



The MESSAGE

HOUSTON, TEXAS MAY 11, 2008 6 IYAR 5768 VOL. XLIII, No. 17



FRIDAY, MAY 16

Candlelighting Time 7:51 pm
6:00pm Shabbat Renewal
with the Gordon and
Myers Families
6:15pm Shabbat Yachad
6:45pm J.B. Greenfield Chapel

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Parashat Behar
8:30am J.B. Greenfield Chapel
9:15am Museum Minyan
9:30am Sanctuary Service
B'nai Mitzvah: Joshua Gordon
& Brett Myers
9:30am Jr. Congregation
(Last one until August)
9:30am Mini Minyan
9:30am Tot Shabbat
11:30am Weekly Torah Study
7:30pm J.B. Greenfield Chapel

FRIDAY, MAY 23

Candlelighting Time 7:55pm
Lag B'Omer
6:00pm Shabbat Renewal
with the Resh Family
6:45pm J.B. Greenfield Chapel

SATURDAY, MAY 24

Parashat Bechukotai
8:30am J.B. Greenfield Chapel
9:15am Museum Minyan
9:30am Sanctuary Service
B'nai Mitzvah: Bradley, Danielle
& Joshua Resh
11:30am Weekly Torah Study
7:45pm J.B. Greenfield Chapel

HILLEL HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION

2008

Hillel High School's Confirmation Ceremony will be held Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Freedman-Levit Sanctuary. The community is invited to attend this milestone in our students' lives. There will be a dessert reception following the ceremony.

This year's Confirmands and their parents are

Matthew Abrahams - Cindy & Jeff Abrahams

Mitchell Barth - Karin & Todd Barth

Evan Brown - Nora Joachim Brown & Chris Brown

Yael Brown - Cheryl Lieberman-Brown & Michael Brown

Michael Caplan - Linda & Stan Caplan

Daniel Drennan - Greta & Kyle Drennan

Michael Franco - Rodi & Bob Franco

Max Hoffer - Gayle & Scott Hoffer

Sarah Hoffman - Susan & Joel Hoffman

Megan Hurta - Susan & Bruce Hurta

David Leventon - Marge & George Leventon

Danielle Matthews - Beth Matthews

Eric Olszewski - Wendi & Adam Olszewski

Devyn Schultz - Elyse & Howard Schultz

Gabbye Utay - Helen Utay

Holli Wertheimer - Mindy & Miles Wertheimer

A NIGHT OF STUDY AND REFLECTI

Israel @60

SUNDAY NIGHT, JUNE 8, FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY



The proclamation of the State of Israel by David Ben-Gurion in 1948 set in motion the creation of the first Jewish nation in 2,000 years.

What kept the dream of a Jewish State alive for so long? And what are the challenges that must be yet overcome to keep Israel alive and well for the next 60 years?

Here's a little-known fact: The "Tikkun Leil Shavuot" – the idea of staying up all night on Shavuot – coincided with the introduction of coffee in Eretz Yisrael! This year, as we



study together, we will acknowledge the importance of coffee by offering a variety of wonderful Starbucks® coffees to keep us awake, alert and ready to learn!

For dinner reservations, please RSVP Tammy Friedman [TFRIEDMAN@BETHYESHURUN.ORG]

ON IN CELEBRATION OF SHAVUOT

We Begin at 6:45 p.m.

“ISRAEL AT 60: NEW CHALLENGES FOR AN OLD LAND”

A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH THREE OF OUR COMMUNITY’S
KEENEST OBSERVERS ON ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST



**MELVIN
DOW**
Past National
Chairman,
AIPAC



**RABBI
DAVID
ROSEN**
Senior Rabbi,
Beth Yeshurun



**LEE
WUNSCH**
CEO, Jewish
Federation
of Greater
Houston

*What are Israel’s options as she celebrates her 60th birthday? What are the prospects for peace?
What role can and should America play? What will a Clinton, McCain or Obama
Presidency mean to Israel and the future of the Middle East?*

8:00 p.m.

SHAVUOT SERVICES

Freedman-Levit Sanctuary and the J.B. Greenfield Chapel

ISRAEL’S SACRED TEXTS: FROM SINAI TO THE PROMISED LAND

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. - Choice of Classes

LONGING FOR ZION — BUT LIVING IN THE DIASPORA *with Rabbi Steven Morgen*

*How have our poets and rabbis historically balanced
our love for Israel with the reality of living elsewhere?*

DOES JEWISH LAW PERMIT RETURNING LAND FOR PEACE? *with Rabbi Brian Strauss*

*Do our sacred texts permit relinquishing part of historic
Zion in order to secure peace with her neighbors?*

THE FOUNDATION STONES OF MODERN ZIONISM

with Rabbi Daniel Horwitz

*Modern Zionism was founded on the words of great thinkers like Theodor Herzl, Ahad
Ha’Am and Rabbi Isaac Kook. Have their visions been fulfilled in today’s Jewish State?*

9:30 TO 10:30 P.M.

LIGHT FESTIVAL MEAL

Followed by Songs of Israel by Hazzan Propis

Stein Hall (no charge, but please RSVP TFRIEDMAN@BETHYESHURUN.ORG)

10:30 to 11:30 p.m.

A SYMPOSIUM WITH FOUR OF OUR CLERGY ON HOW ISRAEL HAS IMPACTED THEIR LIVES

“Personal Reflections on Our **First** Visits to Israel”

RABBI DAVID ROSEN • HAZZAN DAVID PROPIS • RABBI STEVEN MORGEN • RABBI BRIAN STRAUSS

11:30 p.m.



The Sweetness of Torah: Gala Ice Cream Sundae Finale

WITH RABBI ROSEN

The Jewish Herald Voice at 100

For a population our size – some 50,000 Jews – we have always had an unusually active community. From the time I was a small boy growing up here in Houston, I was keenly aware of how much there was “Jewishly” in my parents’ world and that of their friends, and the way I knew might surprise you: It was the arrival each week of the Jewish Herald-Voice and the conversations it fostered in my home.



Each week, the Herald-Voice reported the latest births (some we already knew about it, others we didn’t, but it was always excit-

ing seeing the cute photographs and reading the names of our friends); we learned about the death of people whose passings we had somehow missed.

My parents watched each week for the specials at the kosher butchers and enjoyed news about things happening at Beth Yeshurun and in all the other synagogues here in Houston.

And in a day when coverage of Israel was relegated to a small article once or twice a week in the Houston Chronicle (or the old Houston Post), the Herald-Voice was always filled with breezy stories about life in Israel and the constant challenges faced by its growing population.

The Herald-Voice was the publication that bound all of us in the Jewish community together, with its news about who was having his or her Bar/Bat Mitzvah that week, what was happening at the JCC and Seven Acres, and, yes, the latest crises afflicting Houston and world Jewry.

Even as a youngster, I came to appreciate the importance of having a newspaper dedicated to that special part of my family’s life – the Jewish part – and realized early on that the Jewish Herald-Voice was in fact the glue that transcended any one congregation or institution; it spoke about Community and in many ways created and sustained it.

As it does still today.

I wonder how we in the Jewish community could



ever get along without the Herald-Voice with its weekly survey of news and happenings of the entire Jewish community – information from almost 40 congregations, nearly 70 organizations, a dozen Jewish day schools and close to 15 local Israel-advocacy groups. Plus, no other publication prints the life-cycle announcements – births, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, Confirmation, graduation, engagements, weddings, obituaries and unveilings – of the members of our diverse Jewish community.

Where would we discover all that happens here and in the broader Jewish world outside Houston – in America, Europe, South America, and of course Israel – without that weekly package that so conveniently arrives in our mailboxes each Thursday?

Today I join with all Houstonians in saluting Jeanne and Joe Samuels and the entire staff of the Herald-Voice on its 100th anniversary. But even more, I want to thank the entire Samuels Family for lavishing so much love not only upon their newspaper but upon our greater Jewish community.

Because I’m convinced that when you set out to create a weekly Jewish paper, a good part of what motivates you is a love for the community and all the organizations and individuals that work so hard to sustain the level of activity that has characterized Houston Jewry for more than a century.

If you are not a Herald-Voice subscriber, I urge you to become one. And so doing, I think you will come to appreciate, as so many of us do and have for so very long, just how important one newspaper can be in forging a cohesive Jewish community and infusing it with a wondrous spirit.

That’s a big challenge for a small local paper. But the Herald-Voice does it every week and has been doing so for 100 years. May it thrive and grow with our continued support.

[To subscribe to the Jewish Herald-Voice, please go online to www.jhvonline.com and click on “Subscribe.”]

OPEN BOARD MEETING MAY 20

Dear Congregant,

April, 2008

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Trustees reviewed a tentative budget for the next fiscal year (2008-2009). Discussion and final vote on the budget will take place at the Board meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at 7:30 pm in Stein Hall (the Congregation, at the Annual Meeting in February, approved a constitutional amendment changing the date of this meeting from June to May).

According to the Constitution of the Congregation, the portion of this Board meeting regarding the budget is open to all the members-in-good-standing of the Congregation. I encourage you to attend this meeting where you can participate by asking questions and offering comments about this important process.

A summary of the proposed budget is presented here.

Among the major assumptions included in the budget are the following:

- A global dues increase of only 3%. This is the second consecutive year we have been able to hold dues down to this level after several years of higher increases.
- Health insurance increases of 10%.
- Increased food costs and prices, reflective of the cost of food goods.

In addition we have asked our managerial staff to continue to investigate other cost savings opportunities, particularly in light of current high energy costs.

I also want to publicly thank the members of the Budget Committee, especially committee chairman Herb Kalman, all of whom worked extremely hard and put in many, many hours to accomplish this task.

Again, I invite you and encourage you to attend this important session, 7:30 pm, Tuesday, May 20, in Stein Hall.

Most sincerely,

Stuart Wilson, President

INCOME

Dues	\$3,139,089
Contributions	40,000
Memorial Tablets/YizkorBooks/Simcha Tree	66,980
Other Income	25,000
Transfers from Other Funds	172,000
Cemetery Administration	17,500
United Synagogue Assessment	114,000
High Holy Days Admissions	12,000
Fund Raisers - High Holy Days Appeal	90,000

TOTAL INCOME

\$3,676,569

EXPENSES

Ritual	\$847,526
Music	337,718
Chapel	48,663
High Holy Days	73,515
Library/Learning Resource Center	19,295
Membership Services	16,550
Message/Publicity	36,750
Social Action	450
Adult Activities	96,549
Youth Activities	7,900
Food Services	24,119
Technology	36,600
Administration	898,984
Building Occupancy	1,078,840
Religious School	107,980

TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES

\$3,631,439

NET SYNAGOGUE OPERATIONS

\$45,130

CASH SUBSIDY TO DAY SCHOOL

42,000

NET SURPLUS

\$3,130

Two remaining Bet Midrash classes May 14th & 21st 7:30 p.m.

Final Bet Midrash classes will be held May 14th and 21st. Classes are free and meet in Stein Hall. Content includes exploring sacred Bible texts with Rabbi Morgen and exploring the Talmud with Rabbi Horwitz. Previous class attendance is not required.



Bet Midrash students and their teacher (l-r): Richard Kammerman, Bill Gregerman, Rabbi Danny Horwitz, Dr. Stanley Hite, Misi Schlueter & Gary Coplin

■ Sisterhood installation

Installation of the new Sisterhood Board will be held Tuesday, May 13, at 10:00 a.m. Outgoing president Ann Rogers will turn over the presidency to Elyse Schultz. Sisterhood will also honor the wonderful women who volunteer in our gift shop and the 24 needlepoint artists who made the beautiful tapestries that have hung in the Pulaski-Rauch auditorium since the early 1970's. These pieces have been reframed and will be on display. Attendees will have the unique opportunity to hear stories of working on the pieces from the artists and their families.

B'NAI MITZVAH



ARI JOHARY
MAY 9-10

Ari Jonathan Johary is the son of Susan and Isaac Johary and the brother of Natalie and Daniel. His proud grandparents are Silvia and Bernardo Fromer from Buenos Aires, Argentina and Shoshana and Nejat Johary from Beer Sheva, Israel.

Ari is a seventh grade Honor Roll student at Johnston Middle School where he is part of the Gifted and Talented, Journalism and Music programs. He enjoys playing all sports and he is part of a competitive soccer team. For two consecutive years he was a member of "Odyssey of the Mind" winning local and state awards. Last year he participated in Maccabi winning a bronze medal in Bowling. He has played the piano and continues to play the guitar and chess.

For his Mitzvah Project, Ari has been very active with the Sunshine Kids and Make-A-Wish Foundations volunteering in many fundraising events. He will also donate a portion of his monetary gifts to MD Anderson Youth Summer Camp as well as to Chai Life Foundation which helps Jewish children with terminal illnesses all around the world.



JOSHUA GORDON
MAY 16-17

Joshua Reed Gordon is the son of Sharon and Sam Gordon, and the brother of Michael and Alexander. His proud grandparents are Rose and Wolf Finkelman of Houston, Joan Lowenberg of blessed memory and Solomon Gordon of blessed memory.

Joshua is a graduate of The Beth Yeshurun Day School and is currently a seventh grade student at The Emery/Weiner School, where he participated in basketball and baseball. He played his first season of football for SFL last year as a runningback and quarterback. Currently Joshua enjoys playing basketball for the YMCA and baseball for West University Little League. He has a natural athletic talent and excels well in any sport. He recently was chosen to represent Team Houston at Macabbi 2008 for the soccer team. He is blessed with many great friends and enjoys spending time with them at every opportunity.

For his Mitzvah Project, Joshua was a baseball buddy for West University Little League Challenger Division, where he helped children with physical and mental disabilities participate in baseball. He volunteered for Meals-on-Wheels through the JCC during the summer, delivering hot meals to the elderly. He also delivered pet food to hungry pets of the elderly and plans to donate a portion of his monetary gifts to charity. Joshua is thrilled to be partnering with his friend, Brett Myers. He is blessed to have a large, loving family and many friends to celebrate his simcha.



BRETT MYERS
MAY 16-17

Brett Alexander Myers is the son of Lisa and Jeffrey Myers and the brother of Keith and Blake. He is the grandson of Nissie Sigel and the late Norman Kaplan and Barbara and Eugene Myers.

Brett is a seventh-grade honor student at Trafton Academy. He plays soccer and football and enjoys computer games, music, video games and spending time traveling with his family. For his Mitzvah Project, he delivered food to the elderly for Houston Interfaith Ministries. Additionally, he has done some volunteer work for the Aishel House. He is planning on completing eighth grade at The Emery/Weiner School.



JOSHUA, BRADLEY AND DANIELLE RESH
MAY 23-24

Joshua (Josh) Simon Resh, Bradley (Brad) Aaron Resh, and Danielle Mina Resh are the children of Valerie and Jay Resh and the grandchildren of Renee and Hank Bickart of Houston, and Ruth Resh and the late Bernard Resh of Baldwin, NY. Josh, Brad and Danielle are graduates of The Shlenker School and are currently seventh grade students at The Emery/Weiner School. Josh and Brad are members of the basketball team and Danielle is a member of the volleyball team and participates in the school plays.

For their Mitzvah Project, Josh and Brad held basketball clinics to raise money for the Forgotten People's Fund Sapir Center in Netanya, Israel, a center for underprivileged Jewish Ethiopian youth settling in Israel. The money raised will be used to refurbish a basketball court for the center. They will also contribute a portion of their monetary gifts to this project.

For her mitzvah project, Danielle decorated gift bags and filled them with toys and games for the children at Texas Children's Hospital to alleviate their boredom during long hospital stays. She raised money for this project by selling stationery decorated with her original artwork. Danielle will also contribute a portion of her monetary gifts to The Disabled Veterans Fund, which provides free assistance to disabled veterans and their families so they can better their lives.

FAMILY ALBUM

■Engagement

Davida and William Avery of Houston and Sue and Sam Levy of Leeds, UK, are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, **Ellen Rose Avery and Ben Levy** of Leeds, UK. They were engaged on Mar. 16, 2008. Ben is employed in Leeds. Ellen is working on her Ph.D. in Geology at Leeds University.

■Anniversaries

- 5/11 39 Floyd and Charlotte Goldberg
6 Mark and Beth Sanders
- 5/12 62 Paul and Revekka Belkin
7 Reid and Anissa Friedman
17 Jeffrey and Cynthia Gollomp
- 5/13 7 Michael and Barbara Gamson
13 Charles and Bettina Katz
18 Jeffrey and Lisa Myers
13 Martin and Cindy Reichek
18 Jay and Valerie Resh
63 Sidney and Sarah Schwartz
- 5/14 36 Jay and Betty Epstein
13 Michael and Shelley Wiesenthal
- 5/15 20 Rory and Laura Alter
9 Gary and Bonnie Blumberg
37 Jerry and Elaine Feiner
25 Geoffrey and Barbara Koslov
33 Burton and Mary Kunik
66 Iosif Tsimelzon and Yelena Lozinskaya
- 5/16 21 Frank and Salli Goldberg
25 Steven and Susan Kurewosky
9 Steve and Pepi Nichols
- 5/17 6 Michael and Natalie Boshernitzan
41 Rick and Jan Kaminsky
21 Jack and Maggie Sinuk
- 5/18 5 Mike and Lisa Hoover

- 5/19 62 Martin and Betty Rosenblatt
12 Michael Weininger and Ming Chu-Weininger
- 5/20 13 Timothy and Jill Ferguson
- 5/21 36 Ronald and Harriet Bormaster
37 Barry and Phyllis Kalmin
36 Jack and Karen Lee
19 Julian and Vivian Levin
16 Russ and Leslie Robinson
- 5/22 14 Jeff and Iris Downing
25 Steven and Mindy Finger
64 Josif and Eugenia Meytin
14 David and Andrea Stein
- 5/23 44 Sanford and Linda Herskovitz
9 Joshua and Jessica Leif
10 Steven and Paula Soffer
4 Hershel Swartz and Sarah Marlin
- 5/24 10 Jerrad Bloome and Sara Castle-Bloome
27 Arthur and Nancy Brand
21 W. Kyle and Greta Drennan
27 Steven and Pamela Rosen
21 Michael and Sharon Segal
10 Michael and Lisa Yifrach
38 Jerald and Aileen Zarin

■Condolences

*The congregation extends its sincerest condolences
to the families of --*
Renee Amdur, Adele Korenman, Abe Najer, Izrail Talal
May their memories be for a blessing.

* * * *Office Closing* * * *

*The synagogue office will be closed
Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.*



The MESSAGE

CONGREGATION BETH YESHURUN
WWW.BETHYESHURUN.ORG

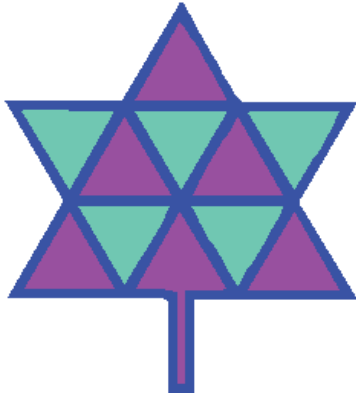
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Paul Katz, Brotherhood President.....pkatz88@comcast.net
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Fridays - 6:15 p.m.
May 16, 30, June 13
Shabbat Yachad

Saturday May 17 - 9:30 a.m.
Jr. Congregation
Mini Minyan
Tot Shabbat

BYDS Spring Book Fair

in the Mandel-Weiner Auditorium

Tuesday - Thursday, May 20-22
8:30am - 3:00pm

Friday, May 23
8:30a.m. - 11:00a.m.

*A great time to buy books for Summer
Reading for your children and grandchildren!*



Marc Garvin **Guitar Virtuoso**

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Reservation Deadline: May 14, 2008

Morris Schultz's fabulous
Bar-B-Q
chicken lunch with all the trimmings
will be served!

Come early for a study
session with Rabbi Strauss.
10:15 AM-11:15 AM
Zubowski B



Regular Performances
with
the Symphony,
the Grand Opera, and
the Houston Ballet

DOORS OPEN AT 11:15 - LUNCH AT 11:45

PROGRAM & LUNCH FOR \$7 PREPAID (\$9 AT THE DOOR)

PLEASE WRITE "YES" ON YOUR CHECK AND MAIL TO TAMMY

FRIEDMAN 4525 BEECHNUT HOUSTON, TX 77096

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL (713) 666-1881, EXT. 312

WEEKDAY SERVICES IN THE J.B. GREENFIELD CHAPEL

May 11- 16: Sun 8am, Mon-Fri 7am, Sun-Thu 7:45pm
May 18-23: Sun 8am, Mon-Fri 7am, Sun-Thu 8pm

Next Message Deadline: May 20 for the June 15 issue
Aug 1 for the mid-Aug issue

The Message is printed by Simon Printing