

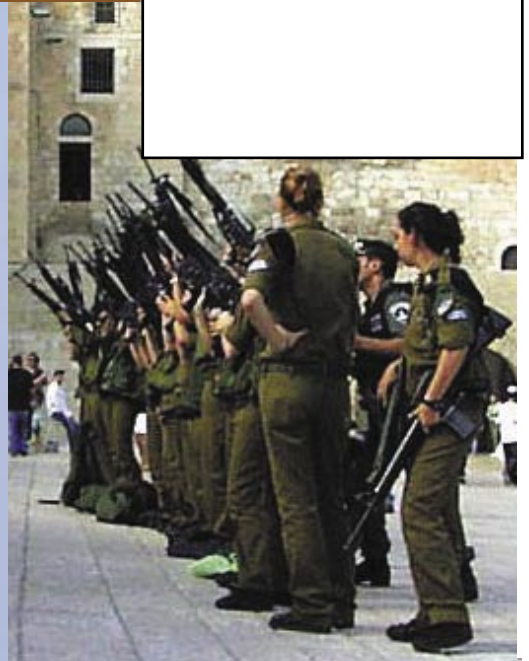
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Post & Opinion

Volume 75, Number 17 • May 13, 2009 • 19 Iyar 5769 Two Dollars
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Salute to Israel



Clockwise from top left: Jaffa, as seen from Gordon Beach, Tel Aviv; IDF soldiers line up to go on duty at the Kotel, Jerusalem; House in Tsfat; Watching the festivities on Israel's 61st birthday celebration in Kikar Rabin Square, Tel Aviv; Electricity Pylons, Petach Tikva Industrial Park. *Photos by Russel Harris*

Critics Corner



Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Delicious Eye Candy

By Charlie Epstein



Wow. What a show! I was absolutely surprised how entertaining the musical based on Ian Fleming's children's book *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* was. The sets were fantastic. The special effects were jaw dropping. More than once the audience applauded the amazing special effects, especially the flying car. This was quite an expensive and extensive production.

The splendid cast was extraordinary. Steve Wilson played the lead role of inventor Caractacus Potts. Kelly McCormick was wonderful as his love interest Truly Scrumptious. Dirk Lambard and Scott Cote were delightful as the comic spies. The children and the dogs were awesome, as were George

Dvorsky and Elizabeth Ward Land as the Royal Family of Vulgaria. Oliver Wadsworth impressed as the energetic Childcatcher. The sets and special effects were spectacular. Even the flying car took a bow at curtain call.

The Sherman Brothers (Richard and Robert) are credited as composers/lyricists. Jeremy Sams wrote the book. Adrian Noble was the original director. The brilliant Anthony Ward did the original scenic and costume designs. Gillian Lynne was responsible for the original musical staging and choreography, with the "Bamboo" number in the first act being fabulous.

I almost passed up this

glorious show. Thank goodness I did not. It will be a long time before I forget *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. The Clowes Hall audience was ecstatic as was I.

The next show offered by Broadway Across America Indianapolis is the new musical *Wicked*, the untold story of the witches of Oz at the Murat Theatre, June 3 – 21. It has been said that *Wicked* is the most complete and completely satisfying musical in a long time. It must be. Tickets are going like wildfire.



Pictures (by Ian Ibbetson) of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at Clowes Hall.

Scintillating Cinderella

Before I comment on the masterful production of Butler Ballet's *Cinderella*, there is something I must get off my chest. Have you noticed the valuable information that is contained in a program? There is a synopsis of what is going on on stage, whether there is one or two intermissions, who is in the cast, a list of technical people, and on and on. If you don't have this information, you can be immersed in utter confusion, especially if you have to write a review of the production. For the performance I attended at Clowes Hall, there were no programs available. Somebody should be ashamed, for there were constant murmurs throughout the audience. Being disturbed because of the absence of programs is a sin that should be carefully avoided.

Now on to the pleasantries of the ballet. Richard Auldon Clark conducted the Butler Ballet Symphony Orchestra of Serge Prokofiev's music superbly. Choreographers

Stephan Laurent, Derek Reid, and Cynthia Pratt were at their finest in the first act. The second act consisted mostly of Cinderella at the ball. Choreographers Michelle Jarvis, Susan McGuire, and Mark Cholewa showed their astounding mettle here, with Act III being choreographed by Tong Wang, Stephan Laurent, and Derek Reid to the final exciting conclusion.

The dancing was fabulous. It is always hard to believe that these wonderful dancers are just students. Jennifer Lawall was fantastic throughout in the title role. Her Prince was Stirling Matheson, who was majestic with his dancing. Others who impressed were Andrea Lucas as the Fairy Godmother, Kimberly Page as the Stepmother, and the outstanding duo of Michael Galloway and Thomas Lewey, who were extremely comical as the Step Sisters. They had me fooled the whole performance. I did not find out they were men until I looked in my stealthily acquired program.

The audience was filled with kids, most of whom in my opinion were too young to appreciate the excellence on stage. Some even cried. I wish parents would think about their child disturbing members of the audience, and could my child describe what was seen? I am glad to see that parents initiate taking their children to performances, but to bring babies who cannot even walk to a ballet is ridiculous.

Next season looks wonderful with the Butler Ballet presenting their great *Nutcracker* again in December followed by the always unusual Midwinter Dance Festival in February, and ending with the beautiful *Swan Lake* with Tchaikovsky's gorgeous music in April.

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\$36 per year
Advertising Sales
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Editors
Grechen Throop
Ed Statmann
Graphic Design
Crystal Kurz

All publicity material must be in the office of The Indiana Jewish Post & Opinion, 238 S. Meridian St., Suite 502, Indianapolis, IN 46225, (317) 972-7800, Fax: 317-972-7807, by Wednesday, one week prior to the Wednesday publication date. E-mail: post@jewishpostopinion.com

All circulation correspondence should be addressed to The Indiana Jewish Post & Opinion, Subscription Dept., 238 S. Meridian St., Suite 502, Indianapolis, IN 46225.

Known office of publication: 238 S. Meridian St., Suite 502, Indianapolis, IN 46225.

Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Indiana Jewish Post & Opinion, Subscription Dept., 238 S. Meridian St., Suite 502, Indianapolis, IN 46225.

Children's Museum receives award for Anne Frank Exhibit

The Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis is awarding the Children's Museum of Indianapolis the Tikkun Olam Award for their Anne Frank Exhibit. The Award will be presented during the Jewish Federation Annual meeting on Wed., June 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the JCC Laikin Auditorium.

The Tikkun Olam Award is given to unique and special projects that enhance our community.

Anne Frank frequently mentions in her diary the tree that she could see from her window and the joy that it gave her. This tree, still living in Amsterdam, is now diseased and dying.

Steve Patchen CEO of the Children's Museum of Indianapolis was instrumental in getting the City of Amsterdam to provide 10 saplings so that the tree can live on. One of these sapplings will be given to the Children's Museum here in Indy and will be a powerful reminder for the children of our community both Jewish and non-Jewish of the end result when prejudice and discrimination is allowed to flourish, when good people are silent, when millions of innocent people are slaughtered, and when a girl's diary and the beauty she saw in a single tree can prove to be an inspiring force for the entire world.

Tribute to Dovie

By Rabbi Jon Adland

A ray of sunshine went out yesterday afternoon when our IHC receptionist, the voice you heard when you called IHC, died in a traffic accident. Dovie Madsen will be missed. I will miss her. All of us who work at IHC will miss her and so many of you who have talked to her, I know, will miss her, too. It is just so sad to think that she won't be in the office today and it is even sadder to think that we, her IHC family, and her own family have lost this ray of sunshine.

Sometimes we throw this word around and use it liberally, but in the case of Dovie, she was the absolute embodiment of a *mensch*. There was always a smile on her face. Dovie said "hello" to you each time you entered the office as if it were the first time she had seen you that day. She took on tasks in the IHC office not only without asking, but without any complaint. She only wanted to please and she did. When you passed Dovie and saw her smile, everything was just good.

Dovie had become the voice of IHC. If you called the office, Dovie most likely would answer. If you needed to make a reservation for something at Temple, Dovie took care of it. If you needed a membership packet, a kulanu, something copied, a mailing sent, or connection to something at IHC, Dovie got you to the right

place. So many of you told me how wonderful it was to call IHC and get Dovie on the phone. She was the first point of contact and just the right voice or face to have in that place.

To give you an example of Dovie's sunshine isn't really that hard because she was the same, day in and day out. Just the other day when the clergy administrative secretary was out, Dovie called me on the phone to say that if I needed anything done she was there to help. I told her that there may be some copying, but in the end I took care of it. Later that day she called to see if the copying was ready. When I told her that it wasn't as big a job as I first thought, she almost sounded disappointed that she couldn't help. She told me again just to ask if I needed anything. I hear the sound of her cheerful voice as I write these words.

Once a month when there was a birthday that month amongst the clergy and staff we would gather in the main office conference room to sing happy birthday, open a card, eat some cake or fruit, and just enjoy the moment. The last several years these were a joy as Dovie took care of organizing them, making sure we signed a card, and finding the time for all of us to gather. On Tuesday, Dovie got us together to celebrate the April birthdays, but mine was the only one this year. There was a chocolate fudge

cake, fruit, and a card. Dovie cut the cake with her usual exuberance and passed a piece to each of us. She just made it fun. I think I saw her later in the day when I went into the office, but I wasn't around on Wednesday and, by the time I got there on Thursday, she had left. When I got the call about what had happened and sat back to capture that wonderful, happy, selfless person in my memory, I realized that my birthday celebration was my last true encounter with Dovie and I will remember it forever.

Dovie Madsen was a special, unique, happy, selfless, wonderful woman. Her presence in this world was a blessing from God and her place here at IHC was a blessing to all of us. It is hard to imagine that there will ever be someone like Dovie answering our phones, doing the little extra things that made being a part of IHC that much better, and being a ray of sunshine every day she was here. She was a true *mensch*. She will be missed. May her memory be a blessing.

When you light y3174395596our Shabbat candles this evening, light one for the ray of sunshine, happiness and love that Dovie brought into the world. Light the other to remind us to treasure each and every day as Dovie did. Dovie left us a legacy of what it meant to be kind, giving, and loving. May her memory become a part of all of us.

Rabbi Jon Adland is senior rabbi of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. This was written April 24, 2009.

The other heroes

By Ari Kaufman



the Indiana War Memorial, go to www.in.gov/iwm.

The Indiana War Memorial is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The exhibit is free and if you contact me first I might be able to give you personal tour. Email: akaufman@iwm.in.gov or call 317-233-0528.

Ari J. Kaufman is a military history researcher and freelance writer from Indianapolis. His newest book, "Reclamation: Saving Our Schools Starts from Within," discusses educational reform and is based upon his time in Los Angeles as a school teacher. He can be reached at ajkauf7@yahoo.com.

Recently I oversaw the completion of a new gallery at the Indiana War Memorial in downtown Indianapolis. This exhibit pays tribute to those from Indiana who did not wear the uniform but assisted in essential ways by manufacturing items for use during wartime. Without these people, we likely would not have won World Wars I or II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, nor be as successful in the Global War on Terrorism.

Last winter, I was able to visit historic sites around Indiana, meet great individuals, tour museums, plants and facilities from South Bend, Fort Wayne, Muncie and Portland to Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Columbus and Crane Naval Service Warfare Center. I obtained artifacts and information and was able to compile written storyboards and displays describing the contributions of these individuals and companies from Indiana's various regions. It was a very rewarding experience, and museum staff put on the finishing touches in mid-April. The exhibit is now open to the public. For more information about



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Women's Press Club elects new officers

Indianapolis freelance writer Julie Slaymaker was elected president of the Woman's Press Club of Indiana in March. Retired *Indianapolis Star* theater critic Marion Garmel of Indianapolis was elected corresponding secretary.

Indiana Broadcasters Hall of Fame member Gene Slaymaker of Indianapolis will serve as treasurer. He is the third male member of the organization.

Woman's Press Club of Indiana, which is a charter member and affiliate of the National Federation of Press Women, was founded in 1913. The organization sponsors an open statewide journalism writing contest, as well as statewide

high school and prison writing competition.

The organization also offers two \$500 scholarships. One, honoring former UPI Statehouse reporter Hortense Myers, is awarded to a junior-level Indiana college student who is planning a career in journalism. The second is awarded in memory of Louise Eleanor Ross Kleinhenz, one of two members of the Indiana delegation at the 1937 founding meeting of the National Federation of Press Women. This scholarship is awarded to a woman over 30 years of age who desires to upgrade her skills to reenter the journalism job market or to seek a better job.

Lunch with Howard Kellman

By Ari Kaufman

On Tuesday afternoon, May 5, roughly 100 people gathered in the Columbia Club's 10th-floor ballroom for the Indianapolis Indians' annual luncheon benefiting PlayBall Indiana and the Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI) program.

Indians' play-by-play man, Howard Kellman, who was inducted into the Indiana Sportscasters and Sportswriters Hall of Fame on April 11 this year, served as the master of ceremonies. Kellman, often seen at Israel events in central Indiana, met his wife on J-date. She moved to Indianapolis from Sarasota, Fla., four years ago. It was a first marriage for both.

After some welcome remarks from Indy Sports Foundation Luncheon Series Chair Dan Thompson, Kellman began his emcee duties.

Known across the region for his motivational speeches on strategy and leadership, "the voice of the Indians" regaled the crowd with humorous baseball stories that related to this year's squad. He stressed the importance of "having the right make up" (to be a ballplayer) and other aspects of the game, such as "keeping focus."

Indians CEO Max Schumacher then reported from the front office about the 2009 Indianapolis Indians season so far. Schumacher's relationship with the Tribe goes back 53 years to his beginnings as ticket manager at old Bush Stadium. He met his wife at this job, was named general manager in 1961, and has kept the team profitable and successful on the field ever since. Included in this "progress" was the building of Victory Field downtown in 1996. The \$20 million, 15,000-

seat park, named for the U.S. victory in the WWII, was rated the top ballpark in minor league baseball by *Sports Illustrated* in 2001.

"They say 20% of people will complain about anything; I don't hear anybody complaining about Victory Field," Howard Kellman claimed when speaking of Mr. Schumacher.

Top Pittsburgh Pirates prospect Andrew McCutchen and Tom Gorzelanny were special guests representing the team. Each was interviewed for about 10 minutes on stage by Kellman. Gorzellany, a Chicago native, was Pittsburgh's (Indianapolis' major league affiliate) 2006 minor league player of the year, and won 14 games for the Pirates in 2007, nearly making the all-star team. He called that season, and the difficult 2008 that followed, "humbling," and after said struggles landed him back in the minors, the 26-year-old hopes to return to the majors soon.

McCutchen, just 22 years old, was a first-round pick of Pittsburgh out of high school in 2005, where he was "Gatorade Player of the Year" in Florida. A versatile athlete who also

Continued on page IN 7

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Aaron-Ruben-Nelson moves to Carmel



Max Nelson and Jennifer Nelson Williams announced recently the groundbreaking of the new Aaron-Ruben-Nelson Mortuary. The funeral home founded in 1935 has served the Jewish Community of Indianapolis and Central Indiana continuously and respectfully since its founding. The new location 11411 N. Michigan Rd., should be available for services on or about the middle of October of this year. Aaron-Ruben-Nelson's present location on

86th St., will be replaced by a Walgreens Drug Store. The new funeral home will have a total of 13,000 square feet and a parking lot that will accommodate 125 cars. "We are very excited about the new facility. It will be more modern in every way. We will have a larger chapel, larger restrooms and state of the art audio visual equipment," says Nelson. "We look forward to serving our community for another 75 years."

Blains' celebrate in Israel

On their latest visit to Israel, Sylvia and Michael Blain celebrated the bat mitzvah of granddaughter, Shira. Shira is the daughter of David and Susan Blain of Cherry Hill, N.J. In attendance were her parents, her siblings, Ezra, Jenny and Rachel; and her uncle, Rabbi Zvi Leshem, and his family from Efrat, Israel.

The Blains celebrated Pesach and baked matzos in Efrat at the home of their son, Rabbi Zvi. They participated in Birkat Ha-Chamah, the 28-year cycle of the ceremony of Blessing the Sun; experienced the very moving Yom Hashoah observance when the whole country came to a two-minute standstill. And the whole family volunteered in a soup kitchen, helping to prepare and serve about 500 lunches to the needy of Jerusalem.



The Blains' bat mitzvah party in Efrat, Israel. Back row (l-r): Rachel, Jenny, Shira (the bat mitzvah), Ezra. Front row: David, Michael, Sylvia, Susan.

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“Finding Ten” – Minyan at BEZ

By Gloria Green

“Beth-El Zedeck is fortunate to have a dedicated and talented group of volunteers who help to ensure the viability of our daily minyan. As rabbis and cantor we are grateful for their efforts and services in providing a hospitable and supportive setting in which our congregants can worship, en-

joy the warmth of fellowship and enshrine the spirit of memory.

The following narrative by Gloria Green invites you to be “One in a Minyan.” The economy may not be doing well, but there is no reason why you cannot become a “Minyaner.””

—Rabbis Dennis and Sandy Sasso
—Cantor Giora Sharon

that there is a minyan. Groups within the synagogue have been asked to adopt an evening minyan each month to support mourners, a commitment that has been assumed by Men’s Club, Sisterhood, and even a high school student, Julie Womack, who attends monthly with friends.

Among the 22 leaders of our evening minyan are a doctor, lawyer, medicinal chemist, dental hygienist, CPA, geneticist, teaching assistant, recreational worker, marketing specialist and stay-at-home mom. For Michael Kleinman,

While the morning daily services at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck have a core group of regular attendees, Marcia Sklare of Sisterhood is in charge of scheduling 22 trained lay



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Julie Womack, a teenager who attends services at the congregation notes: “We all need to take responsibility to be part of the Jewish community.”

leaders to ensure the continuity of the evening minyan. Congregants are encouraged to attend both the evening and morning services, whenever possible, so

a CPA, the experience of being a leader is a “chance to be a part of a long chain of individuals participating in Judaism and
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Kellman

Continued from page IN 4

played football and ran track, Andrew played with Indianapolis in 2008 as well, and is expected to be in the majors at some point in 2009. Indeed, 17 of the 25 current players on the Pittsburgh Pirates played in Indianapolis at some point. Twenty former Indians now coach in professional baseball.

Upon conclusion, the Indy Sports Foundation presented a grant of \$1,000 to Play Ball Indiana. Under the leadership of Executive Director Mike Lennox, PBI has provided thousands of dollars in uniforms, equipment, umpires and other grassroots endeavors the past two decades to the nation's inner cities. The group recently opened a new ballfield in a dilapidated area on Indianapolis' southeast side May 9.

"The Indy Sports Foundation's mission is to support amateur sports and its impact and influence on the common good of central Indiana. Baseball is the theme of this luncheon fundraiser, and PlayBall Indiana's RBI program of reviving baseball in inner cities is a beneficiary," said Bryan Apolskis, president of Sequence Sport Event Management in Greenwood. "Partnering with the Indianapolis Indians is a great fit for this event because of their involvement in the community and influence on baseball locally. We want to bring the amateur baseball community together to network and to have some fun."

The nonprofit foundation supports amateur sports and its influence on the common good of central Indiana. For the last 20 years, the foundation, although legally independent of the Indianapolis Athletic Club, was housed in the IAC Clubhouse. The mission of the foundation was to "promote amateur athletics while supporting, financially and otherwise, the Indianapolis Athletic Club."

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With the demise of the IAC, which dated back to 1924, and with the enthusiastic support of the Columbia Club and the Columbia Club Foundation, the IAC Sports Foundation board voted unanimously to move the foundation to the Columbia Club. The IAC Sports Foundation has adopted a new fresh name "Indy Sports Foundation."

The Sports Foundation and its current president, Bob Welch, will have the same mission, namely, "the promotion of amateur athletics but will now direct its attention to also benefiting the Columbia Club by sponsoring activities within the Columbia Club while enhancing the Columbia Club athletic environment."

A former California schoolteacher, Ari Kaufman is a military historian for the Indiana War Memorials Commission. He is also an associate fellow at the Sagamore Institute in Indianapolis, and the author of "Reclamation: Saving our Schools starts from within, available on Amazon.com.

Mazel Tov! Blatters celebrate 40 years

Carol Wechsler Blatter and Harold Blatter lived in Indianapolis and were members of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck for many years, and now reside in Tucson, Ariz.

They were married on March 30, 1969 in Princeton, N.J. at the Princeton Jewish Center, with Rabbi Reeve Robert Brenner officiating. On April 2, 2009, Carol and Harold celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in Tucson. Rabbi Samuel Cohon of Temple Emanu-El officiated in the renewal service.

Harold is a retired Electrical Engineer (worked for RCA, later Thomson Consumer Electronics) and Carol is a licensed clinical social worker and marriage and family therapist who continues in private practice.

Their daughter, Ariela F. Blatter, is an international human rights lawyer residing in Wash., D.C., and is married to Paul D. Williams, professor in Elliott School of International Studies at George Washington University.



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BEZ

Continued from page IN 6
passing it on from generation to generation."

Cindie Harp, a stay-at-home mom, has been a minyan leader for three years. "I had just had a baby and brought him to all the practices. I lead minyan once a month, and now I can bring my oldest son, because he became a bar mitzvah this past October. Leading minyan has given more to me than I have given – time to pray, to think, to remember people who are ill or who have recently passed. When people come up to say El Moley Rachamim my eyes well up with theirs and I am standing with them and their loved one."

Ian Warshawsky, a medicinal chemist, grew up in a small town with a proportionally small but vibrant Jewish community. "There wasn't a rabbi. Services were led by knowledgeable and usually older members of the congregation. There was a Sunday school for little kids, but we needed to go to nearby towns for formal Hebrew school training. I learned the importance of each member's contribution to the vitality of the community. I wanted to feel comfortable in

leading the minyan so that I would be ready to help when needed."

Sisterhood Co-president Annette Doherty has been a minyan leader for three or four years. "I had a lot to learn. Cantor Sharon made me a tape and I listened to his beautiful voice for hours on end, until the local melodies and customs became as familiar as those from my childhood. That helped me to feel at home at BEZ. Leading minyan, I have gotten to know some of the regular attendees, and I get to meet interesting people who are visiting from out of town as well."

For Norman Sider, who retired as a financial advisor for a brokerage firm, prayer is an important part of his life. He leads worship at Beth El-Zedeck, as well as Park Regency Apartments and Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. He finds it personally satisfying "to make it possible for mourners to say Kaddish as part of a community, and for those honoring a *yahrzeit* to pray with others while they remember their loved ones."

From Julie Womack, "I brought some of my teenage friends with me. While we were there, I noticed a family in mourning. It occurred to me that the minyan is such



Bruce Sklare, Ida Belle Marer, Joel Epstein, and Alex Star of Beth-El.

an important thing for many people and we all need to take responsibility to be part of the Jewish community and be there for each other. Sisterhood gave the teenagers a pizza dinner afterward! I plan to go to minyan again – even without the pizza!"

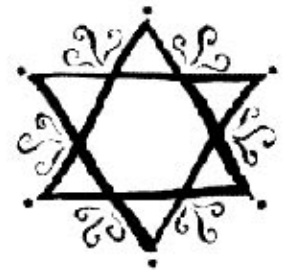
Minyan is held Monday through Friday mornings at 7:30 a.m., and evenings Saturday through Thursday at 5:45 p.m. Morning minyan on Sundays (and secular holidays) is held at 9:00 a.m. Breakfast follows the daily morning minyan.

(Sabbath services are at 6 p.m. Fridays and 10:00 a.m. Saturdays.)

If you would like to attend a morning or evening minyan, all are welcome. To arrange a date for periodic attendance by your group, for further information, or to volunteer as a leader, please call the Gallery of Judaica at 317-475-1705. Mourners are encouraged to attend our inspiring Shabbat evening (Fridays, 6:00 p.m.) and morning (Saturday, 10:00 a.m.) services conducted by the rabbis and cantor and

to mark *yahrzeit* in the midst of the congregation's ongoing observance of the cycle of life and the yearly seasons.

Gloria Green is an executive board member of the Sisterhood of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck.



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