



CONGREGATION
Beth Ami

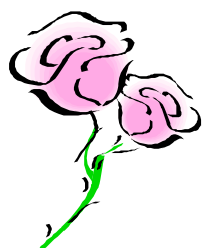
4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

Shofar

707-360-3000

AUGUST 2007

AV/ELUL 5767



*A Viennese Brunch:
A Celebration of
Elsie Rich's Birthday
Help us honor and
celebrate her on her 106th birthday.
Elsie is a blessing for
our whole community.*

*Sunday, August 5th, 11 a.m.
Friedman Center Courtyard
Congregation Beth Ami
4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa, 95405*

\$8.00 per person - reservations required

*Please call the Beth Ami office
at 707/360-3000 by
Wednesday, August 1 to
make your reservations.*



**Chaverim BBQ
Sunday, August 26
12-3 p.m.**

Join the brand new teen group for lunch, games and fun at Oak Knolls Group Picnic area at Spring Lake. There is no charge for this event but an rsvp is required for planning purposes.

Chaverim offers vibrant social and educational opportunities for 8th through 12th grade Sonoma County Jewish teens. Members meet twice a month for a director-led peer dinner discussion evening, and meet monthly for social and educational activities and community events.

Chaverim is directed and taught by Rick Concoff, MA. Events Director Sharon Benson runs the social events and brings strong, warm and friendly leadership to Chaverim.

For more information, please contact:

Rick Concoff, 823-3916 or
concoff@sbcglobal.net

Sharon Benson, 703-4244 or
sbenson@pacbell.net.

**All Jewish teens are
welcome and invited!**

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CONGREGATION BETH AMI

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(707) 360-3000

(707) 360-3003 FAX

OFFICE@BETHAMISR.ORG

WWW.BETHAMISR.ORG

RABBI GEORGE SCHLESINGER

HOURS OF OPERATION

| | Office | Library/Gift Shop |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Monday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Please call the |
| Tuesday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | office at 360-3000 |
| Wednesday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | to schedule an |
| Thursday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | appointment. |
| Friday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Regular hours will |
| Saturday | <i>closed</i> | resume after |
| Sunday | <i>closed</i> | Labor Day. |

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Director

360-3000

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USY Advisor

Chaverim Event Director

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Sharon@scusynf.com

Call the office at

360-3000 to leave

a message for:

•Rosalie Schweit,

Gift Shop Invitations

•Patty Bernstein,

Torah/Haftarah Reading

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AND BOARD OF

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2007-2008

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Nursery School Liaison

Congregation Beth Ami Mission Statement

Through celebration, learning, prayer and community, we seek to enrich our lives, transform our hearts, help heal the world and sustain our Jewish heritage.

Congregation Beth Ami Vision

A vibrant, growing campus for Jewish living where the joys of Jewish values and rituals are made accessible and relevant to the everyday lives of our members.

A flourishing, prospering congregation enjoying the wholehearted support, commitment and involvement of all our members.

DEADLINE FOR

SEPTEMBER SHOFAR

AUGUST 15, 2007

All editorial submissions must be received in the *Shofar* box in the Beth Ami office or via email on or before the deadline.

All submissions are subject to editing for clarity, brevity and content. Please submit articles as Microsoft Word documents via email attachments. Contact Karen Gould, Editor, at 360-3000 or at gouldk@sbcglobal.net with corrections, concerns or questions.

The *Shofar* is a periodical issued monthly except for a combined May/June/July issue. It is published by Congregation Beth Ami, 4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95405. All members in good standing receive the periodical free. Yearly subscriptions are \$25.00.

This month's issue is:

Volume 12

Issue 10

Issue Date: August 1, 2007



RABBI'S REMARKS

Rabbi George Schlesinger

Certain that I'm not the only one writing about the synagogue's renovation, I want, nevertheless, to comment on how exciting this summer's activity has been. From the very first day in mid-June, when the crews came to demolish the interior of the sanctuary, the social hall, the kitchen, the classrooms (12, 13, and 14), and the patio, we've seen daily progress. At each juncture, the excitement has grown and the enthusiasm for what we have begun has intensified. Those of us lucky enough to see the daily changes have been amazed at the new sense of space in the sanctuary building, and the possibilities for future use seem endless...perhaps even daunting. Without the pews, the raised Bimah, the curtain and the flooring, the room suddenly looked large and (even) majestic. Where previously the rooms (sanctuary and social hall) had looked small, there now seems to be a great expanse with endless possibilities. Of course, this was with the room totally empty. Once the new curtain is in place, once the floor is re-carpeted and re-tiled, once the new chairs are in place, the room will look smaller again, but those of us who saw the open space will remember the look and the fact that without permanent pews, there will always be the opportunity to open the room to its fullest.

Of course, the demolition happened rapidly. It's always easier to "tear down" than it is to "build up." We find ourselves in that latter stage, but even now the daily changes are noticeable and significant. Everything about the facility will be more functional and "multi-purpose." The patio has been "opened up" and there will be greater room; the gated entry from the parking lot has been expanded and widened; the lobby will be brightened with the inclusion of a skylight; the kitchen will be totally remodeled; the stage at the rear of the social hall has been removed and a new "multi-purpose" room has been created; the lighting throughout the facility has been upgraded and improved; the walls of the building have been cleaned and brightened. Most noticeable (and perhaps most jarring) of all, of course, will be the new look of the sanctuary. Removing the Bimah and the pews will make the sanctuary feel very different. It's my hope that the new configuration will also present a different psychological model of prayer and community.

Inevitably, a raised platform is a type of barrier and impediment to closeness. The "distance" between officiant and congregation is pronounced and (depending upon the height of the Bimah) exaggerated. Davening from the floor, as we do most of the time at Beth Ami, has been our way of minimizing that distance. Still, when reading from the Torah, we've been quite far removed from the congregation. Also, having fixed pews means that when sitting in the congregation, one sees only the back of the head of the person sitting in the forward pews. It's hard to see any faces, and consequently, it's harder to create a sense of community. By removing the raised Bimah, we hope to create a sense of closeness and accessibility not only to the

Ba'al Tefillah (the prayer leader) but also to the presence of God through the reading of the Torah. Just as we walk through the congregation while carrying the Torah scroll to and from the ark (signifying the accessibility of the Divine word) so too, do we wish to signify God's closeness to each individual during the reading from the scroll.

The removal of the pews is, we hope, also consistent with the desire to create closeness and community. With individual chairs we can configure the sanctuary in a myriad of ways.

Primarily, the chairs will be set in a 270-degree arc. In that way, no one will be terribly far from the reader's desk, and each person will be able to see the faces of others across the room. In addition, we will have the opportunity to anticipate the size of the congregation on any particular occasion and can set up an appropriate number of chairs, thereby creating a more intimate atmosphere whenever possible. Still, if the occasion warrants, we can reconfigure the sanctuary in a more "conventional," theater-style manner or in any way we desire. If we wish to "experiment" with various configurations, we will have that ability as well. All in all, the new arrangement will give us the flexibility to address a variety of situations and to tailor our responses to each unique occasion.

All of this activity should be just about finished by the time you read this. While certain elements will follow in the next few weeks (the completion of the kitchen, the arrival of the new chairs and the new reader's desk), the bulk of the work will be completed by the beginning of August and those of us who have been here daily hope that you will stop by to see what we have accomplished during these brief seven weeks. Certainly, we hope that you will be as excited about our new look as we are.

Hoping that the remainder of your summer is safe and productive, I look forward to seeing each of you in the fall.

RENOVATION NEWS

Andy Fleming

On June 18, work began on a major remodeling project at Beth Ami. When it is complete, by early fall, the sanctuary, social hall, kitchen, and rooms 12, 13, and 14 will be significantly renovated.

This is the third phase of the capital improvements that were initiated by the Capital Campaign, conducted in 2003-04. The first two phases included the repair of the sanctuary roof, renovations on the exterior of the sanctuary building, and the remodeling of the classrooms used by the nursery school. Originally, this current phase was to include the expansion of the site to accommodate housing the library, and a youth center. These plans proved to be prohibitively expensive, so we re-defined the scope of the third phase to include only renovations of the existing structures.

Continued on page 9



EVENTS AT BETH AMI

Rosh Chodesh Elul

On Sunday, August 12, we'll meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Beth Ami parking lot to carpool to the Robert Ferguson Observatory in Sugarloaf Park to watch the Perseid Meteor Shower.



The cost of entry to the park is \$6 per car, (so the more in a car the merrier and cheaper!) and \$3 per person to the Observatory.

Come share this cosmic event with like-minded women!

Rosh Chodesh is open to all Jewish women, no affiliation necessary!

Following a "change in format", the Beth Ami Rosh Chodesh Moon Mavens are now gathering on a monthly basis that is planned by the whole group rather than the original planning committee.

You are cordially invited to share this inspiring, uplifting monthly gathering of wonderful women! For more information please call Patty Bernstein, 546-6043 or Bonnie Boren, 528-1628.

We would like to take this chance to wish Anne Feibelman, a cherished participant at our gatherings – the very best wishes on the next leg of her life's journey. Anne is starting Rabbinical School in Philadelphia at the end of July. You remain in our thoughts, Anne, and we'll be waiting to hear from you! GOOD LUCK!

Torah & Talmud Study Thursday evenings

Talmud

August 2, 16, 30
October 11, 25
November 8, 29
December 13

Torah

August 9, 23
September 6
October 18
November 1, 15
December 6, 20

Location: Friedman Center Board Room

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Ongoing programs at Beth Ami

TUESDAY

♦ Torah study with Rabbi Schlesinger every 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Friedman Center Board Room.

♦ Israeli Folk Dancing

7 p.m., Friedman Center. For more info contact Leanne Schy at 528-4874 or Leanne@sonic.net.



THURSDAY

♦ Torah & Talmud Study with Rabbi Schlesinger,

7 p.m., Friedman Center Board Room.

Please see schedule above.

FRIDAY

♦ Shabbat Yoga, 4:30- 5:30 p.m., Lounge, 1st Friday each month. Call Hannah Caratti 578-4040 for more information.

SUNDAY

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class.

Note: JCC Exercise and Hebrew Conversation classes will resume when our renovation is complete.

A Celebration of 60 Years of Israeli Literature Lehrhaus Judaica Workshop at Beth Ami Sunday, October 14 from 1-5 p.m.

In spite of – and also because of – sixty years of turbulent history, contemporary Israeli literature is remarkably diverse and of extraordinary quality. This class is an introduction both to the breadth of that literature and to individual writers, such as Meir Shalev and David Grossman, whose creative responses to personal and political life in Israel illuminate their experiences and our understanding.

We are fortunate to have Professor Joyce Penn Moser as our instructor. Besides being a Lehrhaus instructor for the last 20 years, Professor Moser serves as Dean of the Writing and Critical Thinking

Program at Stanford. Her specialty is modern Jewish literature in general, but her passion is Israeli writers. Professor Moser plans to send out some literature for participants to read before the class.

We are timing her workshop so that interested participants will have some background should they wish to attend a lecture/discussion with Israeli writers David Grossman and Meir Shalev, to be held at the JCCSF on November 4.

The cost will be \$30 for a four-hour class, which will include coffee, tea and cookies.

Please call the office to register, 360-3000. Any questions, feel free to contact Nancy Fleming, 527-7743.





ANNOUNCEMENTS

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for all the members of the congregation who called and sent cards and had me in their thoughts after my recent operation. The doctor says I am doing well, and I am very grateful for all the healing that you sent my way.

Warmly, Marilyn Sommer

To all my Beth Ami friends,
Thank you for all the birthday wishes,

I really appreciate them.

~Helen Dresser



Job opportunity - Preschool Director

Congregation Beth Ami, a Conservative Jewish synagogue, is seeking a Director for its long-established preschool with a reputation for excellence. The new director will work with our experienced teaching staff and the synagogue administration to continue our tradition of quality early childhood education. Our curriculum is child-centered and encourages essential social skills.

Requirements: Able to meet California licensing requirements for ECE Directors and possess knowledge of or willingness to learn about Jewish culture and traditions. Bachelor's degree preferred.

Contact: To apply, please send a letter and resume to admin2@BethAmiSR.org. For further information: 360-3000.

THE BETH AMI COMMUNITY OFFERS ITS CONDOLENCES TO

Sydney Perlman and his family on the death of his wife, Bernice Perlman.

Jill and Rick Goldberg and their family on the death of Rick's mother, Delphine Goldberg.

Harry Hasin and his family on the death of his wife, Helen Hasin.

Brian and Fredrika Gross and their family on the death of Brian's father, Lyle Gross.

Esther Baruch and the Baruch-Butler family on the death of Esther's father, Aaron Baruch.



The Mitzvah Milers

Originating at Synagogue Netivot Shalom in Berkeley, the Mitzvah Milers is the Bay Area's Jewish cycling team. In addition to group recreational rides, the team participates each year in the Waves to Wine MS Bike Tour, which includes a 75-mile ride through Sonoma County, this year on Sunday, September 30. Last year, eight riders from Beth Ami took part, including Rabbi Schlesinger.



Cyclists commit to raising donations for the Multiple Sclerosis Society, with \$250 being the minimum entrance fee. If you would like to help our riders with a donation, please make a contribution to Congregation Beth Ami, noting that it is for the Mitzvah Milers. The proceeds will be passed on to the MS Society in the name of all of our riders.

If you wish to join the Mitzvah Milers and take part in the tour, contact captain Dan Siegel of Netivot Shalom, at mitzvahmilers@pacbell.net. Let him know that you are part of the Beth Ami contingent, and he will direct you to the process for registration. It's fun, and you will receive one of the cool jerseys!

~Andy Fleming

Scholarships for Jewish Education Mark Rosen, CJEEF Coordinator

Created in 1986 with a donated \$10,000 Israel Bond, the Children's Jewish Education Endowment Fund (CJEEF) was established to provide stipends to students and faculty with Jewish educational opportunities.

Our treasurer, Henry Cohn, expects on April 30, 2009 a balance of \$32,394, with interest income of over \$1,700.

Requests for financial assistance during the congregational school year can be submitted to the synagogue office Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. until Erev Rosh Hashanah (September 12, 2007).

These requests should include information about the desired program, its cost, the benefit of attending, and the amount requested (\$300-\$500).

Recipients will be notified by Erev Hoshana Rabbah (October 3, 2007).

Please consider furthering your child's Jewish education, or your own, if a Jewish educator.

August Calendar

Mazal Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah

YOUR USY Sharon Benson



SAM COHEN
AUGUST 4, 2007
20 Av 5767

Hi!

My name is Samuel Cohen and I will be having my Bar Mitzvah on August 4th.

I am very nervous, but I still believe I can accomplish my

dreams of becoming a Bar Mitzvah. This fall I will be attending Rancho Cotati High School. My hobbies are soccer and skating. When I have free time I also enjoy socializing with my friends.

I am thrilled that a lot of my family and friends from near and far will be able to celebrate with me. My two older sisters Debra and Sasha have always been there for me. My loving and devoted parents, Beverley and Jonathan, have helped and guided me and because of that I am extremely thankful.

I hope you, my Beth Ami family, will come to my Bar Mitzvah and enjoy it as much as I will. Special thanks to all of my teachers and Rabbi Schlesinger for their outstanding support and dedication.

Shalom!



MIRIAM LANE
AUGUST 11,
2007
27 Av 5767

My name is Miriam Lane and I will become a Bat Mitzvah on August 11, 2007.

I'm going into the

8th grade this fall at Middletown Middle School. I enjoy playing tennis, reading, playing games and puzzles, and using my imagination. I've been playing tennis competitively since I was 6 years old. My family and I will truly enjoy your presence at my Bat Mitzvah.

Welcome back SCUSY! I hope you had a relaxing and entertaining summer. As a result of our AMAZING 8th grade kidnap turnout, we should have an exceptional turnout at our Pool Party Kickoff event. This great event will take place Sunday, August 19, 2007 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Bring your swimsuit, towel and a Jewish friend. Since we will be serving lunch, an RSVP is necessary. We will pass out elections forms at the event, so be sure to attend!

I've worked really hard this summer putting SCUSY out there as much as possible. We have a NEW Facebook account and a NEW MySpace account! Both sites are under our chapter name SCUSYNF. I will update each site with new pictures and events.

Our calendar has been uploaded to the Bureau of Jewish Education so teens from all over the Bay Area can join us at some of our amazing events.

Don't forget to check our website (www.scusynf.com) from time to time. From pictures to flyers, convention applications to "Curious Jew" order forms; every month our Communications VP will update the site with new info. If you have any new, exciting and fresh ideas please contact me. I'll make sure to pass your info on to the correct person.

As some of you already know, SCUSY won "Flyer Design of the Year" at our past May Convention in Modesto! Congrats SCUSY!

If you have any questions, or would just like to talk, I'm always available.

Looking forward to a great year.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

David Ballo

Please welcome the following new members:

Greg and Birgit Sacher moved to Santa Rosa from the Peninsula in December 2002, not long after getting married. Greg, who is a physician at Kaiser in Santa Rosa, was born in South Africa, but moved to the U.S. as a child. He grew up in northern Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. Greg earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia, and then went to the Georgetown University School of Medicine. He did his residency at the Kaiser facility in Santa Clara. Birgit grew up in Madison, Wisconsin, where she also attended the University of Wisconsin, majoring in political science, Semitic studies, and Hebrew. Birgit went on to get a master's degree in Jewish education from Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, which included living in Jerusalem for a year, in 1994. Birgit ran the education department at Congregation Sinai in Milwaukee, and the family education program at Beth Am, in Los Altos, and has also written Torah commentary for the Reform movement. Greg and Birgit have two boys: Cadel, who is six months old, and Evan, who is three years old. Evan attends CBA's nursery school, which he enjoys very much. In their limited free time, Greg and Birgit enjoy running, cycling, and swimming, and competing in triathlons when possible. They have both completed Ironman-level triathlons (2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride, and 26 mile run, CONSECUTIVELY, ON THE SAME DAY!).



Greetings from the Beth Ami Community Nursery School (BACNS) Parents' Committee. We are writing to offer thanks to the Beth Ami Community for its ongoing support of BACNS and to introduce the Parents' Committee.

For over 25 years, the Beth Ami Community has supported and run one of the best preschools in Sonoma County. The Parents' Committee wants to thank you for this effort. Over the years, many Beth Ami members have made contributions to the BACNS Nursery School Fund. This fund has enabled the Parents' Committee to undertake a three-phase renovation. The BACNS families, teachers, & staff would like to thank you for the generous contributions you have made to this Fund.

The renovations at BACNS will begin by replacing the aging wooden play structure and improving the sand containment. The Nursery School Fund's trustees: David Ballo, Ira Rosenberg and Richard Lazovick, graciously approved the Phase I proposal. Look for the new play structure in August. We can't wait to see the faces of the children when they see their new play structure. A plaque will be mounted stating "This play structure was made possible by the generous contributors to the Nursery School Fund." Thank you for helping us to ensure the safety and joy of our children.

In order to prepare for this new play structure, the parents are organizing two work days, which include repositioning of sand in the play area and expansion of the wooden border around the new play structure. **These days are scheduled for Sunday, August 12 and 19 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Lynne Richichi at 235-2048.**

Phase II and III include landscaping, renovations to the play house and play area near the Twos' classroom, shade on the play yard, a worm box, and an additional tricycle.

The Parents' Committee is ready to welcome the 25 new families to BACNS. We will have a mentoring program matching existing parents with incoming parents to give each new family a personal welcome. We have big plans for fundraising, consisting of a silent auction/social event this Fall, a Spring Silent Appeal, and morning coffee and bagel events. We always welcome support and help from the congregation's members and Nursery School alumni families.

If you have questions or suggestions for the Parents' Committee, please contact the chair, Cheryl Willett-Ramos at 486-6135 or rayncher@sonic.net. We appreciate your input and feedback.

We're looking forward to working with the Beth Ami congregation to continue the wonderful tradition of BACNS. Thanks again for your generous contributions to the Nursery School Fund and your support of the nursery school.

Sincerely, BACNS Parents' Committee

Cheryl Willett-Ramos, Chair

Rachel Munn, Vice-Chair

Nicole Burke, Board Liaison

Only the beginning

If you have been around Beth Ami recently, you will know that this has been a most atypical summer. Usually a quiet time, this summer the synagogue is the scene of a tremendous amount of activity and disruption. This is due, of course, to the renovation of our main building, the kitchen, some classrooms, and the patio. By late August or early September, most of the work should be done. A project that has been in the works for three years will have become a reality.

While I believe that everyone will be very pleased with the result, I also know that finishing the physical renewal is only the beginning of a time of change. Our congregation is now challenged with an opportunity to look at everything we do, and to imagine how we should use our new space in the way that best achieves our vision of a vibrant spiritual community. We need to engage in an extended conversation about what that vision is, and how our use of space furthers the shaping of that vision.

For example, one of the most significant changes introduced by the renovation is in the sanctuary: there are no pews and there is no raised Bimah. This creates a space that is flexible and can be configured in many ways, not only for worship services, but also as part of the larger room that includes the social hall. And there is a new room at the south end, capable of being open to the social hall, or closed. There are many possible ways that this entire space could be used during holidays, or for Bnai Mitzvahs, or for Religious School on Sundays. Our imagination and willingness to rethink how we do things is the key to getting the most out of our new facility.

Our ability to work together is going to be vital, for although we are renovating and changing our buildings, we are not expanding them. That means that all of our activities are still competing for use in the same amount of space. Our new space is more flexible and updated, but it is now like an artist's blank canvas. It is up to us to provide the imagination, and cooperation, to create the finished work – a synagogue full of activities, fulfilling our vision of Judaism and our community.



CONGREGATION BETH AMI JUDAICA GIFT SHOP



Add to "To Do" List
IN SEPTEMBER

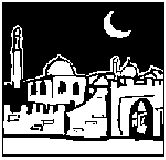
Visit Gift Shop
to see new merchandise bought at
SF Fall Gift Show!



AUGUST HOURS

Please call 360-3000 for an appointment.





ISRAEL FROM THE LEFT COAST

Eli Cohen

This column is written by friends of Bob Raful, also members of Beth Ami, who recently returned from a special trip to Israel. Here is their report:

We had the good fortune to be in Israel for the celebration of the 40th year of the reunification of Jerusalem. For Betty, this brought back memories of her first visit to Israel in 1960 when Jordan controlled the old city and they prohibited Jews from visiting or praying at our holy sites or entering any of the other areas they controlled. Now, under Israeli sovereignty, people of all religions have access to their holy sites.

Despite thunder storms that caused some events to be cancelled, thousands of Israelis came out to celebrate the occasion. The streets and sidewalks were filled with people, young and old, playing music, singing, and dancing with Israeli flags. This was a time to appreciate the diversity of Israelis as people of all ages, colors, and modes of dress, from tank tops and shorts to Chasidic suits and hats, celebrated together.

One of the purposes of our trip was to participate in a seminar on how to become more effective advocates for Israel. The three-day seminar was organized through the Coalition of Hasbara Volunteers (CoHaV), an international umbrella organization for the many volunteer Israel advocacy groups around the world.

On the first day we had a bus trip to the Golan, led by an enthusiastic, well-informed guide. Even those of us who felt we had a good understanding of the situation learned new things. The workshop on the second day provided presentations on effective letter writing led by a staff member of CAMERA, on how to use the Internet to give accurate and unbiased information about Israel, and on how to give presentations. On the final day we met at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to learn from various government ministers as well as a representative from the Jerusalem Post. Contact us if you would like to hear more about the seminar. It was so successful that another will be planned, probably in November 2008.

You can find more information about CoHaV at their web site <http://www.cohav.org>. CoHaV functions as a central hub where members exchange information and assistance on a wide range of Israel advocacy and activism issues. CoHaV is not affiliated with, nor does it advocate any political or religious viewpoint or agenda.

To become more involved in learning about or teaching others about Israel, join the Sonoma County Israel Action Committee. Contact us and we will give you more information.

Eli Cohen and Betty Boyd 707/ 537-2211 or
EliCohen@InformingScience.org

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

Patty Bernstein

Another year: setting personal goals

Here we are again—climbing the spiral staircase that is the Jewish year. Soon we'll hear the daily blasts of the shofar during Elul—meant to awaken our spirits and inspire us to begin the process of soul searching in preparation for the High Holy Days.

Each year, in addition to eager anticipation, I have a very distinct feeling of chaos. Indeed, isn't that a perfect time to put spiritual things in order, to make assessments, to look ahead, to ask forgiveness for our missteps—kind of a spiritual housecleaning and goal-setting time. This is a great opportunity to step-up your involvement with Judaism, to learn something different, to expand your horizons. If you'd like to be more involved in services, but don't really know the ropes ... we're ready to help! We have any number of very talented, knowledgeable people who can help you learn to chant Torah and haftarah, lead services (one piece at a time), read Hebrew, prepare a d'var Torah, lay tefillin, or bake a challah! We're looking for more Beth Ami folks to act as gabbaim, lift and bind Torahs, and lead part of services on Shabbat. We even have a program planned to help you learn if you'd like to give it a chance—no matter your age or gender!

C'mon ... take a leap of faith. It's a great exercise!

RENOVATION NEWS – continued from page 3

Highlights of the project include:

- Complete remodeling of the kitchen, with all new appliances, cabinetry, layout, and flooring;
- A new room, at the south end of the social hall where the stage formerly stood;
- A single-level sanctuary, using chairs instead of pews, with all new lighting, wall finishes, windows, and carpeting;
- The lobby will include new doors, a skylight, new lighting, new floor and wall finishes;
- The patio is all new, with some trees removed and a new one added, and new planters;
- Rooms 12 through 14 get new heaters and air conditioning, new carpets, and a paint job.

It has been a busy summer, and many people have been involved in making this exciting project a reality. The construction company, McDivitt and McDivitt, and the design team from Fifth Resource, are doing an exceptional job. I also wish to acknowledge and thank the members of the Facilities Committee, and some expert advisors, all of whom have contributed to our progress. They include Dave Ballo, Rhonda Rosenbach, Bonnie Boren, Stan Feingold, Bill Cordell, Bill Friedman, Al Batzdorff, Andrea Nett, Rick Goldberg, Alan Kafton, Phil Zeidman, Irv Klein, Rabbi Schlesinger, and past chairs Patie Wegman and Jon Simkovitz.

Stay tuned for an open house to show the entire congregation the fruits of our labor. I am confident that you will find it exciting.



LITERARY LINES

Susanne Batzdorff

Even though this column in the May-July *Shofar* announced my retirement as Librarian, a successor has not yet been found, and so I am writing a brief report on recent happenings in and around the Celia Gurevitch Library. With the current renovation of our campus under way, the library, though not directly implicated, was at times inaccessible, at times without electricity. We had to suspend regular operations and announce that we could only be available by special request. (Call Ruth Rosenberg at 544-2919.) Regular summer hours will resume as soon as practical.

In the meantime, however, several new developments have taken place which may be of interest to our readers.

1. The library catalog can now be viewed on line not only on the Congregation Beth Ami website but also on the JCC website.
2. In partnership with the JFCS (Jewish Family and Children's Services) we have created a new service, *Bringing the Library to You: Reading for Homebound Seniors*. Via the *Friendly Visitor Program* of JFCS, homebound seniors can request materials from our library to be brought to them on loan. For more information, call Andrea Nett at 571-8131 or contact her by email AndreaN@jfcs.org.

25th Annual Book Discussion Series 2007-2008

The last meeting of the Book Discussion Group's 24th Series took place on Wednesday, July 11 at the home of the Batzdorffs. Beverly Feldman led our discussion of Ehud Havazelet's collection of short stories *Like Never Before*, and a sumptuous potluck luncheon concluded the season.

We will hold our customary planning meeting for the 2007-2008 series on **Wednesday, August 15 at 10 a.m.** in the library. If you cannot attend the meeting, please send us your suggestions for next year by calling Susanne Batzdorff, 538-9731 or by email sbatz@sonic.net.

TOT SHABBAT

Lauren Kalmanson

Shalom ve'le'hitraot! See you in September. I want to thank everyone for their enthusiastic support for another year of Tot Shabbat.

I want to express my appreciation to Lenore Monsour for her consistent support for our Tot Shabbat program and wish her well from all of us for her new beginnings. I also want to thank Juli Scherer for all her enthusiastic support and work behind the scenes for our program. Juli, we wish you well in your new beginnings and return to Korea.

In addition, all of us at Tot Shabbat say a big thank you to: Francie for her ongoing loyalty and unfailing conscientiousness for the many details she oversees; to Jose and Guadalupe and the custodial crew for all their hard work; Elizabeth who is always so kind and helpful with administrative matters; and last but not least Yaakov, our wonderful bookkeeper. On a personal note and on behalf of all of us I wish to thank Rabbi Schlesinger for his unwavering support for our program. Special thanks to Andy Fleming, Patty Bernstein and Tish Levee for their enthusiastic greetings and visits.

Something special that touches me about our Tot Shabbat gatherings is the meaningful exchange and dialogue between our children. We are blessed with children who range between 3-7 years. We have some children who are also younger and older on both ends of the spectrum. For example, one of our children is approaching Bat Mitzvah age. The younger children marvel at her ability to sing the first paragraph of the Shema in Hebrew. There are many opportunities for children to share who they are and their teachings with all of us.

We welcome learning and sharing between generations *mi'dor le'dor*. I always love how the younger and older children love to help set up for treats and request roles in our Kiddush ceremony.

It is my hope that the spirit of giving and sharing between our children will continue and become firmly rooted in our Tot Shabbat program. Our children are our guiding light. May we be blessed to continue to provide the space for our children so we may witness the holiness they bring to all our lives. Blessings and love to all our Tot Shabbat families for all your kindness and caring you bring. We couldn't do it without you. Many thanks.



Simcha Board • Tree of Life

Honor thy mother...also thy aunt, uncle, cousin,
child, best friend, teacher with an engraved leaf
on our Simcha Board

commemorating any joyous occasion, bestowal
of an honor, or cause for thanksgiving.

• Leaf \$360 • Small Stones \$1000 • Large Stones \$2500 •

We also provide the opportunity for you to memorialize
loved ones on our Yahrzeit Board.

A plaque is \$450.





OR AMI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORT *Elisabeth Van Nuys*

"Education is that which remains when one has forgotten everything he learned at school."

Albert Einstein

Strange quote from a Jewish educator, nu? Too much sun this summer? Not really, but I have been reading an excellent biography of Albert Einstein by Walter Isaacson and I remembered this quote. It's one of the truest statements I've ever encountered.

What do *you* remember? Please, just take a minute to reflect. What do you really remember about pre-school, Kindergarten and grades one through four? Do you remember the contents from those carefully planned lessons? Really? Try to think back.

I know what I recall. My Kindergarten teacher had red hair, a quiet voice, played the piano occasionally and took us for walks. I dimly remember one such walk as being beautiful and I remember one art project. From First grade I retain the memory of a cold winter day when an unexpected hot chocolate was served to all the children, as we stood on the playground. I remember that my teacher was kind and that I loved to get the sky blue pieces of paper she handed out for every A. If you got 10 of those pretty blue papers, you could trade them in for a prize.

I loved those brilliant blue scraps. I did not consider the prizes a good enough trade and instead hoarded my bits of sky in a box and refused to give them up. Second grade—nothing. Third grade was when I discovered that you could get books for free from the school library and that



MITZVAH MOMENTS *Tish Levee*

Global warning (houses in Siberia collapsing because the permafrost is melting), wildfires across the Southwest, rising energy prices (how high WILL gas go this summer?), drought in California (the State Water Resources Board says Sonoma County must reduce water use by 15% from 7/1-10/28, but we only reduced our use by 9.9% the first 15 days of July), the mid-East situation—all the news seems overwhelming. What can we do about it, we ask? While hi-tech solutions and new legislation will help, we don't have to wait for them. There are many simple things each of us can do to reduce water and energy use—decreasing global warming. Of course this'll save us money, but it's also a mitzvah—in the long run, the mitzvah of p'kuach n'fesh—saving a life.

Here are a few simple suggestions for reducing water use, home energy consumption and gasoline use:

was the real beginning of an education that has never paused, never stopped.

I am certainly not saying that I didn't learn in school or that my teachers didn't do their job. Far from it. I went into that First grade classroom as a non-reader and emerged as an insatiable reader. I just don't remember how it happened. I learned to count, add, subtract, and multiply, but those actual learning experiences are not remembered. I do remember a terrific thunderstorm in Fourth grade. Rain poured down so hard that our classroom windows looked black. Lightning lit up the room and thunder shook the building. Yet I felt completely safe and happy in my classroom, inhaling the smell of crayons and paste, as we made Halloween decorations of pumpkins with accordion-pleated legs. I also remember that we studied the "13 original colonies and Vermont." Two other little girls and I got to be "and Vermont." That's it. "And Vermont" is branded in memory.

What happened to the rest of the curriculum? I don't know. I've forgotten.

The memories I *have* kept all have something in common. Do you see what remained? I had more *good* school experiences than *bad* ones and that meant that I liked school, liked going there, liked being there and that was a very good base for the education that followed.

I've thought about this a lot this summer and decided that what I'd like to offer our children is a school environment that, while it teaches Hebrew, prayer, history and more, will also be an environment that will create *good* experiences and memories for our students. If we can do that, then we will have created a solid base for Jewish life and Jewish learning. And that's what we intend to do this year; that's our goal. The teachers and I have met, planned and plotted and we have some exciting things scheduled to create a really memorable year. We can't wait to see you all in September and get started.

Enjoy the rest of your summer, Elisabeth

(P.S. I'll bet you thought I'd write about the renovation.)

- ❖ Save 2-3 gallons of water/minute by turning the water off when you are brushing your teeth, rinsing dishes or shaving.
- ❖ Save up to \$15/year per light by switching to CFCs (compact fluorescent bulbs)—based on using it 4 hours/day, 31 days/month, at our PGE rates. They're a lot cheaper than they used to be, last 8-10 times longer than incandescent bulbs and each one saves the equivalent of 500 pounds of coal over its lifetime.
- ❖ Put your computer to sleep, 12 hours a day, when you aren't using it, and save as much as \$118 a year, depending on your computer.
- ❖ Increase your mileage by 1-2 mpg just by keeping your tires properly inflated.
- ❖ For more ideas, look here in the future or check out these sites on the web: www.greenribbonpledge.org, www.sonomacountywater.org, and at www.pge.com/, click on ClimateSmart.



GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

The next time you are looking for a meaningful way to celebrate a joyous occasion, remember a loved one, or comfort a mourner, please consider a donation to Congregation Beth Ami.

When you make a gift, a card is sent to the honoree or the family and your donation is proudly acknowledged in the *Shofar*.

The minimum donation for each occasion is \$7.50. Congregation Beth Ami truly appreciates your support.

CBA ENDOWMENT FUND

In honor of Marcia Gladstone, to commemorate Sam Haley's Bar Mitzvah

Jamie Schaffner and Melissa Mendonca

CJEEF

In memory of Jane's father, Nathan Paul
In memory of Ross's grandfather, Samuel Jones

Ross Jones & Jane Paul
In memory of Lillian Brosbe
The Brosbe Family

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Hella Margolin
Raynore & Verne Paule
Evelyn Margolin
Margot Oppenheimer
Ira & Ruth Rosenberg
Constance Sherak
Alison Hertz

In honor of Rabbi & Paula Schlesinger's 35th anniversary
In honor of David Kahn's birthday
In honor of Nathaniel Morrison's continuing recovery
In blessed memory of Ellen Brosbe's father, David Abrahams; Hella Margolin; and Michael & Yvonne Abrams

Henry Cohn
A thoughtful donation
Betty Boyd

In memory of Ellen Brosbe's father, David Abrahams; Susy Boimoil's father, Martin M. Boimoil; Michael & Yvonne Abrams; and Hella Margolin

Adrea & Howard Moss
In honor of David Kahn's birthday
In memory of Anna Stein

Bob & Susy Raful
In honor of Susy & Bob Raful's wedding anniversary

Evey & Lou Abramowitz
In honor of Mila Gould's Bat Mitzvah
In memory of Tom Fleming
In memory of Bernice Perlman
In honor of Juli Scherer for her work as CBA Executive Director

Andy & Nancy Fleming
In honor of the birthdays of: Noorillah Karr, Edith Newman, Evelyn Gurevitch, Whitey Serman, Jeanne Crump

Tova Rostov, Ruth & Ira Rosenberg
Myrna Morse, Esther Baruch, Helen Dresser, Andrea Nett, and Susan Milstein
In honor of Jon and Rose Batzdorff's anniversary
In honor of Elliot Morrison and Susan Milstein's anniversary
In memory of my beloved mother
In honor of Bob & Susy Raful's anniversary
Mazel Tov to Al & Susanne Batzdorff and Jon & Rose Batzdorff on the marriage of your granddaughter and daughter, Lisa

Sylvia Sucher
In honor of Yona & Eli Millers' new granddaughter, Maya

Rhonda & John Rosenbach
A generous donation
Darrell Watkins

Mazel Tov to Anne Feibelman for being accepted to rabbinical school
In honor of Sylvia Sucher's birthday
In honor of Marilyn Diamond's birthday
Mazel Tov to Jon & Rose Batzdorff on the marriage of their daughter, Lisa

Edith Newman
In honor of the birthdays of Susanne Batzdorff, Evelyn Gurevitch, Sylvia Sucher and Esther Baruch
In memory of Bernice Perlman
In honor of Mila Gould's Bat Mitzvah
In honor of the birthdays of Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Press

Sheyna Bakman
In honor of the Bar Mitzvahs of Sam Haley and Sam Cohen
In honor of the Bat Mitzvahs of Mila Gould, Hannah Baurer, Miriam Lane
Speedy recovery to Howard Moss and Marilyn Sommer

In memory of Bernice Perlman, Helen Hasin, Delphine Goldberg and Lyle Gross
In memory of Oscar & Betty Mann
Mazel Tov to Ira & Marlene Lowenthal on their son's marriage
Mazel Tov to the Batzdorff families on Lisa's marriage
Speedy recovery to Bev Cohen

The Ballo Family
In memory of my father, Abe Shapiro
Raynore Paule

In memory of my parents and sisters
Lillian Judd

A generous donation
Lindsey Kvam

In memory of Stu's mother, Bertha Schy
In honor of Evelyn Gurevitch's birthday

Stuart & Ethel Schy
In honor of Phyllis Shapiro's 75th birthday
In honor of Edith Newman's 84th birthday

Marvin & Sheila Hyman
In memory of Bernice Perlman
In honor of Sandy Berman's 90th birthday

Rosalie & Lester Schweit
In memory of Bernice Perlman
In honor of Greta Winter's birthday
In honor of Helen Dresser's birthday

Edith Newman
In honor of Evelyn Gurevitch's birthday
Tish Levee

In honor of Phyllis Shapiro's birthday
In memory of Bernice Perlman
In honor of Evelyn Gurevitch's birthday
In honor of Sylvia Sucher's 95th birthday
Helen Dresser

In honor of Whitey Serman making the big time!

Jan Harris & Matz Sandler
In memory of Hyman Berman
Sanford Berman

In memory of Sandor Garam
Jon & Rose Batzdorff
A thoughtful donation
Juli Scherer

In memory of Lyle Gross
Robin Rose

A generous donation
Betty Boyd and Eli Cohen

In memory of Delphine Goldberg
Ed & Nancy Sherman
Al & Susanne Batzdorff
Lauren Newman

Mazel Tov to Joslyn Metzger on completing her Masters Thesis for her M.S.W.

Noorillah Karr
In memory of Bluma Ridnitskaya
Marina & Iosif Voulfson
In memory of my uncle, Louis Stein
Bob Raful

A thoughtful donation
Bill & Kim Cordell

In appreciation of the Rabbi, Marcia Gladstone, Elisabeth Van Nuys & Karen Gould

In memory of Delphine Goldberg Mazel Tov to Sam Haley, Mila Gould and Avi Ballo

The Baurer Family

In memory of my mother, Lucille Lachman
Vivian Salmon

Thank you Juli, L'hitraot - The Israeli Dancers

Leanne Schy

In memory of my sister, Golda Nemchenko
Sarah Tyutinman

In memory of Helen Hasin

In memory of Delphine Goldberg

Audrey Darby

In memory of Delphine Goldberg

In honor of Marge Ballo's graduation from SSU!

Judi Rosenthal

Grateful for Sanford Bressick's friendship

Michael Hyman

A thoughtful donation

Miriam Rubinstein

Karen Brodsky

In memory of my mother, Liza Katsman

Zoia Katsman

In memory of my mother, Sophie Sisenwein

Shirley Rosaler

In memory of my parents, Edwin & Marion Dudley

Ruth Wilson

In memory of Nettka Taubner

Susy Raful

HARRIS FUND

In honor of the college graduation of Ruben Brooke

The Greensweig Family

LIBRARY FUND

With thanks to Al & Sue Batzdorff and all who participated in morning minyan

Tish Levee

In memory of Abe Maurer

In honor of Bob & Susy Raful's 60th wedding anniversary

In honor of Susanne's work at the library

In honor of Sylvia Sucher's 95th birthday

In honor of Francie's help in the kitchen

Susan Miller

In honor of receiving the 1st aliyah on the last day of Pesach

Ed & Lola Brosbe

In memory of Fraeda Dubin

Stu & Ethel Schy

In memory of David Abrahams

In memory of Hella Margolin

Speedy recovery to Susanne Batzdorff

Beverly & Norman Feldman

In memory of my brother, William

Elsie Rich

In memory of Saul Quinn

Robert Quinn

MALK FUND

In honor of Phyllis Shapiro's birthday

Greta Winter

Dorothy Gerstein

In memory of Hella Margolin

In honor of Greta Winter's birthday-

Happy Birthday! With love, Phyllis & Everett

Mazal Tov to Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Davis on the birth of your new grandson

Phyllis & Everett Shapiro

Happy 75th Birthday to Phyllis Shapiro

Carol Newman

In memory of Hella Margolin

In memory of Michael & Yvonne Abrams

In honor of Bob & Susy Raful's

anniversary

In honor of the three cantors - Werner Berg, Brooke Kantor, & Lou Menachof

In honor of the birthdays of: Evelyn

Gurevitch, Edith Newman, Whitey

Sterman, Helen Dresser, Sylvia Sucher

The Brosbe Family

In memory of my father

Everett Shapiro

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

In honor of Gabe & Micah Condiotti's Bar Mitzvah

In memory of Hella Margolin

Speedy recovery to Howard Moss

The Ballo Family

In memory of William Spiegelman

Gail Negrin

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Fritzi Oppenheimer

Margot Oppenheimer

In memory of our daughter, Lauren Alyse Charp 5/10/75-4/10/01

Marsha, Ken, Ryan, Darin Charp and their families

In memory of David Abrahams, Ellen

Brosbe's father

In memory of Victor & Esther Charp

In honor of the birth of Zeejay Charp-Cantor

Marsha & Ken Charp and Family

Thank you for the sale of Hametz

In appreciation for conversation

Carol Appel

In appreciation of the calls, cards, and visits while I was ill

Lillian Judd

In memory of Yefim Friedland

Sheyna Bakman

For Darfur

Lindsey Kvam

In memory of Abraham Backman

Roslyn Edelson

In memory of Bertha Krubiner

Alan Krubiner

In memory of my father, Saul Meltzer

Allan Meltzer

A thoughtful donation

Karen Brodsky

Miriam Rubinstein

In memory of my loving father, Ben Rogan

Jane Rogan-Dwight

In memory of my father, Richard Hyman

Judi Rosenthal

In memory of Jane's brother, Robert Paul

In memory of Lyle Gross

In memory of Pete Schneider's wife, Leslie Litvak

Ross Jones & Jane Paul

In honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Bob & Susy Raful

Dr. & Mrs. Michael Mendelsohn

In memory of Bessie Tsipan

Malvina Tsipan

In memory of Fanny Blau

Shari & Alan Kafton

In memory of my husband, Stanley L. Friedman

Natalie Friedman

In memory of Ronda Lynn Heard

Stanley Feingold

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In memory of Shirley's father, Albert Sisenwein

Shirley & Bob Rosaler

In memory of Eli's father, Ruben Miller

Eli & Yona Miller

A generous donation

Darrell Watkins

In loving memory of Hella Margolin

In honor of the Bar Mitzvahs of Avi Ballo and Jerry Wilson

Elisabeth Van Nuys

In honor of the Or Ami teachers and Madrichim

The Kreger Family

In memory of Bernice Perlman, Delphine Goldberg, Helen Hasin, Lyle Gross

In honor of Devon Greensweig receiving her MBA

The Brosbe Family



AUGUST YAHRZEITS

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death
Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day
All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami

Announced on July 27th and 28th

July 28 Irving Marder
Father of Valerie Kreger
July 28 Herbert Newman
Father of Carol & Michael Newman and
Husband of Edith Newman
July 31 Roberta Biletsky
Sister of Sasha LaHaye
July 31 Sylvia Goldman
Mother of Ben Goldman
August 1 Chaim Taubinsky
Father-in-Law of Dora Taubinsky
August 1 Beckie Trichter
Mother of Julius Trichter
August 2 Gladys Schor
Mother of Sylvia Boorstein
August 3 Eleanor Newcomb
Mother of Leena Newcomb
August 3 Miriam Simon
Sister-in-Law of Benny Friedman

Announced on August 3rd and 4th

August 4 Goldie Quinn
Mother of Robert Quinn
August 6 Esther Kriegsfeld Greenspan
Grandmother of Bruce Stolbov
August 6 Victor Monoson
Brother of Rosalie Schweit
August 8 Willy Cohn
Father of Debbie & Henry Cohn and
Lydia Ross
August 8 Julian Streitfeld
Brother-in-Law of Ricki Streitfeld
August 9 Jack Dranow
Father of Jeffery Dranow
August 10 Alice S. Miller
Mother of Susan Miller

Announced on August 10th and 11th

August 13 Vladimir Zelichenok
Brother of Dr. Rimma Rivkin
August 14 Max Eisenberg
Grandfather of Vivian Frye
August 14 Josephine Sherman
Mother of Edward Sherman
August 15 Clarence Rambo
Grandfather of Hope Rambo
August 15 Berek L. Winter
Husband of Greta Winter
August 17 Fred Pechner
Brother of Joyce Zenick

Announced on August 17th and 18th

August 18 Joseph Raful
Father of Robert Raful
August 18 Sarah Estrin
Grandmother of Charlene Bornstein
August 19 Emil Tsipan
Husband of Malvina Tsipan
August 19 Herbert Herritt
Husband of Rosalind Herritt
August 20 Irving Welch
Father of Ron Welch
August 21 Esta Fuchsberg
Sister of Louis Abramowitz
August 22 Ethel Bromberg
Sister of Helen Dresser
August 22 Irving Gordon
Father-in-Law of David Rubin and
Grandfather of Elizabeth Stalker
August 22 Joyce Vrobel
Mother of Laura Alexander
August 24 Dorothy Drain
Grandmother of Janet Stein-Larson
August 24 Esther Steinberg
Mother of Morris Steinberg

Announced on August 24th and 25th

August 25 Elie Negrin
Husband of Gail Negrin,
Father of Ronit Sepulveda
August 25 Max Rostov
Father-in-Law of Tova Rostov
August 26 William Hahn
Father of Edith Newman
August 27 David J. Katz
Father of Audrey Darby
August 27 Martin Joseph Klein
Brother of Ricki Streitfeld
August 27 Selby Morse
Husband of Myrna Morse
August 29 Doris Ann Cohen
Mother of Ira Cohen
August 29 Arthur Karr
Father of Noorillah Karr
August 30 Audrey Schoen
Sister of Phyllis Shapiro
August 31 Robert Karr
Brother of Noorillah Karr
August 31 Angela Ruth Kupperberg
Wife of Michael Kupperberg

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

2 Joelle and Mark Burnette
2 Carol Newman-Wardwell &
Brad Wardwell
15 Michael & Sheri Haiman
6 Gary & Barbara Greensweig
8 Adolf & Sarah Tyutinman
10 Jonathon & Susy Lipsin
11 Michael & Lauren Newman
11 Verne & Raynore Paule
12 Ethan & Michelle Glaubiger
12 Brian & Fredrika Gross
12 Dan & Blair Pleasant
13 Jonathan & Valerie Kreger
16 Bill & Kim Cordell
22 Lawrence & Judith Wallcave
24 Lester & Rosalie Schweit
25 Sanford & Joanne Bressick
28 Jon & Julie Simkovitz

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Dylan Cohen
1 David Root
1 Tad Shapiro
3 Alan Kafton
3 Rieve Rockwell
4 Suzie Friedman
4 Lisa Hirschmann
4 Robert Schilling
6 Elsie Rich
6 Joyce Zenick
7 Mort Weiss
8 Howard Moss
10 Jonathan Kreger
10 Marilyn Salsman Stockfleth
11 Barbara Duchon
11 Mark Sutter
12 Lyla Nathan
12 Robin Winning
12 Beverley Cohen
14 Sasha LaHaye
14 Francie Rogovin
14 Stuart Schy
15 Michael Shapiro
16 Sydney Perlman
17 Susy Boimoil Lipsin
17 Carol Newman-Wardwell
17 Donald Crump
24 Jodi Cohen
24 Vivian Frye
24 Jonathon Lipsin
24 Signe Minuskin
25 Susan Miller
26 Marc Bernstein
27 J. J. Fitzgibbons
27 Gregory Sacher
28 Jon Simkovitz
29 Larry Klapow
29 Paul Kobetz
31 Randy Mann

JEWISH COMMUNITY EVENTS

Jewish Family and Children's Services

571-8131

Driver needed for JCFS RIDES, a program of Seniors-at-Home

Please contact Vicki at 303-1532 or email Vickiw@jfcfs.org.

We are seeking a friendly person to transport seniors to appointments in the community, using a van with a wheelchair lift. Must possess a valid California Driver's License, with a good driving record. Prefer an individual who is mechanically minded with basic trouble-shooting skills. Flexible hours. \$12.00 per hour.

JCFS RIDES is designed to help seniors go to medical appointments and Jewish community activities. Rides are \$5 per destination (\$10 round trip). There is a \$30 annual enrollment fee that includes an in-home interview.

Volunteers for the 4th Annual Chicken Soup Bowl

For more information please contact Andrea Nett, Volunteer Coordinator, 303-1502 or email, Andrean@jfcfs.org.

We are currently seeking volunteers to make this Chicken Soup Bowl the most successful yet. The **Chicken Soup Bowl** is designed to raise funds to support our local programs: Seniors-At-Home, Parents Place, Financial Aid Center and Adult Services.

Make a difference in the lives of our community's seniors! The **JFCS Senior Companion** program serves a variety of individuals who could benefit from increased social contact. This could be due to a recent loss, depression or isolation for a variety of reasons. If you love working with seniors, have patience and compassion, this opportunity is for you! We offer excellent training, ongoing supervision and support. Volunteer commitment of two hours weekly.

Friendship Circle

A Program of the Jewish Community Center of Sonoma County

For more information about Friendship Circle programs, Barbara Scharf, 528-1182.

There will be no regular Friendship Circle Luncheons in August due to summer schedule and no regular Friendship Circle Luncheons in September due to the Jewish High Holiday schedule. Friendship Circle Luncheons resume October 8 and 22.

Please Join Us On August 19th at 2 PM

For Our

ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE MEMBERSHIP TEA

Be our Guest!! The Friendship Circle Advisory Committee would like to honor you at our annual Membership Tea. Your membership dues allow us to continue providing the wonderful, stimulating programs we offer each year. We sincerely appreciate your support and would like to treat you to

Entertainment, Door Prizes, Coffee, Tea and Treats.

Join us on Sunday afternoon, August 19th from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Friedman Event Center, 4676 Mayette, Santa Rosa.

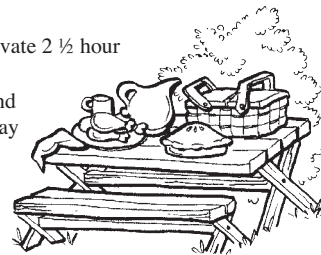
If you have not yet sent in your annual dues, it's not too late! Please send a check to Friendship Circle, 3859 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95405. \$40 Individual and \$60 Couple. If you want to bring a guest who is not a member of Friendship Circle, the charge will be \$10. You **must make reservations** in advance by calling Barbara Scharf at 528-1182 or Elly Cohen at 528-1476 by August 15th. **We hope to see you there.**

If you aren't sure if your dues are current, please call Dena Peacock at the JCC office 528-4222 and she will be able to tell you.

di Rosa Art & Nature Preserve Private Tour and Gourmet Box Lunch

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE IS HAVING A SILENT AUCTION, THE EASY WAY. WE WILL AUCTION OFF THIS FANTASTIC TOUR AND LUNCH TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2007.

- di Rosa Art & Nature Preserve of Napa has generously donated a Private 2 ½ hour Tour for up to 25 invitees of the lucky winner
- Tour to be led by the Curator of the di Rosa, Art History Professor and Gallery Director of Sonoma State, Michael Schwager, and Docent Ray Kaplan
- Preferred Catering of Petaluma will provide a Gourmet Box Lunch served in the beautiful 150 year old Olive Grove after the tour
- An extraordinary opportunity for 25 people to explore and enjoy nearly 2300 works of contemporary art in all media by more than 900 Northern California Artists, in this Preserve located on 217 scenic acres in the Carneros Region of Southern Napa Valley
- di Rosa Art & Nature Preserve is a gift to the public from the passionate art collector, Rene di Rosa
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CONGREGATION BETH AMI RESPONSE FORM

Mail/Fax/Bring this form with payment to Beth Ami, 4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Names: _____

(Please include the names of all dinner attendees and/or well wishers)

Phone: _____

August BBQ & Barchu **FRIDAY, AUGUST 3**

6:00 P.M. DINNER

(RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)

7:30 P.M. FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES

8:30 P.M. ONEG

of adults _____

Adult @ \$12 each = _____

of youth _____

Youth (6-12) @ \$7 each = _____

Amount enclosed for this event _____

RVSP By Friday, July 27 to avoid late fee!

High Holy Day Greetings

Send your warm wishes to the Jewish community. Greetings will be published in the September *Shofar* and in a special High Holy Day email.

Text of greeting: _____

\$18 per greeting

**Greeting text due in the
Beth Ami office by August 15.**



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HIGH HOLY DAYS 5768/2007

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Selichot | Saturday, September 8 | 9:00 pm |
| Rosh Hashanah Eve | Wednesday, September 12 | 7:30 pm |
| 1 st Day | Thursday, September 13 | 9:00 am |
| Tashlich | Thursday, September 13 | 5:00 pm |
| 2 nd Day | Friday, September 14 | 9:00 am |
| Shabbat Shuvah | Friday, September 14 | 7:30 pm |
| | Saturday, September 15 | 9:30 am |
| Kol Nidre | Friday, September 21 | 6:45 pm |
| Yom Kippur | Saturday, September 22 | 10:00 am |
| Shofar (Break-fast) | Saturday, September 22 | 7:47 pm |
| Sukkot 1 st Day | Thursday, September 27 | 9:30 am |
| Sukkot 2 nd Day | Friday, September 28 | 9:30 am |
| Shabbat Chol HaMoed | Friday, September 28 | 7:30 pm |
| | Saturday, September 29 | 9:30 am |
| Shemini Atzeret | Thursday, October 4 | 9:30 am |
| Simchat Torah | Thursday, October 4 | 7:30 pm |
| | Friday, October 5 | 9:30 am |

AUGUST SERVICES

Friday Evening, August 3

(Candle Lighting: 8:01 pm)

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Dinner

Barbecue and Barchu

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, August 4 • 20 Av

9:30 am Shabbat Ekev

Sam Cohen, son of Beverley and Jonathan Cohen,
will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah.

Hosted luncheon following services

(Saturday Havdalah: 9:02 pm)

Friday Evening, August 10

(Candle Lighting: 7:53 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, August 11 • 27 Av

9:30 am Shabbat Re'eh Services

Miriam Lane, daughter of Martha and Boyd Lane,
will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah.

Hosted luncheon following services

(Saturday Havdalah: 8:53 pm)

Friday Evening, August 17

(Candle Lighting: 7:44 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, August 18 • 4 Elul

9:30 am Shabbat Shoftim Services

Susanne Batzdorff will be honored for her 25 years
of service to the Celia Gurevitch Library.

Hosted luncheon following services

(Saturday Havdalah: 8:43 pm)

Friday Evening, August 24

(Candle Lighting: 7:35 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, August 25 • 11 Elul

9:30 am Shabbat Ki Tetze Services

Sylvia Sucher will celebrate her 95th Birthday

Hosted luncheon following services

(Saturday Havdalah: 8:32 pm)

Friday Evening, August 31

(Candle Lighting: 7:24 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, September 1 • 18 Elul

9:30 am Shabbat Ki Tavo Services

Potluck lunch following services

(Saturday Havdalah: 8:21 pm)

If you have need of a minyan (e.g. to say Kaddish), please call
the office a week ahead of time to arrange for a morning service.