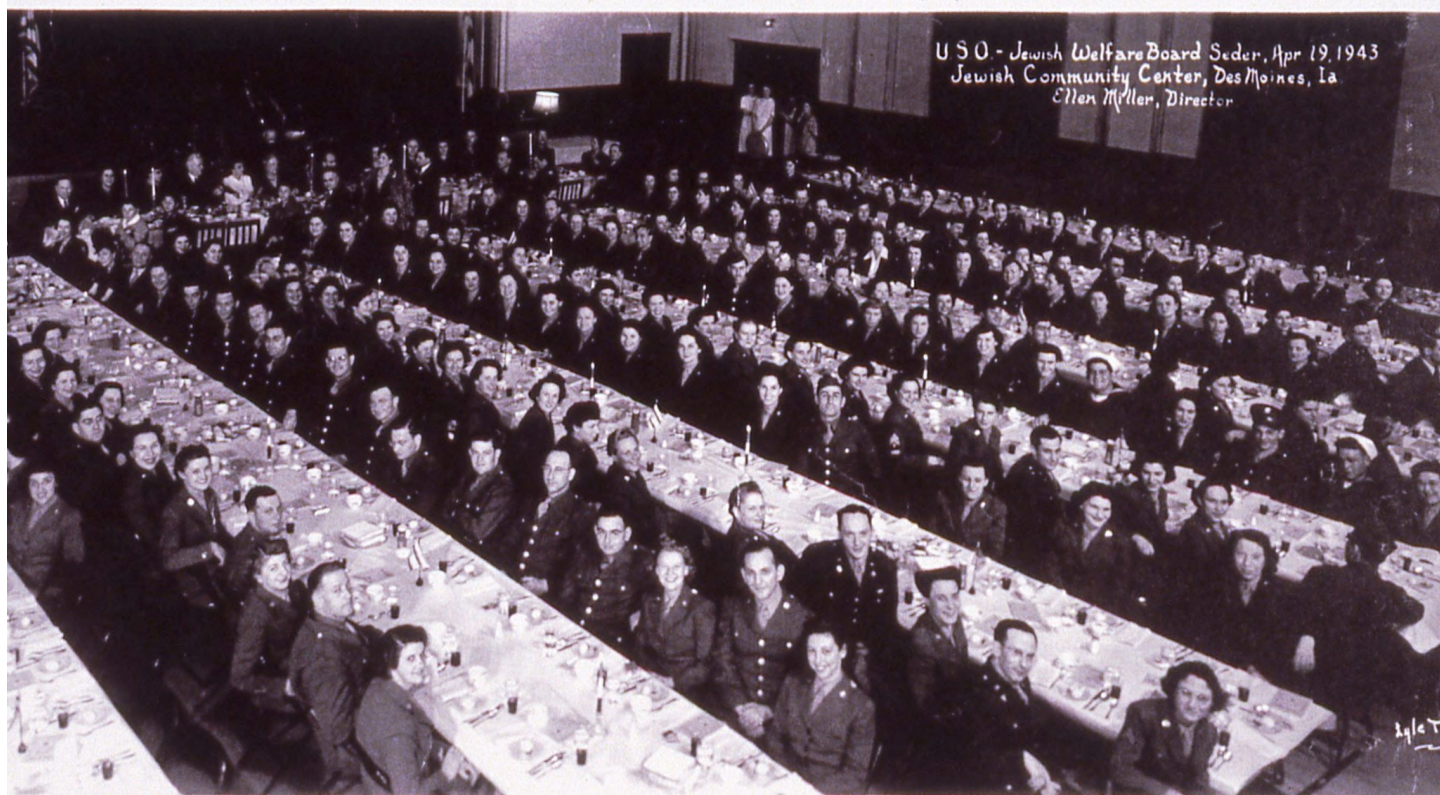


THE GREATER DES MOINES JEWISH PRESS

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The USO-Jewish Welfare Board Passover Seder at the Jewish Community Center in 1943.
Photo Courtesy of The Iowa Jewish Historical Society

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*In honor and memory of past Editor,
Mark S. Finkelstein (z"l)*

.....

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Community Report

Beit Sefer Shalom

- Thank you to everyone who participated in the Global Day of Jewish Learning
- Latkes, sufganiyot, clay dreidels and music with Abe Goldstien were some of the many special activities enjoyed during the Intergenerational Chanukkah Party
- High School Students educated others about Chanukkah at a holiday event at Hiatt Middle School on December 18, 2019
- Thank you to Rabbi Barton and Haya Patel for leading cooking lessons in the Blumenthal Kosher Kitchen for our students
- Beit Sefer Shalom students celebrated Tu B' Shevat at Caspe Terrace on February 9, 2020

Gan Shalom

- Family and friends filled the Bucksbaum Auditorium for the Chanukkah Winter Sing and enjoyed latkes, prepared by parent and grandparent volunteers afterward
- Mobile Music Lessons are now providing violin lessons for Dalet class
- Gan Shalom had a Challah fundraiser, providing fresh Challah from Macabee's Deli ready to pick up from school on Shabbat for 10 weeks
- Documentary, "No Small Matter," was shown at Caspe Terrace as a part of Gan Shalom Staff's in-service day
- Gan Shalom summer camp registration is open. Contact Director, Anissa Deay at anissa@jewishdesmoines.org or 515.987.0899 x 233

Engman Camp Shalom

- Registration for ECS Summer 2020 is now open and will run for 11 weeks, June 8 through August 21. Visit engmancampshalom.org for more info
- ECS is currently hiring counselors for the summer. If interested contact Anna at anna@jewishdesmoines.org or call 515.419.1269
- Winter Break Camp saw smiling faces for five days of fun. Campers went glow golfing, saw "Spies in Disguise" and completed a mall scavenger hunt
- Stay tuned for more information about Spring Break Camp happening March 16-20

Jewish Community Relations

- Creators of "Tales of Teleki Square" will visit on March 10 at the Art Center for a showing of the film and discussion
- Blumenthal Scholarships will be available in March and due by April 30
- JCRC sponsored a program at TBJ on the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz
- The Holocaust Council met at A Dong on January 16, 2020

Iowa Jewish Historical Society

- Now on display: A cash register originally used in Cohen's Kosher Meat Market and then Meyer's Meat Market in Sioux City, IA. Donated by David & Marvin Arkovich
- Now on display: A stainless-steel ladle taken from Auschwitz by Holocaust survivor Frances Shnurman, who worked in the kitchens while she was there. Donated by her son, Jacob Shnurman
- Interested in Jewish Genealogy? The IJHS is continuing to explore the possibility of forming a Jewish genealogical group in central Iowa. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sandi Yoder at ijhs@dmjfed.org or call 515-987-0899 ext. 216

Jewish Family Services and Outreach

- We held our annual Hanukkah party at Tifereth Israel Synagogue on December 19th. We had delicious Hanukkah food, and Abe Goldstien and Laura Sparks provided fun entertainment
- Jewish Family Services provides resource and referral information to families who have questions about community services available for seniors. If you have a need or question, please call Jody Ingersoll, Jewish Family Services, at 987-0899 ext. 210

Mark Finkelstein(z"l): Leader, Educator, Mentor and Friend



Mark came to Des Moines in 1996 and worked as the Director of Jewish Community Relations Council at the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines until his passing. He was the voice for not only the Des Moines Jewish community, but for Jews across Iowa and the country. In addition to fighting antisemitism, and educating about the Holocaust, Mark also worked with the greater Des Moines community to combat food insecurity, among other social issues. He was a smiling face in the hallways at Caspe Terrace among students of all ages and will be greatly missed.

The Margo and Don Blumenthal Jewish Student Scholarships 2020 – 2021 Academic Year

Application forms for the next academic year will be available in March of 2020.

Applications will be due, postmarked to the Jewish Federation, by April 30, 2020.

The scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis to Jewish students from Central Iowa* who will attend or are attending post-secondary schools within the state of Iowa.

*Jewish students who reside elsewhere in Iowa and will be attending a post-secondary school within Iowa and whose parent or grandparent is a member of the Des Moines area Jewish community are eligible to apply this year.

Donations to the Blumenthal Scholarship Fund may be earmarked and sent to:
The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, 33158 Ute Avenue, Waukee, IA 50263

To apply, contact Jody at jody@jewishdesmoines.org

Voices Being Heard Among the Noise



Michael Wolnerman
President

As I write this, it has been five years since the Charlie Hebdo shooting in Paris; a year and a half since Squirrel Hill in Pittsburgh; weeks since a mother in NYC was assaulted with her children in tow; and just one week since we put our dear friend Mark Finkelstein to rest. What makes the last part about Mark so integral to the first part listing acts of anti-Semitism is that Mark is the person who put us on the map as saying: This must stop.

There is so much to say about what is happening around the world today, but I'm not the best person for that job. I'm a Pharmacist, not a writer. Mark was our writer. He ensured that what the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines communicated out to our Jewish community, our larger community, and the vast ether of the Internet, was cogent and firm, rooted in the righteousness of truth. Mark knew what to say to each audience and how to keep people's attention focused on the issues we face. He reached out to other leaders in the religious community, creating strength in numbers. He leaves a decades' long imprint that will influence how we make sure his voice continues to be heard in the noise.

Please stay tuned for more

information on how the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines develops ways to honor Mark.

Now that Mark isn't here to address violent acts against Jews or laughable lies about us, you are left with me and I will be leaning on others. Shoes it will take several people to fill. David Goldman shared some excellent advice in these trying times. (I'm heavily paraphrasing here.) We need to be attentive to our security needs without stoking flames of fear. We must advocate for mental health care. (We should avail ourselves of it too when we need to with no shame). We should provide guidance, advice and resources to our community at large and educate our children and families. (Both of my parents have provided first-hand accounts to classrooms studying the Holocaust. My father is actual living history). We must be kind, show kindness, and ask others to reciprocate that kindness.

Of course, now I have to relate this back to Passover, as it is that time of year. Every year we sit at tables with family and friends and retell the story of the Exodus. We try to make connections to the diaspora of the Israelites and the diaspora of today. Here is my best shot at making a connection:

The name of the holiday, Pesach, derives from the Hebrew words meaning "and G-d will leap over." The Jewish people lived in Egypt for generations, eventually becoming an enslaved group. Some became so mired in slavery that when the time came for liberation, they did not want to leave.

During the period that the Jews were in Egypt, the country was considered to be the very definition of culture and civilization. In terms of morality and ethics, Egypt was the most depraved, degenerate and immoral of lands, and absolutely without unity. It was from such a

land that the Jewish people had to attain complete physical and spiritual freedom. Receiving the Torah involved the acceptance of all its decrees, beginning with the Ten Commandments. The actions of leaving a country, accepting the commandments, and traveling to a land that is foreign to a people absolutely demonstrates unity. It shows a high ethical and moral standard for humanity. And it stands in stark contrast to the depravity of Egyptian culture and civilization and its sham of unity. Clearly, departing from such an abject state and achieving true inner freedom to the extent of accepting Torah and Mitzvot before fully comprehending what that meant required the mightiest of leaps by our ancestors.

All this began while the Jews were still in Egypt, when G-d told them about the Passover service, including the instruction that the entire service be done "in a manner of bounding and leaping." This Passover theme of leaping is fundamental to Jews and Judaism at all times and in all places, and is to be carried through the rest of the year. Nevertheless, Passover tells us that we are expected and empowered to "leap over" all physical and corporeal limitations to attain true spiritual freedom the whole year through. I see it also as an implication that we should demonstrate our unity outwardly and in our homes.

Please allow this message to be an honor, with the best of my ability, to Mark Finkelstein and his family.

From my family to yours, have a wonderful, productive and special Passover 5780.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Wolnerman, President
515-778-3867

Owning 'Hate'

Gary Nachman &
Murphy Scott Wulfgar

This is an unprecedented time in American history. Yes, we have lived through dark times before, and born witness to terrible chapters in our national consciousness but we have always collectively lurched forward. Inch by inch. Step by step. What we face now is a violent and concerted backslide meant to reverse the gains we have made and an attempt to return our society into the clutches of fear and oppression. From African-Americans in Charleston, Muslims in Christchurch, Latinos in El Paso and Jews in Monsey and Jersey City, we are all under attack and many of us are looking for a way to help and feeling overwhelmed and lost.

Why is this happening? Why is it happening now? Many highly intelligent people have posited many justifiably sound theories, but what if we boil it down to the root? The word itself: hate. Hate has morphed in our modern, mainstream vocabulary as a word of little importance. It has systematically

lost its potency and exponentially, its impact on us. It is commonplace in daily conversation to encounter people "hating" all kinds of things: memes, food, clothes, school, work, ideas, people... a group of people.

At ADL we view hate through the prism of anti-Semitism. It guides our understanding and allows us, in a sense, to walk a mile in the shoes of others. It is assuredly singular in its focus (enough so that it bears its own categorical name), and has been with us for thousands of years. Without recounting the legacy of horrific, historical atrocities Jews have endured, it is truly amazing that there are Jews remaining in the world. Anti-Jewish behavior carries the burden of centuries of fear, and this fear cuts to the quick when seeking causality. Fear of the "other" has not changed through the millennia. Walls are built over appearance, religion, ideology—even language differences. And hate takes up residence on both sides of those walls.

From a perspective of humanity, we must all acknowledge what hate really means and, therefore, that it is unacceptable. We can learn to build ourselves up without the use of barriers to keep others down. Striking at this simple (and often unconscious) form of arrogance allows us to unravel the interwoven

logic that our own belief system is the only "correct" or acceptable path. We must untangle our faith in what we believe from our fear of what we do not know. Faith requires trust in our path, but fear causes us to judge another's.

This is an unprecedented time in American history. One that requires us to do more. To be more. To honor our freedom by being part of a national solution. It starts with asking ourselves how we use "hate" in our daily lives, in little ways, then asking ourselves tough questions rather than looking to others as the cause of our problems. Take ownership of your words. Place hate back in the box where it belongs. Be observant of what is happening around you, object when you witness inflammatory language or behavior and report when you see something suspicious or wrong. We are all contributing to getting back on the road to progress. Here is the first step.

ADL is the "Jewish 911." ADL has school programs like No Place for Hate®, and corporate education programs to help diffuse bias, bigotry and hate in the workplace. To learn more or report a hate crime or incident, visit our website omaha.adl.org.



LUNCH AND LEARN WITH ADL REGIONAL DIRECTOR, GARY NACHMAN

Tuesday, March 31, 2020 | 12 p.m.

Tifereth Israel Synagogue | 924 Polk Blvd, Des Moines

Catered Lunch | RSVP at <https://forms.gle/m1xDeDkhviYuxuZW7>






Temple B'nai Jeshurun Seder

Temple B'nai Jeshurun's congregational first night Seder will be held on Wednesday, April 8 at 6:15 p.m. Reservations are required. Please RSVP to the Temple office at (515) 274-4679 or office@templebnaijeshurun.com by March 31. The cost is \$30 per person, Children 6-12 \$7, Under 6 free.

Tifereth Israel Synagogue

Tifereth Israel Synagogue second night Seder will be held on Thursday, April 9 at 7 p.m. in the social hall. Reservations are required. Please RSVP to Kristin at kdavis@tifereth.org.

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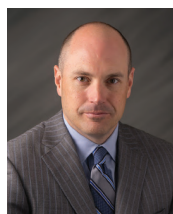
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Bible Politics

Dr. David Friedgood
Torah Commentator

Politics are those activities associated with the governance of people. It includes establishment of acceptable modes of behavior, resolution of conflicts, and general principles as to how we are to interact with one another. Political decisions affect a group of people who belong to a segment of society such as people living in a municipality or a country. The word politics comes from the Greek words meaning city and people. In our lives politics governs our collective social behavior and interactive activities. The book of Genesis in our Bible is filled with stories concerning the origin of our world generally and the Jewish People in particular. Much of the book has influenced the political behavior of our ancestors over the Millennia. One interesting example is the story of Judah, Jacob's fourth son, and his daughter-in-law Tamar (Genesis 38). The last 14 chapters of Genesis consists primarily of stories about Joseph, Jacob's favored son who was born just before the youngest—Benjamin. For some reason the narrative is broken up by chapter 38 which I will review now. See how the politics of that day can affect our lives today.

Judah married a Canaanite woman who is identified only as the daughter of Shua. Her family lived in the Judean Hills.

She bore 3 sons by Judah: the oldest named Er, Onan the middle son, and Shelah the youngest. Judah arranged for his oldest son to be married to Tamar, whose family also lived in the Judean Hills. We are told that God was displeased with Er and he died leaving Tamar childless. At that time in our history a widow remained part of her husband's family clan but without children she was left with limited rights and prospects. It was the responsibility of her deceased husband's brother to marry her so that she could have a family of her own. This responsibility fell on Onan, who although cohabited with Tamar, preferred not to father a child with her as he recognized the child would not be considered his, but rather recognized as belonging to his older brother. God was displeased with Onan and his behavior. He 'took his life' leaving Tamar again a widow. Judah, being the family patriarch, told Tamar to return to her family's home until Shela, the youngest son, was old enough to fulfill his obligation to his brother's widow. Judah was also concerned that Shela might die like his brothers, though he kept this thought to himself. The commandment of 'yibbum' (levirate marriage in English, from the word levir meaning husbands brother) is detailed later in the Bible (Deuteronomy 25:5-10). It was designed to provide protection to widowed and childless women who had limited future prospects in ancient society.

Tamar went to live with her family in the Judean Hills

and waited for an arranged marriage, which did not come. Sometime later she heard that Judah was planning a visit to look after his shepherders in the region. Tamar put on a veil and dressed herself as a prostitute. She sat on the side of the road where she knew Judah would pass. Judah cohabited with her and told Tamar that he would pay for her services with a kid (baby goat) from his flock. She had him leave his Signet seal and cord as a pledge. Judah would use this Signet to sign official documents. It was uniquely identified with him. Later when a servant was set to deliver the kid and collect the seal and cord the prostitute was not to be found. Tamar had returned to her family and her normal dress. She had however become pregnant by Judah and carried twins. When Judah heard that Tamar was pregnant he recognized this as a moral affront on his family dignity. He was unaware as to whose children she was carrying. As patriarch of the clan Judah ruled that his daughter-in-law was to be put to death by fire. As Tamar was being brought out of his presence she pulled out the Signet seal and cord and said to her father-in-law: "I am with child by the man to whom these belong." Judah recognized that he had treated Tamar poorly and was contrite. "She is more in the right than I, in as much as I did not give her to my son Shelah" (Genesis: 25-26). Tamar delivered twin sons and 10 generations later she became a distant grandmother to King David. Tamar today is recognized as a Jewish heroin

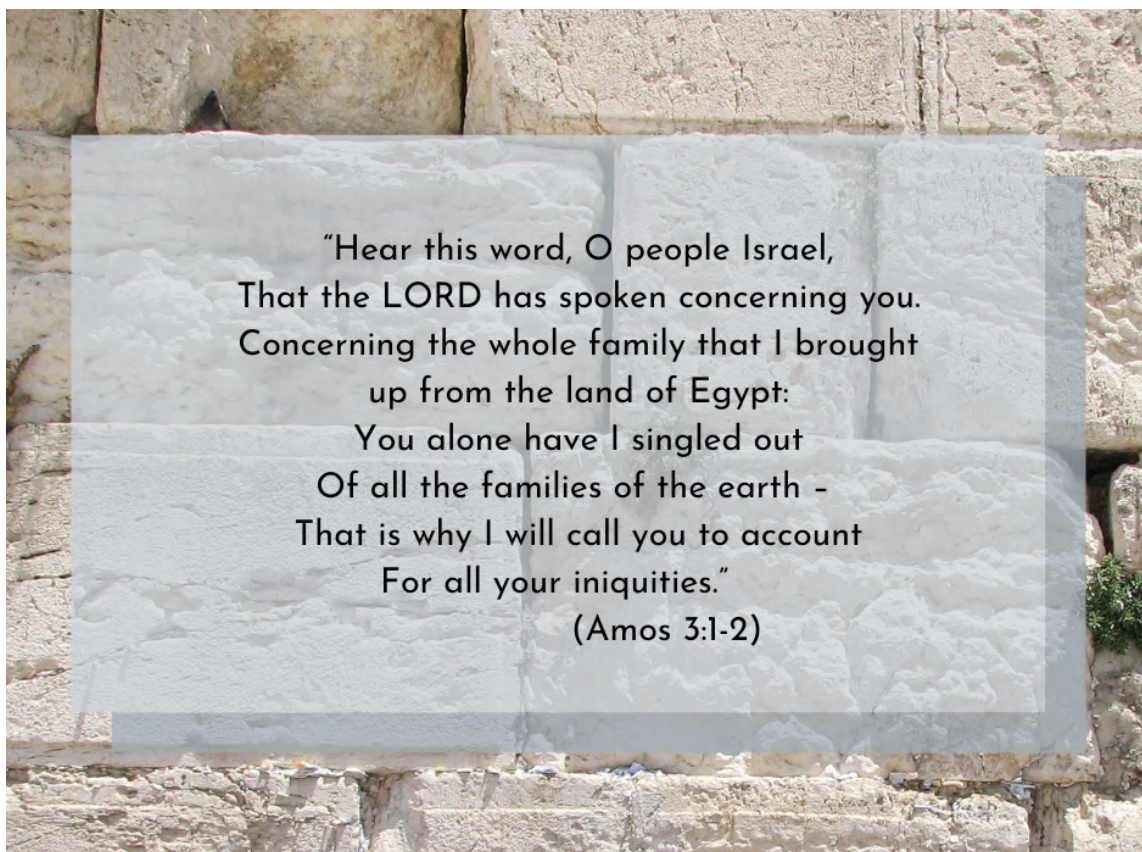
who stood up for her rights under trying circumstances. She was rewarded by her Creator with the birth of 2 sons, and became the matriarch to a special descendent from whom the Messiah will eventually arise.

Judah's political prospects were significantly elevated by his treatment of Tamar. He was able to recognize his mistakes and correct them appropriately. Earlier Judah was one of the brothers who sent Joseph to slavery in Egypt. There is a thought that he was 'less wicked' than some of his siblings as Judah arranged to have Joseph sold as a slave rather than having him killed. Rueben however was still Jacob's firstborn and by tradition entitled to inherit the leadership of the clan. When the

brothers returned to Egypt on their second visit and Joseph revealed himself to them it was Judah who primarily interacted with Joseph and Jacob his father. Judah had become the leader of the next generation of his family (Genesis 44:18-34). Eventually the descendants of Jacob (the Israelite People) split into two nations, the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah. The Northern Kingdom included the tribe of Rueben, which was of minor significance by this time. The Kingdom of Israel was dominated by the descendants of Joseph. In time the Northern Kingdom was exiled and today are known as the Ten Lost Tribes, lost to history. The Kingdom of Judah persevered into Roman occupation in the 2nd century

AD, and today Jacob's fourth son Judah is recognized as the son who carried on the tradition of the Patriarchs. Judah's lineage was channeled through his son Perez, conceived through an illegitimate relationship with his daughter-in-law Tamar. Judaism today is the product of Judah's lineage, rather than one of his siblings, because of Political events that occurred in Biblical times.

As we know all too well in Iowa, politics is an unusual business often filled with unintended consequences. The decisions made by our leaders however often affect our lives and those of our families. Note this at the ballot box when you choose those who will lead us to the future.



Kibbitzing Around: The Java Jews



The Java Jews performing at Des Moines Jazz Club, Noche, in 2019. From left to right: Laura Sparks (vocals), Abe Goldstein (accordion), Aaron Ehrlich (clarinet), Mark Finkelstein (trumpet).

Giovanna Zavell
Editor in Chief

The interviews with Mark Finkelstein and Abe Goldstein took place in the Fall of 2019. This story is in memory of Mark, one of the greatest trumpet players in all of Iowa and klezmer music.

The room at Noce Jazz Club is dark except for the flicker of candles on tables and the bright lights shining down on the stage. There is a low murmur in the audience as the musicians begin to appear. The shrill of a clarinet calls the audience's attention to the stage. Tuning has begun. A quick scale from the trumpet, a few plucked notes from the bass, a tap-tap-tap on the drum and a slow hum of the accordion. A man stands up and moves toward the microphone. "Ladies and gentlemen, we are The Java Jews."

The Java Jews was formed in 1996 when Mark Finkelstein, a Brooklyn native, moved to Des Moines as the Director of JCRC

at The Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines. An article in The Jewish Press featured him and mentioned his knowledge of klezmer music. Abe Goldstein, a Rochester native who moved to Des Moines in 1969, picked up that article and knew right away he had to contact Finkelstein.

Both men grew up in Jewish homes in New York surrounded by klezmer music, mostly due to radio shows that featured Yiddish music. Both men also happened to play an instrument, Finkelstein the trumpet and Goldstein the accordion. Goldstein wanted to bring klezmer music to the Des Moines community and saw Finkelstein's recent move as the perfect opportunity.

The name "Java Jews" came from the band wanting to play at Des Moines local coffee shop, Java Joe's. It was a bit of a gimmick and a way to appeal to the venue. Well, it worked. The Java Jews have played at Java Joes several times in addition to The Art Center, The

Iowa State Fair and many other venues across Iowa.

Bringing Sounds from the Old Country to Life

"The spirit of Yiddish music is fun, we kibbitz around," Goldstein says. "To have fun is our brand. We want everyone in the audience to have fun, joke around and interact with us and the music."

Klezmer music originated in the 18th century in shtetls—Jewish ghettos scattered throughout Eastern Europe. With the influx of European Jews moving to America in the 20th century, they brought with them the tunes of the shtetl. Klezmer music was quickly introduced into American culture and was influenced by popular jazz and pop music at the time. The word klezmer comes from two Hebrew roots; "klei" meaning instrument and "zemer" meaning song. The songs are typically sung in Yiddish and performed at joyous Jewish occasions such as weddings and Bar/Bat Mitzvahs.

Across New York, families

enjoyed time together listening to a radio show called “The Jewish Hour.” Versions of this popular show were heard on radios in the homes of Jewish families, including Goldstein’s and Finkelstein’s. “That was part of the ethnicity of New York,” Finkelstein said. “I couldn’t understand the Yiddish, but it played a number of composers, old and new. The station I listened to was recorded in a studio across the street from my high school.”

“My connection to my parents and grandparents is klezmer music,” Goldstein says. “I don’t follow all the Jewish laws and rituals, so for me, this music is the part of my culture I keep alive. Klezmer music moves me.”

Goldstein recalls sitting down at the age of 13 to play his state-of-the-art electric accordion and his mother standing besides him, humming along. He began playing the accordion after suggesting other instruments to his parents, who would come up with a reason why that instrument wouldn’t work. “I wasn’t really enthusiastic about playing the accordion at first,” Goldstein says. “Turns out, my father already had one and was secretly taking lessons and practicing in the basement. He had slipped on ice and hurt his wrist and shoulder, so he was no longer able to play. That’s when I started.”

Finkelstein’s decision to play the trumpet was a little more direct, as it was the first instrument that came to mind. “I was asked ‘what do you want to play?’” Finkelstein said. “I said trumpet. When you’re a little kid, it’s quite a big trumpet.”

The music books Finkelstein and Goldstein played out of were mostly books of Yiddish music. These books were carried with them through life and they still play songs out of them today.

“We still play out of the music book from my childhood, the tunes my mother loved,” Goldstein

says. “Playing this music keeps me connected to her. Her favorite song was one that translates to ‘Happiness, You Have Come a Little too Late.’”

Playing to Their Own Beat

“Happiness, You Have Come a Little too Late” was one of the first songs ever performed by The Java Jews, and is still a favorite. Goldstein explains this waltz captures the true essence of Yiddish sentiment; to have happiness and sadness in the same moment. Sometimes it is the lyrics, sometimes it is the sound of the instruments, but these two emotions can be picked out of many klezmer songs.

“Klezmer is Jewish jazz, it has the inflection of the Jewish people,” Finkelstein said. “The songs are played in a minor, which most people think is sad. It’s not sad to us. It’s just another mode.”

The Java Jews is made up of talented musicians who each have their own take on klezmer music. Sometimes it is the same musicians playing together, other times there are guests joining the band. But almost always what is heard on stage is rarely rehearsed. But this is part of the spirit of the music. “When you have an ethnic band, they make their own rules,” Finkelstein said.

“The only time we practice together is when we play,” Goldstein says. “We just play and it works great. It’s part of the fun. I don’t know what’s going to happen next, the band members don’t know what’s going to happen next and the audience doesn’t know what’s going to happen next. How much more fun can it be?” But not everyone agrees with this

mentality.

“I come from a music school, I have a degree in music so I like to practice,” Finkelstein said. “But, not practicing does keep things fresh, especially when we have different musicians playing with us. We listen to each other and then compliment what we hear. It enhances the performance.”

Goldstein and Finkelstein liked to joke about their opinions on practicing. Goldstein would say there are no wrong notes, and Finkelstein would answer that he will find them.

The Java Jews Now

“Despite being a consummate musician in every sense of the word, Mark found a home in the often imperfect musical setting of the Java Jews,” Goldstein says. “His knowledge of Yiddish music, beautiful tone and tutelage of a succession of clarinet players in the ways of klezmer were indispensable in sustaining the Java Jews for almost 20 years. No question that Mark would want us to continue to spread the joy of Yiddish music throughout the land, which we will do in his honor. Look for us at Noce Jazz Cabaret on Thursday, May 14,



Mark Finkelstein (z”l), trumpeter of the Java Jews.



Upcoming Senior Activities

March 12, the senior luncheon will be held at Temple B'nai Jeshurun at 12 p.m. We will be joined by the students of Gan Shalom as they entertain us with Purim songs. Join us for this fun celebration and lunch!

April 23, the senior luncheon will be held at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Bev Ellis will join us and lead us in a fun craft activity. Lunch begins at 12 p.m. followed by our activity.

May 14, we will meet at the Jewish Senior Life Center at 12 p.m. for lunch and entertainment.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Jody Ingersoll, Jewish Family Services, at 987-0899 ext. 210

Hanukkah Celebration With Friends



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June 8 - 12 Incredible Insects

June 15 -19 Growing in the Garden

June 22 -26 Creative Art

June 29 -July 2 Ooey Gooey (Closed Friday)

July 6 - 10 Dinosaur Dig

July 13 - 17 Galactic Exploration

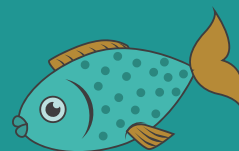
July 20 - 24 Big Wheels

July 27 - 31 Down by the Sea

August 3 - 7 Construction Zone

August 10 - 14 Music Makers

August 17 - 21 State Fair Time



Monday - Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

2 Year Old and 3 - 4 Year old Programs

Half Day and Part Time Options

Transportation, Before and After Care Available

Gan Shaom

Questions? Contact

ganshalom@jewishdesmoines.org 515.987.0899

Engman Camp Shaom

we create spirit

Summer 2020 | June 8 - August 21 | \$250/Week

****Registration Opens Sunday, January 12****

June 8-12

1

Theme: ECS is the Best
Field Trip: Get Air

****Menace Soccer Camp****

June 15-19

2

Theme: Science
Field Trip: Science Center

****Swim Lessons****

June 22-26

3

Theme: Disney
Field Trip: Adventureland

June 29- July 2 CLOSED JULY 3

4

Theme: Party in the USA
Field Trip: Living History Farms

****Swim Lessons****

July 6-10

5

Theme: Color Me Crazy
Field Trip: Glow Golf

****Swim Lessons****

July 13-17

6

Theme: The Great Outdoors
Field Trip: Jester Park

July 20-24

7

Theme: Animal Planet
Field Trip: Blank Park Zoo

****Swim Lessons****

July 27-31

8

Theme: Superhero
Field Trip: Gray's Lake

****Swim Lessons****

August 3-7

9

Theme: Under the Sea
Field Trip: Water Park

August 10-14

10

Theme: In the Kitchen
Field Trip: Movie Theater

August 17-21

11

Theme: That's So Iowa
Field Trip: Iowa State Fair

Before and After Care Available
\$50 for both/Week
Bus From Tifereth Available
\$25 roundtrip/week
Daily Hot Lunch (included)



Questions? Please contact Camp Director, Anna, at
anna@jewishdesmoines.org or call 515.419.1269

Keeping Busy With Learning and Fun

Anissa Deay
Gan Shalom Director

Gan Shalom had an amazing turn out for the Chanukkah Winter Sing. Children sang favorite songs like “Chanukkah Lights” and “Sivivon.” It takes a lot to be on stage and sing for a full Bucksbaum Auditorium. After the program children, family and friends enjoyed light refreshments consisting of traditional Chanukkah foods.

Parent volunteers and one Bubbe prepared over 400 latkes for the Chanukkah Winter Sing and the Intergenerational Hanukkah party. The latkes were crispy, brown and yummy with applesauce. The final part of our Chanukkah celebration was having Rabbi Barton show us how to make sufganiyot. Those jelly donuts were yummy, too.

Students enjoy Judaics class with Morah Anna. They look forward to using the feelings emojis to show how they are feeling. All while, learning the names of emotions in Hebrew. Classes review the prayers

we use before we eat and drink; we thank G-d for giving us grapes for juice, we pray for any food made from bread, we pray for fruits from trees, and fruits from the ground. So much to be thankful for! We also review our colors in Hebrew and some of our body parts. We end every class singing, “Shalom Chaverim,” which is now a Gan Shalom song standard.

The prekindergarten children have begun violin lessons. Ms. Nathalie with Mobile Music Lessons has taught the kids how to hold a bow, what a violin is, parts of the violin and how delicate the violin is. It is challenging with little fingers. She told the children, “if you wouldn’t do something to a wee babe, then we don’t do it to a violin.” So, we are using box violins for now. Ms. Nathalie has been kind to work with parents and Becker Fine Stringed Instruments on navigating the decision of violin rental vs. purchasing. We look forward to having a violin recital soon.

Gan Shalom staff in-service

included a showing of the documentary, “No Small Matter.” “No Small Matter” is the first feature documentary to explore the most overlooked, underestimated, and powerful force for change in America today: early childhood education. Through poignant stories and surprising humor, the film lays out the overwhelming evidence for the importance of the first five years and reveals how our failure to act on that evidence has resulted in an everyday crisis for American families, and a slow-motion catastrophe for the country. Iowa AEYC Executive Director, Jillian Henrick, lead follow up discussion to attending local early learning educators.

We are excited to offer 12 weeks of Gan Shalom summer camp for children 2-4 years old. Half-day and part-time flexible scheduling will make it easy to plan family summer vacations. Registration will fill up quickly. For questions, contact Anissa at (515) 987-0899 x233 or anissa@jewishdesmoines.org.



All Gan Shalom students on stage in the Bucksbaum Auditorium for the Chanukkah Sing. Family and friends gathered to fill the seats and hear fun and festive Chanukkah songs. | Photo Courtesy of Laurie Wahlig.



Gan Shalom students are always bustling about Caspe Terrace. From learning to play violin to singing the Hebrew alphabet song to sledding down the hill in the backyard. There is always something new and exciting to explore each day. It's easy to make lasting memories with so many different opportunities.

Chanukkah Celebration



Beit Sefer Shalom students and families enjoyed a morning full of Chanukkah festivities. Students made clay dreidels, filled sufganiyot, noshed on latkes and played a few rounds of dreidel. A huge thank you to Rabbi Barton for helping us make the sufganiyot and Gan Shalom parent volunteers for making delicious latkes.

Generations Learning Together on GDJL

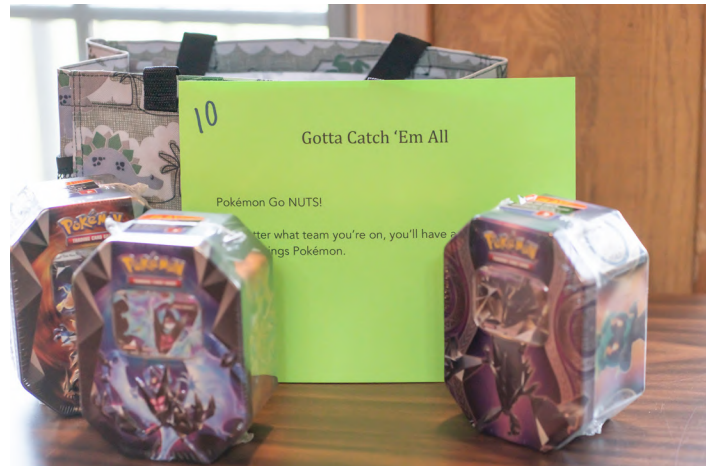


Thank you to everyone who joined us for a morning full of learning! The Global Day of Jewish Learning took place on Sunday, November 17, 2019. Beit Sefer Shalom students and members of the community gathered at Caspe Terrace to study this past year's theme: Speaking Volumes. Those in attendance learned about the importance of words and names and how they shape our everyday lives. Thank you to Copeland Catering for providing the falafel lunch.



Winter Raffle Excitement and Success

Thank you to everyone who participated in our school-wide raffle and congratulations to the winners! This raffle would not have been possible without the generous prize donations from members of our community. A total of \$374 was raised. We hope to organize another raffle in the future.





Save The Date!



Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 8

Caspe Terrace

Come dressed in your best costume!

Games | Crafts | Food
And a Whole Lot of Fun!

Iowa Jewish Historical Society Receives Grant from Bravo Greater Des Moines



The Iowa Jewish Historical Society is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a \$15,000 Cultural Enrichment Grant from Bravo Greater Des Moines for the period January 1 – December 31, 2020! Cultural Enrichment Grants support annual operating and programming costs.

Bravo Greater Des Moines is a public-private partnership that was formed in 2004 by a collaboration of central Iowa local governments

to provide reliable funding and leadership to the arts, culture and heritage community. Since that time, a total of 17 partner communities have committed a portion of their hotel-motel tax revenue to Bravo Greater Des Moines to administer a competitive and accountable grant making program which includes operating and capital support for arts, culture and heritage non-profits in the region.

Participating communities:

Altoona	Ankeny
Bondurant	Carlisle
Clive	Des Moines
Grimes	Indianola
Johnston	Norwalk
Pleasant Hill	Polk City
Polk County	Urbandale
Waukee	West Des Moines
	Windsor Heights

Iowa Jewish Historical Society Receives Donation from the Foundation for Education, Environment and the Arts for Oral History Program

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society is delighted to announce that the Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment, and the Arts has donated \$3,600 to support the IJHS oral history program. This is the second gift that the Iowa Foundation for

Education, Environment and the Arts has made to this critical project to preserve the personal stories of the Jewish people of Iowa.

These funds will be used for Phase II of the IJHS' multi-year project to listen to, document, and summarize more than 180 oral history recordings in our collection and to start a program of recording new oral histories with members of Iowa's statewide Jewish community. All of these recordings will be available to the general public.

The gift from the Iowa Foundation for the Education, Environment, and the Arts is the first gift IJHS has received to match a grant of \$21,603 from the State Historical

Society of Iowa's Historical Resource Development Program. The state grant requires that the IJHS raise more than \$18,000 in matching funds. Help us meet the match requirements by making a donation to this project. Contact Sandi Yoder at sandi@jewishdesmoines.org or call 515-987-0899 ext. 216.

This oral history project started with a Historical Resource Development Project grant awarded by the State Historical Society of Iowa in 2016. Phase I and Phase II are both part of the IJHS' current \$1.5 million fund drive.

All of us at the IJHS want to express our deep gratitude to the Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment, and the Arts for this gift and for the support they have given us for more than 20 years.



IJHS Collections Corner



Basketball from Beth El Jacob Gymnasium.



Joseph Bernstein of Des Moines served in the Army at Fort Richardson in Alaska in WWII. Pictured is a Passover Seder held at the fort in the 1940's. Donated by Gloria Bernstein.

If you have questions about donating objects, papers, or photographs to our collections, please contact our staff at ijhs@jewish-desmoines.org or by calling 515-987-0899 ext. 216.

Join Now!
Give Yourself or a Friend the Gift
of Helping Preserve Iowa's Jewish
Heritage for This and Future
Generations

The artifacts, photos, manuscripts and other treasures that the Iowa Jewish Historical Society collects and preserves are our history – the irreplaceable record of the accomplishments, contributions and personal stories of Jews in Iowa.

Join now at www.ijhs.online or complete this membership form.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, and Zip Code _____

Membership Levels

Membership Year: July 2018 through June 2019

Lifetime	\$5,000	_____
Benefactor	\$1,000	_____
Sponsor	\$500	_____
Supporter	\$180	_____
Institution	\$100	_____
Patron	\$100	_____

Individual or Gift Membership
 \$36 _____

In addition, I want to make a donation to the Iowa Jewish Historical Society
 \$ _____

Please make your check payable to the IJHS and send it to
 33158 Ute Ave., Waukee, IA 50263.
 For more information: (515)987-0899 ext. 216 or
ijhs@jewishdesmoines.org



Iowa Jewish Historical Society

Ames Jewish Congregation

3721 Calhoun Ave, Ames, IA 50010
visit ajciowa.org for more information

Rabbi Nina Mizrahi will be in Ames to lead services and other activities on the following weekends (details will be available in the newsletter and online closer to the respective dates):

- March 6-8
- April 3-5
- May 1-3

In addition, the following activities are being planned (dates and times TBA):

- Purim Celebration
- Passover Seder
- Monthly Friday evening community Shabbat potluck suppers
- Family Shabbat services
- Children's Shabbat services
- Lay-led Conservative Shabbat services.
- And more!

Dates and times for all events (as they become available) can be viewed on the calendar at <http://ajciowa.org/events.htm>. To receive emails about upcoming events, to receive our monthly newsletter, please contact AJC at ajciowa@gmail.com.

Save the Date

Tifereth Israel Women's League 100th Anniversary Gala

June 7, 2020

Special Guests:

Maggie Miller, International President, WLCJ

Susan Sandler, Deputy Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues, part of the Office of Special Holocaust Issues within the U.S. Department of State

For more information contact Jody Jacklin at jjpuppydog1@gmail.com

TIS Worship Schedule

Tifereth Israel Synagogue | 924 Polk Blvd, Des Moines, IA 50312

visit www.tifereth.org for more information

Recurring Events

Tuesday Minyan, 7:15 a.m.

Friday Services | 6 p.m. | Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday Services | 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service | 11:45 a.m. Shabbat Cafe | 12:30 p.m.

Shabbat Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Emily Barton

March 2020 Events

Sunday, March 1 | 12:30 p.m. Art Club and Lunch with Cynthia Shulman

Thursday, March 5 | 6:30 p.m. Adult Art Club with Cynthia Shulman

Friday, March 6 | 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services *SPECIAL TIME*

Saturday, March 7 | 9:30 a.m. Mia Blumberg's Bat Mitzvah

Monday, March 9 | 6 p.m. Megillah Reading and Family Purim Celebration and Dinner

Saturday, March 14 | 9:30 a.m. Contemplative Service | 10:15 Torah Service

Saturday, March 21 | 10:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat and Children's Service

April 2020 Events

Sunday, April 5 | 12:30 p.m. Art Club and Lunch with Cynthia Shulman

Wednesday, April 8 | 9 a.m. Erev Pesach/Ta'anit Bekhorim (Fast of the Firstborn)

Thursday, April 9 | 10 a.m. Pesach Morning Service | 7 p.m. Second Night Seder

Friday, April 10 | 10 a.m. Pesach Morning Service

Saturday, April 11 | 9:30 a.m. Contemplative Service | 10:15 a.m. Torah Service

Wednesday, April 15 | 9:30 a.m. Pesach Morning Service

Thursday, April 16 | 9:30 a.m. Pesach Morning Service/Yizkor Service

May 2020 Events

Sunday, May 3 | 11 a.m. Family Fun Run and Cookout

Saturday, May 9 | 9:30 a.m. Contemplative Service | 10:15 a.m. Torah Service

Wednesday, May 20 | Women's League Fashion Show and Dinner

Saturday, May 23 | Talia Naggar's Bat Mitzvah

Thursday, May 28, Friday May 29 and Saturday, May 30 | Shavuot Events TBA

Ongoing Education

Shabbat Lunch and Learn With Rabbi Emily Barton | Saturdays after Shabbat Cafe at 12:30 p.m.

S.T.E.P. (Sunday Torah Education Program) with Michael Kuperman | Sundays at 10 a.m.

TBJ Worship Schedule

Temple B'nai Jeshurun | 5101 Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50312
visit www.templebnaijeshurun.org for more information

Fridays

WINE AND CHEESE SOCIAL FRIDAYS, 5:30 P.M.

March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27
April 3, April 10, April 17, April 24
May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22, May 29

EREV SHABBAT SERVICE FRIDAYS, 6 P.M.

March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27
April 3, April 10, April 17, April 24
May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22, May 29

SHABBAT DINNER FRIDAYS, 7 P.M.

March 6
April 3
May 1

YOUTH GROUP GATHERING FIRST FRIDAY, 7 P.M.

March 6
April 3
May 1

MAHJ & MORE! FRIDAY, 7 P.M.

March 20
April 17
May 15

Saturdays

WEEKLY TEXT STUDY SATURDAYS, 9 A.M.

March 7, March 14, March 21, March 28
April 4, April 11, April 18, April 25
May 2, May 9, May 16, May 23, May 30

TRADITIONAL TORAH STUDY SATURDAYS, 9 A.M.

March 7, March 14, March 21, March 28
April 4, April 11, April 18, April 25
May 2, May 9, May 16, May 23, May 30

SHABBAT SERVICE SATURDAYS, 10 A.M.

March 7, March 14, March 21, March 28
April 4, April 11, April 18, April 25
May 2, May 9, May 16, May 23, May 30

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, April 8 | 6:15 p.m. | Passover Seder
Monday, April 13 | 6 p.m. | Youth Group Seder
Saturday, April 18 | 4:30 p.m. | Rose Walsh Bat Mitzvah
Friday, May 1 | 6 p.m. | Senior Recognition
Saturday, May 2 | 10 a.m. | James Flugge-Smith Bar Mitzvah
Saturday, May 9 | 4:30 p.m. | Cooper Bernstein Bar Mitzvah

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

Temple Bnai Jeshurun of Des Moines Journey Around Israel
Led by Rabbi David Kaufman
April 19-30, 2020

TBJ Adult Education Schedule for Spring 2020

All classes begin at 7 p.m. at Temple B'nai Jeshurun

Jewish History

Jan 9 | Evolution of the Concepts of God and Salvation
Jan 16 | Messiahs and The Messianic Age
Jan 23 | Rise of the Rabbis
Jan 30 | The Jews and Spain
Feb 6 | The Plague to The Besht
Feb 13 | Origins of Reform Judaism

Modern Challenges

Feb 20 | Civil Rights
Feb 27 | Origins of Antisemitism
Mar 5 | Introduction to Purim
Mar 12 | Modern Antisemitism and Philosemitism

Israel—People, Nation and Land

Mar 26 | Zionism and the Founding of Israel
Apr 2 | Israel and the Pursuit of Peace
Apr 9 | Passover

The Divine

May 7 | Angels in the Jewish Tradition
May 14 | Mysticism and Kabbalah
May 21 | The Afterlife

Update from TBJ Sisterhood and Upcoming Events

Our Sisterhood project to make baby blankets for a women's shelter continues. Please bring your nine-inch knitted or crocheted squares to the Temple for us to join (as Sisters do) to make the blankets. Please use a soft, synthetic yarn for your squares. We hope the blankets will share our joy of new life and hope.

Sisters are also coming together in a new group, which meets Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. to enjoy each other's company while learning and doing craft work. We have been crafting together for a whole month now, meeting every week, and our group keeps on growing each time. We are about to outgrow the small

conference room and soon we'll be moving into a bigger one. All are having a good time with their knitting, crocheting, Tunisian crochet, needle point, sketching, photo albums, learning and mastering their new skills; and we also have a few that join us just to enjoy each other's company and conversations. Silvia Klein is our wonderful teacher and shares her knowledge and love of creating. Following the creative time, on the fourth Thursday, those who would like can go on to WEDO lunch at a restaurant.

Don't forget our upcoming activities and opportunities:

- Breakfast Club—second Monday morning of the

month, at the Windsor Heights Hy Vee, 9:30 a.m.

- Book Club—second Monday evening every other month, at the Temple, 7 p.m.
- Sisterhood Meeting—first Tuesday evening of the month, at the Temple, 6:30 p.m.
- WEDO Lunch—fourth Thursday, at noon, the restaurant for the next time is chosen at the lunch
- Game Night—third Friday of the month, at the Temple, after Shabbat service
- Special Events—Havdalah/Rosh Chodesh celebration, watch for details



CALLED TO THE TORAH



March 7, 2020

Phil and Jenny Blumberg are happy to announce that their daughter, Mia Bella Blumberg, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Mia is in 7th grade at Stilwell Jr. High School. She enjoys spending time with her friends, playing soccer, and playing the violin. She is looking forward to her 4th summer at camp OSRUI in Oconomowoc, WI.



May 23, 2020

Ayal and Annie Nagggar are proud to announce that their daughter, Talia LeighAnn Nagggar, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 23, at Tifereth Israel. Talia is in 6th grade at Crossroads Park Elementary.



April 18, 2020

Please join us at our daughter, Rose Catherine Walsh's, Bat Mitzvah. The community is invited to a Havdalah service at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2020. Rose is a 7th grader at Dallas Center-Grimes Middle School. She enjoys Show Choir and soccer. She's requesting that attendees of her Bat Mitzvah bring something to donate to the Animal Rescue League of Iowa. A list of needed supplies can be found at www.arl-iowa.org.



May 9, 2020

Cooper Jacob Bernstein will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on May 9, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. at Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Cooper is currently a 7th grader at Southeast Polk Junior High School. He was born in Des Moines on May 4, 2007 and resides in Altoona with his Mother (Kerrie), Father (Jason), and his dog (Trey). Cooper's brother, Connor, is currently serving in the USAF and Cooper is very proud of him. "Coop" enjoys bike racing, swimming, playing video games, and listening to his favorite rock songs. Cooper is the current State Junior Road Race Champion and is looking forward to the coming race season. Coop is excited about the future and all the paths it has to offer.



In Memoriam

MARY ROSE SCARPINO
JACKIE POLSKY WEBER
MARK FINKELSTEIN
MARY ANN ROSENBAUM
FIRA RAKHMAN
SHARMA GOLOFSKY SPECTOR
DR. PAUL ROHRLICH

The Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center



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WITH THE CREATOR OF

"TALES OF TELEKI SQUARE"

THE EURASIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AWARD WINNING FILM ABOUT
THE REJUVENATION OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF BUDAPEST

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

5:30 p.m. Reception with complimentary drinks and snacks

6:30 p.m. Film and Discussion

Levitt Auditorium, Des Moines Art Center

Admission is free, thanks to P2G

RSVP to alicia@jewishdesmoines.org or 515.987.0899

