

Weinberg Village launches award, Jewish Senior Hall of Fame

Weinberg Village has launched an Eight over Eighty award program to recognize eight seniors, 80 years or older, who have long dedicated their time and talents to making significant contributions to the Jewish and general community of Tampa or elsewhere.

Synagogue and community leaders nominated 26 men and women for the honor. Of this group, the Eight over Eighty Selection Committee chose the first eight individuals to be honored.

The inaugural Eight over Eighty are Nellye Friedman, Roberta Golding, Walter Kessler, Ruth Klein, Sylvia Krone, Doris Rosenblatt, Judith Szentivanyi, and Jack Wiesenfeld.

Judith Mish, Weinberg Village Eight over



Eighty award chair, announced that the eight will be inducted in the Weinberg Village Jewish Senior Hall of Fame at its inaugu-

ral Eight over Eighty dessert reception on Sunday, Oct. 31 at 3 p.m. at Congregation Schaarai Zedek.

Their lives and the contributions of each of the honorees will be chronicled over the next several editions of the *Jewish Press* of Tampa.

Nellye Friedman

A Florida native, Friedman enlisted at age 21 in the Women's Army Corps in 1942 as a private and was discharged as a captain in 1946. After her time as a WAC, she served as assistant director of the Tampa Jewish Community Center, and then moved to

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School board candidates say Good Friday holiday 'hot' topic in campaign

Editor's Note: The Jewish Press surveyed all the Hillsborough County School Board candidates on the Good Friday holiday issue. Candidates responded by email, in telephone interviews or in one case the candidate's position was taken from her campaign website.

By ROBERT GREEN
Jewish Press

The Hillsborough School Board's decision to make Good Friday a school holiday in 2011 has become a hot issue in the upcoming non-partisan election for three school board seats and is likely to come up again before the board next year according to the candidates.

The current School Board's 5-2 vote on May 18 to make Good Friday a school holiday disappointed Jewish leaders who said that if Good Friday was made a holiday, Jewish and other major religious holidays should also be scheduled.

"We want to see Jewish holidays treated the same as other religions. It's disappointing that it's not taking place," Tampa Jewish Federation President Jonathan Ellis said after the vote.

Jewish community leaders have indicated they have no plans to let the issue drop and are already preparing for the debate next year.

The five board members who voted in favor of the holiday said they did so because this year's high absentee rate on Good Friday — 42 percent of students and 19 percent of school bus drivers — made it impractical and costly to hold classes on that day; not for religious reasons, which would be illegal.

In 2011, the Good Friday holiday falls on April 22, and will be followed by spring break from April 25-29 for Hillsborough County public schools.

CANDIDATES continued on PAGE 14

CULTURE SHOCKS

'Cultural intifada' declared as stars cancel Israel plans

By MARCY OSTER
JTA News Service

JERUSALEM — Actress Meg Ryan's decision to cancel her appearance at this month's Jerusalem Film Festival didn't garner the same attention in Israel as British rocker Elvis Costello when he nixed his Israel concert this spring.

Both, however, were a reminder to Israelis that in the eyes of much of the world, Israel's politics and culture are inseparable.

The cancellations were part of a string that Israel has experienced over the past few months, including appearances by the indie rock band The Pixies, singer Devendra Banhart, alternative rockers Gorillaz, the British band the Klaxons and American soul singer Gil Scott-Heron. In February, rock legend Carlos Santana withdrew from a sold-out performance reportedly due to pressure from pro-Palestinian groups.

Israelis have taken to calling this a "cultural intifada" — borrowing a term used by the Palestinians to describe their uprisings against Israel.

"Intense pressure is being applied to foreign artists not to come to Israel," prominent Israeli promoter Shuki Weiss, who has brought such top-name acts to Israel as Madonna and Pink Floyd's Roger Waters, told the Israeli business daily *Globes*.

After The Pixies canceled last month, Weiss called it "cultural terrorism."

"I am full of both sorrow and pain in light of the fact that our repeated attempts to present quality acts and festivals in Israel have increasingly been falling victim to what I can only describe as a form of cultural terrorism which is targeting Israel and the arts worldwide," Weiss wrote in a statement.

The most recent high-profile cancellation by Ryan, CANCEL continued on PAGE 16



Carlos Santana



Elvis Costello



Klaxons



Meg Ryan



Aubrey "Drake" Graham adds some Chai to a recent cover of *Vibe*.

Black Jew making name on hip-hop scene

By DANIELLE BERRIN
LA Jewish Journal

LOS ANGELES — In a culture of misfits and outsiders, Aubrey "Drake" Graham is the ultimate outsider — a big-time black Jewish rapper.

His star is rising rapidly on the hip-hop scene.

Though fans have followed the Jewish-Canadian Drake since his days as basketball star Jimmy Brooks on the Canadian soap *Degrassi: The Next Generation*, a recent spate of press has introduced the 23-year-old artist to the broader public.

HIP-HOP continued on PAGE 3

Tax-exempt bond sales could end Inn on the Pond construction delay

By JIM DAWKINS
Jewish Press

After two years of trying, Menorah Manor Senior Living has secured financing to build its \$24 million Inn on the Pond — if community members provide equity by purchasing \$3 million of subordinated tax-exempt bonds. The bonds must be sold by September 2010.

"The 6.5 percent tax exemption

is the obvious benefit to draw businesses and private bond purchasers," said Executive Director/CEO Marshall Seiden, "and it will give us a way to get this project off hold, because the need is still there."

In retrospect, Seiden added, "The days when banks would accept pledges (as collateral/ equity) are long gone. The banks want cash now."

The \$3 million in tax-exempt

bonds is being sold in \$100,000 increments, but not necessarily one purchaser per increment.

"We already have one business interested and inquiries from individuals, plus groups of people (or several members of one family) who are interested in joining together to purchase bonds," he said.

Despite the fact that Menorah Manor is not a mammoth hospital



Artist's rendering of Menorah Manor's Inn on the Pond assisted living residence to be built on the former Golda Meir/Kent Jewish Center property in Clearwater.

or nursing home with huge endowments, Seiden said the project is "highly regarded" in the financial world.

But, Seiden noted, the \$3 mil-

lion in equity does not have to all come from bond sales.

"If there's an angel out there who wants to make a large

BONDS continued on PAGE 15

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