

#### THE NEWSLETTER OF

#### CONGREGATION BETH JACOB

מה-מבו אהליך, יעקב, משכנתיך, ישראל!

"How lovely are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel!"

July/August 2008

CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

Sivan/Tamuz/Av 5768



#### **HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY**

There's no skirting around the reality that it has been a tough year. Gas prices continue to rise, the economy looks bleak, the job market is suffering and every time I turn on the news there is another negative story. Ok, I know, that was not the best introduction to this piece. But there is a reason for my statement. We are about to celebrate Independence Day. And while many of us may just think of it as a day off from work, it is a day dedicated to the celebration of our nation.

Now this is why I mentioned previously, that with the current state of our great country, it may be difficult to celebrate all of the amazing gifts we are privy to as American's. But I implore upon you to give yourself one day to reflect upon the benefits we have as members of a free society, and ask you to act upon the freedoms we have. When you think about the cost of another tank of gas and how you may not want to incur the cost, exercise your right of freedom of choice and chose to do something else, like spend time with your family, or your freedom of religion and join your "family" at shul. It is an amazing gift we are given to be born and raised in this country and to have the freedoms, and rights we take advantage of every day. I do not attempt to gloss over or make light of the hardships we all may be undertaking in different ways with the state of our nation, but I do hope to put into perspective the choices we have. So with that, I wish you and your family a very Happy Independence Day and I hope you choose to spend your holiday the way you will most enjoy.

Best Wishes, Stefanie Zeitz Editor

#### SHAVU'OT SERVICES ON A SWELTERING SUNDAY

Our Congregation observed the Festival of Shavu'ot on Sunday evening, June 8, during a service at the Synagogue. (It was the hottest



day of the year). We are especially proud members of our Confirmation class who took part in this service: Marc Adelman, Maya Bridgewater, Erica Burke, Ayllon Chalif, Cassie Kirby, Shane Smith and Ben Waltuch.

# Reminder!

#### **HIGH HOLIDAYS ARE COMING**

The dates according to the Jewish calendar are the same as always. Still, the Holidays will seem to come late this year because we are in a leap year, not only in the civil calendar, but in the Jewish calendar as well.

Rosh Hashanah begins <u>Monday evening</u>, <u>September 29</u> with the <u>First Day</u>—Tuesday, September 30 and <u>Second Day</u>—Wednesday, October 1 Yom Kippur begins <u>Wednesday evening</u>, <u>October 8</u> and the following <u>Day of Yom Kippur</u>—Thursday, October 9.

For information about Allyot and other Torah Honors and other forms of special participation in any of our services, please contact Seth Teles, chair of the ritual Committee at 508-746-5607

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Submission Information: Stefanie Zeitz 98 Early Red Circle Plymouth, MA 02360 508-224-4786 stefaniezeitz@aol.com

### WHERE ARE YOU?

Have you changed your telephone number or email address?
Please send an email to
<u>cbjpresident@yahoo.com</u>to update your
information in the new
CBJ directory.

#### **YAHRZEIT**

Yahrzeit Observance begins the evening before the date shown "May the Memory of each one abide as a Blessing"

[Some customs associated with Yahrzeit observance are: lighting a memorial candle at home in the evening at the beginning of the Yahrzeit period; saying Kaddish during a Shabbat service close to the Yahrzeit; donat-

ing to a charity or one of CBJ's special funds in memory of the one whose Yahrzeit is being observed.]

<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>
1—Frances Taub	1—Gladys Reuben
2—Louis Koplan	4—Julius Cohen
3—Zelda Selya	9—Bert Sternfield
Silverman	11—Judah James
7—Mary Minsky	Evans
Milton Moore	Martyrs of
8—David Starr	Mazeikiai
11—Alice Harris	14—Jack Bernard
Jack Swartz	16—Abraham Sherman
14—Frances Strauch	Esther Wisoff
15—Kurt Weishaupt	17—Gunnar Carlson
18—Edward R. Bloom	20—Lillian Gilbert
22—Harry Minsky	21—Anna Wolfe
Jack Minsky	24—Harold Samuel
23—Melinda	Finer
Hightower	25—Gertrude B. Klasky
Selma Leopold	Nathan Levy
25—Roslyn Jarmel	30—Milton Geller
27—Mary Cohen	Sophie Levy
29—Elizabeth Greene	Phyllis Bell
Seymour Lutsky	O'Connor

#### YOM HA-SHOA PARTICIPATION THIS YEAR

Congregation Beth Jacob hosted, once again, our community's interfaith observance of Yom Ha-Shoa (Holocaust Memorial Day) on Wednesday evening, April 30. Sponsored by the Plymouth Area Interfaith Clergy Association and by the Town of Plymouth's



"No Place for Hate" Committee, the event drew participants from several towns in our area, including ministers from Bourne, Carver, Kingston, Plymouth and Sandwich. The Roman Catholic community was represented by Father John Kears of Saint Mary's Church in North Plymouth. Our Cantorial intern, Elise Barber, took part in the ceremonies, alongside Rabbi Silverman, who expressed particular satisfaction that many students had attended the memorial observance this year.

#### **DONATIONS**

From Rose Geller
"In memory of Joseph Geller"
2 donations—one to the Beth Jacob Trust
Fund and one to the
Translation Project

"ELUL CANTORIAL MUSIC PROGRAM FUND"

**ANNE GELLER** 

ADELAIDE LELYVELD

**FEINGOLD FAMILY** 

**CANDACE AND ROY STILLERMAN** 

#### RABBI'S TELEPHONE CALLING INFORMATION

Rabbi Silverman is generally reachable directly during the following hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday
10 am -12 pm
The special number is 508-322-0514

#### RABBI'S MITZVAH FUND

Anonymous

New "Likrat Shabbat" Siddur In Loving Memory of JACK MINSKY

By Harriette Minsky

In Honor of Cassie Kirby on becoming her Bat Mitzvah, By her Mom, Dad and Sister, Robin and John Kirby and Melissa

The Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund supports special educational and charitable projects for the Congregation and in its name. Gifts in any amount are always welcome, and are acknowledged to the donor and/or to the honoree or to the family of one who has been remembered. Please direct gifts and instructions to Rabbi Silverman. (Checks payable to CBJ-Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund)

Your support is always appreciated.

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NOW HEAR THIS! LOTS OF GOOD THINGS are about to happen in Adult Ed when the new season begins.

#### Among them:

Shabbat, it's a grand night for singing. On some Fridays, before evening services, Cantor Elise Barber plans to teach ritual melodies to the grown-ups. We know many CBJ members love to sing and this will be a fabulous learning opportunity. All welcome. Details TBA.



WHAT ELSE would you like to learn through CBJ Adult Ed? To tailor our programs to your tastes we need your input. Look for a user-friendly preference questionnaire (also in the August mail) and on the web site.



Do you have to believe in God to be a good Jew?
What is in the Jewish Bible?
What is the most important Jewish Holiday?
What one commandment supercedes all the rest?
What does Judaism teach about heaven and hell?
How and why has Judaism survived for so long?
What is ethical monotheism?
Does Judaism teach that Jesus was a prophet?
Why is it necessary to belong to a Jewish Community?
How can I learn more about Basic Judaism?

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questions and more. This course will be offered over three consecutive Saturday nights, with babysitting provided, so that everyone and anyone who wants to is able to attend...interfaith couples, Beit Sefer teachers, singles, parents, grandparents, teenagers, all seekers of knowledge about Judaism and the Jewish roots of Jesus. Our own Geveret Aharoni will be the instructor. She has recently taught this course based on "The Taste of Judaism" curriculum to The Second Church in Manomet and has been a facilitator for the Catholic-Jewish Dialogue of the South Shore. It is for members of CBJ, their families and friends. Attendance is free, but a reservation will be required.



What is the most important Jewish Holiday?

Did you say Passover? Chanukah? Yom Kippur? Nope! Think again.

A basic Judaism course will be presented in the fall to answer all of these

If you said Shabbat, you are correct!

No other holiday is mentioned in the Ten Commandments. It is the fourth commandment. "Remember the Sabbath Day to Keep It Holy." How special is that? Shabbat is one of Judaism's great survival techniques. As much as we have kept the Shabbat, it has kept us!

And how lucky are we? It comes once a week!

So, that is 52 opportunities to celebrate Shabbat every year.

CBJ asks each family unit to help our congregation celebrate Shabbat at least once a year by sponsoring one Oneg Shabbat.

What is an Oneg Shabbat? It is the Joy of the Sabbath. A time to gather for

noshing and socializing after Kabbalat Shabbat services on Friday evenings.

You are asked to provide the refreshments, to set up before and clean up afterwards. And everyone loves you for doing it!

We have 120 family units. There are 52 Fridays. It is not rocket science to figure this should be easy to cover every Friday on the calendar.

There is nothing more disappointing than coming down to the vestry after services and seeing an empty table! And we have a Simcha Shabbat at the beginning of each month. Have a celebration you want to share? A birthday? Naming? Bar/Bat Mitzvah? Anniversary? New baby? Here is your opportunity.

So pick a Friday and contact Barbara Aharoni, our Oneg Shabbat chairperson at 508-747-0805 or ahaba@junto.com. | Don't know Barbara? She'll be the woman coming around with a calendar at all CBJ events to get you signed up.



## CBJ EVENT NEWS AND INFORMATION



#### SIMCHA BLESSINGS

The first Shabbat service of every month we will be bestowing a special blessing for your Simchas during the service. Birthdays, Anniversaries, get wells, great report cards, new job, retirement ~ whatever you wish to celebrate for that month. This is for adults and children. Be called to the Bimah with others celebrating that month and share with the congregation.

SEARCH FOR MEMORABILIA FOR 100th ANNIVERSARY OF PLYMOUTH'S CONGREGATION BETH JACOB

SHEILA J. FINER, PRESIDENT OF CONGREGATION BETH JACOB OF PLYMOUTH, ANNOUNCED THAT THE YEAR 2009 WILL BE THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SYNAGOGUE.

DURING THOSE 100 YEARS MANY ANECDOTES HAVE BEEN GATHERED ....BUT MANY EVENTS ARE YET TO BE TOLD. PRESIDENT FINER IS ASKING CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS, AS WELL AS THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL, IF THEY HAVE ANY PHOTOS OR DOCUMENTS OF GENERATIONS PAST.

INFORMATION REGARDING PAST EVENTS AND PEOPLE -- ABOUT WEDDINGS, BAR/ BAT MITZVAH, SISTERHOOD/ BROTHERHOOD, HADASSAH OR B'NAI B'RITH MEETINGS --WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR EFFORT IN MAKING THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF BETH JACOB A MEMORABLE OCCASION.



# Brotherhood and beyond

We are currently seeking new players for our cribbage night. At this time we have 6 to 8 regular weekly players. There are all levels of

expertise and experience, and everyone is welcome. If you would like to learn the basics of how to play cribbage contact Sam. Knowing the basics will get you into the game. Our most popular evening to play is at 7:00P.M. on Wednesdays. Usually, the games are held at one of the members houses, we rotate being a host alphabetically by first name, however being a host is not mandatory. Starting in about a week or two we will be meeting at the synagogue, possibly through September. Initially, we will probably split the attendance with those who go to the town's concerts--these are on Wednesdays and Thursdays. So, if an individual prefers cribbage on Wednesdays, that will not change,, they can go to the concerts on Thursday evenings and listen to the "Big Band" music, if they wish. For more information call (at 508-224-7667) or email Sam at samgorfinkle@hotmail.com.

#### **ONEG SHABBAT**

Please select a special Friday to host Oneg Shabbat! It is a joyous opportunity for CBJ members to get together after Friday night services. It minimal cost with a spiritual reward.







Contact information: Barbara Aharoni ahaba@juno.com

# SISTERHOOD

# Message from the President

#### THANK YOU

Barbara Aharoni has "retired" as Sisterhood President; we thank her for all her hard work and inspiration.

#### **DONOR LUNCHEON**

The recent donor luncheon was enjoyed by 30 of our members. It was a real treat to have our own concert by Cantor Elise Barber. Thanks to Sherri Sore for making the arrangements and program; Sherri, Melissa Goldbach, Ronnie Hirschhorn, and Alyce Gladstein for getting raffle donations; and to Pam Koplan for making the lovely favors.

#### DONATION

Beth Jacob Sisterhood has recently made a donation to the Elul fund to get things started. We hope the community will keep the fund going.

We purchased two tower fans for the synagogue that can be used either in the sanctuary or in the vestry as needed.

The women to whom we have made loans via the Kiva Project are making payments as scheduled. Once we have been repaid our full amount, we will make a loan to someone else.

#### Sisterhood dues

It's that time again: to renew your Sisterhood membership, or if you're not already a member, become one. Although we do have to raise our dues this year, at \$25 for a year, we're still a bargain. Please show your support by sending in your dues and joining us today.

Please make check payable to Beth Jacob Sisterhood and mail with this form to:

CBJ Sisterhood, PO Box 3284, Plymouth, MA, 02361

Name	
Address	
Tel. #	_
email	
Sisterhood Dues (\$25)	
Donation	
Total enclosed	



#### **BUILDING COMMITTEE**

As we all know, the buildings need maintenance work from time to time. Instead of hiring people, we call upon volunteers. We have some upcoming jobs that need to be done. While we hire professionals for many of the larger tasks, we have many jobs that can be done by volunteers. For example, the painting the Weisshaupt entrance door and the doorstop for the Synagogue entrance door. While the jobs are not trivial and do take some time, it would be

a great cause to donate time to keeping the synagogue up and running, and help defray some costs as well. Please contact Harry at 508-747-5803 if you are interested in donating your time. We thank you!

# FUNDRAISING

#### Help meet the CBJ operating costs and not impact your budget!

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Check out the website www.glscrip.com and print out a work sheet of all the retailers who are part of this fantastic program!

Call Carl at 508-224-6461 or email him at <a href="mailto:carlfiner@comcast.net">carlfiner@comcast.net</a> to place an order.

Reminder that the freight charge of \$7.50 is equally divided by the number of subscribers

Super market cards (Stop & Shop and Shaw's) are available in \$50.00 denominations and CBJ earns 5% commission. The Stop & Shop card can be used to purchase gasoline.

B & B is extending the previously announced 5% bonus through 8/29. This will give CBJ a total commission of 15%. What an excellent way to augment your summer travel plans and help your community at the same time

Exxon/Mobil has made a \$250 card available at 2% commission

Sunoco has made available a \$250 card at 2.5% commission





#### **HOW TIME FLIES!**

It is unbelievable that two years has passed since I first took over the reins as president of CBJ. Despite Carl's concerns in my taking the position because of my demanding full time job and travel schedule, I have found that I was able to balance both easily and it has been very rewarding.

I have served on the executive board in one capacity of or another for over 25 years yet the years as president have actually been the easiest. Due to a very supportive board including committee chairpersons, we have been able to lead CBJ in a positive direction. Some high points of my past two years have been the addition of Elise Barber joining us as a Cantorial student and bringing our services to a new level;

deciding to go forward with plans to sell the community center and determining our future space needs; forming a very successful publicity committee that created an impressive new brochure and lets the local and greater community know all about what we have to offer; a beautiful new website; weekly emails to update our members of upcoming events; an innovative newsletter; and that I was fortunate to have been able to attend the URJ biennial in San Diego and partake of lots of workshops which eventually will benefit our congregation. I could not have done any of this alone. Each and every one of you reading this enables us to continue this process.

I encourage you to attend any and all of our monthly board meetings held at the synagogue on the 4th Monday of each month from 7-9pm. This is your synagogue - your input is important. Established members have been the backbone in keeping CBJ's goals alive and new members are our future as we look forward to our second century and beyond.

Thank you for you support and confidence in me. The thing I'm most proud of is that fact that we were able to once again become a cohesive community - a must if our goal is to look to the future.

And a special thank you to Rabbi Silverman who has been able to easily adapt to my management style and crazy schedule. I treasure him as both a Rabbi and a friend.

Sheila Finer

#### <u>Volunteer opportunity</u>

I am a Soldiers' Angel, I support our troops who are serving in harms' way overseas who would not receive any other form of support otherwise. We deal mainly with service members who for some reason or another receive no support from home, whether it be no family, no money, etc....

I send cards and letters mostly, and care packages to those who need items, either hygiene, snacks, entertainment (cds, dvds)...I send at least one or two packages out a week, and about 20 letters/cards out per week. I feel it is my duty as an American citizen to support our guys and girls fighting for our freedoms, I do not

support the reason they are there, I support the individual who is risking their lives everyday. I also work along with the area veterans during the year. It is a very <u>honorable</u> and fulfilling experience, and I have joined them the past 3 years.

During the holiday season, I have a lot of "helpers" who write out holiday cards, both Christmas and Hanukkah, to send to our troops...last year I peaked at 600 cards sent to different units...

Anyone interested in checking out how to adopt a service-member serving our beautiful country, can go to www.soldiersangels.org Your friend, Kim Souza Proud Soldiers' Angel in Fall River, MA





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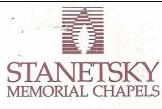
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## RITUAL COMMITTEE





#### Welcome to our newest members:

Tedda & Ron Lindeman of Plymouth Noelle Babcock and daughter Raine of Plymouth

#### Congratulations to the following graduates:

Jeremy M. Rosenberg, son of Lloyd Rosenberg & Linda Mackey, graduated from Brown University magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. Jeremy will be working in New York City as an Analyst for Morgan Stanley.

Alison Drew, daughter of Alan & Janice Drew graduated from Harvard School of Education with a Master's Degree.

Stephanie Drew, daughter of Alan & Janice Drew graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa.

Hannah Danielle Yarisa Finkel, daughter of Laura Finkel graduated from Mount Pleasant Preschool and will be attending Kindergarten in the fall.



	July 2008									
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
		SISTERHOOD Ice Cream Social 7 pm syn	2	3	NO FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES	5 Shabbat morning Service 10 am (syn)				
	7	8	9	10	11	12				
					"Shabbat on the Beach" 6 pm at Nelson Field Plymouth (Service starts at 7 pm) "Blessing of the Animals"					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19				
	Limud Torah (syn)				Welcoming Shabbat 7:30 pm (syn)					
	8:30-10 am				, neo pin (syn)					
20	21	22	23	24	25	26				
	Limud Torah (syn) 8:30-10 am				"Shabbat on the Beach 6 pm at Nelson Field Plymouth (Service at 7pm) Youth Group Shabbat					
27	28	29	30	31						
	Limud Torah (syn)									
	8:30-10 am									
	CBJ Board meeting 7 pm (syn)									
						11				

August 2008

			just Zut			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THRUSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Welcoming Shab- bat 7:30 pm (syn) "Simcha Shab- bat"	2
3	4	5 Sisterhood 7 pm (syn) Brotherhood bowling 7 pm	6	7	8 "Shabbat on the Beach 6 pm at Nelson Field Plymouth (service at 7pm)	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Welcoming Shab- bat 7:30 pm (syn)	16
17	18	19	20	21	"Shabbat on the Beach" 6 pm at Nelson Field Ply- mouth (service at 7 pm)	23
24	25 CBJ Board meeting 7 pm (syn)	26	27	28	29 Welcoming Shabbat 7:30 pm (syn)	30
31						12

Congregation Beth Jacob PO Box 3284 Plymouth, MA 02361

Congregation Beth Jacob P.O. Box 3284, Plymouth, MA 02361

CBJ Web Page: www.cbjplymouth.org

**Community Center (CC)**: 508-747-3466 Court Street at the corner of Brewster Street (across Court Street from the Court House)

**Synagogue (Syn):** 508-746-1575 Summer Street at the corner of Pleasant Street (Next door to Friendly's)

Rabbi Lawrence Silverman: 508-746-1575 RabbiLawrence@gmail.com

President: Sheila Finer

cbjpresident@vahoo.com

Brotherhood President: John Bridgewater

jbridge450@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Stefanie Zeitz

stefaniezeitz@aol.com

## **CELEBRATE** INDEPENDENCE DAY BY VOLUNTEERING. SEE PAGE 8 FOR **DETAILS**



Next Newsletter Deadline: August 10, 2008

The next newsletter will encompass September and October 2008. If you would like to contribute, please send your items to Stefanie Zeitz. Late submissions are accepted but will not appear in this edition. Any late submissions will be kept for the following edition. Thank you for your understanding.