



June, July, August 2008

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Fellow Beth El Congregants:

It's only been three weeks since I was elected president of Beth El Congregation's Board of Directors, but already the new board is preparing for the upcoming year: setting the dates for rabbi-led and lay services, getting ready for High Holidays, searching for a Religious School principal, and finalizing a calendar of events.

We have certainly experienced sorrow over these last three weeks. The loss of Janet Kohen will be felt – both personally and as a congregation – for a long time. But I think her impact on the Beth El family will be felt even longer. As I said at one of the *shiva* services, Janet was truly a teacher to the congregation; everyone who worked with her, everyone who knew her, and even those who didn't learned something from her. Teachers have a claim to immortality – what they teach to someone will be passed on by that person, and the next person, and the next, *l'dor va-dor*, from generation to generation. In that sense, Janet will always be with us.

Despite our sorrow, we have had joyous occasions already as well. On May 17 we celebrated John Stewart's 90th birthday with an inspirational Shabbat morning service and a fun-filled birthday party in the evening. Congratulations again, John! And thanks to Nancy and everyone in the Congregation who helped her with the enormous task of putting it all together.

Finally, I just want to say that I take on the presidency of Beth El with great hope for the coming year. I hope to grow the congregation – grow its membership, grow member participation in congregation activities, grow a feeling of inclusion for all our members, and grow acceptance of everyone's varied talents.

All of this will take time and hard work. It is certainly nothing that one president – or even one board of directors – can accomplish alone. We will all have to step up and do our part. Thanks for your trust in me. I'll make sure it isn't misplaced.

Gary Stein

BETH EL FAMILY PICNIC
Sunday June 8, 2008, Westover Park Shelter #2
Food will be served at 2:00pm
Hamburgers, hot dogs, & drinks will be provided.
Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert.
RSVP Bill Ney - 434-5163 or Ney331@aol.com

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

My dear fellow Valley Jews and Friends,

Shalom. Our congregational year is flying by. I have difficulty believing it is already June and time for the summer edition of the Bridge.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

It has been a hard time for our community recently.

There has been much sadness of late with the loss of loved ones in our community – all we are able to say in response is the traditional response, Baruch Dayan Ha'emet (blessed is the true judge). May memory be for a blessing, and may the One who comforts console those who are bereaved.

Illness, too, has been a factor in our midst. We pray for wholeness and wellness, a refuah shelemah bimheyra (complete and speedy healing, of whatever sort) for all those who need it.

Following all these sad events, I want at this time publicly to express my appreciation to the many members of our community who have undertaken tasks without being asked, who have reached out and made the effort to help and comfort others among us who are or have been in need through the course of the year. Of course, we know that the members of the caring committee, the Sisterhood, and the Chevrah Kadishah are included among them and known to have taken on these mitzvot (obligations), but I am thinking of all of our congregants and members who have lent a hand, been available, offered support, and reached out to those among us who needed it, publicly and privately. I cannot name all of you, but all of you who have done so are each and every one due acknowledgement and thanks for what you have done, and I, along with those you have touched, am grateful to you for it, and proud of what you have chosen to do for our community. This is the holy work of building and maintaining a meaningful, loving, and vibrant community. May each of you who have been involved in these acts of Gemilut Chasidim (acts of loving kindness) be blessed. I hope you come to understand how much your taking part in the life of our community in this way means to so many others, and how you enrich the fabric of our life as a kahal kedoshah (a holy community). May you, and we, go from strength to strength.

TORAH PARASHIOT

Torah parashiot (Torah portions) read for the period covered by this newsletter include the following.

In **June**: Kedoshim, Emor, Behar, Bechukotai, and Bemidbar, drawn from from Vayikra (Leviticus) 19:1-27:34, Bemidbar (Numbers) 1:1-4:20, and special reading Shemot (Exodus) 13:17-15:26 for Passover. In **July**: Chukat, Balak, Pinchas, and Matot drawn from Bemidbar (Numbers) 19-32. In **August**: Masei, Devarim, Etchanan, Ekev, and Re'eh, drawn from Bemidbar (Numbers) 28:9-15, 33:1-36:13, Devarim (Deuteronomy) 1:1-16:17. In **September**: Shofetim, Ki Tetze,

Ki Tavo, and Nitzavim, drawn from Devarim (Deuteronomy) 16:18-30:20, all before we arrive at Rosh HaShanah.

Haftarot read in June include readings from Hosea 2; Ezekiel 22, 44; Jeremiah 16-17, 32; and Joshua 3, 5-6. In July, we include readings from Judges 11, Micah 5-6, 1 Kings 18-19, and Jeremiah 1-2. In August, we read from Jeremiah 2-3, Isaiah 1, 40, 49-51, 54-55, 66, and 1 Samuel 20. In September, we include selections from Isaiah 51-52, 54, 60, and 61-63.

ITEMS OF NOTE

There was a wedding of members of Beth El on May 25th. If you know them, please wish the Renicks a hearty 'mazal tov'.

The Religious School picnic and Maccabiah games day is scheduled for June 1st at a park in Bridgewater (Religious school classes concluded May 18th). Watch for more details to be forthcoming. Please note: if you have a student who will be entering the religious school (K-7) next year, please be in touch with the principals. Also, if you are willing or interested in being a teacher in the religious school, please be in touch with the principals.

The Confirmation celebration and Shavuot service will be observed on June 6th at Beth El. There is a dinner at 6 pm beforehand to raise funds for Shorty, and all are invited to come and enjoy the entire evening. Shorty will lead the service. At this Confirmation service I always feel bittersweet, happy for the excited young adults who will go elsewhere and continue to make us proud of them, and sad because they will not be in our midst as they have been for so many years. I am asking each of the confirmands to share their thoughts at this service as their divrei Torah (words of instruction or Torah), and I hope many of you will be able to come to hear them, and note their wisdom and learning.

Shorty will have a shul-in following the Confirmation service, on June 6th to 7th at Beth El, including their annual mid-night bowling! On the 7th, Shorty members will take off on their annual overnight trip to Williamsburg. This is a big weekend for Shorty.

June 13th there will be a Talmud Torah Lishmah at THOI at 6:30 pm, followed by Shabbat services at 7:30. Bring something to eat, and join us for a Torah discussion. June 27th there will a Talmud Torah Limud at Beth El at 6:30 pm, followed by Shabbat services at 7:30 pm. Bring something to eat, and join us for a Torah discussion. This is the last rabbi-led service before the summer schedule begins.

June 29th will be the unveiling for Dave Merlin in New Jersey. It will take place at 2 pm at the Holy Society Cemetery in Hopwood, near Uniontown. If anyone wishes to go, please be in touch and we can talk about car pooling for a day trip.

As usual, there will be a Shabbat service weekly at Beth El. When the rabbi is not present, these services are lay-led.

The joint calendar committee will meet in June and set the schedule of services and events, which will determine activities and events for the summer and coming year.

THE CALENDAR AND HOLIDAYS

IYAR → SIVAN (JUNE)

Iyar ends on June 3rd, and June 4th is Rosh Chodesh for Sivan. Sivan will run from June 4th to July 3rd, and Rosh Chodesh for Tamuz will be July 3rd and 4th.

In June this year we have the holiday of Shavuot, the Festival of Weeks. It begins at sundown on the evening of June 8th (6th of Sivan) and continues to sundown June 10th (7th of Sivan). It is the third of the pilgrimage festivals, and unusual in that it lasts only for two days (biblically, Passover set as 7 and Sukkot as 8). It is called Shavuot (weeks) because it falls seven weeks after Passover. The intervening time is the period of the counting of the omer (see my comments in the Bridge for April and May).

Shavuot is the completion of the triad of pilgrimage festivals. It is linked to the Temple and worship rituals by the offering of the first fruits of the barley harvest, collected during the counting of the omer. It is also identified as the celebration of the Revelation of G-d's teachings, and receiving those teachings and laws in the Torah given to the Hebrews by the hand of Moses, brought down from Mount Sinai. Thus, we see the movement through the year from Sukkot (Festival of Booths, harvest) and the temporary dwellings as representing wanderings, the wilderness, and reliance on G-d through the bounty of the earth as part of **Creation**, to Pesach (Passover, the Festival of Spring, Matzah, the liberation from bondage and the exodus from Egypt/the narrow place) as representing **Redemption**, leading on to Shavuot (Festival of Weeks, harvest, G-d's leading the people in the wilderness and instructing them) representing **Torah and Revelation**.

The tradition is to read Megillat Rut (the book of Ruth) for Shavuot. This is the text which describes a faithful and loving relationship of a woman and her daughter-in-law who make their way through life together after both of them are widowed. Ruth is also held up as the exemplar for a proselyte (a convert to Judaism). She is seen as worthy to merit becoming the great-grandmother of King David. If you have never sat down and read this short but beautiful biblical story (from the third section of the Tanakh (bible), identified as Ketuvim (writings), with its truly poetic language that is often referenced to define love, I recommend you do. It is well worth your time.

It is the custom to eat dairy and sweets for Shavuot. This is because the Torah is likened to Milk and (date) Honey. Be sure to lay in your stock of cheeses, blintzes, cheesecake, ice cream, and honey cake! ☺

Iyar is full of non-biblical holidays. We had: Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) on May 2nd, Yom

Hazikaron (Israeli Memorial Day) on May 7th, Yom Ha'atzma'ut (Israeli Independence Day) actually on May 10th, but most observances were moved to May 8th to avoid having them fall on Shabbat (which also pushed back Yom Hazikaron to the 7th), and Lag Be'omer (the 33rd day of the counting of the Omer, commemorated as the day a plague lifted for the students of Rabbi Akiba, often celebrated with picnics and sports games) which occurred on May 23rd. Of course, none of these commemorations are biblically based.

In contrast, June will be a much quieter month for observances. In the non-biblical category, we have Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day) on June 2nd, celebrating the day that Jerusalem was reunified. Aside from Rosh Chodesh, the only other celebration in this month is Shavuot, which falls on June 9th and 10th.

SIVAN → TAMUZ (JULY)

Sivan ends on July 3rd, and July 3rd and 4th are Rosh Chodesh for Tamuz. Tamuz will run from July 4th to August 1st, and Rosh Chodesh for Av will be August 2nd.

July 20th is the 17th of Tamuz, which is traditionally a fast day, commemorating the siege of Jerusalem leading to its fall and capture. This day is the beginning of the three week period of mourning leading up to Tisha Be'Av (the 9th of Av), which commemorates the destruction of the Temple.

TAMUZ → AV → ELUL (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER)

Tamuz ends on August 1st. Av begins the 2nd, and runs until the 31st of August. August 31st and September 1st are Rosh Chodesh for Elul.

The evening of the 9th of August and the 10th are Tisha Be'Av, the 9th day of Av. This is traditionally the saddest day in the Hebrew calendar. It commemorates the final taking of the Temple and its destruction. This is seen by some as the day on which all disasters have befallen the Jewish people. Both the first (586 B.C.E.) and second (70 C.E.) destruction of the Temple are said to have taken place on this day, many pogroms are reputed to have occurred on this day, and some claim that the plans for 'the final solution' of the Nazis were conceived and approved on this day. The custom is to sit as mourners at night, on low stools or on the floor, barefoot, and in low light read the book of Lamentations on Tisha Be'Av (relating to the conquest of and exile from Jerusalem by the Babylonians, and their destruction of the Temple). It is a solemn liturgy, and serves to bring one to sober reflection, which is the appropriate spirit for Elul, as we examine our selves and our deeds, in preparation for Rosh Hashanah, the days of awe, and Yom Kippur that will arrive at the end of Elul.

CLOSING MESSAGE

I wish a safe, healthy, fun, and refreshing summer to each of you. I will look forward to hearing about all the exciting things you planned and did over the summer when we meet in the Fall.

May the blessings of health and love be abundant in all our lives, and may G-d bless, heal, and protect us all.

Rabbi Joe Blair, Summer 2008

DONATIONS

Beth El Congregation is grateful for the following generous donations:

To the Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

- Michelle & Ron Ornstein - in memory of Paula Kaiser
- Eddie Ney - in memory of his grandmother (Edna Ash)
- Gail Clemons - in memory of her father (Arnold Abriss)
- Margee Greenfield - in memory of Margee's Mother (Mildred Greenfield)
- Franklin Blatt - in memory of his grandmother (Sophie Blatt)
- Irma & Gene Nemoytin - in memory of their son (Steven Nemoytin)

To the General Fund

- Les & Becky Mintzer - get well wishes for Mo Goldberger
- Les & Becky Mintzer - in memory of Janet Kohen
- Ruth Clayman - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Bill & Leslie Ney - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Judy Freudenthal - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Joyce & Erwin Helbraun - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Kate & Alan Neckowitz - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Sandi & Bo Rose - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Michelle & Ron Ornstein - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Lisa & Kevin Giovanetti - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Dan Bly - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Cindy & John Crim - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday
- Thea & Elliott Golub - in honor of the birth of their grandson (Jonathan Asher Sager)
- Richard & Rachael Glaser - in honor of John Stewart's 90th Birthday
- Richard & Rachel Glaser & Family
- Greda Schoenfeld - in honor of John Stewart's 90th Birthday

To the Window Fund

- Chuck Slott - in recognition of the work of Margee Greenfield
- Chuck Slott - in honor of John Stewart's 90th birthday

To The Building Fund

- Joan Funston - in honor of John Stewart's 90th Birthday
- Eddie Ney & Francis Stewart - in honor of John Stewart's 90th Birthday
- Joan Funston - in honor of the birth of Thea & Elliot Golub's grandchild

To the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Kate & Alan Neckowitz - thanks for his help with the Ketubah for Andrew Neckowitz
- Mike & Mo Goldberger - in honor of John Stewart's 90th Birthday

To the Janet Kohen Memorial Music Fund

- Violet & Michael Allain
- Hank Almond - acknowledging Marshall Kohen & Family
- Scott Almond & Family
- Brian Almond & Family
- Bonnie Anderson
- Judy, Rich, Shayna & Jordanna Bergman
- Charles P & Jo Ann Bilbrey
- Franklin Blatt
- Dan Bly
- Rabbis Andrew Busch & Debbi Pine
- Cathy & Donald Casteel
- Ruth & Don Chodrow
- Ruth Clayman
- Kay & David Craven
- Laura & H Bishop Dansby
- Joe & Diana Eney
- John Forkovitch
- Faith & Jim Forkovitch
- Judy Freudenthal
- Rabbi Stephen & Victoria Fuchs
- The Funston Family
- Virginia & Michael Galgano
- Susan Gallaher
- Cynthia A. Gilliatt
- Lynda McCann Gillman
- Lisa & Kevin Giovanetti

DONATIONS (continued)

Beth El Congregation is grateful for the following generous donations:

To the Janet Kohen Memorial Music Fund (cont.)

- Ms. Henri Goettel - acknowledging Ellisa & Missy Sachs-Kohen & Children
- Mike & Mo Goldberger
- Ann & Jay Goldscher
- Carl M. Goldstein
- Thea & Elliott Golub
- Teresa Gonzalez & Jim Haffmann
- Roger Hall
- Norman Hanenbaum
- Joyce & Erwin Helbraun
- Dr. Charles & Mary Henderson
- Ms. Elizabeth Ihle
- Linda & William Ingham
- JMU Economics Department c/o Ehsan Ahmed
- JMU Honors Program
- Drs. Marilou & George Johnson
- Brian & Lisa Jolles - acknowledging Marshall & Lynn Kohen
- Joan H. Kalin
- Randall Kennedy
- Elizabeth & Paul Kipps
- Harriet & Daniel Kohen
- Emil Louise Kreider
- Jim & Sandy Leary
- Judy & Stuart Liss
- Mary Lou, Chalice, Lisa McMillin Wooley, & Sid McMillin
- Shirley Merlin
- Julie & Dave Miller
- Jerry, Esther & Sandy Minskoff
- Kate & Alan Neckowitz
- Josh & Marybeth Neckowitz
- Ron & Eileen Nelson
- Bill & Leslie Ney
- Eddie Ney & Francis Stewart
- Michelle & Ron Ornstein
- Shelia Padoll
- Susan Palocsay
- Milton Perlman
- Ester & Steve Rauseo
- Robert D. Reid
- Estelle & Joshua Robinson
- The Rosedale Family
- The Rosedale Center Staff - acknowledging Missy Sachs-Kohen
- Marcia Rosenblatt - acknowledging Ellisa Sachs-Kohen
- Lee N. Sachs
- Elaine Scott & Family
- Paula & Stephen See
- Chuck Slott
- Richard & Becky Smith
- Steve & Karen Sodikoff
- Ella Swecker
- Joan & Earl Taylor
- Temple Issaiah Choir
- Jane Theodore - acknowledging Ellisa Sachs-Kohen
- THOI
- Ernestine C. Thompson
- Agnes & Carl Weaver
- Michael Weinstein & Marsha Meckler
- Mary Lou Wylie & Dennis Echterling
- Sandie & Marty Zaben
- Zelda & Jerry Zaben
- Bonnie Zaben
- Elise & Edward Ziv

BOARD MEMBERS

Joe Blair	Rabbi
Gary Stein	President
Jerry Minskoff	Vice President
Becky Mintzer	Secretary
Michelle Ornstein	Treasurer
Judy Freudenthal	Trustee
Andy Kohen	Trustee
Bill Ney	Trustee
Sherri Alt	Sisterhood President
Ron Ornstein	Men's Club President
Marlene Brumbaugh	At large member
Phil Renick	At large member

A LITTLE JEWISH HUMOR

A young Jewish man calls his mother to announce that he's found the girl of his dreams and he's getting married. "That's nice, responds his mother. The son tells his mother that the girl is Native American and her name is Shooting Star. "That's nice, responds his mother. He then goes on to tell her that he has taken the name Running Deer for himself. "That's nice, responds his mother. He suggests that in celebration of the wedding, she also take an Indian name. "I have already" she responds. "It's Sitting Shiva."

Compliments of Gary Stein

FAREWELL

Dear Rabbi Joe and Congregation,,

I am now back in Atlanta, Georgia with family and traffic. I didn't really have a chance to say good-bye as I was so busy at the end of the JMU semester with exams and packing. I want to thank all of you for making my stay in Harrisonburg a more enjoyable and meaningful experience. You all made me feel very welcomed and I appreciate it. I want to wish you all a healthy and happy summer and good luck with future planning in the temple. I was shocked to hear about Janet's passing and know that she was an integral part of the congregation and will be missed.

Love, Carole Katz

JEWISH MUSIC

Roberta Stein will be attending the URJ's Hava Nashira music workshop in Wisconsin May 28-June 1. Instructors for the workshop include Debbie Friedman, Cantor Jeff Klepper, and other well-known composers and performers of Jewish music. When Roberta returns to Beth El with new music, she intends to initiate a "New Music Shabbat" service once a month during lay services. She hopes that the congregation will come out and support what promises to be a fun experience for everyone. As Rabbi Eric Yoffie, President of the URJ noted, "music will be the foundation upon which our worship ... will be built".

MEN'S CLUB

The Beth El Men's Club is planning to have a dinner meeting at Dave's (Downtown) on Tuesday June 17th at 6:30 PM. Hope Everyone can come - rsvp to Ron (to give them a general head count), but come even if you don't rsvp!

YOUTH GROUP

Please join us for confirmation services June 6th. We will be honoring our seniors who are graduating. Services will follow our fundraising dinner at 6:00. If you have not already sent in your reservation for dinner, please call Sherri Alt (249-5463) so we know how much chicken or quiche to buy! We will be going to Williamsburg that weekend as well.

FROM THE DESK OF RUTH

"I personally think Sherri Alt and her Sisterhood deserve a great big thank you for all they have done for the congregation this past year (and in years past) as it has been a very busy year!"

Ruth Clayman

THE RABBI'S AVAILABILITY

The rabbi is available to meet by appointment. If you wish to meet or speak with the rabbi, please email or call to set an appointment.

The office is not staffed and the building is generally closed when the rabbi is not in. Messages are regularly checked by the rabbi at both congregations, and email is frequently read during the week. Please understand that the rabbi will not be available or reply on Shabbat or on Jewish holidays unless it is an emergency that cannot wait.

In the event of an urgent need the rabbi may be contacted by telephone. In that case, please call the cell phone number listed, leaving a detailed message, and be sure to express the need for an immediate response.

In the event of an urgent need when the rabbi is out of town or otherwise unavailable, please be in touch with an officer of the Congregation. They will know how to contact the rabbi or what other arrangements have been made for rabbinic coverage.

Email	RabbiJoe@hotmail.com
Beth El	540-434-2744
Temple House of Israel	540-886-4091
Cell (Leave a message)	434-981-3959

SISTERHOOD

We will be going out to dinner together for the end of the year celebration—no meeting—just dinner and enjoying each other's company. Monday night, June 9th at 6:30 pm at The Taste of Thai. Please let me know if you are planning to attend so I can give a number to the restaurant.

We will be getting together to continue our knitting and putting together our first blanket on Tuesday, June 24th at 7:00 pm at Joan Funston's house. So gather up your needles, yarn and skills and come join us for a welcoming good time. We'll also be putting together the squares, previously knitted, so even if you don't know how to knit (no names, please) you can come and support the effort in a sewing way. All are welcome, bring your knitting!!!

We are planning a summer pot luck dinner and lay services on Friday August 1—anyone not on vacation please join us!!

CALENDAR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 Religious School Picnic	2	3	4	5	6 SHORTY Dinner & Confirmation Service	7 SHORTY Williamsburg & Yard Sale Setup
8 Yard Sale & Congregational Picnic	9 Sisterhood - Taste of Thai 6:30	10	11	12	13 Lay Service 7:30	14
15	16	17 Men's Club Dave's 6:30	18	19	20 Lay Service 7:30	21
22	23	24 Sisterhood - Knitting 7:00	25	26	27 Torah Study 6:30 Rabbi Service 7:30	28
29 Unveiling - Dave Merlin	30					
August 1 - Potluck Dinner		June 2008				

ANNUAL YARD SALE

Sisterhood will sponsor the annual indoor temple yard sale on Sunday, June 8 (**note change of date**). This is a great opportunity to donate your spring cleaning cast-offs to benefit Beth El. Items may be dropped in the classrooms any time after May 18. Help is welcome, especially Saturday June 7 from 10-3 as we set up for the event (items may be dropped off at this time as well). We also will need help on the day of the sale, especially around noon, as we box up the leftovers which will be donated to Elkton United Area Services. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Giovanetti (giovanetti@juno.com) or 434-6515.

Yahrzeits

JUNE Yahrzeits

01 Dora Brill	David Blatt	14 Vincent Elkind	11 Velerie Ney
02 Setta Scheuer	22 Hyman Golub	15 Miriam L. Hirsch	12 Blanche Goldman
Marie A. Good	23 Anna Klingstein	16 Siegfried Meyers	Betty O'Callaghan
William Piper	24 Albert F. Miller	Bernard Rubin	13 David Aaron Kraus
Samuel Horn	25 Joseph Fox	Adrian Sonn	Lena Raff
Marvin V. Mondres	Elisa Tomaszkeski	17 Molly Hirsch	14 Jessie Frankel
Lila Hyman	26 Steven Nemoytin	Mary N. Loewner	15 Moses Rosenbloom
05 Bernard Ney	27 Lawrence Meyers	19 Jack Neckowitz Alan	Alexander Auerbach
F. Rita Kaslow	28 Herbert Gould	21 Dorothy Fox	16 Robert Hirsch
06 Pauline Zindler	Stanley Figgatt	22 William Wender	Ali David Good
Leopold Wise	Morris Spiro	24 Harry Lewin	17 Carrie Ney Scheuer
07 Baby Samuel	29 William Obersig	25 George Becker	18 Albert Ash Eddie
08 Manuel Levine		26 Samuel Klingstein	Adele Bilsker Moses
10 Leo Zindler Sr.	JULY Yahrzeits	Ronnetta Kahn	Louis Slott
11 Anna Meyers	03 Joseph Brooslin	27 Henry Ney	19 Suzanne Glazer
Estelle Handler	Ralph Miller	Emanuel Loewner	20 Arlette Lewin
12 Joseph Funston	Shirley Borodkin	28 Theresa Sissman	21 Irving Ney
Gertrude Davidson	05 Jessie Masniloff	29 Alvin Ney	23 Rubin Peck Beverly
14 Fred Bersson	06 Theresa Loewner	31 Leon Wise	24 David Robinson
Dave Merlin	Edgar Wise	Louis Issacs	26 Raymond Hoffman
15 Miriam Hirsch	09 William Robinson	Maude Snyder	29 Rose Poster Carr
17 Elon Brand	Carol S Ney		30 Joseph Mintzer
19 Herbert Kaslow	11 Regina Ney	AUGUST Yahrzeits	Marvin Poster
21 Emma Ney	12 Florine Ney	04 Eugene Berney	Abraham Goodman
	13 Max Helbraun	Robert W. Rudd	

OTHER PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

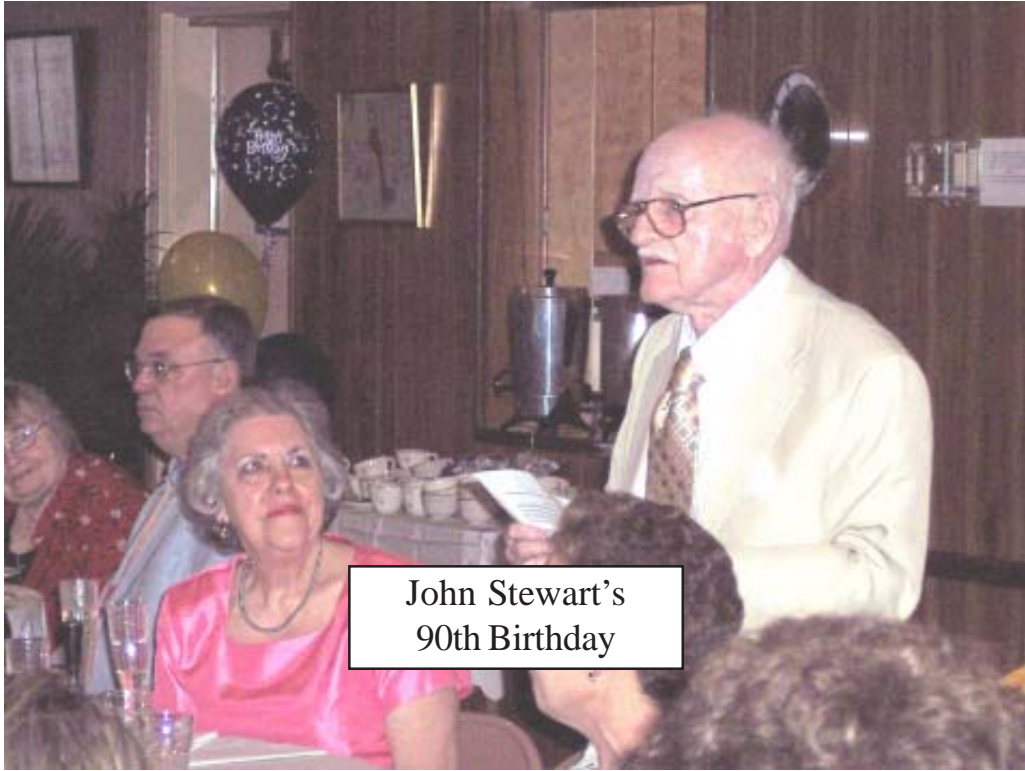
If you have been meaning to learn how to read Hebrew (or improve your reading) in order to better follow services, speak with the rabbi: there is a possibility of a summer class with a native Hebrew speaker if there is enough interest, and regular classes will again be scheduled for the fall. If you are interested in studying for and celebrating a B'nai Mitzvah, or in learning to leyn (read/chant) Torah and/or Haftarah, or to lead services, or serve as a gabbai, or you wish to discuss conversion, please be in touch with the rabbi. Similarly, if you feel a conversation with the rabbi on any topic would be of benefit to you, please be in touch to make an appointment. You can call or email Rabbi Joe.

Please know that we always seek congregant and guest participation in services throughout the year. If you are interested in taking a role in a service, please be in touch with Rabbi Joe or Margee Greenfield or Gary Stein. Roles include: reading Torah, reading Haftarah, delivering a Devar Torah, serving as Gabbai (the "MC" for the Torah service), reading an English reading, or having an honor. The Honors we usually confer include being called up for an Aliyah (saying the blessings for the Torah or the Haftarah), serving as Hagbah (lift, hold, and carry the Torah), Gelilah (undressing and dressing the Torah), or Petichah Usegurah (opening and closing the Ark).



salutes

Beth El Congregation
for making a difference in the lives of
hungry families during Passover
2008-5768



John Stewart's
90th Birthday



Religious School
2007-2008