

Temple Beth Or Bulletin

A VIEW FROM THE BIMAH

May 2011 ~ Nisan/Iyyar 5771



This month, I would like to bring you up to date on the Goldstone Report.

The Goldstone report, you might recall, was issued a couple of years ago by a fact-finding mission created by the United Nations Human Rights Council to investigate international

human rights and humanitarian law violations related to the three-week war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, during the winter of 2008-2009; the mission was chaired by a prominent South African jurist, Richard Goldstone.

The Gaza war erupted when Israel responded to an increasing barrage of increasingly powerful rockets fired into Israel indiscriminately, including new and powerful weapons capable for the first time of reaching some of Israel's major southern cities. Israel's major goals included not just stopping the rockets, but stopping up the underground tunnels in which weapons were smuggled into Gaza and hidden there for use against Israel. Hamas, you'll recall, is pledged to destroy Israel.

During that war, some 1,400 Palestinians and 13 Israelis died; among the Palestinians hundreds of civilians were among those who lost their lives. With all of the Arab world and much of the rest of the world condemning Israel for wanton destruction and massacre, the Goldstone mission was sent in by the UN to investigate whether the charges of human rights violations were true. Their report, more than 500 pages long, did indeed condemn Israel, and this condemnation was then approved by the U.N. Human Rights Council, and by the General Assembly, where only 18 nations voted in the negative. Though Israel protested mightily, from the perspective of public

relations the Goldstone Report was a debacle.

Why mention it now?

Because just last week, Justice Goldstone wrote an op-ed piece in the Washington Post, in which he came to a very different conclusion. He writes that when his group was given a Hamas-led tour, they saw homes that had been destroyed, as well as various commercial facilities such as a sewerage plant, chicken coops, a flour mill, etc., and that based on what they had seen, they concluded that civilian deaths had been caused intentionally by Israel. But now, after long personal investigation, and an extensive review of Israeli policies and practices, he writes that there was no evidence – NO evidence! – that civilians were intentionally harmed as a matter of policy." He writes, "If I had known then what I know now, the Goldstone Report would have been a different document."

He also wrote: "Israel has dedicated significant resources to investigate over 400 allegations of operational misconduct in Gaza, while the de facto authorities, Hamas, have not concluded ANY investigations into the launching of rocket and mortar attacks against Israel."

Such a public admission by a judge is absolutely extraordinary. I only recall one other case, 35 years ago, when a judge reviewed a decision and publicly recanted – when an Orthodox Jewish judge on Long Island let his Orthodox rabbi advise him on whether a Reform conversion was valid; he later publicly admitted that a judge has no business letting religious law dictate how a civil judge rules on a matter of religious status.

But back to Goldstone. Though such a public statement is rare and courageous, I'm not surprised by

the content. Israel is the only country I know of that requires every member of every branch of its armed forces to undergo ethics training, and the only one to have ethics officers who write codes of military ethics and who

Continued on Page 13



Saturday, May 14 Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday morning, May 14th, Rabbi Stevens will lead a Shabbat morning service along with Student Cantor Markowicz. Service will include Jeff Herring being called to the Torah for his Bar Mitzvah. Service will run from 9:30 – 11:15 a.m. *(In case this bulletin arrives early to your household; there is also a Saturday service on April 30th.)*

**Celebrating Our
159th Year**



ELLIOT L. STEVENS, D. D., RABBI
 Andrea Rae Markowicz, *Student Cantor*
 David A. Baylinton, D.D., *Rabbi Emeritus*

Temple Beth Or Officers

Jenny Ives..... *President*
 Jamie Loeb..... *Vice-President: Programs*
 Diane Weil..... *Vice-President: Finance*
 Steve Wallace..... *Treasurer*
 Corinne C. Capilouto..... *Secretary*
 Morris Capouya..... *Immediate Past President*

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 Sharon Berry..... *Religion School, Youth &
 Scholarship and Library*
 Marlene Beringer..... *Sisterhood President*
 Louisa Weinrib..... *Social Concerns/L'Chaim League*

Temple Beth Or Staff

Gina Friday..... *Temple Administrator*
 Andrea Rae Markowicz..... *Student Cantor*
 Terri Finkelstein..... *Religion School Director*
 Linda Smith..... *L'Chaim League*
 Marlon Cotton..... *Maintenance Manager*
 Elizabeth French..... *Organist & Choir Director*

Office Hours

Monday	CLOSED
Tues., Wed. & Thurs.	9-5
Friday	9-2

2246 Narrow Lane Road • Montgomery, AL 36106

(334) 262-3314 Tel ☆ (334) 263-5183 Fax

Office: bethor@templebethor.net
 Rabbi: rabbieils@templebethor.net
www.templebethor.net

Please call Gina Friday at 262-3314 to report any corrections or inaccuracies in the bulletin.



When scheduling calendar events involving the Temple it is important that

you check dates with the Federation and the Temple for potential conflicts within the Jewish community. Their number is 277-5820 and you can view the community calendar at www.jewishmontgomery.org.

TREE OF LIFE

Don't forget the Tree of Life for graduations, birthdays, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs and other special times in your life. Large leaves are \$350 and small ones, \$250. Contact Sharon McDaniel or the Temple regarding purchase.

TBO PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Temple Members,

Please be reminded to mark your calendar to attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2011. An official letter with the specific times will be sent to you within the next week. In addition, you will be receiving the proposed budget for 2011/2012 as well as a Constitution with recommended changes that have been approved by the Board of Trustees. This is a very important business meeting and all members are urged to attend.

You may recall that the Temple board attended a professional training session last May, which included Long Range Planning. Throughout the year, the Board has been working on steps to meet the objectives we determined at that time. One of the changes you will notice in the Constitution is regarding Committees. This change separates the committees by Administrative Committees where the chair is required to serve on the Board and Standing Committees where the chair is not required to serve on the Board. This change will greatly benefit the Temple as we will be able to tap a broader spectrum of skill set and talent from Temple members that want to serve as a committee chair but do not have the time to make a commitment to serve as a Board member. I urge you to peruse these committees and let us know if you would like to participate in any capacity.

As this fiscal year is quickly coming to a close, I ask you to join me in thanking the people that have serve on the board and are committed to the greater good of Temple Beth Or. Also, I want to thank Rabbi Stevens, Gina Friday and Marlon Cotton who are always there for us.

Warmest regards,

Jenny Ives
 President

Recent Death

Jerome Gottlieb ז"ל
April 12, 2011



*Father of Audrey Crowe
 Grandfather of Sara and
 Anna Lee Crowe*

Recent Death

Mary Cahn ז"ל
April 21, 2011



Contributions to Funds

We greatly appreciate the people who support Temple Beth Or by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. Those that are received after the 20th of the month will be in the next bulletin.

BAYLINSON ART FUND

In Honor of

Rabbi David Baylinson

Dale Kyle Head, Jane Kuntz (Bug) and Sara Eldridge (Dutzie)

GENERAL FUND

Speedy Recovery

Andy Kromis

Jenny and John Ives

In Honor of

Dr. Elizabeth French

Jenny and John Ives

Speedy Recovery

Gina Friday

Jenny and John Ives

In Memory of

Jerome Gottlieb

Tammy and Anna Saperstein

In Honor of the 50th Anniversary of Maurice and Peggy Mussafer

Jenny and John Ives

Happy Birthday

Sharon McDaniel

Jenny and John Ives

BIRTHDAYS

- 1James Nathan
- 1Lisa Newcomb
- 1Joanne Shum
- 2Ronald Shum
- 7Richard Kohn
- 7Leonard Michelson
- 8Mary Lynne Levy
- 12Lynne Ginsburg
- 12Gay Winter
- 13Steven Greil
- 13Alison Williamson
- 15Larry Capilouto
- 16Susan Bernstein
- 16Eve Loeb
- 17Jean Harris
- 17Jim McDonald
- 19Babette Wampold
- 20David Franco
- 20Julie Goolsby
- 27Alan Levy
- 28Terri Finkelstein
- 28Allen Stern
- 30Janice Baylinson
- 31LeAnne Wallace

ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Jean & Steve Schloss
- 5 Sandy Lynn & Elliot Stevens
- 12 Jim McDonald and Eve Loeb
- 25 Sandi & Allen Stern
- 31 Aimee & Scott Harris
- 31 Jamie & Ricky Loeb

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings
on May 13th.

YAHARZEITS

To be read 5/6/2011

- Ruth F. Byck
- Chester Goldberg
- Ben Lieberman
- Helen Weil Loeb
- Perry Mendel
- Beatrice K. Schneiderman
- Betty Wolf

To be read 5/13/2011

- Louna Capilouto
- Eunice Copeland
- Pearle M. Feinman
- Jennie Freehling
- Erma Gore
- Thomas Moers
- Herbert L. Sandler
- Norma K. Sheftall Shapiro
- Hilda Slager
- Milton Winter
- Sarah Ruth Yancy

To be read 5/20/2011

- Gaston J. Greil
- Helen Horowitz
- Lillian Leet
- Rose Rosenbluth
- Ben Schafer
- Morris Stone

To be read 5/27/2011

- Henry Abraham
- Jules Adler
- Elizabeth W. Baylinson
- Allegra P. Cohen
- Elsie Rubin
- C. Clarence Strasburger, Sr.

INTERFAITH HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL SERVICE SET FOR
MAY 1

Join us at Montgomery's second interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service, set for Sunday afternoon, May 1st at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem.

Sponsored by Interfaith Montgomery and the Jewish Federation of Central Alabama, in cooperation with Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Synagogue and Temple Beth Or, this special service will include prayers and readings, including diary and first-person accounts, representing different religious perspectives.

Student cantor Andrea Rae Markowicz will participate, accompanied by violinist Claire Weil and cellist Greta Champlin.

Our Montgomery community has for years observed the Holocaust through memorial and educational programs but not, so far as we know, through the response of liturgy and worship.

Holocaust survivor Max Herzel will participate, and lead a discussion after the program.

Interfaith Montgomery, which has planned this program, hopes to add a spiritual dimension, with the possibility of establishing an annual service as an addition to our collective liturgical calendar. The service begins at 2:00 p.m., and should last about an hour.

* * *

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

I am writing this article, not quite believing that the end of the school year is quickly approaching. As fast as the time seems to have flown, I feel as though we have all accomplished quite a bit these past eight months.

I want to thank everyone who helped to make the model Seder so wonderful. Thank you to the families that comprise the Jerusalem (Suzanne Soloff, Michelle Skiba & Jeff Herring) and Tel Aviv (Emily Allen, Ina Orange & Chelsea Cauthen) classes, for providing the food and helping to set the tables.

We thank Rabbi Stevens and Rabbi Kramer for leading an inspirational Seder. I certainly hope that everyone has a very happy *Pesach*, wherever and however you may celebrate.

We only have a few weeks left, so please make note of the schedule below. We have some very special things planned for the last day, and our classes are working on very special performances to share that morning, so please come as regularly as possible to ensure consistent practice!

April 24 – 9:30 am – 12 noon at TBO

May 1 – 9:30 am – 12 noon at TBO
AND Torah Tots 9:30-11

May 8 – 9:30 am – 12 noon at TBO

May 15 – **10am** Last Day/Yom Ha'atzmaut (*Israeli Independence Day*) Celebration

**Please note the later start time. There will be the Kol Ami recognition ceremonies, including the performances by our students, followed by a song program by both of our student cantors, a barbecue lunch, Israeli dancing, and a closing ceremony in honor of Israel

I look forward to seeing all of you at Kol Ami!

Terri Finkelstein
Co-Principal, Kol Ami Religious School

* * *

L'CHAIM LEAGUE

Come on over to the Vintage Olive in Peppertree Shopping Center, on **Thursday, May 5th** at 10:00 am. Our special presentation includes sampling and pairing of olives and oils. After the demonstration, join in for lunch at Sinclair's.

In June, Jamie and Ricky Loeb will host us in their lake home for a fun-filled afternoon with a boat ride and barbecue lunch.

In July, bring and bake your favorite recipe. Or, just come - watch - and feast! With L'Chaim League you will find something anyone can enjoy.

Linda R. Smith

* * *

SISTERHOOD

This Spring Sisterhood hosted a beautiful reception for Huntingdon College Night where we welcomed about 80 Huntingdon students plus a bus load of high school students from New York on their Civil Rights Tour. Thanks to Joy Kaplan for organizing this very special evening.

Sandy Lynn Sevens was in charge of our Second Night Seder for the congregation catered by Michael's Table. This was a very meaningful evening for all.

We are preparing for our closing luncheon at Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts on May 10. Corinne Capilouto has planned a delightful lunch featuring Delores Boyd as our guest speaker. We plan to make a decision about our continued affiliation with WRJ. Please attend and let your voice be heard.

Sisterhood is important to Temple Beth Or and YOU are important to Sisterhood. Please be an ACTIVE PARTICIPANT now and in the future.

Marlene Beringer, President

* * *

YOUTH GROUP

Booty will celebrate their closing event with a trip to Six Flags in May. Date will be announced. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Sharon Berry at daberry40@netscape.net.

* * *

2012 FOOD FESTIVAL

Dear Temple Beth Or Members:

We have inherited a wonderful religion, intrinsic values and great characteristic behavior through our past generations. We want Judaism to flourish and give our children and grandchildren these fine virtues.

We didn't have to wander 40 years in the desert or partake of the many pogroms, escape the Spanish inquisition or endure the monstrous holocaust, so we can make some sacrifices to keep

our fine Temple solvent and home for generations to come. Our "Food Festival" enables us to keep our dues low and feed the community Jewish food. I beseech all members to join our cadre of past hardworking alumni of the "Food Festivals." Please call the chairs or me, this year's chairman: Bubba Marcus at 264-0959.

So please volunteer for the baking, cooking, or many other capacities and make this "2012 Food Festival" successful. I also would like to thank all the people who contributed to last year's Food Festival.

This year we will announce cooking classes to teach all to make various baking item matzo ball soup, potato latkes, cabbage rolls, brisket, corn beef, etc. We will also have several new surprises: triangles (potato-spinach) and hamantashen.

We cannot do this without EVERY MEMBER'S HELP. We also welcome any suggestions you might offer.

Please bring your treasures to the Temple. We can't sell if we don't have it. Call Alan Weil, Sr., Charles Strasburger or Pat Dees.

Looking forward to your help and a successful "Jewish Food Festival."

Marks Marcus, Chairman
264-0959

2012 FOOD FESTIVAL CHAIRS

- ChairmanBubba Marcus
- Kitchen Diane Weil, Robin Blitz
- Baked GoodsSusan Finkelstein
- Publicity Sandy Lynn Stevens
- VolunteersKaren Goldstein
- Corporate Sponsors Andy and Lisa Weil/Alan Weil, Jr.
- Treasure MarketAlan Weil, Sr. Charles Strasburger
- PurchasingRichard Hanan, Steve Schloss
- Matzah Ball SoupJenny Ives
- Latkes Susan Bernstein
- ChallahMarlene Beringer
- Cabbage Rolls.....Karen Lieberman

- Books.....Louisa Weinrib
- Shuttle..... Nikki Rothschild
- Triangles Kelly Capouya
- Collectibles.....Pat Dees
- Slicing.....Steve Schloss, Ricky Loeb, Phil Bernstein, Jeff Blitz
- Go Fishing, Coffee Youth Group
- Advisors..... Jamie Loeb, Bette Sue Strasburger, Susan Bernstein, Marlene Beringer
- Photos Bruce Lieberman
- Signs John Ives, Adam Finklestein
- Clean-upGina Friday
- Rabbi ToursElliot Stevens
- Set-up..... Adam Finklestein
- Greeting Committee
- Cheescakes.....Steve Schloss
- Decorations.....Sharon McDaniel
- DrinksJoe Finklestein

* * *

MAGAZINE PROJECT

Members of Temple Beth Or and Agudath Israel*Etz Ahayem:

We would like to thank you so very much for all of your generous magazine donations. The residents of Cara Vita, The Cedars, Easter Seals, Parkview, Sunshine Center, The VA Hospital, Wesley Gardens, and AEPHA have enjoyed the magazines very much, so we hope to keep them coming! We ask that you only donate magazines, and no catalogs or books, because the residents seem to enjoy the magazines the most. Also, remember to donate magazines no more than 6 months old! Thank you so much for your donations (and many thanks to those that are cutting your names out). They are greatly appreciated! Keep the magazines coming!!

"The Magazine Hunters"
Meagan and Nathan Ashner & Bette Sue Strasburger

* * *

FROM THE LIBRARY

We thought we would take time this month to refresh everyone on the check-out process in the temple library. It's very basic and old-school, actually.

All materials in the library that circulate (i.e. can be checked out) will have a

white check-out card in the pocket in the back of the book, or in the case of some books and all films, on the outside of the back cover (or film case). To check an item out, all you need to do is write your name (legibly) with the date on the white card then place the card in the small box at the desk that is labeled "Book Cards Go Here." We do not currently have a set check-out period, but in practice, it would be appreciated if items could be returned within two weeks of the date checked out. If items are needed for a longer period, we understand. Just please return materials as soon as possible. This leaves it less likely for an item to be thought lost or missing.

When you return items, all you need to do is place them in the basket on the shelf at the desk. The library will take care of replacing white cards and reshelving items.

Let us also take this time to say that if you come across a title we do not have in the temple library, but you think would make a good addition, drop us a note. We'll be happy to consider the recommendation.

Eric A. Kidwell, MLS

* * *

ISRAEL UPDATE

April 2011, 5771,
ניסן התשע"א

Shalom Y'all,

Nissan and Iyar are very special months in Israel's heritage. I can see a very special connection



between the story of the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt to Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah), The IDF and Terrorist Victims Remembrance Day (Yom HaZicaron), and Israel Independence Day (Yom HaAtzma'ut).

During the Passover Seder we gather to learn about the story of the Exodus. We learn that our ancestors went to prosperous Egypt to ask for food. After several good years they had to leave

continued on next page

because a new evil Pharaoh came to power; he didn't know Joseph and he wanted the Jews to be slaves.

While wandering in the desert, the Israelites became a people. For the first time they became Am Israel. They were lead by Moses and instructed by God to get to the Promised Land. During the long journey to their new life, they received the Torah at Mount Sinai. Religious Israelis still believe that the Torah is the constitution of Israel. This is the reason that religious parties in the Knesset won't accept a secular constitution.

Two thousand years later in 1933, the NAZI party came to power in Germany. Adolf Hitler and his followers asked to bring a new era to their homeland, to establish a new order in the world based on the romantic Race Theory, Anti-Semitism and German nationalism.

Heinrich Himmler in his speech to SS Group Leaders in Posen, occupied Poland, in October 4, 1943 said: "Altogether, however, we can say, that we have fulfilled this most difficult duty for the love of our people." History tells us that 6 million Jewish victims, more than a million children among them, was the result of the "difficult duty" of Himmler and his men.

"Never again", said the Israeli Consul General in his letter for the Holocaust memorial event at AUM. I grew up hearing the horrible stories of the Nazi deeds to my people. I heard

this phrase "never again" many times; I carry it in my heart. In difficult times during my service in the IDF, I knew that although I didn't like what I was doing because instead of study, making money, or having fun with friends I was "stuck in the army." But those two words—"never again," led me to do my best to keep the borders safe.

On Israel Memorial Day (Yom HaZicaron) you can see cars stopped along Ayalon Highway in Tel Aviv. The drivers stand outside their cars for two minutes, to the voice of sirens. This is to show our honor for the Israelis who lost their lives on battlefields or in terrorist attacks. It is a day of sadness and grief and it makes me think about the meaning of being Israeli.

Finally, after the difficult times of the memorial observances we can still look forward to celebrating the Independence of the State of Israel. I can see the strong connection of our Jewish heritage in those special holy and important national days. I am very thankful for the opportunity to share them with you.

I want to share my appreciation for the participants in the Kol Ami "Going to Selma Mitzvah Project." I think we performed an important mitzvah by dedicating one Sunday afternoon for the care of Jewish heritage in a neighboring town. Yashar koach!

* * *

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR 2010 – 2011

GUEST SPEAKER

The Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture series, featuring noted authors, has sponsored presentations by three speakers this season in Montgomery. All programs will begin at 7:00 p.m.

LAST EVENT OF THE SEASON:

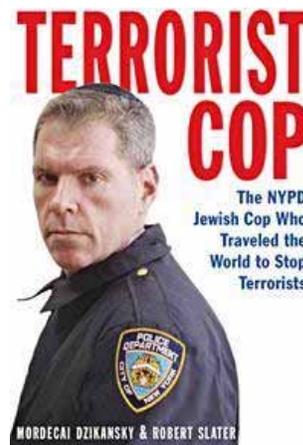
May 11, 2011, 7 PM, the leading authority on suicide bombings, Mordechai D. Dzikansky, author of *Terrorist Cop: the NYPD Jewish Cop Who Traveled the World to Stop Terrorism*.

Dzikansky's career began as one of the first yarmulke-wearing, observant NYPD officers patrolling Brooklyn's streets. From 2003 until 2007, Dzikansky was in Israel as the first NYPD Intelligence Division Overseas Liaison to the Israel National Police.

Currently, Dzikansky lectures and consults on global security and policing topics. He appeared on CBS's *60 Minutes* and was featured in *The New York Times* and *Esquire*. Q & A will follow. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

From Publishers Weekly

A policeman from 1982, a time when "only two Orthodox Jews were members of the NYPD," until 2008, Dzikansky, in his first book, outlines his 25 years on the force. Despite wearing a yarmulke on the job and not being able to work from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning, Dzikansky never let his religion hamper his position on the force. Instead, thanks to his knowledge of Hebrew and dedicated work on the well-publicized Torah theft cases in the early '90s, Dzikansky quickly moved up the NYPD's ranks and earned the complimentary nickname the "Jewish Detective" from his peers. It isn't till almost 100 pages into the book that readers get a true glimpse at the officer as he describes his reaction to 9/11 as a cop. And it is this tragic event that leads to Dzikansky's most dramatic role, learning firsthand about terror attacks and how to prevent them as an NYPD operative working and living in Israel. While Dzikansky's storytelling skills don't live up to the danger and importance of his mission, his time abroad, which included trips to investigate terror attacks in Spain, Egypt, Russia, and Turkey, certainly paid dues for New York City. The last two chapters--in which Dzikansky outlines lessons he hopes will "help curb terror," explaining how to identify and handle a terrorist attack--are compelling reading and a testament to Dzikansky's skill as a terrorist cop.





AI☆EA ADULT EDUCATION

Rabbi Kramer will be starting an Introduction to Judaism class beginning March 8 at 12:30 PM and meeting approximately every other week and will include a light lunch. Each class we will watch a 30 minute video on the topic of that class and then have a discussion on that topic. A fellow classmate of Rabbi Kramer's in Rabbinical School has put together this DVD series and should make for very interesting discussions. No previous knowledge or Hebrew is required; only your presence.

Remaining classes will be:
May 12, 24, 31
June 14

AI☆EA ADULT EDUCATION

Tuesday, May 10
Monthly Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Kramer at 12:30 PM Lunch provided for a nominal fee.



With great pride we invite you to join us as our son

Jeff Herring

is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, May 14th, 2011
At 10:00 am

Temple Beth Or
2246 Narrow Lane Rd.
Montgomery, AL

Kiddush Luncheon to follow
Randi and Buddy Herring



Temple Beth Or's Closing Sisterhood Luncheon

May 10th • Noon

Museum of Fine Arts

\$18.00 p.p.

Your check is your reservation

MAIL TO:
Sharon McDaniel
2632 Old Orchard Lane
Montgomery, AL 36117

RESERVATION DEADLINE MAY 1ST

SPEAKER: Delores Boyd—
Attorney and Mediator,
former Municipal Court
Judge and Federal
Magistrate Judge

Note: this is the correct mailing address. The address on the printed invitations was incorrect.



Thursday, June 2nd ♦ 7 PM

THE ART OF CLASSICAL GUITAR

Although increasingly well known in our community for his musical leadership of services at Temple Beth Or – especially on Shabbat mornings and at youth events – Jeff Herring's training is in classical guitar. The first piece he played for us during worship was a beautiful Sephardic piece during our special Sephardic service in the fall of 2008.



Jeff now offers us a recital of classical guitar, as he prepares to head off to college for further study. **The Art of Classical Guitar** will take place in the TBO library on Thursday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m.

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

Annual Meeting ♦ May 22nd

4:30 PM ♦ Members Only

Reception precedes at 3:30 PM

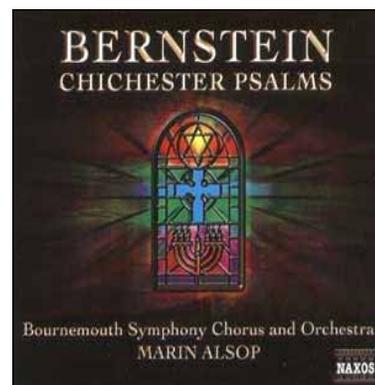


Montgomery Chorale to Perform Bernstein's "Chichester" Psalms At Temple – May 6.

On May 6, we will welcome back to our *bimah* the Montgomery Chorale, directed by Becky Taylor, for a special performance of Leonard Bernstein's amazing Psalm cycle, the "Chichester" Psalms.

"Chichester Psalms" is a choral work by Leonard Bernstein for boy treble or countertenor, solo quartet, choir and orchestra. A reduction written by the composer, as we will hear it,

pared down the orchestral performance forces to organ, one harp, and percussion. The text uses Psalms 100 and 108; Part 2 uses 2 and 23, and Part 3 uses 131 and 133.



CONFIRMATION – TRULY A TIME TO CELEBRATE

With Passover now behind us, can Confirmation be far behind?

This year we celebrate one Confirmation – Blake Cohen. This joint service will be held at **Agudath Israel ♦ Etz Ahayem on Sunday evening, June 5, at 7:00 p.m.**

Our Confirmation program has been a joint program of both congregations since 2007. This two-year sequence reviews the basic rituals and practices of Judaism (life cycle and calendar); engages in in-depth study of Torah commentaries; discusses major contemporary issues of interest to young people, and uses a study of Jewish philosophers and theologians to take up significant issues of Jewish thought, including personal religion. Taught by both Rabbis Stevens and Kramer, the Confirmation program has taught our students that different authentic approaches to Jewish life and practice are possible, and that being open to different ideas can be helpful in developing one's own stance on issues and practices.

For our Confirmation service, both rabbis will officiate – as will both student cantors: Andrea Rae Markowicz and Randall Levine. This will be Andrea's last service with us in Montgomery, and the involvement of both cantors should make this a very special occasion indeed. Please mark your calendars now; Confirmation is truly an occasion when our entire community can celebrate together.



Andrea Rae Markowicz

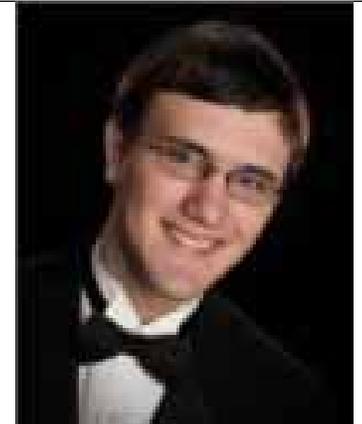


Randall Levine

Congratulations seniors!



*Allison Sarah Lloveras
graduating from
Prattville High School.
She'll be attending Austin
College in Sherman, Texas.
Mother is Laura Lloveras.*



*Jeffrey Todd Herring
graduating from
Booker T. Washington
Magnet High School. Jeff
will be going to Florida
State University in
Tallahassee, Florida and
will be majoring in
Classical Guitar
Performance and will
minor in Math.
Mother is Randi Herring.*

Tel Aviv Conflict Jerusalem Peacetalks Gaza Strip



Jewish Homeland Forum

Do you want to keep updated about Israel?
Would you like to get to know the daily life in your Jewish
homeland?
Do you want to get these updates from a personal Israeli
perspective?

Join the Jewish Homeland Forum

All you need to do is to send an email to your Israeli Shaliach:
eladarnon@gmail.com and write *I'm In!* and you will get weekly
updates to your email about life in Israel (Politics, culture, major
events, sport, you can also ask for specific information).
For more details call Elad: 334-224-4220

Maccabi Flotilla West Bank Iranian Threat IDF Settlement

FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY!

Sunday, May 15th ☆ 10:15 AM - 2:30 PM



Closing ceremonies for Kol Ami
Religion School and Israel
Independence Day Celebration at
Temple Beth Or. Includes
performance of "Songs of Israel"
by our two student cantors;
Israeli folk dancing, barbecue
lunch and more, sponsored by
Jewish Federation of Central
Alabama.



Elad Arnon, JFCA's Shaliach
dressed as Eliyahu at the
Kol Ami Seder

SINGLES GROUP

**Attention All Jewish Singles
50 & up**

Jewish Singles 50 & Up meets at
Lek's Taste of Thailand on
Atlanta Highway on Saturday,
May 7th at 5:30 PM. If you are
interested in attending contact:
Carol Ronning at 279-0140.



Think of Temple Beth Or Gift Shop

when shopping for
weddings, birthdays, Passover, housewarmings and
other simchas. We now have gift items from Gary
Rosenthal, Quest and our new artist Michael Aram,
whose work is primarily in metal, glass and granite.

Bette Sue Strasburger - Lifetime Achievement Award

Our Bette Sue Strasburger was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award on Thursday, April 14th at the River Region Volunteer of the Year Celebration, sponsored by the Volunteer and Information Center and the Junior League of Montgomery:

Community service has been a part of Strasburger's life ever since childhood, a notion she has since passed down to her grandchildren.

In her nomination letter, Bari Levin wrote that Strasburger's community involvement demonstrates her "generous spirit and the critical role she plays in improving our community and shows her personal commitment to serving others."



AN EVENING OF

Cabaret

WITH ANDREA RAE MARKOWICZ!

On Saturday evening, June 4, our renowned student cantor Andrea Rae Markowicz will be presenting an evening to remember that will likely include some Broadway hits, some well-known cabaret songs and other popular favorites – all by Jewish composers.

Details to follow but for now . . . hold the date— this is one program you won't want to miss!!



Mazel Tov!

Congratulations to Turia and Dana and brother Aidan on the birth of **Tristan Franklin Williams**, on April 6th at 4:21 a.m. He weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Save the date for:

Kol Ami - Israel Independence Celebration



Sunday May 15th at Temple Beth Or (TBO) from 10:15 till 2:15.

The program will include:

- End of Sunday School celebration
- Student cantors' concert
- Barbecue lunch
- Special Israel Independence Day program in the sanctuary.



The Jewish Federation is pleased to announce the May 12th return of the Re-Vital Dance Ensemble!

"HOPE" - HATIKVAH

TICKETS

ADULTS: \$10

CHILDREN: \$5
(12 & under)

May 12th ♦ 6:30 PM

At the Performing Arts Building-St. James School - Vaughn Road

Contact the Jewish Federation for more information. Please reach us by email (mail.jfca@gmail.com), phone (334-277-5820), or send a check made payable to JFCA, PO Box 20058, Montgomery, AL 36120.

The Re-Vital dance ensemble is one of the best known dance groups in Israel, having reached unprecedented success both at home and abroad. The award-winning ensemble has appeared in theaters, concerts, on MTV Europe, in various festivals and national competitions. The group provides engaging entertainment for all ages.



"Hope" "HaTikvah" – a dance, music, text and song performance from the beautiful Israel we all love – rhythm, emotion, nostalgia, longing and laughter all entwined with the powerful lyrics written by Naphtali Hertz Imber for the Israeli national anthem. An evening for the whole family - full of color and movement, reflecting Jewish tradition as well as the promise represented by future generations, and our true hope for peace!

Hatikva tells the story of the history of the State of Israel from its beginning until today. On the macro level, the musical describes the founding of the state as described in our national anthem. On the micro level, it talks about the Jewish soul-from birth through circumcision, Bar-Mitzva, army, wedding and so on.

The plot is woven with well known Israeli songs such as Hava Nagila, as well as songs from military ensembles of the different corpses of the Israeli army, love songs etc., all given new interpretations for the dancers-singers.

The performance is an unforgettable experience both for the family and for the community. In fact, it will have an impact on anyone who sees it!

Tickets: Adults - \$10,

Children 12 and under - \$5

WORLD-CLASS EVENT AND PERFORMANCE!

Ordinarily you would have to go to New York to see such a performance. Even those unfamiliar with dance find this a wonderful show.

SHAVUOT - A TIME TO LEARN, A TIME TO CELEBRATE - WITH SHAVUOT FAMILY WORSHIP, STUDY, AND MAYBE BLINTZES!

Shavuot marks, in Jewish tradition, the giving of Torah on Mt. Sinai, seven weeks after Passover. It is one of the three primary Jewish festivals mentioned in Torah – the other two being Passover and Sukkot.



In commemoration of the tradition that Torah was given on Shavuot, many communities offer study programs on areas of Jewish interest.

I would therefore like to offer the following:

On Tuesday evening, **June 7 at 7 PM**, we will hold a brief, informal Shavuot family service, and serve some traditional dairy foods. This

will be a "learner's" service, during which we will stop at each section and study some of the themes of Jewish worship, the meanings of particular prayers, and some of the underlying themes that characterize Jewish worship and the Jewish approach to prayer. I hope you can join us!

Rabbi Elliot Stevens



FAMILY FRIENDLY SERVICES

especially for babies, toddlers, kids, moms, dads and grandparents too!

5:00 - 5:30 PM in the Library

***May 13, June 10**

Jeff Herring will accompany both services.

*Accompanied by Student Cantor Andrea Rae Markowicz.

incorporate those codes into general codes of military behavior. I can assure you that Hamas doesn't have such a code, or such an officer. Their practice of implanting military batteries and units within schools, hospitals, nursing homes and other civilian centers is well known, as is their practice to use their own civilians as human shields. The original Goldstone report did cite Hamas for such human rights violations but, typically, the world only picked up that Israel had been condemned. How many of us remember this quote from the original report: "The Mission has further determined that these 8000 rocket attacks since 2001 constitute indiscriminate attacks upon the civilian population of southern Israel and that where there is no intended military target and the rockets and mortars are launched into a civilian population, they constitute a deliberate attack against a civilian population; these acts would constitute war crimes and may amount to crimes against humanity." My guess is that that part of the report didn't make it very far into public consciousness.

Now that Judge Goldstone has stated in public that his report would have been very different if he had known then what he knows now, what are some of the reactions his piece has generated?

The most common one, unfortunately, is to blame Israel. Israel must have lied and manufactured evidence. Israel must have paid him off. Israel must have brought tremendous pressure to bear from powerful people on poor Judge

Goldstone; we're almost hearing those old anti-Semitic canards that an all-powerful, international Jewish conspiracy is running the world from behind the scenes.

Though Israel is now pushing the UN Human Rights Council to withdraw the Goldstone report, chances are approximately nil. The damage is done. I recall Prime Minister Netanyahu saying, after it was published, "We face three major strategic challenges: the Iranian nuclear program; rockets aimed at our citizens, and Goldstone."

Through all this, the United States has been and remains Israel's friend. Last week President Obama met with Israeli President Shimon Peres, and the Goldstone Op-Ed came up. Peres later told reporters that the op-ed represented something of a vindication for a position shared only by the United States and Israel – that the Goldstone Report's original conclusions were a calumny. Peres then thanked the president, in his words, "for standing with us on Goldstone, for being the only one to stand with us on Goldstone." And US State Department spokesman Mark Toner said, "We've made clear from when the Goldstone Report was initially presented, and maintained ever since, that we didn't see any evidence that the Israeli government had intentionally targeted civilians or otherwise engaged in any war crimes. Now that we see that Justice Goldstone has reached the same conclusion, and that Israel has since undertaken credible internal processes to assess its own conduct of hostilities, that's something that must be acknowledged as well."

As I write this, more than 30 United States senators have just announced a bipartisan resolution calling on the UN Human Rights Council to rescind the anti-Israel Goldstone report.

What does all this mean in terms of the so-called "peace process"? David Horowitz, writing in the *Jerusalem Report*, notes that the original Goldstone Report is a key milestone on the Palestinian Authority's road toward international recognition for a unilateral declaration of statehood. The PA intends to introduce its proposal to the United Nations in September – declaring statehood in the West Bank and Gaza, including every inch of East Jerusalem and the West Bank – the West Bank that has no legal status and merely represents cease-fire lines from 1949 after the Arab nations surrounding Israel failed to annihilate this new democratic nation. Once the Palestinian Authority statehood question comes to the UN, they project that more than 100 countries will quickly recognize them. In that moment, from what I understand, tens of thousands of Israelis living in East Jerusalem and tens of thousands more living in communities on the West Bank would be there illegally. One can only imagine the scenarios that will follow.

Horowitz writes about what *should* happen, in terms of turning criticism of Israel back toward Hamas, but it won't happen: Israel's guilt has long-since been "established," in quotes. The media organizations that so hyped the baseless allegations of Israeli war crimes will

We would like to know. Please call the temple office when a family member is in the hospital or ailing. Too often we find out about illnesses, crises and hospitalizations long after they occur. This is a missed opportunity for the calls and visits the rabbi would like to share. Please let the temple know if there is a concern in your family or another congregation family (with their permission).

We need your help in order to offer ours.

not allocate similar broadcast-topping coverage and front page space to Goldstone's belated exoneration of Israel. Horowitz concludes that an apology from Goldstone just isn't good enough.

Since the 1940's when Israel first approved partition and was condemned to war by those who didn't accept the legitimacy of ANY Jewish state, the two-state solution, negotiated by the parties, still seems the only chance for real peace. Israel is still trying: recently a group of prominent Israelis including very senior current and former officials presented a new Israeli Peace Initiative. It is comprehensive and detailed and covers regional security; economic cooperation; the settlement of all claims; reasonable borders, and a Palestinian state covering most of the West Bank and Gaza, with a capital in much of East Jerusalem. It addresses refugees and financial compensation. It is quite a dramatic blueprint, based on the knowledge that, in its words, "a military solution to the conflict will not achieve peace or provide security for the parties." One can only hope that the Israeli Peace Initiative will be given serious consideration.

All of this shows how crucially important it is for each of us, before we snap to conclusions, to become familiar with the issues, look behind the scenes, and receive categorical statements (I suppose this would extend to any issue) with a healthy dose of skepticism. Personally, I would also conclude that, if there are doubts about Israel and her moral standing, I would give Israel the benefit of the doubt.

With many thanks ...

Our thanks and thanks again to Linda Smith for the great job and dedication she has given as Executive Director of the L'Chaim League. Her fifth year begins this year and she continues to give creative monthly programs for members to participate. Much thought and many hours have been given to the programs that she directs. Members have enjoyed interesting day trips to gardens and historical houses and seeing plays and movies and hearing interesting talks about different subjects. A favorite trip was a ferry boat ride to Gee's Bend to meet the quilters. A new activity has been yoga led by Pat Blondheim, who has so generously given her time and expertise on Tuesday mornings. A newsletter keeps members up-to-date on happenings.



Another important part of Linda's position is visiting the homebound and nursing homes. During many religious holidays she along with others and the rabbis take gifts that are symbolic of the holiday to the homebound.

Begun as a volunteer group in the 1970's; Super Seniors, as it was called needed more stability in its administration. When Lucien Loeb died in 1984, the family endowed it as L'Chaim League and it is open to members over 50 years of age from both congregations. The Montgomery Jewish Federation augments the endowment and many congregants have contributed to its operation both in memberships and contributions.

Beyond May!

Thursday, June 2, 7 PM, The Art of Classical Guitar, a recital of classical guitar by our own Jeff Herring will take place in the TBO library.

Saturday, June 4, TBA, An Evening of Cabaret with Andrea Rae Markowicz.

Sunday, June 5, 7 PM, Confirmation Service at Agudath Israel*Etz Ahayem.

Tuesday, June 7, 7 PM, Shavuot Learners Service.

Wednesday, June 8, All Day, TBO Office closed for Shavuot.

Friday, June 10, 5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library - suitable for children of all ages.

Friday, June 10, 6 PM, Classical Service with Union Prayer Book.

Sunday, June 19, 10 AM, L'Chaim League lunches at lake home of Jamie and Ricky Loeb.

Saturday, September 24, 7 PM, S'lichot Service.

Wednesday, September 28, 7:30 PM, Rosh Hashanah Eve Service -

followed by Annual Reception

Thursday, September 29, 1 PM, Tashlich at Montgomery Museum Pond.

Thursday, September 29, 10 AM, Rosh Hashanah Morning Service

Thursday, September 29, 10:30 AM, Children's Service in Library

Thursday, September 29, All Day, TBO Office closed for Rosh Hashanah.

Friday, September 30, 6 PM, Shabbat Shuvah.

Sunday, October 2, 9:30 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Eternal Rest Cemetery

Sunday, October 2, 10:30 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Etz Ahayem Cemetery (new section)

Sunday, October 2, 11 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Etz Ahayem Cemetery (old section)

Friday, October 7, 7:30 PM, Kol Nidrei Eve

Saturday, October 8, 10 AM, Yom Kippur Morning

Saturday, October 8, 12 PM, Rabbi's Discussion.

Saturday, October 8, 2:30 PM, Children's Service

Saturday, October 8, 3:30 PM, Memorial Service

Saturday, October 8, 4 PM, Afternoon & Concluding Services followed by Break Fast.

Wednesday, October 12, 6 PM, Sukkot service. This service will be held outdoors at our TBO sukkah; join us as we celebrate together with worship and a symbolic meal inside our sukkah.

Thursday, October 13, All Day, TBO Office closed for Sukkot.

Wednesday, October 19, 6 PM, Simchat Torah Celebration.

Thursday, October 20, All Day, TBO Office closed for Simchat Torah.

Saturday, October 22, 10 AM, Shabbat morning service and Tammy Saperstein's Bat Mitzvah.

Saturday, November 5, 10 AM, Shabbat morning service and Sarah Clare Loeb's Bat Mitzvah.



Sharon McDaniel, left, lights candles as Rabbi Elliot Stevens conducts the service of the Second Night Seder on Tuesday, April 19, 2011.



Photographer Lloyd Gallman. Photos reprinted with permission of Montgomery Advertiser.

NEED HELP GETTING AROUND DURING SERVICES?

A wheelchair and walker are stored in the coat closet and available to members and guests during Temple events.

May 2011

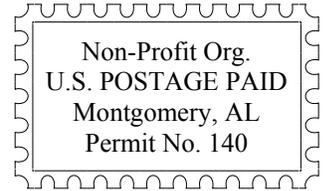
Want an updated look at what's going on at Temple? Go to www.templebethor.net.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9:30 AM, Religion School at TBO. 9:30 - 12 Torah Tots 9:30 - 11 2 PM, Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service at AIEA</p>	2	3	4	<p>5 10 AM, L'Chaim League visits The Vintage Olive at Peppertree Shopping Center.</p>	<p>6 6 PM, A special Musical Shabbat service featuring Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, performed by the Montgomery Chorale</p>	<p>7 5:30 PM Jewish Singles meets at Lek's Taste of Thailand on the Atlanta Highway</p>
<p>8 9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religion School at TBO. 9:30 - 12</p>	9	<p>10 Noon, Sisterhood Closing Luncheon at Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts</p>	<p>11 7 PM, Guest Speaker and author, Mordechai Dzikansky</p>	<p>12 6 PM, JFCA celebrates Israeli Independence Day with Israeli Dance group, Re-Vital at the Performing Arts building, St. James School</p>	<p>13 5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service 6 PM Shabbat Service with Rabbi Stevens and Student Cantor Andrea Rae Markowicz.</p>	<p>14 10 AM, Jeffrey Herring's Bar Mitzvah. Shabbat morning service with Student Cantor Markowicz.</p>
<p>15 10:15 AM - 2:30 PM, Closing ceremonies for Kol Ami Religion School and Israel Independence Day Celebration at TBO.</p>	16	17	18	19	<p>20 6 PM Shabbat Service</p>	21
<p>22 3:30 PM Reception 4:30 PM Annual Meeting. Members only.</p>	23	24	25	26	<p>27 6 PM Shabbat Service</p>	28
29	30	31				

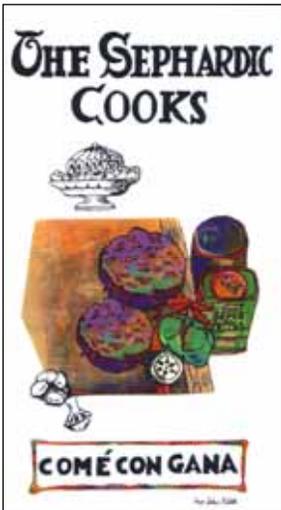
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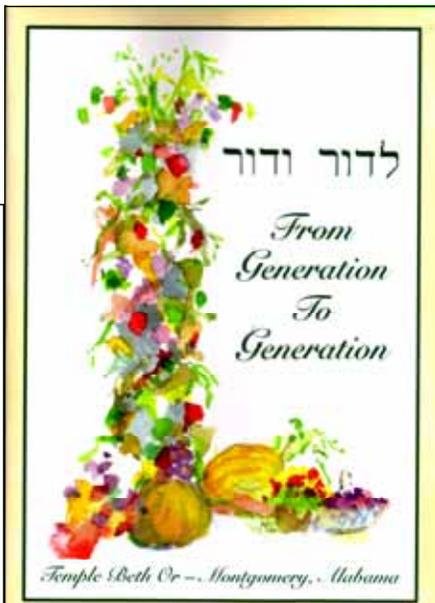
MAY 11 Bulletin



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The Sephardic Cooks cookbook is now available through the Temple office for \$20.00. All proceeds go toward the Food Festival.



Copies of the Temple cookbook are available for \$20.00 plus tax.

SAVE THE DATE	Temple Beth Or Annual Meeting. May 22, 2011 • 4:30 PM <i>(reception precedes at 3:30)</i>
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Student Cantor Andrea Rae Markowicz Weekends:		
April 29	May 13	June 4
<p>On her weekends in Montgomery Cantor Markowicz will usually participate in Friday night Shabbat services, Saturday morning Shabbat services and Religious School on Sundays.</p>		

KOL AMI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
Meets at TBO
5/1 9:30 AM, Religion School at TBO. 9:30 - 12 Torah Tots, 9:30 - 11
5/8 9:30 - 12
5/15 10:15 AM - 2:30 PM, Closing ceremonies for Kol Ami Religion School and Israel Independence Day Celebration at TBO.