

This summer:



June 2 – August 25:

Art Exhibit:
 "One World, One People"
 photographs by
 Arnold Newman.
 Artspace Gallery.

The Jackson Kol



NEWSLETTER FOR THE JACKSON HOLE JEWISH COMMUNITY • JULY 2006

Letter from the Presidents

Shalom,

Summer is here and we begin the month with Hannah Scofield's Bat Mitzvah on July 1. During our June Shabbat, Hannah helped lead the congregation for our evening service. She has grown so much this year, we almost didn't recognize her! The Scofield family and the Jewish Community of Jackson Hole welcome everyone to observe as Hannah is called to the Torah.

Camp director Andrea Mazer is busy getting ready for the Spirit of the Mountains Camp which will be held the last two weeks of July. On Sunday July 16 there will be a potluck BBQ at the Domsky's house to get everyone together. Campers and their families are invited to join Andrea and the counselors for an informational gathering and schmooz.

Also this month we are honored to sponsor Steve Emerson as a guest speaker at the Snow King Resort at 7pm on the 27th. We look forward to a lively discussion following his talk. Mr. Emerson is most recently the author of the national best-seller, "American Jihad: The Terrorists Living Among Us" (Free Press). He is widely recognized as one of the foremost experts in the world on militant Islamic terrorism. Mr. Emerson and his institute have briefed Congress, the White House, the Justice Department and other federal agencies, and he has appeared frequently on television and has been quoted by top newspapers. Thank

you to Karin McQuillan for her efforts in bringing Mr. Emerson.

We are delighted to have Rabbi Bennett Greenspon from Cooper City, Fla., this month to lead Shabbat services on the 28th at 6:30 at Owen-Bircher Park in Wilson. Potluck oneg to follow. Thank you goes to the Lundy family for hosting Rabbi Greenspon.

Lastly, we wish to extend a thank you to the Wolfensohn family who have graciously offered their home as the place to gather for our August 4th Shabbat service with Rabbi David Goldstein. And thank you to Brent Blue for facilitating this special event. Rabbi Goldstein conducted a Shabbat service, led Torah study and held a lively community lecture and discussion on Rashdi this past winter, and we welcome his return.

The Arnold Newman photography exhibit continues to hang in the Art! Space Gallery at the Center for the Arts through August 25th. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to view the late photographer's exhibit entitled "One World, One People" on loan from the Jewish Museum of Florida featuring portraits of prominent Jewish figures. We hope to see everyone at one of the many activities we have planned this summer. Enjoy the long days and gorgeous evenings.

*Your Presidents,
 Lisa Finkelstein and Dava Zucker*

Directors 2006

- Lisa Finkelstein Co-President
- Dava Zucker Co-President
- Susan Foster, Treasurer
- Stephan Abrams
- Brent Blue
- Mary Grossman
- Merle Lundy
- Karin McQuillan
- Russell Scott
- Scott Stachel
- Rachael Mancoll Stam
- Linda Wiener
- Al Zuckerman
- Carol Mann, ex officio
- Rose Novak, ex officio
- Larry Thal, ex officio
- Phyllis Turtle, ex officio

July Shabbat

**July 28 at Owen Bircher
 Park in Wilson at 6:30 p.m.**

**August 4 at the Wolfensohn
 residence at 6:30 p.m.**

CALENDAR

Now: Register for Spirit of the Mountains Summer Camp!

Registration materials are available online, or call the office at 734-1999.

June 2 – August 25: "One World, One People" photographs by Arnold Newman. Art!Space Gallery, Art Association of Jackson Hole 240 S. Glenwood Avenue.

July 5: Board Meeting. 5:15 p.m. Downstairs Conference Room, 480 S. Cache St.

July 16: Pre-camp Potluck. For campers and their families, and counselors. 5-7 pm at Marc and Lisa Domsky's house south of town. Please call the office for details.

July 17-21 and 24-28: Spirit of the Mountains Camp. Register now!

July 27: Lecture by Steven Emerson. Steven Emerson is an internationally recognized expert on terrorism and national security, a correspondent, and an author who also serves as the Executive Director of The Investigative Project on Terrorism, the nation's largest archival data and intelligence on Islamic and Middle Eastern terrorist groups. He is most recently the author of the national best seller, "American Jihad: The Terrorists Living Among Us" (Free Press). Mr. Emerson is widely recognized as one of the foremost experts in the world on militant Islamic terrorism. 7 pm – 9 pm, Snow King Resort, Grand Room.

July 28: Shabbat Services with Rabbi Bennett Greenspon from Cooper City, FL. 6:30 pm, Owen Bircher Park in Wilson.

July 29: Torah Study at the Lundy Residence. 9:30 am, call the office for directions.

August 3: Tish'a B'Av

August 4: Shabbat Services with Rabbi David Goldstein. 6:30 pm at the Wolfensohn residence.

August 15: AIPAC Meetings with Senator Craig Thomas. At the Wort Hotel, 7:30 a.m.

Bits from our members

The Roots of the Jackson Hole Jewish Community

by Merle Lundy

Local artist Laurie Thal, a Jackson resident since 1976, began having Chanukah parties in 1983. When guests could no longer squeeze into her Wilson cabin, the party moved to physician Brent Blue's home. Non-sectarian and the place to be for a decade, the annual Chanukah party was where Jewish Jackson Hole residents discovered each other, then began celebrating other Jewish holidays together at whatever home was offered, with services often led by no one in particular. Break-the-fast was held at Oxbow while the elk bugled. It was at a Sukkot party in 1996 that celebrants recognized that the time had come for more formal and extensive planning.

Laurie's brother, Larry Thal, organized a meeting that led to the formation of a nonprofit organization, the "Chaverim" (friends), now called the Jewish Community of Jackson Hole (JCJH). Their vision was to bond into a solid community that would celebrate holidays together and provide their children with a Jewish education. Then they worked together to make this vision a reality. Before long, Dan Fischel restored and donated a Torah. The

first baby naming was in 2000 and first Bat Mitzvah was in 2001.

Like so much else in the Hole, there is a unique flavor to Jewish life here. The JCJH currently holds monthly and holiday services in its own individual style. Sometimes, we are led by a Rabbi, sometimes a storyteller, and sometimes by a philosopher. Our Shabbats offer an opportunity to meet others and become part of the community, as well as an opportunity for those who are passing through to feel at home. We have weekly Bet Sefer classes, a two-week summer camp and adult education classes. While we lack a permanent home of our own, we meet outdoors in the summer, and in a beautiful log church in the winter. We have not yet affiliated, but lean toward the Reform, and have a decidedly informal and inclusive flavor. It's not so much your background or your outfit that matters, but rather your sense of family and community, and your desire to experience spirituality.

Jackson Hole is the most beautiful place on earth, a place where people are warm and friendly and welcoming, and we add a bit of Yiddishkeit to the mix.

Thanks to Laurie and Larry Thal for their input.

Many thanks and Mazel Tov ...

Rachel Selikoff for volunteering to help serve dinner at the Senior Center this past April. **Shamus Al Zuckerman** for setting up for Shabbat services in June. **Eve Scofield** for hosting the Oneg following services in June in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of her daughter **Hannah Lewis Scofield**. **Scott Stachel** for his generous donation of two siddurs in memory of his parents **Allan E. Stachel and Gloria S. Ansel**. An **anonymous donor** for their generous contribution which enabled the JHJC to reach our goal in purchasing new siddurs for Shabbat services.

Madeline Caldwell on her graduation from high school as a National Merit Scholar. The Jewish Community of Jackson Hole would like to wish Madeline the best of luck as she journeys on to Wesleyan University this fall. **Ben Dann** on his 8th grade graduation. Ben received a Presidential Achievement Award for maintaining an excellent GPA throughout his entire middle school career. **Hannah Scofield** and her family as she is called to the Torah to celebrate the milestone of her Bat Mitzvah.

To paraphrase Hillel: Love thy neighbor as thyself. The rest is commentary. Now go to the movies!

Here are a few reviews of films I saw at this year's **Jackson Hole Film Festival** in early June.

Who has the right to forgive a monster? *Forgiving Dr. Mengele* poses this question as we follow a Holocaust survivor with a dauntless



Forgiving Dr. Mengele

spirit. She decides to forgive Mengele publicly even though as a child she and her identical twin were submitted to experiments that ultimately caused her sister to die at an early age. This film relates a particularly horrendous chapter of Nazi history--Mengele's experiments on identical twins, but

rises above personal history to present universal dilemmas: Who has the right to forgive? Is it possible to forgive and not to forget? Will forgiveness release us from the burden of pain caused by others?

Can enemies reconcile and live in peace together? *Whiteflag - Playing with the Enemy* introduces Israelis and Palestinians, who compose, write songs and perform together against all odds and obstacles—including torture. Emotional, troubling and thought provoking, this film leads us to consider how the world would be if adversaries could find common ground. These brave people have moved beyond performing together to take risks for and protect the enemies they have befriended and have come to love. The meld of Israeli and Palestinian music is breath-taking.

All of the films I saw were complex and had a passionate moral component which I could easily view from our teachings and beliefs. Among the most provocative are *Black Gold*, *Last Best Hope*, *the World According to Sesame Street*, *Call to Return: The Oxycontin Story*, *Thin*, *Red State*, *Stephanie Daley*, *Aurora Borealis*, *Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont*, and *Shadow Boxing*.

TID BITS

Siddur Donations Sought

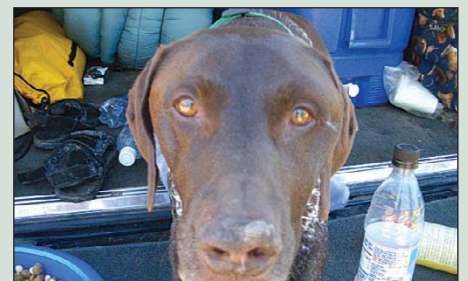
If you would like to make a donation for a new siddur, a label will be placed in the front cover of each new book in your honor or in memory of the person of your choice. The cost of one siddur is \$25.

Fundraising Campaign

Our roots have grown since that first Chanukah party in 1983, and our etz of Judaism in Jackson now has many branches and leaves. As summer is in full swing, we begin our annual fundraising campaign. Various board members will be making phone calls to the community to seek your support. As you are approached to help sustain the Jackson Hole Jewish Community we would like you to take a moment and think about what Judaism means in your life, in your family's life, and how our community impacts the greater community of Jackson. Your support of the Jewish Community is extremely important to us. Without your help we could not host monthly Shabbat services, High Holiday services, other major holiday celebrations, weekly religious school, summer camp, and Torah study. By supporting the JHJC, you are helping sustain the roots to the tree of Judaism in Jackson.

Jewish Pet of the Month

The Domsky-Finkelstein Doggie, Mike.



Send a pic of your Jewish pet to info@jhjewishcommunity.org



JIHAD: THE TERRORISTS LIVING AMONG US

A LECTURE BY STEVEN EMERSON

Internationally recognized expert on terrorism and national security

Thursday, July 27, 2006 • 7 PM

Snow King Grand Room

ALL ARE WELCOME FREE ADMISSION

Information: 307-734-1999 or www.jhjewishcommunity.org



JACKSON HOLE
JEWISH
COMMUNITY
P.O. Box 10667
JACKSON, WY 83002

Phone: (307) 734-1999
Fax: Same by arrangement
info@JHJewishCommunity.org
www.JHJewishCommunity.org

The office is at 480 S. Cache St.,
Suite 6, Jackson Hole
Office hours are by arrangement



photo by Morris Weintraub

The Jackson Hole Jewish Community is committed to creating a diverse Jewish presence that unites us, celebrates our faith and promotes tolerance in the greater Jackson community. We strive to engage all families and individuals in spirituality, education, tzedakah and the joys of Jewish life.

Spirit of the Mountains summer camp

Plans for our annual summer camp are well under way. We hope you are ready to pack your children's lunch, lather them with lots of sunscreen, and send them out on adventures such as white water rafting, acting, hiking in Grand Teton National Park, swimming, arts and crafts, and much more. Camp this year will be July 17-21 and 24-28 at the Wilson Community Center. Camp fees are \$200 per child per week. All Children ages 4 - 11 are welcome. Older children (13+) are invited to serve as junior counselors (and get paid), so let us know soon if they are interested.

SHABBAT *Jackson Hole* style

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Call 734-1999 for directions.