



# CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

23 SHEVAT 5754

VOLUME 43 ISSUE 12

FEBRUARY 4, 1994

## Shabbat Schedule

Friday, February 4th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 5th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.  
Marissa P. Levy Bat Mitzvah, at 9:15 a.m.  
Havurah Minyan at 9:30 a.m. in the APR  
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Friday, February 11th, at 6:30 p.m.  
Nursery Shabbat Dinner, at 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, February 12th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.  
Gabriel David Ross Bar Mitzvah, at 9:15 a.m.  
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel  
Nitzanim at 10:30 in the APR

Friday, February 18th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 19th, at 7:30 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.  
Michael Reiter Bar Mitzvah, at 9:15 a.m.  
Gan Shabbat at 10:45 a.m. in the APR  
USY at 11:00 a.m. in the BR  
Keruv at 12:45 p.m. in the Chapel

## Beth El Gift Shop

New Israeli items have arrived at the Gift Shop: tzedakah boxes, ceramic Havdalah sets, Passover and Shabbat covers, mezuzahs, necklaces, etc. Please drop by to browse and buy!

**RESERVE THESE DATES!**

## SAUL BENDIT ADULT INSTITUTE SPRING, 1994

Daytime Program -- 6 Courses  
Six Tuesdays: March 15 - April 19

Evening Programs -- 14 Courses  
Six Wednesdays: March 16 - April 20

Watch for full details in the  
February 18, 1994 Scroll

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

## Membership Information

Alan Kravitz and Sandy Kresch have moved to 6620 Quaker Ridge Road, North Bethesda, MD 20852, (301) 770-1065; Bary and Ruth Berger have moved to 15303 Kwanzan Court, Potomac, MD 20878, (301) 948-2023; Allan and Jocelyn Weissman have moved to 7512 Westfield Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817, (301) 229-1030; Melvin and Andrea Kraus have moved to 7701 Oldchester Road, Bethesda, MD 20817.

## All in the Family

Mazel tov to Gerald and Caryl Brody on the birth of their grandson, Benjamin Brody Spielman, on December 23, 1993; to Barry and Karen Neuman on the birth of their daughter, Alana, on December 28, 1993; and to Lisa Rosenberg Gordin and Joel Gordin on the birth of their daughter, Julia Mae Gordin, on October 1, 1993. Julia is the granddaughter of Minerva and Gil Rosenberg.

We wish a speedy recovery to Ruth Byer and Bertha Pochter.

## 50+ Singles Program

On Monday, February 7, 1994, at 7:00 p.m., Hazzan Abraham Lubin, the Cantor at Beth El, will present a very interesting program for the Beth El 50+ Singles group. The subject of his program will be the liturgical music of Ethiopian Jewry and its influence on modern Israel.

Hazzan Lubin holds a Hazzan diploma from Jews College, London, and an M.M. degree from DePaul University. He is Vice President of the Cantors Assembly, lectures on Jewish music, taught at Chicago's Spertus College, and has performed in concert throughout the U.S., Canada, Israel, and the former Soviet Union.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆  
☆ Congregation Meeting ☆  
☆ February 22, 1994 ☆  
☆ 8:00 p.m. ☆  
☆ in the Social Hall ☆  
☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

## The Yiddish Culture Festival of Greater Washington

**Sunday, March 13, 1994  
at Congregation Beth El**

### Yiddish Round the World

1:30-2:00 Registration  
2:00-3:00 Keynote Address - Professor Gershon Winer

The following seminars will be offered twice in two consecutive sessions:

- Dora Arias - "The Fight for Survival of Yiddish in Mexico"  
(Both sessions are in English.)  
Jonathan Boyarin - "Remembering: The Polish Jews of Paris"  
(Both sessions are in English.)  
Pascual Fiszman - "The Grandchildren of Baron de Hirsch in Argentina" (Session I is in Yiddish and Session II is in English.)  
Miriam Hoffman - "Yiddish Happenings!" Newest Developments in the USA (Both sessions are in English.)  
Mikhail Krutikov - "After Communism: Is There a Place for Yiddish in Russia?" (Session I is in English and Session II is in Yiddish.)  
Eugene Orenstein - "Flowers of the North: Yiddish Culture in Canada, an Historical Perspective" (Session I is in English and Session II is in Yiddish.)  
Gershon Winer - "Yiddish and Hebrew: From Convergence to Divergence" (Session I is in Yiddish and Session II is in English.)

3:10-4:00 Session I of seminars  
4:10-5:00 Session II of seminars  
5:15-6:30 Panel Discussion  
6:30-7:45 Kosher Dinner  
8:00-10:00 Gala concert featuring Michael Wex, humorist and raconteur, and the Capital Klezmers featuring Frieda Enoch.

\_\_\_\_\_ Entire Festival \$45/person (\$40 if registered prior to February 18, 1994)

\_\_\_\_\_ Keynote, Seminars and Panel Discussion only \$25/person

\_\_\_\_\_ Dinner and Concert \$30/person

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Session I \_\_\_\_\_

Session II \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check made payable to The Yiddish Culture Festival c/o Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

## Dear Keruv

Now that the holidays are over, what about all those presents? Our extended family gave and received Hanukkah, Christmas, and "holiday" presents. The kids were pretty confused, even though they loved the bounty. What is the right practice for a Jewish family with Christian relatives?

### Congregant

Dear Congregant: There is no single way to handle this, but consistency within your own family might alleviate some confusion.

In very informal surveys, the majority of Beth El's interfaith families say they focus on the recipient: They give Hanukkah presents to Jews, Christmas presents to Christians, and prefer to receive Hanukkah presents.

Other families say that since they can't demand Hanukkah presents or change the habits of extended family, they give Hanukkah presents to underline their own Jewishness and receive presents given according to the religion of the giver.

Deviations occur, but they are fine opportunities to discuss your family's choice of Judaism and mixed heritage.

Note: Shabbat discussions are held in the Chapel after the Kiddush. Everyone is welcome.

February 19, Shabbat Discussion: "B'nai Mitzvah in Interfaith Families".

March 8, Tuesday evening: "Interdating". Beth El teens will join us for this discussion.

April 16, Shabbat Discussion: "The Non-Jews Among Us".

Keruv ("outreach") was formed to address the issues of intermarriage at Beth El. Address your questions or comments to "Dear Keruv" in care of the synagogue office or join our discussion groups. For further information on Keruv, call Betty Schuchat McDonald at (301) 656-0742.

## Tax Time's Approaching -- Have You Made Your 1993 IRA Contribution?

It's been said that there are only two things that are inevitable in life, and one of them - taxes - will soon be upon us. As the April 15 tax deadline approaches, it is important to remember that you can still make a contribution to your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) for 1993. Although the tax laws have changed regarding IRA contributions, IRAs remain a popular way to build a significant source of income for retirement. There are many investments you can make through your IRA. Friends of Israel may be interested in investing in Israel bonds for their retirement portfolios. The Israel Bonds organization offers securities with a variety of features and interest rates that make them attractive additions to many IRAs. For prospectuses and other information, call the local Israel Bonds office at (301) 654-6575 or 1-800-795-6575.

**Baruch Dayan Emet**

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to Minerva Rosenberg on the death of her mother, Selma Goldsher, and to Beatrice Breger on the death of her brother, Herman Hurwitz; and to Frances Lesser on the death of her husband, Allen Lesser.

**BETH EL MEN'S CLUB**

Cordially Invites you to:

**"PERSPECTIVES IN DIALOGUE - 1994"**

Sunday, February 13  
**HIS EXCELLENCY, HARRY SCHWARZ**  
 SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

"SOUTH AFRICA IN TRANSITION"

Morning Service 9:00am      Breakfast 9:30am

Presentation by speaker followed by  
 dialogue with Congregation 10:00-11:00am

**THE CONGREGATION AND THE  
 COMMUNITY ARE INVITED**

**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 ..... Sharon L. Tievsky

- 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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**The Evening Minyan**

The following people are asked to help us with our daily evening minyan for the next two weeks. The Minyan begins at 8:00 p.m. and concludes at 8:15 p.m. During the week of your assignment, we would appreciate your attending as many evenings as possible, so that those who are saying Kaddish will have a minyan that they can attend at Beth El.

**February 7 - February 10**

- James and Leslie Dellon
- Lee and Gloria Derkey
- Michael Diamond and Barbara Mittleman
- Elliott and Phyllis Dickler
- Milton and Faye Doberman
- Alan and Jane Dorfman
- Jonathan and Cynthia Dorfman
- Stanley and Frances Doroff
- Richard and Elizabeth Drachman
- Craig Dreilinger and Amanda Ford
- Michael and Andrea Druckman
- Andrew and Melissa Dubroff
- David Dunn and Tamara Dunietz
- Gale and Ronald Dutcher
- Lee and Donna Dymond

**February 14 - February 17**

- Steven and Marilyn Ebbin
- William and Abbie Eckland
- Kenneth Eckmann and Rhonda Friedman
- Robert and Sandra Edenbaum
- Edward and Frances Edlitz
- Jack Edlow
- Eugene Einhorn and Paula Turyn Einhorn
- Beth Eisenberg
- David and Barbara Eisenstein
- David and Merrie Eisenstadt
- Eric Eisen and Claire Shapiro
- William and Elsa Elkin
- Norton and Sandy Elson
- Patrick and Lori Elwood

**Shopping Certificate News**

Many thanks to everyone using shopping certificates. It is your support that makes this fund raising effort a major success.



Shopping certificates are available for Giant, Safeway, Snider's, Fresh Fields, Magruders, Katz's, Shoppers Food Warehouse and Shalom. Beth El receives 5% of all sales. Last year our sales totaled over \$1 million. The profits help to keep our dues' increases to a minimum. We need everyone's help and participation to make this program a success. Due to grocery stores' now accepting charge cards, a number of our "regular" supporters are now charging their groceries. As a result, our sales will be down unless more congregants begin to use the shopping certificates.

For more information, please call Cheryl Rod at 301-299-8362

*Ahavat Shir Is Alive and Kicking!*

If you love to sing, come banish the winter blues and spend the first Thursday of the month with us. You really don't know what you're missing! We learn new Jewish melodies to old familiar songs and sing old favorites. Believe it or not, it's fun!! You don't even have to read music. If you'd like to join us, call Naomi Cohen at 530-6547. We even welcome back old friends!

## Congregation Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

(As of January 7, 1994)

### **Bauer Confirmation Fund**

In Memory Of: Charles Baldinger by Bette Nussbaum Family; Elisabeth Bauer's first Yahrzeit by John and Gina Bauer.

### **Bendit Adult Institute Fund**

In Memory Of: Anita Rib, mother of Louis Rib, by Leonard and Sylvia Sheeskin; Eva Stein by Paula Kleine.

### **Beth El Forest**

In Honor Of: Edith Novak's speedy recovery by Marcia and Saul Possick; Sherman and Carol Fivozinsky by Bernice and Werner Blumenthal; 50th anniversary of Helen and Leonard Price by Ruth and George Kay. In Memory Of: Ruth and Ralph Maden by Barry Schimel; Julius Gillman by Samuel R. Gillman; Beloved Aunt Rose Stern by Mr. and Mrs. William Filler; Max Sherman by Fran and Stan Doroff; Celia Sherman by Fran and Stan Doroff; Ethel Hoffman, mother of Joel Hoffman, by Ruth and George Kay; Mrs. Selma Golcher by Bea and Alex Rosenberg; Jennie Freedman by Henry and Dorothy Freedman; Irving Falk by Lillian Kessler; Isadore Kolko by Thomas E. Dahl.

### **Building Fund**

In Honor Of: The speedy recovery of Abner Byer by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay; a speedy recovery of Theodore Mayer by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay. In Memory Of: Robert Treinish by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay; Beloved father, Jacob Simon Papilsky, by M. I. Papilsky.

### **Cantor's Fund**

In Honor Of: the 30th wedding anniversary of Howard and Julia Copperman by Lillian Kessler. In Memory Of: Beloved mother, Fannie Nosovitsky, by Sam Nash; Mother-in-law, Rachel Hopp, by Elmira Hopp; William Gelnow, father of Harriet Filler, by Mr. and Mrs. William Filler; Morris Haimovicz and Simon and Anna Friedman by Joseph and Mildred Hamer; Isadore S. Sidman by Lawrence and Hilda Sidman.

### **Chevra Kadisha Fund**

In Memory Of: Anita Rib by Louis, Helen, Harold and Sandy Rib; Joseph Greenberg, brother of Jeanne Ende, by Asher and Jeanne Ende; Isabelle Backer by Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish.

### **Disabled Access Fund**

In Honor Of: The recovery of Hans Hirsch by Harriet and William Filler.

### **Feld Memorial Lecture Endowment Fund**

In Memory Of: Stanley Horowitz by Flora and Ben Goldberg; Blanche Ginsberg by Flora and Ben Goldberg.

### **Fine Arts Fund**

In Memory Of: Ms. Goldie Levy by Marshall Levy.

### **General Fund**

In Honor Of: My Aliyah by John H. Rosenthal; The 80th birthday of Esther Kohn by Edna and Irving Stein. In Memory Of: Miriam Lerner by Gloria and Don LeVine; Anita Rib, mother of Lenny Rib, by The Wassertzug Family; Jacob and Eva Kopin by Rita and Irwin Kopin; Rose and Harry Wallerstein by Gloria and Dee Derkay; Beloved mother, Merry Klass, by Dr. Kay Klass; Samuel Gerber by William Gerber; Belle Adelstein by Dr. and Mrs. Robert S. Adelstein; Wynona Herd, sister of Myra Hopp, by Estelle and Bernie Segal.

### **Kimball Nursery School Fund**

In Honor Of: Birth of dear grandson, Nate Sason Druckman, by Sol and Marcia Karsch.

### **Library Fund**

In Honor Of: The recovery of Reba Hirsh by Harriet and William Filler; The recovery of Abraham Maller by Harriet and William Filler; A Refuah Schlemah for Dr. Hy Zimmerman by Judith and Jonathan Levin. In Memory Of: Harry Levin by Jonathan and Judith Levin; Our dear parents and grandparents by Professor and Mrs. Eli M. Spark; Anita Rib, mother of Louis Rib, by Judith and Jonathan Levin.

### **Mazon**

Susan and Bert King; Nancy Wallace. In Honor Of: Anna Gelman by Bertl Just. In Memory Of: Harold Gerstenfield by Edward H. Gerstenfield; Melvin Wine by Mildred Wine; Esther Bonus by Iris, Julian and Anne Tishkoff; Pauline and David Platt by Michael T. Platt; Zelda Berry by Leonard and Sylvia Sheeskin; Frieda Goldberg by Sherry H. Rosen;

### **Mintz Landscaping Fund**

In Memory Of: Beloved father, Isaac Kossman, by Mary Bubrow.

### **Morning Minyan Fund**

In Memory Of: Morris Solomon by Ruth and Abner Byer; Meyer Marcus, father of Lawrence Marcus, by Lawrence and Marlene Marcus; Harold Gross by Alan B. Gross; Loving father and grandfather, Max Cohen, by Barbara, Amber and Cindy Spitzer; Beloved father, Alexander Roth, by Joan Roth Weiss; Harry Friedell by Rosalyn Fleisher; Anita Rib, mother of Louis Rib, by Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish; David Sohn, father of Shirley Gross, by Shirley and Seymour Gross; Robert Treinish by Julian E. Levin.

### **Music Fund**

In Memory Of: Alvin and Sadie Platshon, and Abraham Waghelstein by Shirlene Platshon.

### **Nitzanim Fund**

In Honor Of: Rachel's 3rd birthday by Jack and Susan Yanovski.

### **Pinck Israel High School Scholarship Fund**

In Honor Of: Rockey Lang's chanting a Haftarah by Claire Marwick; The recovery of Hans Hirsch by Dr. Herbert and Estelle Wisner; The recovery of Abner Byer by Dr. Herbert and Estelle Wisner; The recovery of Hyman Zimmerman by Dr. Herbert and Estelle Wisner. In Memory Of: Beloved mother, Reba Sklaroff, by Claire Marwick.

### **Prayerbook Fund**

In Honor Of: Rockey Lang by Bea and Bernie Berger; Julia and Howard Copperman's 30th wedding anniversary by Bea and Bernie Berger. In Memory Of: Beloved father, Marcello Moses Samakovlija, by Paola Samakovlija Bolasny; Helen P. Ganzfried by Sally C. and Jerrold J. Ganzfried; Edith Bloom by Debra and Edward Bloom; Sadie Perlman by Elaine and George Perlman; Henry and Anna Berger by Bea and Bernie Berger; Anita Rib, mother of Louis Rib, by Bea and Bernie Berger; Samuel Grossman by Barbara and Kurt Meyers.

### **Rabbi's Fund**

Marshall Sneiderman; Francine and Matthew Kurlansky. In Honor Of: Parents, Zenda and Daniel Brownfain, by Alan and Debra Birnkrant; Parents, Myra and Henry Birnkrant, by Alan and Debra Birnkrant; The engagement of Daphne Levin by The Lowell Family; The Bar Mitzvah of Adam Goldsmith by The Lowell Family; The recovery of Norman Hollander by Barbara, Leah, and Alan Hollander. In Memory Of: Stanley Cohen by Ken Berman; Miles Breger by Beatrice Breger; Robert Treinish by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Friedman; Irving Falk by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Friedman; David Mendelowitz, father of Flora M. Singer, by Jack and Flora Singer; Beloved husband, Irving S. Falk, by Perla Falk.

### **School Enrichment Fund**

In Memory Of: Cynthia Simon by Susan and Bert King; Sabiha Haim, mother of Louise Brenner, by Beth El Religious School; Anita Rib, mother of Louis Rib, by Beth El Religious School.

### **Social Action Fund**

In Memory Of: Selma Goldsher, mother of Min Rosenberg, by Claire Marwick; Charlotte Millenson by Harriet and William Filler; Robert Treinish by Harriet and William Filler.

### **Torah Scroll Fund**

In Honor Of: Sam Cantor's 80th birthday by Barbara, Norm Hollander and Kids; Jack Goldberg for his devoted leadership by Judith and Jonathan Levin.

### **Wolf "Israel Quest" Fund**

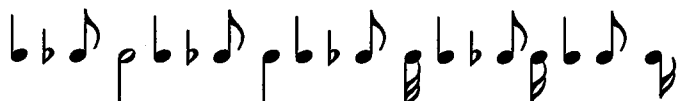
In Honor Of: Ruth and Paul Goldsmith by Linda Goldsmith and Howard Berger. In Memory Of: Belle Corbett by Dr. Emanuel M. Rabin; Murray and Rita Berger by Ruth and Paul Goldsmith; Beloved father, Abraham Elters, by Harriet E. Wilkins.

### **Young Equality Fund**

In Memory Of: Samuel S. Rosen and Sara Rosen Kaufman by Ina and Joe Young.

## Sisterhood News

Winter Blues Sale -- 50% off selected items. Now's the time to write all those notes you have postponed. Buy some new stationery from Sisterhood to brighten your days! Call Marilyn Hammerman at (301) 881-0011.

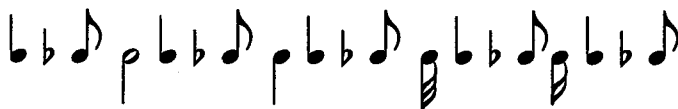


**MARK THE DATE!**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 1994**

**An Exciting Musical Event**

**Watch for Details!**



## Auction News

This is a short quiz. Please have your pencils and calendars nearby. Are you ready? Let's begin.

**Question 1.** Where can you bid on a one week stay in a fabulous vacation home in Vermont?

**Question 2.** Where can you secure 5 upper reserve seats, BEHIND FIRST BASE, PLUS PARKING to an Orioles v. Toronto game?

**Question 3.** Where can you find someone both willing and competent to help you figure out your IBM PC?

**Question 4.** Your child has spent years dreaming of becoming a disc jockey, but until now has not known how to try out his/her dream. How can you make this fantasy a reality?

**Question 5.** Where will all your friends be March 19, 1994 at 7:30 p.m.?

**Question 6.** Where can you go to pay tribute to ELLEN DARR and honor her 10 years of outstanding service as Beth El's Nursery School Director?

**Question 7.** Where can you be the first to taste RIDGEWELL'S KOSHER CUISINE?

**Question 8.** Where can you kick up your heels and celebrate your recently aquired Auction treasures?

**The Answer:**

**CONGREGATION BETH EL'S  
SILENT AUCTION EXTRAVAGANZA**

**8215 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, BETHESDA, MARYLAND  
MARCH 19, 1994 AT 7:30 P.M.**

**BE THERE OR BE THE ONLY ONE WHO ISN'T!!**

**P.S. Question 9.** Where are all the volunteers willing to drive those who need transportation to and from the Auction? Please provide Brenda Bregman with the answer to this question by calling her at (301) 652-0027. Your help is needed.

**P.P.S. Question 10.** Where are all the teenagers to babysit for congregants the night of March 19th? Please provide Nancy Rose with the answer to this question by calling her at (301) 951-3631.



**Women's League for Conservative Judaism**

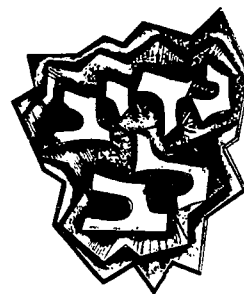
Seaboard Branch

*You are cordially invited to the*

**WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA WIDE  
TORAH FUND LUNCHEON**

*Wednesday, March 9, 1994  
11 o'clock a.m.*

*Shaare Tefila  
11120 Lockwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD*



**Guest Speakers:**

Janet Ozur Bass -- 5th year Rabbinical Student  
Henrique Ozur Bass--4th year Cantorial Student  
of the Jewish Theological Seminary

**Minimum Donation**

**\$28 Ko'ah**

**\$10 Couvert**

**R.S.V.P.**

**BEFORE MARCH 1, 1994**

**DORIS POVICH -- 320-5440**

**MARILYN WIND -- 530-6726**

## Nursery School News

Beth El Nursery School Camp applications will be available in the school office beginning March 1, 1994. The summer program is for children 3 - 5 years old. (Children must be 3 years old by June 1, 1994.) There will be two three-week sessions, from June 20 - July 29, Tuesday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## BETH EL NURSERY SCHOOL PARENT WORKSHOP

**"KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE"**  
with Dave Gordon

from Rosie's Patrol

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1994

8:00 P.M. IN THE

ALL PURPOSE ROOM

Everyone Welcome! No Charge!

For Information and to R.S.V.P.,

**call (301) 652-1228**

Rosie's Patrol is a community-based, non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to preventing crimes in which children are victims.

# Youth Calendar

## BONIM (Grades K, 1, & 2) Charni Selch (468-2127)

**Sunday, February 20**      **Game Show Madness**  
Meet Charni in the All Purpose Room at 1:30 p.m. for a wacky and zany afternoon.  
Cost: Free for members, \$2 for non-members. RSVP to Charni.

## MACHAR (Grades 3, 4, & 5) Ariel Kalish (229-3022)

**Sunday, February 20**      **Bowling Party**  
Meet at Bowl America in Twinbrook (2022 Viers Mill Road, Rockville).  
Cost: \$6 - includes bowling and snacks. RSVP to Ariel.

## KADIMA (Grades 6, 7, & 8) Mike Scheinberg (314-3383)

**Saturday, February 5**      **Regional Kadima Dance**  
Meet at Kehilat Shalom (9915 Apple Ridge Road, Gaithersburg).  
Cost: \$7 - part of the proceeds will go to planting trees in Israel. RSVP to Mike.

**Sunday, February 20**      **Whitetail Ski Trip**  
Meet at Beth El at 12:15 pm. Prices range from \$53-\$73. **YOU MUST RSVP IN ADVANCE FOR THIS TRIP, no later than Feb. 15.** Permission forms and descriptions of various ski options are available in Rachel's office. RSVP to Rachel.

## USY (Grades 9 - 12) Rachel Handloff (652-2606)

**Sunday, February 6**      **Super Sunday**  
Meet Rachel at the JCC of Rockville at 12:45 p.m. Join several area youth groups for this community wide UJA Federation Event. Youth groups from all over Maryland will join forces to help the Federation reach this year's goal. You can earn community service credit, meet lots of new people, win prizes. Please bring spare change, canned food, household items, and your own pledge (optional). RSVP to Rachel.

**Tuesday, February 8**      **Take 30 and Pizza Dinner**  
Meet the 8th, 9th, and 10th grade religious school classes and the USY chapter at 6:15 p.m. in the All Purpose Room for dinner and an interactive discussion with the Keruv Committee. RSVP to Rachel by Monday, Feb. 7th, if you plan on joining us for dinner.

**Wednesday, February 9**      **Regional Volleyball League**  
Join the Beth El USY Coed Volleyball team. Games are played Wednesday evenings between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. through March 30th. Sign up in Rachel's office. The cost for USY sports is \$15. If you were a member of the basketball team, there is no fee. Price includes team t-shirt. Call Alan Speigel (897-5438) if you have any questions.

**Sunday, February 20**      **Whitetail Ski Trip**  
See Kadima listing for information.

For information and reservations for youth programs please contact your child's advisor. If a flyer requests a RSVP, please do so, it is difficult to adequately prepare for programs with out the correct information.

Group	Advisor	Phone
USY (9-12gr.)	Rachel Handloff	(301) 652-2606
Kadima (6-8gr.)	Michael Scheinberg	(301) 314-3383
Machar (3-5gr.)	Ariel Kalish	(301) 229-3022
Bonim (K-2gr.)	Charni Selch	(301) 468-2127

## Scholarship money available for Beth El students going to Israel

Applications for scholarship money for Beth El students going to Israel are available in Rachel's office. They are due March 1, 1994.

## Montgomery County High School Students: Do you need Community Service Credit?

If the answer to this question is yes, then join USY. The Beth El youth department has become a certified host agency for the Montgomery County Community Service Program. Participate in USY social actions projects and get the community service credit you need to graduate. For information about the various programs, please call your child's advisor or Rachel B. Handloff, Youth Director, in the synagogue office, (301) 652-2606

## From the Principal

I would like to present Conversational Hebrew as a Subject for Religious School Study with the "H. Ross Perot - Crazy Aunt In The Basement Award." This is a subject of discussion that has its cadre of supporters and is a bee in the bonnet that some people just can't get to buzz off. However, for a Religious School program that meets for two hours a week (Kindergarten-2nd grade) and later broadens to six hours a week, achieving the goal of conversational Hebrew fluency is entirely unrealistic. I base this on the largely failed effort to achieve it back in the 1950's and '60's when religious school students were far less distracted by outside influences than they are today. A second reason is the horrendous record America has for foreign language instruction. Public and private schools, with the ability to impose a significant amount of pressure on a student who is not making satisfactory academic progress, can't adequately teach foreign languages. Why would a Religious School, with far less leverage, be considered a good bet at succeeding in getting pupils to memorize verb tables, practice noun lists, and drill themselves in getting the gender correct in matching adjectives to those verbs and nouns? And for what? A future trip to Israel. With Israel Quest operational the hope is not irrational that each of these kids will make it to Israel before they start college. Trust me, however, when an Israeli hears that unmistakable American accent, you can forget "yamina, smola, yashar, yashar, yashar odd hasof". Directions will come in English, and your child will enjoy his/her felafel just as much if ordering "felafel echad v'Coca Cola" as "one felafel and a Coke." And the trip will not lack in impact by that language barrier.

(Continued on p. 7)

Opportunities for learning conversational Hebrew do not abound. Call it supply and demand. Alternatives? If pushed, public and private schools will offer courses in any language. Our children are far more likely to learn conversational Hebrew in that environment. Another possibility is the JCC, which offers ulpan-style Hebrew classes. A third possibility is a language class sponsored by the Religious School, but outside of the framework of our curriculum: an enrichment class. We already offer one for our first and second graders on Thursday afternoons. The handful of students are doing "tov m'od." Anyone interested in signing their child up for additional hours of instruction, please contact the school office. I would be thrilled to set up such a class.

Hebrew language fluency is a treasure. I dream of our students being immersed in a Hebrew language environment. I wish the language of the Torah, the prayerbook, the streets of Tel Aviv or Jerusalem was their language. But given the conditions under which we function, and as American-Jews, as a goal it is unrealistic, inappropriate and a proven failure.

Conversational Hebrew is not the skill that will give our children the Jewish identity to keep them a part of the community. Understanding and acting on their cultural heritage will. Knowing how to celebrate the holidays, the meaning behind rituals, understanding our history, developing their synagogue skills, knowing the moral, ethical demands on us as Jews, recognizing the contributions to humanity Jews have made will do far more to keep our children a part of the community. Conversational Hebrew will not unlock the siddur; it is not the yellow brick road to reading Torah in the original; and it is not worth the effort for a six week USY Pilgrimage to Israel. As long as we consider our priorities, think through our goals, and remember what is age-appropriate instruction, conversational Hebrew will remain on the back burner.

### Parent Education

On Sunday, February 6th Julie Maltzman will lead a workshop called "Beyond Hamentashen." Ms. Maltzman's presentation will deal with the history, background and some interesting ways your family can celebrate this somewhat enigmatic holiday. The workshop will be held in the Board Room from 9:30 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.

On Tuesday, February 8th, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., the Youth Department and Religious School will be co-sponsoring a program with the Public Education Project of the National Capital Area and the Americans United for the Separation of Church and State. The program will feature spokesperson Robert Boston, who is assistant director of communications for Americans United for Separation of Church and State and also serves as assistant editor for their monthly magazine. Boston frequently writes about the religious-political goals of the Religious Right and covers other church-state topics, such as religion in public schools. He also covers the Supreme Court and Congress for Church and State. He is the author of Why the Religious Right is Wrong About Separation of Church and State. Students in 9th through 12th grades and their parents are invited and encouraged to join us for this program.

### School Closing Reminder

There will be no school on the following dates:

Saturday-Monday, February 19-21 Presidents Day Weekend  
Thursday, February 24 Erev Purim Megilla Reading

### Tikkun Olam

For the month of February the Religious School will sponsor an Essential Items Drive for the benefit of Bethesda Cares. We will be collecting the following items:

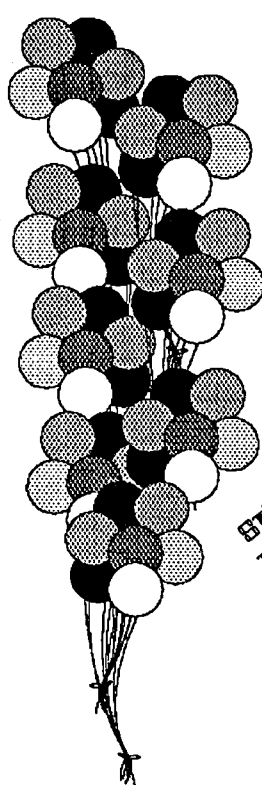
Toilet articles: toothbrushes, toothpaste, disposable razors, shaving cream, lotion, rubbing alcohol, combs, deodorant, & shampoo AND

Hospitality supplies: instant cocoa, instant coffee, tea, powdered creamer, individual instant soup mixes, crackers, cookies, spoons, napkins & hot cups.

This project is inspired by the quality ascribed to the Ruler of the Universe as the One who "Shasah li kol tzarki" (Who provides for all my needs). Contributions will be accepted throughout the month of February.

### Vaad HaStudentim

In December the Vaad HaStudentim meetings took a new direction, and the body was used for a unique and exciting purpose. Suzanne Bronheim, former Religious School Committee chair and current First Vice President met with the student representatives. Her purpose was to get the Vaad's input on information gathering of students' opinions of the Religious School. The effort is the natural follow-up to last year's surveys of the parents and teachers. It was a great pleasure and no surprise that the Vaad reps had much to say of a constructive and substantial nature that will have an impact on this phase of the School Committee's evaluation of the school.



Congregation Beth El  
Men's Club  
*presents*  
**PURIM**  
**[CARNIVAL]**

*Sunday*  
February 27, 1994, 12 - 4 pm

Tickets - 4 for \$1.00

COSTUME PARADE  
ENTRY TELLER  
GAMES  
DOOR PRIZES  
HEYMEN'S  
HAUNTED HOUSE  
FOOD

Pre Carnival Special  
24 tickets for \$5.00  
*On Sale in the Beth El Rotunda*  
Sunday, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 13, and Feb. 20, 1994 9 am-2 pm

# February 1994

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		<b>1</b> 5:30pm Aerobics 7:30pm Human Sexuality Committee - BR	<b>2</b> 6:00pm Aerobics 7:00pm Boy Scouts - APR	<b>3</b> 12:00pm Vatikim Study Session - SH 5:30pm Aerobics 8:00pm Ahavat Shir - SH	<b>4</b> Scroll #14 Deadline 5:13pm Candles 6:30pm Friday Evening Service	<b>5</b> 7:30am & 9:15 am Shabbat Services 9:15am Marissa P. Levy B/M 9:30am Havurah Minyan - APR 10:00am Jr. Congregation 7:30pm Levy Party - SH,Gal
<b>6</b> UJA Super Sunday 9:00am Minyan & 9:30 Men's Club Bkfst 9:00am Parent Ed. - BR 10:00am Cantor - Chapel	<b>7</b> 10:00am Sabra Hadassah 6:00pm Aerobics 7:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm 50+ Singles - BR	<b>8</b> 5:30pm Aerobics 6:15pm USY - APR 7:45pm Nursery Bd - APR 8:00pm Exec. Bd. Mtg.-BR	<b>9</b> 6:00pm Aerobics 7:00pm Boy Scouts - APR	<b>10</b> 12:00pm Vatikim Study Session - SH 5:30pm Aerobics 7:00pm AMI - APR	<b>11</b> 5:21pm Candles 6:30pm Friday Evening Service 7:00pm Nursery Shabbat Dinner	<b>12</b> 7:30am & 9:15 am Shabbat Services 9:15am Gabriel David Ross B/M 10:00am Jr. Congregation 10:30am Nitzanin - APR 7:00pm Ross Bar Mitzvah Party-SH, GAL
<b>13</b> 9:00am Minyan & 9:30 Men's Club Bkfst 9:30am Sisterhood - BR 10:00am Persp. in Dialog. - Sanct. 10:00am Cantor - Chapel 3:00pm Scout's Blue & Gold Dinner - SH	<b>14</b> 6:00pm Aerobics 7:00pm Cub Scouts	<b>15</b> 8:00am Nursery Video Day - APR (VCR) 5:30pm Aerobics 8:00pm School Bd. - BR	<b>16</b> 6:00pm Aerobics 7:00pm Boy Scouts - APR	<b>17</b> 12:00pm Vatikim Study Session - SH 5:30pm Aerobics 8:00pm Nursery School Parent Workshop - APR	<b>18</b> Scroll #15 Deadline 5:29pm Candles 6:30pm Friday Evening Service	<b>19</b> No Religious School 7:30am & 9:15 am Shabbat Services 9:15am Michael Reiter B/M 10:00am Jr. Congregation 10:45am Gan Shabbat - APR 11:00am USY - BR 12:45pm Keruv - Chapel

Morning Minyan: 7:30 a.m. Evening Minyan: 8:00 p.m.

CONGREGATION BETH EL  
of Montgomery County  
8215 Old Georgetown Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Second Class  
Postage  
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