

# הבורה HAVURAH

THE ADDISON COUNTY JEWISH CONGREGATION

## Community News

5777 Spring Newsletter & Review 2017



### Garden Tools Needed: Havurah-Huertas Harvest Help (Jewish 4-H!) Tool Drive

Havurah's Social Action Committee is sponsoring a Tool Drive to support the Huertas project, a program of UVM Extension's Bridges to Health.

Please bring used or new shovels, hoes, digging forks, rakes, spades and gloves to Havurah and leave them in the **collection bin on the back steps** (at end of driveway on the left).. The Huertas project supports farm workers who are struggling to meet basic needs, especially accessing culturally appropriate foods.

Families are provided with seeds and plants for such foods - tomatillos, chiles and more. Our tools will help families grow a bit of home nourishment right here in Addison County.

Thank you in advance for supporting this important cause!

### It's time for Havurah T-Shirts!!!



Our Booster campaign raised over \$750!!

Thank you to everyone who bought a t-shirt and/or made donations in support. For anyone who missed the opportunity to purchase we will be running the campaign again **for one week in June** so be on the lookout!

If you did not arrange for your shirt to ship directly to your home please contact Sarit Katzew at [HHedDirector@gmail.com](mailto:HHedDirector@gmail.com) to arrange pick up.

### COMMUNITY LUNCHES- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**What?** Help is needed in the kitchen and/or to prepare and drop off food. For some of the people being served this is their **ONLY** meal a day so your help is crucial to the success of this important program!

**Who?** Members of the Havurah community available to lend a hand. Havurah is responsible for the lunch every 3rd Wednesday.

**When?** **May 17, June 7, June 28 & July 19**

Lunch preparation starts at 10am and serving/cleaning up finishes around 12:30pm

**Where?** Charter House 27 N. Pleasant St Middlebury  
*All food donations (salads, baked goods, vegetable, fruit salad, hot dishes) are welcome and enjoyed.*

**Even if you are not able to be on site at those times you can make food ahead that can be frozen** and drop it off at Charter House anytime (Labelled "Havurah"). Lois Kraus has also offered to pick up items if people are not able to drop them off. **To volunteer, to arrange a pick up or for further information please contact [Lois Kraus](#).**

### MIDDLEBURY MAPLE RUN GRANT AWARDED

Havurah is excited to announce that we were named, along with Womensafe and Boys and Girls Club of Vergennes, as recipients chosen to receive \$1000 Grant from the proceeds of the Middlebury Maple Run, Vermont's Sweetest Half-Marathon.

Havurah received funding to support their on going social action projects and education programs that introduce and encourage participation in the Jewish community of Addison County and neighboring communities.

Havurah's Director of Education/Program & Outreach Coordinator, Sarit Katzew noted, "We are grateful to have been selected for funding to continue our community building initiatives and to be able to reach more people with the wonderful programs and events we offer at Havurah."

Annual Meeting- Wednesday, June 14 at 7pm at Havurah House See Page 9

# הבורה HAVURAH

THE ADDISON COUNTY JEWISH CONGREGATION

Havurah of Addison County is an inclusive, non-denominational Jewish community serving Vermont towns between Burlington and Rutland including Middlebury, Addison, Waltham, Bristol, Cornwall, Brandon, Bridport, and beyond.

We are unaffiliated and welcome a broad range of traditions. Because our community comprises a rich diversity of Jewish backgrounds and education, we are a volunteer-driven and lay-led congregation seeking to create unique Jewish experiences.

## STAFF

Program & Outreach Coordinator/  
Director of Education.....Sarit Katzew  
Dalet Class Teacher.....Rachel Edwards  
Dalet Class Aide.....Parker Chester  
Vav Class Teacher.....Amir Firestone  
Vav Class Aide.....Celeste Berenbaum

## HAVURAH LEADERSHIP

Leadership Council.....Emily Joselson  
Ken Wolpin  
Treasurer.....Joel Miller  
Building & Grounds.....David Girard  
House Committee.....David Girard  
Katie Saunders  
Rentals.....Carol Miller  
Membership.....Ruth Gilbert  
Newsletter.....Sarit Katzew  
Ruth Gilbert  
Ritual.....Mitchell Pearl  
Tikkun Olam.....Lois Kraus  
Marita Schine  
Jane Steele  
Social Action.....Anya Schwartz  
Amy Trubek  
Fundraising.....Emily Joselson  
Dayle Klitzner Kellner  
Archivist.....David Rosenberg  
Education Committee.....Pam Berenbaum  
Susan Greenberg  
Sara Kutchukian  
Lauri London  
David Sandler  
Mark Stefani  
Jacob Tropp

If you are interested in attending Steering Committee meetings or Havurah’s events please contact Emily Joselson at [EJoselson@langrock.com](mailto:EJoselson@langrock.com).

We are always looking to expand our network of community participants. Havurah could not exist without you! Have some extra time on your hands but don’t want to take on too much? Contact Sarit Katzew at [HHedDirector@gmail.com](mailto:HHedDirector@gmail.com). We can find small ways to help!!

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## SHABBAT SERVICE SCHEDULE

Our Friday evening *Kabbalat Shabbat* services begin at 6:15pm. Our Saturday Shabbat morning services begin at 10am. Please check our calendar and/or website for updates. [www.Havurahaddisoncounty.org](http://www.Havurahaddisoncounty.org)

### Upcoming Services:

**Friday, May 5**

Hebrew School Led  
*Kabbalat Shabbat* Service

**Friday, May 12**

*Kabbalat Shabbat* Service

**Saturday, May 20**

Shabbat Morning Service  
*Behar-Bechukotai*  
Special Oneg Honoring  
Rabbi Ira Schiffer

**Saturday, June 3**

Shabbat Morning Service  
*Naso*

**Friday, June 9**

*Kabbalat Shabbat* Service

**Saturday, June 17**

Shabbat Morning Service  
*Shelach*

We will have at least one or two summer services before resuming a fuller ritual calendar in the fall. Be on the lookout for those updates!

# CALENDAR (SUBJECT TO CHANGE; CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES)

ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE AT HAVURAH HOUSE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

## Monday, May 1

3:30pm Hebrew School  
*Yom HaShoah Commemoration and  
Yom Ha'aztmaut Celebration*

## Friday, May 5

6:15pm Hebrew School Led Evening Service

## Sunday, May 7

9am Middlebury Maple Run

## Monday, May 8

3:30pm Hebrew School

## Friday, May 12

6:15pm *Kabbalat Shabbat* Service

## Saturday, May 13

4:30pm Young Families Potluck  
*See Cover Page for details*

## Monday, May 15

3:30-5:15pm Last Day Hebrew School  
*Lag B'Omer BBQ & Closing Assembly*

## Thursday, May 16

6:45pm Chant Group

## Wednesday, May 17

1030am Community Lunch  
*See Cover Page to volunteer*

## Saturday, May 20

10am Shabbat Morning Service– *Behar Bechokotai*  
Oneg Honoring Rabbi Ira Schiffer  
*See Page 5*

## Monday, May 22

1-5pm Hebrew School Clean Up & Inventory  
*See Page 4*

## Saturday, June 3

10am Shabbat Morning Service– *Naso*

## Wednesday, June 7

1030am Community Lunch  
*See Cover Page to volunteer*

## Friday, June 9

6:15pm *Kabbalat Shabbat* Service and Cookout

## Wednesday, June 14

7pm Annual Meeting & Dessert Potluck  
*See Page 9 for details*

## Thursday, June 15

6:45pm Chant Group

## Saturday, June 17

10am Shabbat Morning Service –*Shelach*

## Wednesday, June 28

1030am Community Lunch  
*See Cover Page to volunteer*

Want to stay up to date with our events and offerings at Havurah? Visit our website [www.havurahaddisoncounty.org](http://www.havurahaddisoncounty.org) and subscribe to our mailing list to receive regular Oymail with updates on Havurah Community events.



Is there an event you'd like to see at Havurah?  
Perhaps a program you attended elsewhere or an idea you've been mulling over  
for a while but aren't sure how to execute?  
Let us know!! Contact Program & Outreach Coordinator  
Sarit Katzew at [HHedDirector@gmail.com](mailto:HHedDirector@gmail.com) so we can explore the possibilities.

# HEBREW SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS



Sarit Katzew  
Director of Education  
HHEdDirector@gmail.com

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about our Hebrew School program please contact Director of Education, Sarit Katzew at HHEdDirector@gmail.com.

It's hard to believe that our Hebrew School year is coming to a close with only 2 more class sessions and then our Closing Lag B'Omer Celebration BBQ on May 15.

We've had a busy Winter and Spring so far and thankfully only had one Snow Day this year! As a result students planted their parsley a little late for Pesach but it was still a great hands on learning experience.

Students wrote to Israeli pen pals in our Hebrew Intensive pull out groups and had a chance to volunteer at Project Independence— Elderly Services. We received a lovely thank you note expressing what a joy it was for the participants to spend time with our Hebrew School kids.

One of the favorite assemblies so far involved me singing some parody songs I wrote from the musical Hamilton. This was a big hit with kids and their parents alike. Here's an excerpt of some of those lyrics: (to the tune of *You'll Be Back*)

You say you don't like raisins and you can't go on  
You'll be the one who is kvetching when snack is gone...  
And no, we can't skip Hebrew  
the language of the Jews  
this stuff you'll need to know now  
and we can show you how  
Forever and ever or at least until your Bar or Bat Mitzvah

So relax, yes there's more  
6 more classes if you're keeping score  
from the seder to the BBQ  
in so many ways I'll be good to you

When we're done, I'll shed a tear  
hope to see you all again next year  
'cause when push comes to shove  
the children like you are the future  
of this Hebrew School we love!

## INTRODUCTORY MINI SESSION FOR HEBREW SCHOOL THIS FALL

Are you beginning to think about your child's connection to a Jewish Community? Would you like your son or daughter to learn the Alef-Bet?

Our small and vibrant Hebrew School offers students (Pre-K through high school) a chance to engage in hands on Jewish learning.

We are exploring the possibility of offering mini sessions for Fall 2017 for ages 4-6 years old. This way families can try out our program before deciding to matriculate full time.

If you would like to learn more please email [HHEdDirector@gmail.com](mailto:HHEdDirector@gmail.com)



Students and community members had a great time at our Purim Carnival.

Kids visited different stations for a chance to win yellow prize tickets. Go fish, Cake Walk and Mordechai's Duck Pond were among the favorites.

Bean races were new this year – each contestant had to try and beat their opponent getting a bean from one end of a table to the other by blowing on it through a straw. If your bean fell off the table you'd have to restart from the beginning!

The carnival would not have been complete without delicious hamantaschen.

Thank you to our Post B'nei Mitzvah Class and adult volunteers who helped run this fun event!

## FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE

May 5 at 6:15pm

Come support our Vav Class as they lead Shabbat evening services. Students wrote skits about themes in the weekly Torah Portion that be interwoven into the service.

*Oneq to follow.*

## MONDAY, MAY 22 from 1 to 5pm HEBREW SCHOOL CLEAN UP & INVENTORY

We need YOUR help! After our busy Hebrew School year comes to a close there's lots of work to be done cleaning up, resetting classrooms and taking stock of all our materials to see what will be needed for next year.

If you are available anytime during that afternoon block please plan to come to Havurah House and lend a helping hand.

There are projects for everyone big and small and the more help we have the better we can serve our school community!

## Middlebury Remembers the Holocaust

By David Rosenberg



On Sunday, April 23, a wide variety of people from Havurah, Middlebury College Hillel, area clergy, and the local community participated in a Yom HaShoah Commemoration service in Mead Chapel on the college campus. The program began and ended with music - *Eli, Eli*, and *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*, respectively - provided by Choral Director Prof. Jeffrey Buettner and the Middlebury College Choir. Two Hillel students – Cece Alter and Hannah Krutiansky – told stories about how their grandparents confronted and survived the Nazi oppression. Judy Olinick gave a reading recalling those who perished, ending with a responsive reading, “so long as we live, they too shall live, for they are a part of us, as we remember them.”

In his talk entitled “Learning from Yesterday, Considering Today, Contemplating Tomorrow,” Dr. Jack Mayer, author of *Before the Court of Heaven*, described how Germany’s democratic Weimer Republic in the 1930’s became the Nazi’s Third Reich. He said there were four conditions that led to the rise of the Third Reich – economic depression, loss of trust in institutions, social humiliation and political blunder. He suggested these conditions exist again today. Quoting the Spanish writer George Santayana who said “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it,” Mayer urged the audience to remember our painful history and do what we can to prevent its recurrence.

Alex Freedman from Hillel led a responsive Kaddish memorial prayer, recalling places of destruction and tragedy. Rabbi Ira Schiffer gave the concluding benediction.

### Young Family Potluck Dinner Saturday, May 13th at 4:30pm

At Havurah House  
(56 N. Pleasant St., Middlebury)



Our usual Friday evening potluck timing can be challenging for young families so we wanted to offer an alternative! Come and meet other families with young children and enjoy good food and great conversation.

**All dishes should be meat OR milk.  
No pork or shellfish. No nuts.  
Kid friendly options needed as well!**

To RSVP email Sarit Katzew at  
[HHedDirector@gmail.com](mailto:HHedDirector@gmail.com)

Please join us on  
**Saturday, May 20 at 10 a.m.**  
at Havurah House following  
Shabbat morning services we will have a  
special Oneg honoring  
Rabbi Ira Schiffer  
on his retirement  
from Middlebury College.



Rabbi Schiffer will be reading Torah at the service and we will gather together afterwards to share a few words and mark this important occasion.

## Immigrants and Refugees and Performing the Havurah Seder

By Owen Rogal

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, the second night of Passover, Havurah hosted a seder at the Congregational Church attended by over 100 people from as far away as Waitsfield and led by Rabbi David Edleson playing guitar and drums. The seder included traditional prayers, songs, and rituals—hiding the afikomen, asking the four questions, and singing “Dayeinu”—but celebrated contemporary immigrants and refugees as well as the Jewish people escaping slavery in Egypt thousands of years ago, so the service included poems by Li-Young Lee, Emma Lazarus, and Langston Hughes as well as an excerpt from James Baldwin’s “Stranger in the Village.” Three people stood behind the planning and organizing of the seder: Jodi Girard, who writes brilliant to-do lists that anticipate all possibilities and contingencies; Emily Joselson, who we now know can take charge in a steamy kitchen as well as write a contract; and David Edleson, who has a voice that should be followed anywhere. Another stalwart to be depended on was Anya Schwartz. Not just members of Havurah, however, planned and organized, Veronica Ciambra, for example, attended meetings, and on the 11<sup>th</sup>, arrived early, left late; when asked why, she said simply, “Community,” then paused, reflecting for a moment, and continued, talking about wanting to be part of a group, Havurah, that is working so positively in the larger community.

The voices of Li-Young Lee and James Baldwin will enrich any seder, but other voices were included in the seder that opened it in surprising and unexpected ways. When people there were asked to share their stories about immigrating and being a refugee, Farhad, for example, stepped forward, poor and Muslim, he explained, when leaving India in his twenties for a new life in America, first in New York, then in Burlington, in both cities taken under the wing of an older person, both persons seeking him out, the woman in Burlington, in fact, including him at the end of her life with her seven children, Farhad being her eighth, his story beautifully glossing the powerful advice Exodus delivers: “You shall not oppress a stranger, for you know the feelings of the stranger, having yourselves been strangers in the land of Egypt” (23.9).

Or Jo stepping forward, not an emigrant herself, but celebrating an important emigrant in her life, her grandmother, who left Ireland, Jo wrote a song in tribute to her, sang it for us at the seder: “I want to be brave like you . . . what were you looking for . . . I wait for stories to be told from long ago . . . stories I always wanted to hear.” Jo reminded us that people who leave their home and family, who strike out for a new land and life, should not be suspected and reviled but celebrated and honored. And Ata reminded us how complicated the idea of home is; sometimes sorting out home from other places is not easy. He left Iran ten years ago to study in America, not to emigrate—Iran was home—but after living here for a number of years, finding freedom intoxicating, he decided to stay, although as he spoke, still referring to Iran as home. Multiple allegiances? Many allegiances? Unlimited allegiances? Why not? Maybe then we would not think in terms of “strangers.”

The seder ended as seders always do with the wish “next year in Jerusalem.” As a small boy, I did not share that wish. I was happy in Newark, New Jersey, already surrounded by Weequaia Jews, New Ark, founded in the seventeenth-century by Connecticut puritans. Now I see the wish for what it is, a point David drove home: it is not Jerusalem where we necessarily want to be—we want to be where we feel safe, whole, connected; sometimes that place will be Middlebury, Vermont, sometimes a small city or town in Iran.

At one point in the seder, David asked the people at each table to talk about the one thing they would take with them if they had suddenly to leave where they live. At my table some choices were practical—a pocket knife—others sentimental—photographs. But one person, Karl, said he would take nothing—things do not matter. I left the seder agreeing with Karl. Things do not matter. People, relationships, do—the point I carried away from the Havurah seder.



Starting far left: Rabbi David Edleson leading community seder and photos of participants, Havurah and community members.

## Amazon Smile

Did you know Havurah participates in the Amazon Smile program? We receive donations from Amazon equal to .5% of purchases by our members and friends who go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select Havurah as their recipient charity. Payments are generated each quarter of the year when we have \$5 or more credited to our account .

When shopping on line at Amazon, connect using <https://smile.amazon.com>. This is the regular Amazon.com web site, but it allows you to select a registered charity to benefit from your purchases. Please select "Havurah the Addison County Jewish Community Inc.," which is the legal name of our organization.

The easiest way to register Havurah to receive donations for your purchases is to click on the link below.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/03-0286020>

This will take you to an Amazon login page with the Amazon Smile logo. Login to your Amazon account, or create a new account, and Havurah will be selected. From then on, any purchase you make through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) with this account will generate a donation for Havurah.

## Sing-a-long Shabbat April 14 by Ruth Gilbert

On a lovely Friday evening in the middle of Passover, several people gathered for a sing-a-long Shabbat. Rabbi David Edleson with his guitar, and Sarit Katzew with her beautiful harmonizing voice, led us in songs both familiar and new. They introduced the evening as songs from Jewish camp experiences and wisely mixed in Shabbat and Passover tunes. It was not difficult to join in as soon as the leaders introduced each melody. The pamphlets with all the words in transliteration provided extra help for anyone unfamiliar with a song and of course all da-da-das were acceptable. It was an excellent way to express our reminiscences and togetherness. The Oneg provided a special treat to end the evening and begin the letting go of the week's work into the earnest quiet of Shabbat.



## Buy Again Alley

Havurah has a Consignment Agreement with Buy Again Alley in Middlebury.

For every item Havurah's friends and members donate in the future to Buy Again Alley (ONLY CLEAN CLOTHES, in GOOD CONDITION!!!), they will donate 50% to Havurah's Youth Programming.

Support our kids while you shop!

Stop by BUY AGAIN ALLEY  
1 Frog Hollow Alley  
Open Tuesday-Saturday  
11am-5pm

Margi and Owen Rogal met with Mitch Pearl, to study the structure of the Shabbat service, learn the themes and then select quality poetry that presented contemporary voices to enhance the service. The Dvar for the service was a poem created by all the attendees. Each person added a line to the one above, the only line they could see.

D'var Torah poem  
Created by attendees at Poetry Shabbat services on April 22.

Limbs of a white pine spiral into the heavens,  
reminding me of camp in Maine in 1957  
when the wind was fierce but exciting.  
It blew forcefully, breathing into you life.  
Oh! After that, I need to catch my breath,  
and I need food.  
You shall not go hungry.  
Stay with us,  
sing a song  
from the 60's.  
The 1760's were an exciting time, too.  
Amen.

## HAMILTASCHEN THE MUSICAL and the FUNDRAISER TISH

It was a lovely evening at Havurah, March 18, when we gathered together for some good food, bistro like ambiance, lots of wine and fun entertainment. Sarit Katzew rewrote lyrics to several songs from the smash musical Hamilton to tell both the story of Purim and the history of Havurah. She was joined by Emily Joselson, Rebecca Gould, Amy Graham, Tim Owings, and David Edleson in performing that songs during the event. For a copy of the full lyrics (adult version and Hebrew school version) please contact Sarit at [HHEdDirector@gmail.com](mailto:HHEdDirector@gmail.com).

Thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly to make the event a success from our planning committee, to the performers to the set up and clean up crew and everyone who donated, participated in the silent auction or attended the event.



An Excerpt from the Parody Lyrics written by Sarit Katzew

Started leyning', working' to expand Ha-vu-rah's reach  
Hosting small events and services for people we could teach  
Skimming' through every book of our most holy scroll  
Plannin' for the future we were really on a roll  
A new kind of community in rural New England In Addison County we could really expand....

# Support Havurah

Havurah is proud to be supported by its members. It is through member generosity that Havurah is able to offer all of the wonderful programs and resources to help build our strong Jewish community in and around Middlebury. A joy shared is multiplied. Consider a donation to celebrate events in your life and in the lives of others. If you wish to make a donation to Havurah simply use the page included in this newsletter or visit the donation page of our website. Every little bit helps build our future together!

## ***TODAH RABAH— DEEPEST THANKS***

Judith and Michael Olnick

Robert Feuerstein in memory of Magda Feuerstein

William Kellner in honor of Rabbi Ira

Karen and Jim Harris, parents of Jodi Girard, toward new Seder plates for Havurah

***In addition, thank you to our community that support us!  
The notes and letters we've received over the last few months  
are proudly displayed on a bulletin board in our lobby.***

## חבורה HAVURAH THE ADDISON COUNTY JEWISH CONGREGATION

Donation made by: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Designate a Fund (optional):

- Building Fund/Capital Campaign (building needs/improvements/purchases)
- General Operating Fund (day-to-day operating expenditures)
- Lazarus Fund (award for community service to graduating senior at Middlebury H.S.)
- Hebrew School (textbooks, classroom supplies & activities)

Please send acknowledgment to: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Complete (optional):

- In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_
- In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_
- In Appreciation Of: \_\_\_\_\_
- Mazel Tov To: \_\_\_\_\_
- Speedy Recovery To: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- I'd like my donation to remain anonymous

Send to: Havurah PO Box 823 Middlebury, VT 05753 Attn: Treasurer

***THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING HAVURAH!***



## DESSERT POTLUCK & ANNUAL MEETING WEDNESDAY JUNE 14 at 7pm

Please join us on Wednesday, June 14 at Havurah House for our annual meeting. We will take care of some Havurah business (budget etc.) and it's important that Havurah members attend and provide their input! A mailing will go out prior to the event with some materials for review.

This year we will also be giving out some CHAI AWARDS to Havurah members who have really gone above and beyond for the community. This is a special way to honor the people who give of their own time and make an effort to ensure that Havurah programs are successful and things run smoothly.



### JUST DESSERTS!

Please bring a NUT FREE dessert to share. We will brew some coffee, enjoy conversation and delicious treats and ensure we are in good shape for the coming year.

Questions? Please contact Sarit Katzew at [HHedDirector@gmail.com](mailto:HHedDirector@gmail.com)

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

### SAVE THE DATES:



**EREV ROSH HASHANAH**  
Wednesday, September 20

**ROSH HASHANAH I**  
Thursday, September 21

**ROSH HASHANAH II**  
Friday, September 22

**EREV YOM KIPPUR**  
Friday, September 29

**YOM KIPPUR**  
Saturday, September 30



**SUKKAH BUILD**  
Sunday, October 1

### CALL FOR LITERARY SUBMISSIONS

We are looking to put out a special literary issue over the summer featuring the poetry, prose, short stories and writing of Havurah community members.

You do not need to be an experienced writer in order to submit. The subject matter does not have to be Jewish, although we strongly encourage submissions with Jewish themes.



We think this will be a fun and interesting way to highlight the unique voices that make up our Havurah community.

Please send submission to Sarit Katzew via email at [HHedDirector@gmail.com](mailto:HHedDirector@gmail.com) no later than **June 30** and look for the publication to be out sometime in July or early August.

HAPPY WRITING!!