



CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

12 SHEVAT 5755

VOLUME 44 ISSUE 10

January 13, 1994

Shabbat Schedule

Friday, January 13th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 14th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.
Samuel Janney Bar Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.
Nitzanim at 10:30 a.m. in the APR

Friday, January 20th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 21st, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.
Sisterhood Shabbat at 9:15 a.m.
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.
Gan Shabbat at 10:30 a.m. in the APR
USY at 11:00 a.m. in the BR
Keruv at 12:00 p.m. in the BR
Human Sexuality Seminar at 12:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Friday, January 27th, at 6:30 p.m.
Day School Shabbat Dinner at 7:00 p.m. in the SH
Singles Shabbat Dinner at 7:00 p.m. in the APR

Saturday, January 28th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.
Lauren Bregman Bat Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.
Nitzanim at 10:30 a.m. in the APR

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will be meeting the first week of February. Anyone interested in being considered for nomination should submit their request in writing to Erwin Groner, through the synagogue office. All requests must be in by the end of January.

New Jewish Council for the Aging Homecare Program Provides Personal Services for Older Adults

Do you or any members of your family need personal assistance, companionship, respite care or in-home care? A new program of the Jewish Council for the Aging, JCA HOMECARE, provides a full range of personal services to senior citizens. These services include, but are not limited to, shopping, errands, house-keeping, meal preparation and respite for families. For further information, call JCA HOMECARE, (301) 881-8782.

Bimah Accessibility

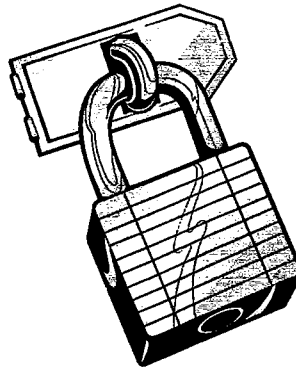
The reading table in the Sanctuary may be brought down from the bimah to the seating level for individuals with disabilities who are called to the Torah for an honor.

Gan Shabbat

*Have you been missing something?
If you are between the ages of 6 and 9 years,
you are welcome to attend the all new and improved
Gan Shabbat. Services are held the third Shabbat
each month between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.*

*There will be informative discussions and
active participation led by the very creative
Les Ziskind. If you have graduated from Nitzanim
but are not ready for Junior Congregation,
come check out Gan Shabbat. Questions?
Call Marcia Greenblum, (301) 933-5319.*

Put a Lock on April 1, 1995



Join us for a "Capital Evening"
Hors d'oeuvres, entertainment by the Capitol
Steps, live auction, and fabulous desserts.
Enjoy a great evening out with your Beth El
friends and help raise some "capital" for the
synagogue.

Shopping Certificate News

It was your effort and cooperation that made the shopping certificate program a great success last year (over \$800,000 in sales with 5% profit going to Beth El!) Let's continue to work together to make this year's effort equally successful.



Certificates are available for Giant, Magruders, Safeway, Shoppers Food Warehouse, Snider's, Shalom, Katz's, and Fresh Fields. Join the many "standing order" families or purchase yours by mail, in the synagogue office, at Vatikim meetings or in the Rotunda on Sunday mornings.

Since 5% of all sales goes directly to Beth El, this is an easy way to keep dues' increases to a minimum. For further information, please call Cheryl Rod at (301) 299-8362.

All in the Family

Mazal Tov to Dawn and Gary Rosenfeld on the birth of their son, Matthew David, on November 24, 1994.

Mazal Tov to Margaret and Leonard Lyons on the birth of their son, Samuel, on December 6, 1994.

Mazal Tov to Bernard and Frances Maggin on the birth of two grandchildren. Ken and Sue Maggin had a daughter, Sara Jaclyn, born on November 4, 1994. Richard and Anna Maggin had a son, Austen Ellis, born on November 13, 1994.

Mazal Tov to Murray and Marilyn Hammerman. Their son, Edward (Ted) Hammerman, recently graduated from Columbus School of Law of the Catholic University of America and passed the Pennsylvania Bar Exam. Their daughter, Elana Hammerman, was inducted into the National Honor Society at Walter Johnson High School.

Congregation Beth El wishes a speedy recovery to Max Krents, Norman Stein and Davetta Landau.

Membership Information

Richard and Varda Nowitz have moved to 11404 Hollow Tree Lane, Rockville, MD 20852; Jerry and Linda Herman have moved to 7100 Glenbrook Road, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 652-4821.

Baruch Dayan Emet

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to Harriet Rabin and Bernice Rosenstock on the death of their mother, Margaret Kahn, and to Ellen Sidransky and David Sidransky on the death of their uncle, Rabbi Jerome Lipsitz.

Nitzanim

Nitzanim Shabbat Services are held the second and fourth Saturdays of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the All Purpose Room. A special service for children ages six and under and their parents, Nitzanim Shabbat Services feature a Torah parade, stories, lots of songs and a snack. We look forward to seeing you there!

Keruv

Dear Keruv: You say you welcome "everyone" to your various get-togethers and discussions, but aren't you really just for intermarried families? Bystander

Dear Bystander: We aren't just for intermarried families - and can't be. Keruv aims to respond to the issues intermarriage brings to Beth El; these can affect almost anyone through their families and friendships and our response to them needs the ideas, energies, opinions, support and enthusiasm of the entire Beth El family. Please don't be a bystander any longer.

Some issues are relatively simple and answered easily. Others are deeper: how can we integrate intermarried families into the life of the synagogue -- or should we? Keruv provides the forum for this dialogue, but if intermarried families are the only ones talking, it isn't much of a dialogue. The "inmarrieds" must be heard, too.

Keruv also wants intermarried families who wish to lead Jewish lives and rear Jewish children to know that they are welcome at Beth El. If only the intermarried families at Beth El are helping to nurture their Jewishness, we will lose the invaluable guidance, example and encouragement of many Jewish families. At worst, we could end up with two tiers of Jews at Beth El and divide ourselves in two.

We therefore not only welcome everyone to our events, we need everyone.

Shabbat Discussions

Keruv welcomes everyone to our Shabbat discussion group, held after the morning services on the dates listed below. In our discussions we talk about how we have met our own challenges with children, spouses and grandchildren, our questions about how to integrate our non-Jewish family members in Jewish life, and how we preserve our Jewish heritage. We will focus on the following topics:

January 21: "B'nai Mitzvah in Interfaith Families"

February 18: "When Your Child Interdates"

March 18: "When Your Child Inter-marries"

Keruv wants your questions and comments! Feel free to ask about almost anything, and we will try to answer you in the Beth El Scroll or, if you prefer, privately. Address: "Dear Keruv" in care of the synagogue office.

Keruv ("outreach") was formed to address the issues of intermarriage at Beth El. For information about Keruv and its discussion groups and other activities, call Susan Levine at (301) 530-2919.

Tuning In with Cantor Lubin

Shabbat Shirah

On Shabbat morning, January 14th, we will read from the Torah the triumphant song that Moses and the Israelites sang as they crossed the Red Sea, having been redeemed from slavery in Egypt and finally entering the Promised Land as a free people. The Haftarah to be read on the same Shabbat will also be a glorious song, that of the prophetess Deborah who sang of deliverance and praise. This song is highly regarded "among the Triumphal Odes" in world literature. It is for these reasons that this Shabbat has been designated in our tradition as Shabbat Shirah -- the Sabbath of Song.

The role that song plays in the worship experience of the Jew is well documented in Biblical sources and throughout our history. Why is it so essential to utter prayers with song rather than simply recite them, albeit, with sincerity and devotion? The answer lies in the fact that prayer in Jewish tradition is regarded as Avodah She-Balev -- service of the heart. The act of worship is primarily an activity which emanates from the heart and penetrates to the heart. Prayer is not an intellectual exercise, but rather an emotional experience. Music and song, therefore, serve as the perfect vehicle for prayer because, as someone wrote, "music hits us where we can't talk." It feeds the heart, not the brain. The articulation of the prayer through song renders its understanding beside the point. It has already fulfilled its task by touching our hearts.

The Hassidic movement made the Nigun (the melody) a central pillar of its very philosophy and thought. It was a way of providing the common Jew a tool by which he could feel comfortable and uplifted. It was also a way to combat the notion that you can reach your maker through pure intellectualism and the study of complex Talmudic discourse, which was so prevalent at the time.

On the occasion, and in honor of Shabbat Shirah, I will introduce several new congregational melodies which, hopefully, will warm our hearts and penetrate our souls.

Who's Who and What's What

At the annual meeting of the congregation this past May, approval was given to proceed with renovation plans for the lower level of our building in what at one time was a youth lounge. During the construction of 1987, this room lost its secondary access and has remained unused. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our House and Properties chair, Jeff Annis, who has been working on this project off and on for five years, Connie Krupin, our Fine Arts chair, who worked with us to help make the room aesthetically pleasing, and our most capable architect, Bob Celentano, the project received the permits from the county and construction began in mid-October. We held a bid conference where several general contractors were represented and presented bids. Edmar Construction, the firm which was the general contractor for the Sanctuary renovation last year, was awarded the contract based on their providing the best responsible bid. At this time, the Meeting Room, as we will call it, is nearing final completion, and I am pleased to advise you that the project was completed on schedule and within our budget. Edmar has served us well, again, and it has been a pleasure working with them. This being my fourth construction job at Beth El in three years (the Hazzan's office and Gift Shop in 1992, the Sanctuary renovation in 1993, and the soffit replacement and Meeting Room in 1994),

I am looking forward to 1995, as we have no plans to do any large-scale construction in our facility.

As was reported at the November Congregational Meeting by our Treasurer, Susan Brinn Siegel, the review of our financial year was completed in mid-October by our outside accounting firm, Kaufman, Davis, Ruebelmann, Posner and Kurtz. Special thanks to Kathy Hooley, our extraordinary bookkeeper, for her dedication, patience and skill in managing the financial records of the congregation. The review is a "report card" of not only our ability to raise money to cover expenses and their respective details, but also how our financial records are maintained. Our accountants had only good things to report.

Many people have commented on the design of the handrails leading to the bimah. The Board of Directors approved having an additional rail added to the existing handrails, and this was just completed.

You may have noticed a new pay phone in the coat room. Previously we had the "honor" of paying Bell Atlantic for the use of their pay phone. They kept all of the revenue. This was an expense in excess of \$700 per year, as their rate has climbed significantly in the past several years. Now Beth El is the proud owner of the pay phone, and we keep all of the revenue. If this past week is any indication of the revenue for the rest of the year, we should see a surplus of several hundred dollars. The phone will pay for itself in one year.

Within the next two weeks you will be receiving an annual statement of your payments to Congregation Beth El. This statement is a receipt to be used for figuring your tax deductible donations to Beth El. Any questions regarding the use of this statement should be directed to your tax advisor.

BETH EL SCROLL
 8215 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Rabbi	Jonathan Z. Maltzman
Assistant Rabbi	William D. Rudolph
Rabbi Emeritus	Samuel Scolnic
Hazzan	Abraham Lubin
Executive Director	Steven J. Kravitz
Education Director	Louis A. Nagel
Nursery School Director	Ellen M. Darr
Youth Director	Rachel B. Handloff
President	Leonard N. Bebhick
First Vice President	Suzanne M. Bronheim
Second Vice President	Benson D. Adams
Second Vice President	Norman L. Eule
Treasurer	Susan Brinn Siegel
Financial Secretary	Cary M. Feldman
Secretary	Arthur N. Popper

Synagogue Office	301-652-2606
Nursery School	301-652-1228
Religious School	301-652-2608
FAX Number	301-907-8559

AFFILIATED WITH UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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Report of the Committee on Human Sexuality

The Board has endorsed the Report of the Committee on Human Sexuality, and has referred it to the Congregation for study and discussion.

Two workshop sessions will be held on January 21, 1995 following Shabbat services and on February 9, 1995 at 8:15 p.m. to allow congregants to explore and discuss this subject in detail. Both sessions will be moderated by Rabbi William Rudolph. Thereafter, the Board will revisit the matter in light of the comments and views expressed by congregants, and will then consider whether to recommend that any formal action be taken by the Congregation.

Any change to the existing membership structure will require the future action of the Congregation taken at general membership meetings.

Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County Committee on Human Sexuality

Purpose of the Report

This report briefly reviews the work of the Committee on Human Sexuality. It presents our recommendation as to whether and how Congregation Beth El should recognize individuals comprising nontraditional families who wish to join our congregation. The report also explains the rationale behind the recommendation.

Background

The Committee on Human Sexuality (CHS) has been meeting for the past four months to consider issues raised in a charge from President Bechick, which, in turn, was based upon one of Rabbi Maltzman's sermons during the 1993 High Holy Days. The CHS deliberations included reading the views of a wide range of experts on Jewish law and ritual, formal and informal discussions with members of the Beth El community, and an exploration of how other congregations have dealt with the same issues. We have developed a recommendation for a membership status to be afforded to nontraditional households (e.g., meaning both homosexual couples and unmarried heterosexual couples). The recommendation is in concordance with the recent recommendations of the Rabbinical Assembly.

The CHS recognized at the outset that it could not, should not, and would not recommend actions contrary to Halacha or actions that even broached stretching such law. In essence, our recommendation only addresses the way in which Congregation Beth El can provide membership for nontraditional families. We feel unanimously and strongly that Congregation Beth El should adhere to the Rabbinical Assembly's views on Halacha that prohibit commitment ceremonies for gay couples.

General Views of the Committee

Even though the membership of the CHS initially discussed issues of commitment ceremonies between homosexuals, it quickly dismissed these as contrary to both Halacha and the current views of the Committee on Jewish Laws and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly. It was agreed that any such fundamental changes in the approach to homosexual couples would have to derive from recommendations of rabbinical leadership outside of the Congregation. Thus, these issues were dismissed from further discussion.

The CHS quickly and easily agreed on the basic principle that the Congregation should welcome all Jews, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender, race, or marital status. In fact, the only current criterion for full participation in our Congregation is being Jewish! In this matter we are firmly supported by the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards, which affirmed that "...in accordance with the Rabbinical Assembly and United Synagogue resolutions we are hereby affirming that gays and lesbians are welcome in our congregations, youth groups, camps, and schools."¹

We also considered the nature of a homosexual couple's participation in the Congregation. Should, for example, a homosexual couple be allowed a joint aliyah? Should homosexual parents of a Bar/Bat Mitzvah be allowed on the bimah? Should the child of a homosexual couple be named on the bimah? We concluded that these and other related life-cycle events are unrelated to the nature of the family (traditional or nontraditional) and should *not focus on the relationship between the adults involved in the ceremony.*

In summary, the views presented here acknowledge that any modern congregation must recognize and seek to accommodate a variety of life situations. We also felt strongly that we should not highlight a person's sexuality by giving him/her a membership category label in the Congregation that is unique and special to a homosexual. Clearly, a synagogue's inquiry into the sexual orientation of any of its members is both inappropriate and improper. We do, however, emphasize that our views are not intended to endorse or condone any practices falling outside of tradition and Jewish law.

Recommendation

As the committee studied the issues, and particularly the practical issues of participation of homosexuals in the Beth El community, it quickly became apparent that the best analogy we could use was Beth El's policy toward intermarried couples. On the issue of intermarriage, Beth El wishes to reach out to all Jews and provide for families having a non-Jewish spouse the full opportunity for all members of the family to be active and involved in the Jewish community. Accordingly, several years ago, the Congregation established a second membership category, 'special family membership,' with all the rights and privileges of the traditional family membership. The only limitation in the special family membership is that the non-Jewish spouse is not a member of the Congregation and, therefore, cannot receive Torah honors, hold a congregational office, serve as a voting member of a committee, or vote at Congregational meetings.

We were reminded that the creation of such a category does not represent a rabbinic blessing or sanction of intermarriage and merely serves to *recognize* the need of a significant number of our fellow Jews. Clearly, Congregation Beth El and the Jewish community have benefitted from the special family membership, and we used this as a model for our proposed recommendation.

The basic premise of our recommendation is that we, as a Congregation, are, and must continue to be, welcoming to all Jews, regardless of their "family" status. We welcome all Jewish individuals for membership without attempting to identify or scrutinize their level of observance or adherence to Jewish law. Similarly, we should provide the same welcome and services for all Jews regardless of their sexual orientation.

To welcome all Jews, we have proposed the creation of a new, third category of membership: the 'household membership'. This category of membership is *in addition* to the traditional family and special family memberships and carries the same membership rights, privileges, and obligations, other than commitment ceremonies, that are associated with the family memberships.

This new category does not question or judge the morality or correctness of an individual's life style or relationships. It is simply a response to reality. This is not to say that our synagogue is value free. Indeed, Rabbi Maltzman has talked about a ladder of holiness of "Kedusha" with the commitment of marriage between man and woman as the highest rung in Jewish law and practice.

We decided that the 'household membership' should be broadly encompassing and, as a consequence, open to heterosexual unmarried couples as well as homosexuals, rather than limited to one group. Some members of the committee and Rabbi Maltzman pointed out that there may be a distinction between homosexual couples and unmarried heterosexual couples because the latter have the option of a legally recognized commitment ceremony, i.e., wedding, whereas the former do not. The question of whether the household membership should be limited to homosexual families was debated, but the consensus was that to do so would be discriminatory.

The concept of a household membership is not unique to Congregation Beth El. Indeed, similar concepts have been adopted by several synagogues around the country. Some other

synagogues have taken a slightly different approach to membership and have dropped the 'family' membership entirely; it has been replaced by a single 'unit' membership that is defined very much like a family membership but is more tied to economic units rather than marriage. We felt that this approach would be ill advised because it could be thought by some members of the Congregation as equating a homosexual couple or unmarried heterosexual couple with the traditional family unit.

The following is the recommendation of the CHS for the new membership category:

Household Membership

Two unmarried adults living in the same household who comprise a single economic unit. Each Jewish adult becomes a voting member and is eligible to hold office. Payment of dues entitles the household to all congregation services including High Holiday tickets for two adults and their dependents living in the household, including unmarried children under the age of 25 of either adult. If one adult is not Jewish, the dues are the same as when both adults are Jewish. The non-Jewish adult is not considered a member but is encouraged to participate as fully as possible in all facets of synagogue life with the exception of going up to the Torah, voting at committee or congregational meetings, or holding office.

¹ from *Papers on Issues Regarding Homosexuality* published by the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly, March 25, 1992.

HDI, CESJDS and Primary Day School Beth El Family Shabbat Service and Dinner

Make your reservations now for the Day School Shabbat Dinner on Friday, January 27, 1995, following Shabbat services. The service, at 6:30 p.m., will be conducted by the children from the two schools. If you are interested in a part in the service, please call Ellen Elow-Mintz, (301) 229-4924.

Reservations are needed by Monday, January 23, 1994. There will be no refunds. Please fill out the form below and send in your check to the office marked, "Attention: Day School Shabbat Dinner".

**RESERVATION FORM
Day School Shabbat Service and Dinner
Friday, January 27, 1995**

Adult Members	_____ @ \$12.50 each	Total \$ _____
Non-member Adults	_____ @ \$15 each	Total \$ _____
Children (6-12)	_____ @ \$8 each	Total \$ _____
Children (under 6)	_____ @ \$4 each	Total \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Name _____

Phone No. _____

I would like to sit with _____

**Reservations will not be accepted after Monday, January 23, 1995
NO PHONE RESERVATIONS OR REFUNDS!!
(All rates include a 3% Mazon donation)**

Congregation Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

(As of December 12, 1994)

Bauer Confirmation Fund

In Honor Of: Heinz Bauer's 80th birthday by Susan and Bob Avjian, Ronis-Raebum, Judge and Mrs. Ronald Schoenberg and Dr. Stanley and Delores Jonas. In Memory Of: Herman Hurwitz by Beatrice Breger; Sol Morgan by Heinz Bauer.

Bendit Adult Institute Fund

The Bendit Foundation.

Beth El Forest

In Honor Of: Joseph Silvermintz's 90th birthday by Mel and Sondra Geiger. In Memory Of: Beloved father, Jack Pressman, by Sandra Pressman; Beloved grandmother, Fanny Boston, by Sandra Pressman; Arthur Hillman by Neil Levy and Linda Perle; Harriet Weinstein's parents by Michael Polis and Rhoda Barish.

Building Fund

In Honor Of: Rabbi Rudolph and early Saturday congregation by Lucy Ozarin.

Cantor's Fund

In Honor Of: Cantor Lubin by Hillary Ganek; A great job being done in I'dor v'dor - passing of synagogue from old to new generation, by Martin S. Dembo. In Memory Of: Roy Niedermayer's father by Margi and Mark Kramer; George Orentlicher by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay.

Chevra Kadisha Fund

In Memory Of: Ethel Potash by Dr. and Mrs. Louis Potash; Eve Tishkoff by Helen and Lenny Rib and Jerry and Fay Chernin; Samuel Gelman by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Rib; Pauline Resnick by Bernard T. Resnick.

College Fund

In Memory Of: Harry Niedermayer by Cary and Nancy Feldman.

Feld Memorial Lecture Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: Ben Goldberg by Beatrice and Irving Mirman; Rosalie Reuben by Flora Feld Goldberg.

General Fund

David and Ellen Darr. In Memory Of: Sidney Bank by Richard Bank.

Groner Ramah Scholarship Fund

In Honor Of: Refuah Shlema to Max Krents by Leena and Erwin Groner. In Memory Of: David Esau Falk by Mrs. Jackie Cogan; Eve Tishkoff, mother of Julian Tishkoff, by Erwin and Leena Groner.

Kimball Nursery School Fund

David and Ellen Darr. In Honor Of: The upcoming Bat Mitzvah of Laura Tochen by Hillary Ganek; The upcoming Bat Mitzvah of Morgan Levine by Hillary Ganek. In Memory Of: Mother-in-law, Ida Meltzer, by Sherman Kimball. Jack Schiffman, father of Mary Beth Schiffman, by Kim and Lyle Lieberman.

Library Fund

In Memory Of: My dear brother, Dr. Sol Tanenbaum, by Mina T. Kaynard; Irving Ehrenthal by Thera Finbloom.

Mazon

In Honor Of: Davetta Landau, for her rapid recovery by Dorothea Lear; Cantor Lubin and the Ahavat Shir choir by Reba Hirsh. In Memory Of: Jack Schiffman by Adeen and Michael Postar; Eve Tishkoff, mother of Julian Tishkoff, by Diane, Bob and Stephanie Coplan; Marilyn N. Brown by David H. Brown.

Morning Minyan Fund

William Gerber. In Honor Of: The speedy recovery of Max Krents by Shirley and Seymour Gross; The speedy recovery of Herb Wiser by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Werner; A speedy recovery to Clare Lerner by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Werner; The birth of Margaret Kay by Julia and Howard Copperman; My Aliyah by Julian Levin; For recovery of daughter, Baila Bashe Zelna, by Sari Shaftel. In Memory Of: Beloved father, David Sohn, by Shirley Gross; Beloved father, Arnold Teitelbaum, by Steven A. Teitelbaum; Joseph Greenberg, brother of Jeanne Ende, by Jeanne and Asher Ende; Al Gustin by Barbara S. Spitzer.

Pinck Israel High School Scholarship Fund

In Honor Of: Max Krents' speedy recovery by Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish.

Prayerbook Fund

In Honor Of: Bob Schumer's Aliyah by Ellen and Bob Schumer; A speedy recovery for Max Krents by Toby Moss. In Memory Of: Norton Nepo by Irwin Nepo; Shimon Nusinovich by Gregory and Yelena Nusinovich; Sadie Perlman by Elaine and George Perlman; Irving Falk by Mrs. Jackie Cogan; Beloved father, Levi Dembo, by Martin S. Dembo.

Rabbi's Fund

In Honor Of: Rabbi Maltzman by Hillary Ganek; Rabbi Rudolph officiating at my wedding by Irwin Pernick; A great job being done in I'dor v'dor - passing of synagogue from old to new generation, by Martin S. Dembo. In Memory Of: Lilian Stranszky by Eidith Orban and Annamarie Sokoly; Melvin Wine by Blanche Wine.

Resnik Memorial Lecture Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: Sarah Strauss Kushner by Dr. Harvey Resnik.

School Enrichment Fund

In Honor Of: Cheryl Kreiser by Hillary Ganek. In Memory Of: Father of Mark Shalom by Mark and Sabina Shalom.

Sisterhood Silver Fund

In Honor Of: Rabbi Rudolph by Craig D. Yokum.

Sisterhood Kathy Wilkins Memorial Braille Fund

In Memory Of: Ida Cohen by Ellen and Bob Schumer.

Social Action Fund

In Memory Of: Beatrice Pink by SuzAnne Gladstone.

Torah Scroll Fund

Gail, Roger, Rebecca and Seth Feldman; Douglas and Brenda Bregman; David and Ellen Darr. In Honor Of: Werner Blumenthal's 70th birthday by Margaret and Basil Rifkind; Max Krents' speedy recovery by Julia and Howard Copperman; Marilyn Wind's 2nd term as president of United Synagogue Seaboard Region by Toby Moss; The repair of the Sefrei Torah by Elaine Pines. In Memory Of: Beloved father, Harry Friedell, by Rosalyn Fleisher; Rose Kaiser, mother of Ben Kaiser, by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kaiser; Abraham Shapiro by Judith and Dan Matz; Eve Tishkoff by Sharon and David Spiegel and Family; Betty Appleberg by Dr. and Mrs. Louis Potash; Rose K. Wallerstein by Lee and Gloria Derkay; Beloved sister, Betty Haber, by Murray A. Haber.

Vatikkim

In Memory Of: Eve Tishkoff by Ann and Bruce Barcome.



Men's Club Softball Team

The men's Club is forming a softball team to compete in the local softball league. Several members have already expressed an interest in trying out for the team, including Rabbi Maltzman, who will be competing for the position of second base. If you are interested in playing on the team, please contact Dr. Sandy Kay at (301) 657-1664.

At your next life-cycle
event, consider a 3%
donation to Mazon,
a Jewish response to hunger.

Sisterhood News

Sisterhood Shabbat and the Golda Meir Award

Joining us Shabbat morning, January 21, 1995 will be Myrna Matsa, a rabbinical student at the Jewish Theological Seminary who will be ordained in May. She is a participant in a hospital chaplaincy and bereavement program. At this service also, the Golda Meir Award will be presented posthumously in the name of Beth El Sisterhood's first president, Barbara Wolf. The award, given annually, was established by the Harvey Resnik family.



Join us on January 21st in honoring Barbara Wolf's memory and her role in Sisterhood's history and Sisterhood Shabbat. Sisterhood members will be conducting the service, which will be followed by a kiddush luncheon.

Parent Education Workshops

The Sisterhood/Religious School Committee sponsored Family Life - Parent Education Workshop Series will have programs on the following dates:

February 5: "Jewish Food: More Than High Cholesterol" presented by Joan Nathan.

March 5: "The Ten Commandments" presented by Rabbi Maltzman.

April 2: "How to Speak to Your Child About the Holocaust" presented by Flora Singer.

These workshops are held between 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and are open to all interested adults. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend these programs.

Torah Fund Pins

You could honor a loved one by contributing \$150.00 to the Jewish Theological Seminary and receiving the exquisite 1994 - 1995 gold-tone Torah Fund pin/pendant with the inscription "Yismah Layv -- A Joyous Heart" from Psalm 105:3. The funds raised by contributions further the programs for our future rabbis, cantors and teachers. To order a pin, please call Doris Povich at (301) 320-5440, or stop by the synagogue office to purchase one.

Washington Jewish Week Subscriptions

If you need to renew your subscription to the Washington Jewish Week or want to order a new subscription, please contact Cheryl Rod at (301) 299-8362. Your order benefits the Beth El Sisterhood.

SISTERHOOD STATIONERS

Great new gift ideas!

Personalized stamps
 Invitations
 Writing papers
 Informal notes and pads
 New Year's cards
 Birth announcements
 Business cards

Call Marilyn Hammerman (301) 881-0011
 All profits directly benefit Beth El & Sisterhood

Funds in Need

The staff is constantly asked by congregants which restricted funds are in need of contributions. At this time, the following restricted funds are in dire need of additional funds:

College Fund: provides for Hanukkah and Passover packages and other mailings to our college students.

Mintz Landscape Fund: provides for the upkeep and replacement of the bushes and trees on the property.

Prayerbook Fund: provides for the purchase of our prayerbooks, Bibles, mahzors and other ritual objects.

Sybil Suls Youth Activities Fund: provides for subsidies for Beth El youth to attend USY and Kadima Conventions.

Torah Scroll Fund: provides for the repair and upkeep of our ten Torah scrolls.

Contributions to the restricted funds are acknowledged in writing through a card sent to the donor and honoree, as needed, as well as through the Beth El Scroll. Your voluntary support of our restricted funds will allow us to provide for their specific purposes.

50+ Singles

The next 50+ Singles meeting will be held on January 19, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. in the All Purpose Room. Evelyn Bitterbaum will present a demonstration of "Speed Reading" with audience participation. For further information, call Evelyn Bitterbaum, (301) 530-3464 or Jo Gimble, (301) 881-9138.

Large Print Prayer Books and Hearing Enhancement Receivers are available for your use in our Sanctuary. Please see the ushers when you arrive.

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR BETH EL'S
ANNUAL WEEKEND RETREAT
AT THE COOLFONT CONFERENCE CENTER
FEATURING SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE
RABBI KASSEL ABELSON**

The Annual Beth El Weekend Retreat will be held at the Coolfont Resort/Conference Center, Berkeley Springs, West Virginia (approx. 90 minutes from Bethesda), on the weekend of **March 24-26, 1995**. The Retreat provides members, new and old, a chance to share Shabbat with the Rabbi, Hazzan and fellow congregants at the intimate and serene setting of the Coolfont Resort. Amenities at Coolfont include a swim and fitness center, tennis and hiking.

This year, we are featuring a special scholar-in-residence, Rabbi Kassel Abelson. Rabbi Abelson is the former President of the Rabbinical Assembly, and is currently the Chairman of the Committee of Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly. Rabbi Abelson will speak on the function of the Committee and the current issues before it. He will also lead discussion sessions on biomedical ethics — specifically, issues relating to the beginning and ending of life. Joan Lipnick Abelson will also be holding a seminar on "Writing Your Life," where she will discuss passing on your experiences and values to your children and establishing an "ethical will".

The per-person cost of the event, including all lodging and meals will be \$220 for adults and \$120 for children (16 and under). However, we are offering a special **reduced** rate of \$200 and \$100 for those who respond and pay in full before **January 20, 1995**. These rates are based on double occupancy. Guests will have a choice between staying in the hotel-style rooms of the Woodland House Lodge or sharing one of the resort's Mountainside Vacation Homes which have private bathrooms for each bedroom, kitchens, large common areas, and a fireplace, or wood-burning stove. Attendance is limited and spaces will fill up fast. So, mark your calendars and make your reservations as soon as possible. For further information contact Bob and Julia Loeb at (301) 493-5868.

**REGISTRATION
Beth El Coolfont Retreat
March 24-26, 1995**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

If children are attending, please list their names and ages below.

We/I would prefer to stay in the:
 Lodge Mountain Home (Check where appropriate).

Every effort will be made to accommodate your request.

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ (make checks payable to Beth El)

If you have any special requests (cribs, dietary restrictions, etc.), please note them on the back of form.

Return by January 20, 1995 for reduced rate

Nursery School News

Entertainment '95 Books Are Here!

Save on dining, shopping and other entertainment opportunities! The Beth El Nursery School is offering Entertainment '95 books for \$35.00. You may purchase Maryland/Washington, D.C., Virginia or Baltimore Entertainment '95 books at the school office or the synagogue office. For information, call the school office at (301) 652-1228.

Giant Receipts Program Benefits BENS

Beth El Nursery School will be collecting Giant receipts again this school year. Please deposit your blue receipts in the envelope on the BENS bulletin board.

Save Your Stuff

We rent you a table space, then you sell your own stuff. Mark your calendar to buy and sell at our do-it-yourself spring cleaning sale on Sunday, March 26, 1995. Until then, don't throw it out — save it to sell!

Nursery School Applications

Applications for the 1995-1996 school year are now available. Please call the BENS office at (301) 652-1228 to have one mailed to you. Applications are not available for pick up at the school.

Beth El Nursery School
welcomes your attendance at the
Estelle Kimball Memorial Lecture

featuring

Jackie Howell

**Preschool Trainer with Montgomery Child Care
Association Training Institute**

Gain an understanding of the importance of young
children to develop social skills.

A variety of techniques and activities to enhance
socialization will be shared
when Ms. Howell presents the workshop:

**"Building Bridges, Building Connections:
Helping Young Children Socialize"**

Congregation Beth El

Thursday, January 26, 1995

**7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Beth El members no charge,
\$3.00 for guests**

Call (301) 652-1228 to reserve a space

Tickets will also be available at the door

Please join us to hear this dynamic speaker and
participate in this informative workshop.

Reception will follow the workshop