harry served as President of Temple B'nai Jeshurun from 1985 to 1987 and as President of the Brotherhood. He received the Jewish Chautauqua Society Award, the highest honor given by Temple Brotherhood. The Temple credited Harry with recreating its organizational structure and for spearheading the Temple's restoration in the 1980's.

In 1993 he was recipient of the NCCJ Brotherhood Award. He created the Peggy Pomerantz Nursing Foundation, a scholarship program for the education of nursing students in Iowa, in honor of his wife, Peggy, who died in 1983. He joined with

Marvin and Rose Lee Pomerantz and Dorothy Pomerantz to establish the Pomerantz Pavilion at the University of Iowa Medical Center. He served on the National Board of Critical Care.



Children of Minnie and Alex Pomerantz Back: Louis, Marvin, Isadore, Victor, Harry Front: Eva, Pauline, Helen, Roselind

He was a devoted member of the Variety Club for twenty three years serving as Honorary Telethon Chair in 1983. He and Peggy along with Marvin, Rose Lee, and Louis and Dorothy Pomerantz were awarded the Variety Club's Humanitarian Award in 1988. He also supported Orchard Place, working with Our Primary Purpose, an adolescent substance abuse recovery program in the 1980's and served on the Board of Orchard Place in the 1990's. In addition,

Franklin continued from page 11

When I went to Tel Aviv, I thought that I was in a very new part of the world. Everything was up to date, and it was like New York City, Israel style. In Tel Aviv, there were lots of McDonalds, where I ate at, which is different than where most Israelis eat. They consider hamburgers as junk food. Another place that was very fun was the Galilee. In the Galilee, we went on a boat ride on Lake Kinneret (the Sea of Galilee). The hills were huge in the Galilee. We went up a hill one day, and saw Turkish remains called Montfort. On top of the hill, it was very windy. Mount Massada was the most tiring and work of our trip. We had a choice, we could either go on the cable car or we could hike up the mountain. We chose to hike. Atop the mountain we drank all the water. We saw the remains of Herod's palace where they had a huge battle. The Romans destroyed the area only leaving small remains of the buildings that had once existed.

I learned a ton in Israel. One of the things I learned is it is always important to love and care for your pets, because on the streets of Israel there were dogs and cats running wild everywhere. And I learned a ton about Israel itself, like about its population and its economy. While I was learning lots about Israel, I learned about my Haftorah portion as well. My trip to Israel was very meaningful to me. I hope that you can all go to Israel and help them get over their tourism problem.

When I left for Israel, yes, I did feel scared. I was scared because I was worried that what they said on the news was very serious and that there were attacks everywhere. It was the most frightening time of my life. But once I got to Israel, I thought about it, and realized there is nothing to be afraid of. The only time that I was really scared in Israel was on the way to the Ben Gurion airport going home. We went at least 110 miles per hour through a small alley way at 3:00 a.m. in our taxi. I would definitely go back again to Israel if I had the chance. I would recommend going to Israel to



The Iowa Jewish Historical Society is in need of military and sports memorabilia. If you are interested in donating original items or copies of photographs, please

contact Jody Hramits IJHS Project Coordinator at 987-0899 or 277-6321



Women's Branch of the All-In-One Campaign: Leonore Lipsey Pidgeon, Dorothy Markman, unidentified, Doie Kirsner. Seated Marie Shadur Swartzman from the

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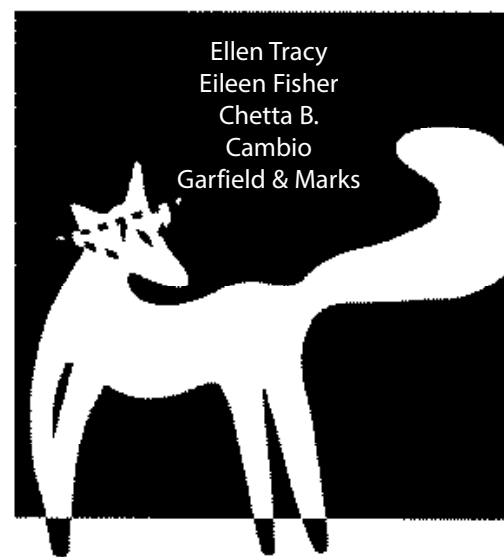
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DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday	03/06/04	6:00 PM	Purimspiel/Megillah Reading at Temple
Sunday	03/07/04	10:00 AM	Tifereth Women's League
Sunday	03/07/04	AM	Beth El Sisterhood Brunch
Sunday	03/07/04	1:00 PM	Purimspiel at the Temple
Tuesday	03/09/04		Senior Outing to Botanical Center and Lunch at Noah's Ark
Tuesday	03/09/04	4:30 PM	Executive Committee/Temple Board
Thursday	03/11/04	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	03/12/04	7:00 PM	Shabbat Across Des Moines at the Temple
Saturday	03/13/04	NOON	Shabbat Across Des Moines lunch at Tifereth
Saturday	03/13/04	6:00 PM	Shabbat Across Des Moines at the Judaic Resource Center
Saturday	03/13/04	8:00 PM	Shabbat Across Des Moines at Beth El Jacob Synagogue
Sunday	03/14/04	9:30 AM	Tifereth Men's Club
Sunday	03/14/04	10:00 AM	Senior Adult Casino Trip to Council Bluffs
Sunday	03/14/04	10:30 AM	Panel Discussion on Mel Gibson film "The Passion" at the Temple
Monday	03/15/04	6:00 PM	Federation Executive Committee Meeting at The Caspe Terrace
Monday	03/15/04	7:00 PM	Federation Board of Directors Meeting at The Caspe Terrace
Thursday	03/18/04	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	03/19/04		Bill Ohringer Weekend at Beth El
Saturday	03/20/04		Adult Retreat with Rabbi Kaufman - Asheville, NC
Sunday	03/21/04		NO SCHOOL, Spring Break
Sunday	03/21/04	10:00 AM	Tifereth Investment Club
Tuesday	03/23/04	7:00 PM	Tifereth Board Meeting
Thursday	03/25/04	12:00 PM	Senior Luncheon at Beth El Jacob Synagogue
Sunday	03/28/04	9:30 AM	Temple Brotherhood Investment Club
Sunday	03/28/04	3:00 PM	Russian Concert at The Caspe Terrace
Monday	03/29/04		Passover Workshop at The Caspe Terrace
Thursday	04/01/04	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Saturday	04/03/04	9:15 AM	Jared Farber Bar Mitzvah at Tifereth
Sunday	04/04/04	10:00 AM	Tifereth Women's League
Sunday	04/04/04	9:30 AM	Engman Camp Shalom Registration
Tuesday	04/06/04		Tifereth Second Night Seder
Tuesday	04/06/04	6:00 PM	Temple Congregational Seder
Tuesday	04/13/04		Tifereth Men's Club End of Passover Pizza Party
Friday	04/16/04	6:00 PM	Family Shabbat Potluck at Tifereth
Saturday	04/17/04	6:00 PM	JFCS School Party
Sunday	04/18/04	9:30 AM	Tifereth Men's Club
Sunday	04/18/04	10:00 AM	Tifereth Investment Club
Sunday	04/18/04		Community Yom Hashoah at Tifereth
Sunday	4/18/2004	7:00 PM	The Lost Wooden Synagogues lecture and film at The Caspe Terrace
Monday	04/19/04	6:00 PM	Federation Executive Committee Meeting at The Caspe Terrace
Wednesday	04/21/04	10:00 AM	Senior Outing to Thymes Remembered in Perry
Thursday	04/22/04	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	04/23/04		Yom Ha'atzmaut Weekend
Tuesday	04/27/04	7:00 PM	Tifereth Board Meeting
Thursday	04/29/04	12:00 PM	Senior Adult Luncheon at Tifereth
Thursday	04/29/04	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Saturday	05/01/04		Ben Nadler Bar Mitzvah in Ames
Sunday	05/02/04	10:00 AM	Tifereth Women's League
Thursday	05/06/04	7:00 PM	Melton Classes at Tifereth
Friday	05/07/04	9:00 AM	Senior Outing to Pella Tulip Festival
Saturday	05/08/04	10:00 AM	Joshua and Julia Lacher B'nai Mitzvah at the Temple

Letter continued from page 1
As the needs of our community increase, we need everyone to contribute at least their share, to keep the community on track.

Please, if you have not made your pledge to the 2004 All-In-One campaign, call the Federation office today at 277-6321 and make your pledge. (You may fulfill your pledge in increments between now and December 31, 2004). If you have already made a pledge, please consider adding to the amount you have given.

Specifically, since this year we commemorate the 90th year of service to the community by the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, perhaps you can help mark this special anniversary with a special gift. Why not increase your pledge by 9%? Or, if you are pledging for the first time, consider making a gift of \$90, at minimum. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

On behalf of all the recipients of Federation Campaign dollars, and with the knowledge that Federation works cooperatively with the congregations to supply the needed services that no one congregation can offer by itself, we thank you in advance for responding to this urgent message.

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow
the recent passing of

Bennett Gordon
Sarah Seidenfeld
Sylvia Shapiro



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