

# Temple Beth Or Bulletin

June 2011 ~ Iyyar/Sivan 5771



## REPORT TO ANNUAL MEETING May 22, 2011

Good afternoon!

This has been an extraordinary year. On the other hand, every year is an extraordinary year, which makes for a very challenging and satisfying rabbinate here in Montgomery. One of the great satisfactions has been working with Jenny Ives and, indeed, all of our officers and Board members. A more thoughtful, caring, responsible, supportive Board will not be found, and we are in very good hands.

I must single out in particular Marlon Cotton, who handles our maintenance, and Gina Friday, who handles, well, just about everything. Marlon is one of those rare individuals who daily takes initiatives to keep this place in top shape – going far beyond his official responsibilities to clean the silver or arrange flowers or organize closets and so much else – and always with good cheer, a ready smile, and a great “can do” spirit. Gina is beyond description: she is the most organized person I know, a first-rate administrator, a creative graphic designer, and one for whom her work is not just a job, but approaches the level of true calling. And as many of you know, she probably works at least double the number of hours she’s paid for.

Thanks to the generous support of the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture and Enrichment Fund, we’ve been fortunate this year to be able to present several top-quality speakers of international fame – including Martin Fletcher and Tom Segev from Israel and, earlier this month, the world’s leading expert on terrorism and counter-terrorism, Mordecai Dzikansky. Each attracted a sizable audience from our larger community, with the result that Temple Beth Or is becoming well known for our programming, and we are grateful to Gay Winter, our adult education chair, for overseeing this part of what we do.

## Saturday, June 4th Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday morning, June 4th, Rabbi Stevens will lead a Shabbat morning service, including Torah reading and Torah study. Service including Torah study and a light brunch will run from 9:30 – 11:15 a.m.



I have continued this year to offer my own classes and courses covering a wide area of interest, and I encourage you to participate in future programs. I do believe these classes have been well received, aside from being a lot of fun. This year we’ve discussed ethical dilemmas, mysticism, sexual values, Jewish attitudes towards war, Israel, commentaries and much else, including classes in Basic Judaism and in Hebrew.

Let me say a word about Hebrew. I can’t tell you how pleased I am when someone comes and wants to learn. This year, by coincidence, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader and a high school senior each approached me, and asked me to teach them to read Hebrew; within 2 months, each had succeeded; another high school student has been working with me for more than a year on conversational Hebrew. None of these young people has any immediate goal other than the sheer love of learning, and that initiative thrills me no end. I say this because if any of you want to learn but don’t have time for a regular class, just contact me and I’ll be delighted to see what we can set up. It’s never too late. Indeed, do let me know if you have any concerns or suggestions in any area; my door is always open, and I am here to serve you.

One of the great satisfactions of the rabbinate is being with people at moments of celebration or need or vulnerability. Whether I am visiting someone in hospital or officiating at a baby naming or some other occasion, or just standing at the ark and praying with someone in crisis, these are truly moments of blessing. When I as rabbi recite a blessing or prayer with someone during a time of need, I feel blessed at least as much as the person I am with, for I have been admitted into a private moment that few outside of immediate family ever get to see. I am grateful for the trust granted to me in such moments, and regard this part of my rabbinate as just about the most important thing I do. Though most of this work is invisible, for me it will always remain my priority.

I’ve continued this year to be active in the larger community, as time permits. This year I was asked to chair the selection committee of the River Region Ethics in Business Award; I was elected to co-chair Interfaith Montgomery, and have been on a very interesting advisory Board of the UAB Health Center in Montgomery. My connection with the Montgomery Chorale as a member of their Board has been to our benefit, the most visible of which was the Chorale’s participation in a special concert

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**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*

**Board of Trustees**

Gay Winter..... *Adult Education*  
Joy Kaplan..... *Arts, Decorations*  
Sharon McDaniel..... *Attendance & Hospitality*  
Micki Beth Stiller..... *Cemetery*  
Sam Kaufman..... *Consultant/Long Range Planning*  
Rusty Levy/Ricky Loeb..... *Grounds/House*  
Adam Finkelstein..... *Membership*  
Philip Bernstein/Pete Ginsburg..... *Men's Club President*  
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**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Tues., Wed. &amp; Thurs.</b>	<b>9-5</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9-2</b>

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Rabbi: rabbieis@templebethor.net  
www.templebethor.net

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

**The Jewish Federation  
of Central Alabama**



*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](http://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**

**President's Report- May 22, 2010**

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as the president of Temple Beth Or during this past year but more importantly, it's been meaningful to work with such a wonderful and dedicated Board of Trustees. This year's Board has demonstrated amazing courage, which to me, is reminiscent of the boards dating back to 1852 with their foresight and their willingness to be flexible toward change.

Our board faced challenges, addressed issues and solved problems by working together to hammer out a consensus toward a positive end because we shared the same goals, ideals, and values for Temple life. I'm proud to be associated with such good and faithful Jews.

I appreciate the guidance and support from the Executive Committee - Morris Capouya, Jamie Loeb, Diane Weil, Steve Wallace and Corinne Capilouto. Collectively and independently, they have been there to hold my hand, offer support and (yes) criticize as needed. Temple Beth Or has, indeed, been lucky to have such wonderful leaders always working in the background to ensure that the Temple functions in a manner for which we can be proud.

Listening to the various reports today is a testament to the hard work and dedication of each board member. As the terms of Steve Wallace, Corrine Capilouto, Sharon Berry, Louisa Weinrib and Rusty Levy have ended, I want to thank them publically for the work they've done during their terms.

We are so very fortunate to have Rabbi Stevens as our spiritual leader. Not only does he demonstrate his deep feelings of Judaism each week with his thought provoking and educational sermons, he is so well respected in the community. An example is the relationship he shares with Lawson Bryan, the minister of First Methodist Church and his work with Interfaith Montgomery. He is a professional, he has a team spirit when working with Temple leadership, and his business knowledge is invaluable to the president!

And, Sandy Lynn, thank you so much for your contribution to the

Temple. Our website is awesome! You are such an asset-- from being our rabbi's wife, to helping in the kitchen to your marketing skills!

We are also lucky to have such committed leaders of Sisterhood and Men's Club. Many thanks to Marlene Beringer, Pete Ginsberg and Philip Bernstein.

I would also like to thank Gina Friday and Marlon Cotton for their continued hard work with a "can do" and "will do" attitude. We are so fortunate to have

**Recent Death**

Bessie Brown ז"ל

April 27, 2011

Mother of Karen Nyman

**Recent Death**

Robert Henry Heilpern, Sr. ז"ל

May 3, 2011

Father of Robert, Jr. (Bobby),  
Bill and Gay

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**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.

**ARCHIVES AND HISTORY FUND**

*In Memory of  
Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Robert Heilpern  
Leo J. Drum, Jr.*

*In Memory of Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Peggy Cohn*

**BAYLINSON ART FUND**

*Happy 80th Birthday Janice  
Baylinson  
Corinne Capilouto  
Peggy Cohn*

**GENERAL FUND**

*In Memory of  
Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Robert Heilpern  
Dr. Laurie J. Weil and  
Dr. Tommy Wool*

*In Memory of Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Raymond Cohen, David Cohen and  
Michael Cohen*

*In Memory of  
Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Robert Heilpern  
Marlene and Rick Beringer*

*In Memory of Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Susan and Bobby Kohn*

**L'CHAIM LEAGUE**

*In Memory of  
Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Corinne Capilouto  
Joan Loeb*

**MISHKAN T'FILAH BOOKPLATE**

*In Honor of  
Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Temple Beth Or Sisterhood*

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*In Memory of  
Lillian Brownstein  
Betty, Bob and Erik Goldberg  
  
In appreciation of Rabbi Stevens  
officiating at their father's funeral  
Gay, Bill and Bobby Heilpern*

**SAMUEL SCHLOSS  
COMMUNITY FUND**

*In Memory of Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Burke Schloss*

**STEINHART SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND**

*In Memory of  
Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Robert Heilpern  
Louisa and Michael Weinrib*

**YOUTH AND SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND**

*In Memory of Bessie Brown  
Mary Hobbie Cahn  
Anita and Bob Reznikoff*

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**BIRTHDAYS**

- 4.....Michael Weinrib
- 8.....Joan Hanan
- 8.....David Lipton
- 11.....Rosalind Markstein
- 19.....Milt Livingston
- 20.....Jim Levy
- 20.....Carol Loeb
- 21.....Ed Simon
- 21.....Joyce Strassburger
- 23.....Jay Van Cleeff
- 23.....Stephen Weinrib
- 23.....Greg Williamson
- 26.....Charlotte Mussafer
- 27.....Karen Lieberman
- 28.....June Cohn
- 28.....Erik Goldberg
- 28.....Craig Goldstein

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Birthday and Anniversary Blessings  
on June 3rd.

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**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 5.....Joy and Jarred Kaplan
- 10.....Steve and LeAnne Wallace
- 12.....Lucille & Alan Goldsmith
- 12.....Lauda & Bill Heilpern
- 12.....Charlotte & Joe Mussafer
- 15.....Jean & Gene Harris
- 16.....Beverly & Hugh Bolen
- 18.....Janice & David Baylinson
- 18.....Liza & Sam Kaufman
- 19.....Joanne & Ronald Shum
- 20.....Louisa & Mike Weinrib
- 22.....Karen & Dan Weinrib

**YAHARZEITS**

**To be read 6/3/2011**  
Joseph H. Abraham  
Frieda Kahn Berger  
Mose Feinman  
Sumner David Goldberg  
Lloyd Vernon Julian  
Julian H. Kohn  
Alma Hertz Lobman  
Samuel Moscovitz  
Dr. Herbert Rosenberg

**To be read 6/10/2011**  
Jack H. Abraham  
Evelyn Burger  
Leon Burger  
Albert Freehling  
Denise K. Hanan  
Sol Hersberg  
Carrie Pollock Lobman

**To be read 6/17/2011**  
Carrie Abraham  
Jack Bloom  
Eli Capilouto  
Jean Capouya  
Jeannette D. Capouya  
Carol Loeb Hagedorn  
Nell Hagedorn  
Nellie Loeb  
Estelle Popkin  
Rosalie Rosenberg  
Emanuel Rosenbluth  
Isidore Rosenbluth  
Jack L. Toney

**To be read 6/24/2011**  
Rachel H. Capp  
Elinor Carlton  
Bernard Hanan  
Helen L. Levi  
Genevieve L. Roberts  
Roy Shinpaugh  
Kalman Shwarts  
Julien M. "Sonny" Strassburger

Heritage Shabbat

Friday ♦ June 10th ♦ 6:30 PM

Please join us on June 10th when we will use the familiar pages of the Union Prayer Book and classical Reform music in this special Shabbat service.

SISTERHOOD  
ANNUAL MEETING REPORT  
MAY 22, 2011

Your Sisterhood has always played a supportive roll in the life of Temple Beth Or, though many of our members have served in positions of greater responsibility in Temple life.

We give great thanks to Rabbi Stevens, Gina Friday, and Marlon Cotton for their ever-present support.

Sisterhood's executive committee has been ready, willing, and very able to lead our Sisterhood through a very productive year. I thank our Executive committee for its willingness to work on every aspect of Sisterhood to make it the vibrant organization it is. Carol Loeb and Jamie Loeb, vice-presidents, Sharon Berry, Secretary, and Sharon McDaniel, Treasurer, and Susan Bernstein, Financial Secretary, and Lisa Weil, Past-president have all been dedicated and worked closely sharing advise and responsibility

Our thanks go to all the chairs who willingly took on the responsibility to made this a wonderful year:

- Candle lighters - Kelly Capouya
- House - Susan Bernstein
- Gift Shop - Peggy Cohn
- Membership - Charlotte Mussafer
- Cheesecake Fundraiser - Lisa Weil
- Rosh Hashanah Eve - Bette Sue Strasburger & Myrna Rothfeder
- Break-the-fast - Susan Finklestein & Carol Loeb
- Sukkot - LeAnne Wallace
- Simchat Torah - Betty Goldberg
- Opening Luncheon - Burke Schloss & Gay Winter
- Chanukah Dinner - Jamie Loeb
- Chanukah at Old Alabama Town - Tammy Saperstein
- Sisterhood Shabbat - Esther Scheuer
- Huntingdon College Night - Joy Kaplan
- Passover Seder - Sandy Lynn Stevens
- Closing Luncheon - Corinne Capilouto

This year began and ended with our luncheons featuring informative and inspirational speakers: Mary Ann

Neely and Delores Boyd.

Our membership made two major decisions at their last meeting. The first was to disaffiliate with the national Sisterhood organization, Women of Reform Judaism, after a 30 year affiliation. The second is to replace two unsightly, not often seen areas of the temple, the black-out lining on the social hall windows and the interior stage curtains.

Temple Beth Or is not only a place of worship, but a real community where we come together and work for the betterment of all. I am proud to represent our Sisterhood and call on each of you to do what you can to make Temple Beth Or the best it can be.

Marlene Beringer  
President

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L'CHAIM LEAGUE

Join in on **Tuesday, June 7th**, for a fun day at the lake home of Jamie and Ricky Loeb. We will caravan from TBO parking lot at 10 AM. Enjoy a barbecue lunch and a boat ride on beautiful Lake Martin. There is no charge for this event. **RESERVATIONS ARE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY BY JUNE 3RD.** In all fairness to our hosts, they need to know how many people to expect.

Sample our members' recipes, watch them as they cook their favorite dish, bring your cutest apron, and join in on the fun at TBO on **Tuesday, July 12th**. You can observe, eat, and laugh your way around this taste-testing event.

Child Protect's office on Perry Street will be the setting for our event on **Thursday, August 25th**. This presentation will be made by Jannah Bailey, the director of Child Protect. The history of this organization is deep-rooted within our own community. After the visit, we will have lunch nearby. We hope that you have enjoyed past programs, and will want to join in on these Summertime activities.

Linda R. Smith

YOUTH GROUP

I would like to recognize Danielle Berry, Booty President and Jeff Herring, Booty Vice President and NFTY-SAR Song leader. These teens have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills and have been excellent representatives for our Temple and Youth Group (Booty). We wish them well on their journey through college and beyond.

Sara Crowe, Booty Secretary, will now take on the responsibility of Booty President. We know that she will do an outstanding job in keeping the Youth Group active.

I would like to thank the Temple for giving me the opportunity to lead the Youth Group as the Booty Advisor for the past several years. It has been a joy for me to watch your children grow and develop their pride in the Jewish faith, our Temple, and in our Youth Group. The time has come for me to pass the torch of leadership onto Audrey and Ron Crowe. I know that they will do an exceptional job as Booty's new Advisors and I thank them for assuming this position of leadership.

Sharon Berry  
Booty Advisor

STEINHART SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Jeff Herring and Allison Lloveras on their award of a Steinhart Scholarship.

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FROM THE LIBRARY

Here is a last report on new books:

*Noah's Bark* by Stephen Krenski with illustrations by Roge. Grades K-2. "Noah's trying to build an ark, but with the snakes quacking, the beavers crowing, and the pigs howling, he can't even hear himself think, much less make a giant boat. Pretty soon Noah's barking in annoyance – and then it starts to rain! Discover how each animal came to make the noise it does today in this whimsical retelling of the beloved

Noah's ark story.”

*Feivel's Flying Horses* by Heidi Smith Hyde with illustrations by Johanna van der Sterre. Grades 1-3. Feivel is a master craftsman working at Coney Island carving carousel horses, each one a remembrance of a member of his family back in the old country. After carving a horse for his wife, one for each of his two sons and two daughters, Feivel has saved enough money to be reunited with his family; the last illustration in this charming book showing the family once again together and riding “their” carousel horses Feivel created. Hyde includes historical information that “... details the contributions of eastern European Jewish immigrants, once wood carvers of synagogue arks and Torah scrolls, who used their talent to create magnificent carousel horses enjoyed by generations of children.”

*Benno and the Night of Broken Glass* by Meg Wiviott with illustrations by Josee Bisailon. Grades 3-5. Benno is an orphaned cat. The “night of broken glass” refers to the well-known historical event of *Kristallnacht*. This book received a starred review from *School Library Journal* for its age-appropriate treatment of the Holocaust through storytelling and illustrations: “The straightforward text describes events without sentimentality, as if Benno were simply reporting what he sees and hears. ‘In Apartment 3B, the mob was breaking the Adlers' furniture and throwing books out the window.... The Schmidts' apartment was untouched.’ But what truly distinguishes this book is the striking multimedia artwork composed of paper, fabric, and drawn images in hues of olive, brown, and red. Interesting angles, textures, and patterns add to the visual effect throughout. The spreads depict a normal city neighborhood from a cat's-eye view, which is eventually upended by dark shadowy figures with big black boots. Thus the message of terror and sadness that marks the beginning of the Holocaust is transmitted in a way that is both meaningful and comprehensible. An

after word provides historical context for the story...”

*Hot Pursuit: Murder in Mississippi* by Stacia Deutsch and Rondy Cohon with illustrations by Craig Orback. Ages 8-10. Deutsch, Cohon and Orback tell the story of civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James Earl Chaney who in 1964 lost their lives in Mississippi at the hands of the KKK. With the May opening of the Freedom Rides Museum here in Montgomery, this book is particularly timely as it reminds of the sacrifices that have been made as we continue to move as a nation toward the goal of equality for all. The book manages to conclude on a hopeful note with an illustration of Barack Obama as president and a note on the 2005 conviction of Edgar Ray Killen for the killing of Schwerner, Goodman, and Chaney.

*Stations West: A Novel* by Allison Amend. The author's debut novel is set in the later part of the nineteenth century American West and begins with the marriage of Moshe Hauowitz, who is Jewish-Cherokee, to Alice O'Malley, a pregnant Irish prostitute. The novel covers 50 years and four generations. The novel has received mixed reviews, but was chosen by the Jewish Book Council and included on its list of adult fiction for this past year's Jewish Book Month.

*There Is No Other* by Jonathan Papernick. Another selection by the Jewish Book Council, Papernick provides a collection of stories that runs the emotional gamut. Here is a sampling of what the critics have had to say: “Papernick's fiction takes no prisoners...grab(s) our attention and keep us glued to the page... Sometimes, darkness falls, sometimes transcendence lifts, but... tenderness always lurks just around the edges... unforgettable.” (*Hadassah Magazine*); “Papernick moves with ease around history, high culture and pop culture... Such high-low humor is the hallmark of Papernick's style, which is characterized by unadorned prose and a casualness that belies its sophistication.” (*The Jewish Daily Forward*); “It is

Papernick's sense of the surreal, his dark humor and his consciousness of the deep roots of Jewish and Muslim culture that distinguish this collection.” (*Publisher's Weekly*, starred review)

Eric A. Kidwell, MLS

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## ISRAEL UPDATE

May 2011,  
Iyar 5771, אייר התשע"א

Shalom Y'all

It's hard to believe that it is the last time that I'm writing my update. It was a tremendous year and wonderful experience. I enjoyed meeting with different groups of people. I taught the kids at Kol Ami Jewish School. I met with a lot of faiths, religions and interfaith groups. I learned a lot about American history that I didn't know before I arrived.



Unfortunately we heard some bad news coming from Israel's neighbors again, during the turmoil in Syria which still goes on against Assad regime as groups of angry Syrian mobs came closer to the fence of the Israeli border, they asked to come back to their fatherland that was “stolen” by the Israelis during our war of independence, which they call The Nakba, which mean in Arabic - “the disaster.” For them the Israeli settlements all over Israel on the coast line and in the Galilee area symbolize the loss of their villages, and the national Palestinian concept of the loss of their homeland.

It is not easy as an Israeli to grow up in such different concepts than your neighbors. While I was waving my flag proudly, watching the fireworks in the city center, singing national cheerful songs, on the other sides of the borders people were grieving, blaming my

*continued on next page*

people, my friends and my family for stealing their land.

Both my grandparents made Aliyah, emigrated from Romania to Israel. They were refugees, escaping from anti-Semitism looking for a better place to live.

They were Zionist. They believed that the right place for them to live is only in Israel. I share the same ideas that motivated my grandparents to make their difficult decision to leave their homeland and move to an unknown place, with unfamiliar people, speaking the Hebrew language that they have to learn from the beginning.

Many Israelis share similar stories, sons and daughters of immigrants that left their homes following the cause to settle the Jewish homeland by historical right as written in the Israeli declaration of Independence.

I listened to young men and women from the other side of the boarder speaking about their wishes to come back to their land and apartments which was possessed by their families in Palestine before the declaration of the Israeli state. I can't ever agree with them, because I don't have any other choice, I don't have any other country to call my own.

I was born and raised as a Sabra in Israel as was my father and many other Israelis, and we still have new immigrants coming by their rights as Jews to join and live in Israel. We have to stick together, being proud of ourselves, asking to do our best in our homeland and react as one to whoever claims that Israel does not belong to us. I can only hope that the peace process will go on and we will find a solution to solve the problems on both sides and guarantee the security of our Jewish homeland.

I want to thank you for your participation in the programs for Yom Hatzmaut with the Israeli dance show Hatikvah – The Hope, and Kol Ami Jewish School.

Toda

**Your Israeli friend - Elad**

Please keep in contact! You are more than welcome to visit me in Israel, I will try to be as good a host as you have been to me.



**Israeli Independence Celebrations in  
Kol Ami Jewish School**

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**THE MONTGOMERY AREA  
HEARING LOSS SUPPORT**

Mrs. Jennifer Fanning, Case Manager of the Alabama Institute of Deaf and Blind (AIDB) will be the speaker at THE MONTGOMERY AREA HEARING LOSS SUPPORT GROUP meeting which will be June 9th at four o'clock at The First United Methodist Church in Cloverdale Park. She will be telling of simple accessories to assist the hard-of-hearing.

Also, Dr. Christi Lynch, of the AUM Speech and Hearing Clinic will provide FREE hearing screenings which may entitle persons for the many products which are available at no cost from AIDB.

No reservations are required and there is no cost to attend the meetings. For more information:

Hearinginfo@  
sprintmail.com

**Congratulations !**



**Jonathan Capouya**  
*graduating from  
Montgomery Academy. He'll  
be attending the University  
of Alabama in the fall.  
Parents are Morris and Kelly  
Capouya.*



**Corinne Capilouto and guest speaker,  
Delores Boyd at Sisterhood's Closing Luncheon  
on May 10th at the Museum of Fine Arts.**



On Tuesday, May 17, 2011, Jim Levy was presented with the Order of Saint Maurice, which is awarded by the National Infantry Association and the Chief of the Infantry of the United States. The ceremony was held at the National Infantry Museum in Columbus, Georgia. Jim Levy was a captain in the Infantry during World War II and was honored for his great service to our country.

The award is named after Saint Maurice and is presented to those who have made a significant contribution to the infantry. It was stated during the presentation of the award that the decision to give this medal to Mr. Levy was easy, based on his contributions and great service. Other notable recipients of the award are Colin Powell; Dale A. Dye, retired USMC Captain and founder of Warriors, Inc.; John Abizaid, U.S. Central Command commander; Edward C. Meyer, Former U.S. Army Chief of Staff; H. Ross Perot, Sponsor of Operation Eagle Claw; and Hal Moore, Retired Lt. General.

**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. We'll hear the story of Ruth, and take a look at some of the midrash and commentaries about this famous tale. I hope you can join us!

Rabbi Elliot Stevens



**AI☆EA ADULT  
EDUCATION**

Saturdays

June 4, 11, 18, 25

9:00 AM - Coffee and  
Conversation

12:00 PM - Brunch and Learn

*(Shabbat Service will begin at 9:30 AM)*

**SINGLES GROUP**

**Attention All Jewish Singles  
50 & up**

Jewish Singles 50 & Up meets at Sinclair's on Vaughn Road on Saturday, June 18th at 5:30 PM. If you are interested in attending contact: Carol Ronning at 279-0140.

service earlier this month, their third on our bimah. I’ve been part of a small group of clergy working with Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb on her Restorative Justice Initiative, and have enjoyed speaking to a number of church and civic groups about Judaism. Though I have declined many invitations, given my priorities and commitments to the Temple and our members, I continue to believe that I as your rabbi have an important role to play in the community around us. My teaching at Huntingdon has also continued, though I limit myself to one class for one semester each year. This year’s class was an introduction to the Holocaust.

This year has also been extraordinary in terms of our music. One of the great high points has to be our celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of our professional choir under Elizabeth French’s direction, and what a service it was! Dr. French remains an inspired choice as our director, and we are blessed with a choir that would do any congregation proud. We have been equally blessed that our student cantor, Andrea Rae Markowicz, was able to stay with us for a second year. I know that, once she finishes her schooling, she will quickly become one of our Movement’s great cantors, and I for one will miss her greatly next year, as she moves to another position in Maryland. Part of the fallout of the reduced state of our finances is the end of our student cantor program – just as Jeff Herring, who has also accompanied services these last two years (mostly on Shabbat morning) leaves for college.

I guess we’ll all just have to sing more!

This year we also introduced a monthly Tot Shabbat program, at 5 pm in the Library. It’s great to watch the 2- and 3-year old set dance and clap and sing our songs, as they begin what we hope is a life-long relationship with the Temple and with Judaism. We also introduced monthly Torah reading during our Friday night services, and feedback has been positive.

I sometimes hear that it’s hard to keep up with everything going on here – for we mustn’t forget the Sisterhood and Men’s Club programs, youth programming under Sharon Berry’s leadership, the L’Chaim League – led always with such excellence by Linda Smith – and the continuous and very effective programming of our Shaliach, Elad Arnon. He’ll also be missed, when he leaves at the end of this month to return to Israel. Let me commend to your attention, therefore, our website, templebethor.net, which is often consulted by visitors, but rarely used by our members. It’s very easy to navigate, has links and resources from throughout the world of Judaism, and is up-to-date with all of our many programs, and much else besides. Our profound thanks to our webmaster, Sandy Lynn Stevens.

There’s always a risk, when naming names, that someone will be left out. In thanking Sharon McDaniel for her continuous, mostly behind-the-scenes work as our Hospitality

Chair, or Clare Weil, who has volunteered to play violin during various holy days, funerals and other occasions, I also know full well that this congregation wouldn’t be what it is without the well-organized year-round efforts of our Sisterhood, or the many volunteers who take on one project after another in a way that would do any congregation proud.

I cannot let this moment pass without a comment on the letter Jenny sent to our members a few weeks ago, outlining the challenges and opportunities we face in planning for our future. My comment is not on the substance – I’ll leave that Jenny – but to reiterate what a magnificent team of leaders we have in our Executive Committee and Board of Trustees. We are indeed in very good hands, and if there is any group able to address the issues that lie before us, this is it.

Personally, I am proud to be part of such a team and to serve as your rabbi, and look forward to many more years of service in this great community.

Rabbi Elliot Stevens



**FAMILY FRIENDLY SERVICES**  
especially for babies, toddlers, kids, moms,  
dads and grandparents too!  
**5:00 - 5:30 PM in the Library**

**Next service: June 10th**

***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.***

them and so blessed that Gina is on the road to recovery.

The changes to the Constitution will allow members of the Temple be involved with committee leadership responsibilities. I urge you to consider volunteering for one of these positions.

Our Temple is facing some challenging times but we are so fortunate that our boards have taken positive measures to ensure the Temple’s future. An example is the Endowment Fund.

As I stated to you in my letter, several of us met with leaders of Agudath Israel/Etz Ahayem to begin a discussion to open the door toward more discussions in an effort to work together to strengthen the overall Jewish community in Montgomery.

I want to emphasize that “work together” does not mean “merge.”

Is this going to be easy? I don’t think

so. However, dialogue must begin now.

I commit to you again that we will be working together with Rabbi Fine and leaders of AIEA to develop meaningful questions and hold open meetings to ensure that every Temple member has an opportunity to voice an opinion regarding our future. We are committed to making sure that there are a variety of times and dates so that all Temple members may participate.

Remember, our Reform core values-the traditions as well as the way we practice our religion will not change.

We will not be moving from our Temple home here on Narrow Lane Road.

Will we need to be flexible in other areas? Probably.

But, we will not make changes without your input. I encourage you to be an active participant, not sit on the

sidelines as an observer.

What will the outcome of these discussions be? We don’t know.

However, there is no doubt that the demographics indicate that we need to work together in some fashion in order to ensure the future of the Jewish community and to strengthen our ties with one another for the generations to come. That is our responsibility.

Thank you, once again, for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president.

Jenny Ives

**NOTE: The Confirmation Service scheduled at Agudath Israel☆Etz Ahayem on Sunday evening, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. has been cancelled.**

**SUMMER ADULT EDUCATION**

**June 9, 7:00 p.m.**

**THE ORIGINS OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT: WHO ARE THE PALESTINIANS?**  
This class, taught by Rabbi Stevens, explores the background of today’s conflict – the rise of competing nationalisms in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the conflicting [and broken] Great Power promises during and after the First World War, and the different histories told by Israelis and Palestinians since 1948. We’ll review the maps and documents that tell the tale – and provide us with the documentary background to consider the prospects for peace in the future.

**July 7, 7:00 p.m.**

**THE PLATFORMS OF REFORM JUDAISM: FROM CLASSICAL REFORM TO POST-DENOMINATIONALISM**  
The American Reform rabbinate has adopted five major platforms, from the famous Pittsburgh Platform of 1885 to the “New Pittsburgh” platform of 1999. Each has tried to described what Reform Judaism teaches and stands for on the major themes of Jewish life: God, Torah, Israel, the nature of the Jewish people, the concept of “mitzvah” and the social values we espouse. This session will trace how Reform has seen itself over the years and help us to locate where we stand – what can we accept, and what views would we find unacceptable?

**REVEREND ANDREW DAWKINS TO SPEAK AT SHABBAT SERVICE**

Andrew Dawkins, Pastor of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, will speak during Shabbat services on Friday evening, June 24.

Rev. Dawkins, now retired, was active during the Civil Rights era, and continues to be an active participant in interfaith work. He is Treasurer of Interfaith Montgomery, and has participated in interfaith Holocaust Memorial services and other events. He is Chief of Chaplains Department of Veterans Affairs at Montgomery’s V.A. Hospital and Vocation Counselor for job search and development and instructor in interpersonal relationships, behavior and attitudinal adjustment, Montgomery Skills Center.

**RABBI'S ROUNDTABLE – THE SECOND TUESDAY SUMMER SERIES**

In June, July and August, join Rabbi Stevens for a bring-your-own lunch [we'll supply the drinks] to discuss issues in the news; a Jewish perspective on life's dilemmas, or questions you've always wanted to ask a rabbi.

These informal gatherings – on June 14, July 12 and August 9 – will also be a time just to catch up together over a light lunch, and share what's on your mind. All sessions start at noon in the library, and will

last about an hour.



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.

**UPCOMING MEN'S CLUB EVENT**



The next Men's Club event will be the Biscuits vs. Jackson Generals (Seattle Mariners) baseball game on Saturday, July 30th at 7:05 PM.

We'll be watching the game from the Aronov box at the Biscuit's stadium. Tickets are limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. You must be a current, paid member to attend and may invite one guest.

Call the Temple at 262-3314 to reserve your ticket or a sign-up sheet is available outside the sanctuary.

**Beyond June!**

**Thursday, July 7, 7 PM**, Adult Education: THE PLATFORMS OF REFORM JUDAISM: FROM CLASSICAL REFORM TO POST-DENOMINATIONALISM.

**Tuesday, July 12, 12 PM**, RABBI'S ROUNDTABLE – THE SECOND TUESDAY SUMMER SERIES. Join Rabbi Stevens for a bring-your-own lunch [we'll supply the drinks] to discuss issues in the news; a Jewish perspective on life's dilemmas, or questions you've always wanted to ask a rabbi.

**Friday, July 22, 11 AM**, L'Chaim League event, "Cook/Share/Taste" at Temple Beth Or. Details to come.

**Saturday, July 30, 7:00 PM**, For Men's Club Members. Biscuits Day at the Ballpark. Reservations Required. Sign-up sheet outside sanctuary.

**Tuesday, August 9, 12 PM**, RABBI'S ROUNDTABLE – THE SECOND TUESDAY SUMMER SERIES. Join Rabbi Stevens for a bring-your-own lunch [we'll supply the drinks] to discuss issues in the news; a Jewish perspective on life's dilemmas, or questions you've always wanted to ask a rabbi.

**Thursday, August 25, 10:30 AM**, L'Chaim League visits Child Protect office for

presentation. Lunch to follow nearby. Time TBD.

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

**Tuesday, November 22, 7 PM**, Joint Thanksgiving Service with First United Methodist Church. Held at TBO. Reception follows.

**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.

# June 2011

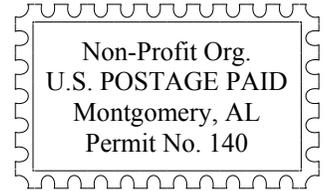
Want an updated look at what's going on at Temple? Go to [www.templebethor.net](http://www.templebethor.net).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 7 PM, <i>The Art of Classical Guitar</i> , a recital of classical guitar by our own Jeff Herring will take place in the TBO library.	3 6 PM Shabbat Service	4 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study. Light brunch served.
5	6	7 7 PM, Shavuot Service	8 <b>TBO Office closed for Shavuot.</b>	9 7 PM, Adult Education: <i>THE ORIGINS OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT: WHO ARE THE PALESTINIANS?</i>	10 5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service Library - Friday,  6 PM, Classical Service with Union Prayer Book.	11
12	13	14 12 PM, RABBI'S ROUNDTABLE - THE SECOND TUESDAY SUMMER SERIES.	15	16	17 6 PM Shabbat Service	18 5:30 PM, Jewish Singles 50 & Up meets at Sinclair's on Vaughn Road.
19 10 AM, L'Chaim League lunch at lake home of Jamie and Ricky Loeb.	20	21	22	23	24 6 PM Shabbat Service. Guest Speaker Rev. Andrew Dawkins	25
26	27	28	29	30		

# Kahl Montgomery—Temple Beth Or

2246 Narrow Lane Road  
Montgomery, AL 36106

JUNE 11 Bulletin



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TBO Office will be closed for Shavuot on Wednesday, June 8th.

**An Evening of Cabaret with Andrea Rae Markowicz that was scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup> has been postponed until further notice.**

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 Rabbi David and Janice Baylinson Social Hall on Thursday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m.