



## CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

6 Tevet 5756

VOLUME 45 ISSUE 9

December 29, 1995

### Shabbat Schedule

Friday, December 29th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 30th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.  
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.

Friday, January 5th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 6th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.  
Sisterhood Shabbat at 9:15 a.m.  
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.  
Worship and Study Minyan at 10:00 a.m. in the APR

Friday, January 12th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 13th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.  
Rebecca Maltzman Bat Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.

### Quarterly Dues Payment

The congregation bills congregants on a monthly basis, as a convenience for the membership who may want to pay monthly. The minimum requirement is to pay quarterly the dues, building fund assessment and tuition. To remain a member in good standing, you must remain current in your dues. The second quarter of your combined dues, building fund and tuition is due by December 31, 1995. We appreciate your prompt payments. Thank you.

### IRS Charitable Contribution Rules

The 1993 tax law requires you to have a "contemporaneous" receipt for all charitable contributions of \$250.00 or more after December 31, 1993. If you make a contribution of \$75.00 or more for which you also receive something of value in return, you are also required to have a receipt showing the non-deductible value of what you received.

In order to reduce your paperwork, and ours, we take advantage of the provision of the law which allows the use of an annual statement which will satisfy your "contemporaneous" receipt requirement. In order to insure that all payments made by you during 1995 are reflected on that statement, our statement will include all payments received in the Beth El office through January 8, 1996. Contribution statements will be mailed by January 22, 1996.

### Off the Bimah

This past Spring the first Jerusalem McDonald's opened downtown at the site of the old Orion Movie theater. Surprisingly, it was not kosher. What about observant Jews who deserve a break today and want to order a kosher Big Mac in the Holy City? The rabbinate declared that either all McDonald's in the city are kosher or none at all.

At the same time, a popular Jerusalem restaurant, Etnachta, this spring lost its Kashrut certification because the mashgiach found a non-Pesach teaspoon mixed in with the silverware. He ordered the place closed for two days. The owner refused and the Rabbinate proceeded to remove its certification.

In our community too, the wacky world of Kashrut certification continues to rear its ugly head. Thankfully, a relatively new organization called Metro K has begun providing kosher supervision as an alternative to the local Rabbinical Council. I welcome the competition and have approved their access to our synagogue kitchen. Sadly, in response to the request we made for authentication to a Yeshiva in Israel where the Rav Hamakshir (supervising rabbi) was ordained, we received the curt reply that no response would be forthcoming to a Conservative institution.

In Israel, a High Court case is pending that will determine whether alternative bodies can legally provide Kashrut supervision. The decision should have broad ramifications for the Masorti Movement there. It might encourage our local efforts as well.

Rabbi Jonathan Z. Maltzman

### 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 Leonard Bebchick, through the synagogue office. All requests must be in by the end of January.

### Household Membership Amendment Does Not Pass

On Tuesday, November 28, 1995 the constitutional amendment providing for a new membership category for non-married adults who comprise an economic unit to join as a household did not receive the required two-thirds vote to be accepted. As you will remember, this additional membership category was recommended by the Human Sexuality Committee as a response to Rabbi Maltzman's challenge to us to make our congregation welcoming to all Jews, including those who are homosexuals. The Committee, chaired by Norman Eule, met over several

(continued on page 5)

### Foundation for Jewish Studies Programs

Join the Presidents Day Weekend Study Retreat Sunday - Monday, February 18th - 19th, 1996. Scholar-in-Residence Dr. Arthur Green of Brandeis University will speak on the topic "After the Kabbalah: Jewish Mystics in Search of Language." The retreat will be held at The Hilltop House in Harpers Ferry.

Newcomers are welcome to the session beginning January 4th of the Downtown Lunch and Learn Bible Study Group which will focus on "Four Neglected Biblical Heroines." The group will be lead by Rabbi Benjamin Mintz and will meet at the B'nai B'rith building, 1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W. from 12:15 - 1:30 p.m. Bring a Bible and a brown bag lunch. Drinks will be provided. Registration fee is \$10.00. February classes will be lead by Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman.

For a free brochure or more information on these programs, please call The Foundation for Jewish Studies, (301) 770-4787.

Advance registration is required before February 5th for Dr. Green's lecture at the Embassy of Israel on Thursday, February 15th on "A Hasidic Master Reads the Bible: The Sefat Emet as a Radical Interpreter." This lecture is free of charge and open to the public.

### Bethesda Cares Needs Cold Weather Supplies

With the coming of cold weather, Bethesda Cares is always grateful for donations of warm clothing: hats, gloves, scarves, sweaters and coats (men's items, please), blankets, long underwear and tote bags with shoulder straps. If you can donate or set up a drive in your community, please call Julie Maltzman at (301) 907-9244.

### Standing Orders Are the Way to Go!

Did you know that you can receive shopping certificates for Giant, Safeway, Magruder's, Snider's, Shalom's Katz's, Fresh Fields and/or Shoppers Food Warehouse in the mail every week, every other week or monthly? Included with the certificates is a statement of your account. All you need to do is send a check back to Beth El -- it's that simple! Give us a try! Call Judy Matz at (301) 469-0459 for more details. Many thanks to all those who do their certificate shopping at Beth El!

### Additional Ner Tamid Donor

Burton And Diane Epstein

## THE MEN'S CLUB OF CONGREGATION BETH EL

### PRESENTS

### THE ANNUAL MAGIC SHOW AND SPAGHETTI DINNER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 1996  
AT 6:30 P.M.

RESERVATIONS: ADULTS: \$5.00 CHILDREN: \$4.00

PLEASE MAIL RESERVATIONS TO:  
MEN'S CLUB, CONGREGATION BETH EL  
8215 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD,  
BETHESDA, MD 20814  
ATTN.: HERBERT WISER

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS  
BY JANUARY 12, 1996.



### Men's Club "Perspectives in Dialogue" Series Begins in January

The Men's Club will end the year with the weekly bagels and lox breakfast on December 31st, following the Morning Minyan at 9:00. There will be no program.

In January the annual "Perspectives in Dialogue" series begins. The dates for the series are January 7th, 14th, 28th and February 4th. This year's list of speakers is sure to prove even more exciting than in the past (and that's really saying something!) The list of speakers will be out shortly; please be on the lookout for it. There will be a buffet served on the mornings of the "Perspectives in Dialogue" programs at 9:30 a.m., and the programs begin at 10:00.

### MAGIC SHOW

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ ADULTS @ \$5.00

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ CHILDREN @ \$4.00

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

## The Evening Minyan

The following people are asked to help us with our daily Evening Minyan for the next two weeks. On Monday through Thursday, 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.

**January 1 - January 4**  
 Edward and Frances Edlitz  
 Jack and Sabina Edlow  
 Eugene and Paula Einhorn  
 Eric Eisen and Claire Shapiro  
 Beth Eisenberg  
 David and Merrie Eisenstadt  
 Mark and Marilyn Eisenstadt  
 David and Barbara Eisenstadt  
 Harry and Rhonda Eisenstein  
 William and Elsa Elkin  
 Norton and Sandy Elson  
 Patrick and Lori Elwood  
 Harold and Bernice Elwyn  
 Eugene and Eleanor Etzefon  
 Hans Engler and Susan Wexler  
 Burton and Diane Epstein  
 Jack Epstein and Ava Kaufman  
 Steven Epstein and Adah Bitterbaum

**January 8 - January 11**  
 Norman and Ellen Eule  
 William and Elaine Fairweather  
 David and Eve Farber  
 Harold and Vera Fassberg  
 Howard and Susan Feibus  
 Jonathan Feibus  
 Kenneth and Carolyn Feigenbaum  
 David and Sheila Feinberg  
 Kenneth and Diane Feinberg  
 Ronald and Eleanor Feldbaum  
 Cary and Nancy Feldman  
 Dennis and Shirley Feldman  
 Robert and Gail Feldman  
 Harvey and Marlene Fenster  
 Robert Fersh and Sharon Markus  
 Eugene Fidell and Linda Greenhouse  
 Eric and Rochelle Fig  
 William and Harriet Filler  
 David and Thera Finbloom  
 Leesa Fine

### Baruch Dayan Emet

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to Linda German on the death of her father, Irving Horn, and to Robert Koenig on the death of his father, Merritt Koenig.

## BETHEL 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 .....               | Suzanne M. Bronheim  |
| First Vice President .....    | Norman L. Eule       |
| Second Vice President .....   | Benson D. Adams      |
| Second Vice President .....   | Cary M. Feldman      |
| Treasurer .....               | Susan Brinn Siegel   |
| Financial Secretary .....     | Robert L. Koenig     |
| Secretary .....               | Arthur N. Popper     |

Phone Number ..... 301-652-2606  
 FAX Number ..... 301-907-8559

AFFILIATED WITH UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

Beth El Scroll, USPS Number 009813, is published semi-monthly, except monthly July and August, by Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County, 8215 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814. Second-class postage rate paid at Bethesda, Maryland and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Beth El Scroll, 8215 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814.

## Keruv

Dear Keruv: I converted to Judaism many years ago just before I married my husband. While I did not convert under duress, it was a conversion without very much knowledge or conviction. Over the years—at first without my even realizing—I have become Jewish. I've been educated by my family, friends and activities and I easily, happily, proudly and comfortable identify myself as Jewish.

I am, however, sometimes bothered about my conversion. It was not a turning point. I had no intention or expectation that my life would be a Jewish one. I guess I need some assurance that I really am Jewish even though my official conversion was not a real conversion. Congregant

Dear Congregant: We believe you are Jewish. Anyone who comfortably identifies herself as Jewish need not doubt her Jewishness. Most converts say that conversion to Judaism is a process of becoming and feeling Jewish; the conversion ritual itself is not usually seen as a turning point, but as one step, early or late, in the process of becoming Jewish.

Believe it or not, words from cyberspace might change your thinking about your own conversion. Each week, the chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary sends a sermon about the weekly Torah portion out on the Internet. In his discussion of Parashat Vayera, he applies halakhic precedents about conversions to the issues of intermarriage today, noting that "Jewish law exhibited a remarkable degree of flexibility" in relation to some of these early conversions. He goes on:

The gravity of the American Jewish predicament (intermarriage) calls for nothing less. Ulterior motives do not halakhically disqualify the desire to convert. Where possible, the formal unity of the Jewish home should be preserved by a conversion that will admit the non-Jewish spouse to the possibility of an ever deepening experience of the power and beauty of Judaism. If done with patience and sensitivity, a rite of passage that begins as a formality may well end up as a matter of faith.

## Keruv Calendar

**Shabbat Discussions:** Keruv welcomes everyone to our next Shabbat discussions, held after the morning services on January 20th and March 16th. Our topic in January is "B'nai Mitzvah in Interfaith Families." In March we will discuss "How Interfaith Issues Affect Our Children." In our discussions, we talk about the day's topic as well as about choosing Judaism, how to meet challenges with children, spouses and grandchildren, and how to integrate non-Jewish family members in Jewish life.

**Tu B'Shevat Seder:** You are invited to the very first Keruv Tu B'Shevat Seder on February 4th. It's a dairy potluck; details will appear in the next issue of the Beth El Scroll. For information, please call Susan Levine, (301) 530-2919.

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.

## Chesed Committee

There will be a meeting of the Chesed Committee on Thursday, January 18th from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Board Room. This meeting is for all people who expressed an interest in serving on the committee either last year or this year. Any questions? Call Rhonda Lowell at (301) 294-8858 or Gail Ross at (301) 229-7005.

## Congregation Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions (As of November 27, 1995)

**Bendit Adult Institute Fund**

In Memory Of: Dr. David Alberstadt by Dorothy Alberstadt.

**Beth El Forest**

In Honor Of: Scott Liftman's Bar Mitzvah by Stephanie and Michelle Parver. In Memory Of: Isidore Stein, father of Norman I. Stein by Norman I. and Ruth Stein; Joseph Goldstein & Harriet Goldstein by Sidney Goldstein.

**Building Fund**

In Honor Of: Shirley and Seymour Gross' 40th anniversary by Toby and Bernie Moss; Evelyn Wittman by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Werner.

**Cantor's Fund**

In Honor Of: Hazzan Lubin and Ahavat Shir by Lillian Kessler; Carolyn S. Millenson by Roy H. Millenson; With gratitude to Hazzan Lubin by Marsha Rehns and Walter Arnheim.

**College Fund**

In Memory Of: Philip B. Gravitz by Melvin A. Gravitz; Peter Sokolower by Caryl Holiber; Mother, Harlee Senzer Popick, by Barbara P. Rosing.

**Conservative Judaism in Israel**

In Honor Of: Speedy recovery of Molly Levin by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay. In Memory Of: Judith Fine by Leesa Fine.

**Disabled Access Fund**

In Honor Of: Evelyn Wittman by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay; Jason Horn's 75th birthday by Josephine Horn.

**Fine Arts Fund**

In Memory Of: Jacob Tofsky by Melva and Irving Tofsky.

**General Fund**

In Honor Of: Jason Horn's 75th birthday by Bernard Mandel; My Yom Kippur Aliyah by Werner Blumenthal; Evelyn Wittman by Marilyn and Gary Wind; Niece, Sherry Askwith's special birthday by Philip and Freda Arenson. In Memory Of: Merritt L. Koenig by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fox; Dr. Jacob G. Shapiro by Dr. and Mrs. Bernard A. Band; Renie (Florence) Horwitz by Paula and Sid Horowitz; Stanley and Alice Resnick by Bernard T. Resnick; Ruth Rehns by Leonard Levenson.

**Groner Ramah Scholarship Fund**

In Honor Of: Sandy and Arthur Becker's new granddaughter by Erwin and Leena Groner.

**Israel Experience Teen Fund**

In Honor Of: Evelyn Wittman, with all good wishes by Claire Marwick; Aaron Finbloom's Bar Mitzvah by Evelyn Karson, Don Kaplan and Family.

**Library Fund**

In Honor Of: Marion Wolff, with thanks for sharing your Baltimore stories and enriching our trip, from the Seventh Grade class of the Religious School. In Memory Of: Meyer Steinberg by Norman I. and Ruth Stein.

**Mazon**

In Honor Of: Rebecca Dreilinger becoming a Bat Mitzvah by Hans George Hirsch; Rabbi Rudolph performing our wedding ceremony by Carol and Alan Kuritzky. In Memory Of: Nathan Mintz, father of Dan Mintz, by Daniel Mintz Steven Heiman by Irene Hauser; Rivka Sheeskin and Freda Weisbach by Leonard and Sylvia Sheeskin; Florence Horwitz by Josephine and Jason Horn; Jennie Berde by Irene Hauser.

**Mintz Landscaping Fund**

In Honor Of: Evelyn D. Wittman, whose innumerable gifts to Beth El over a span of forty years have been legendary, by Arthur and Florence Gang. In Memory Of: Harry Wilder by Max and Mitzi Goldman; Tillie Goldman by Max and Mitzi Goldman.

**Morning Minyan Fund**

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Richter. In Honor Of: Speedy recovery of Jack Goldberg by Julian Levin; My aliyah by Julian Levin. In Memory Of: Florence Horwitz by Shirley and Seymour Gross; Marvin Nattel by Irwin and Hellaine Nepo; Fannie Solomon by Ruth Byer; Nathan Dubrow by Mary Dubrow.

**Music Fund**

In Honor Of: Seymour and Shirley Gross' 40th anniversary by Claire Marwick. In Memory Of: Chaim Plaut by George Goldberg.

**Nitzanim Fund**

In Honor Of: Brett Morgenstern's 4th birthday by Debra and Jonathan Morgenstern.

**Prayerbook Fund**

In Honor Of: Granddaughter Amy's Bat Mitzvah by Jack and Bea Goldman; Speedy recovery for daughter, Carol Goldman by Jack and Bea Goldman; The entire Wittman Family by Max and Judy Bernhardt. In Memory Of: Stella Cernea by Michael M. Cernea; Trudy Haber by Roy H. Millenson; Florence Horwitz by Lillian Kessler.

**Rabbi's Fund**

Isadore Rod. In Honor Of: Rebecca Maltzman's Bat Mitzvah by Jeff and Lynne Ganek; With gratitude to Rabbi Maltzman by Marsha Rehns and Walter Arnheim; Our daughter Laura Michelle's baby naming by Steven and Wendy Kaufman. In Memory Of: Rebecca Small, mother of Dr. Albert Small; by Albert Small; Sylvia and Gunter Chapin by Joan and Joel Simon; Goldie Hefler Press by Ann and Bruce Barcome.

**Sisterhood Hospitality Fund**

In Memory Of: Bertha R. Schwartz by Harryette Deckelbaum.

**Sisterhood Kathy Wilkins Memorial Braille Fund**

In Memory Of: Alexander Teitler by Elaine and Roy Becker.

**Sisterhood Torah Fund**

In Memory Of: Sylvia Cantor by Judy Cantor Goldman; Meyer Abraham Siegel by Bob, Paula, Michael, Sara and Jennifer Siegel.

**Social Action Fund**

In Honor Of: With gratitude to Rabbi Rudolph by Marsha Rehns and Walter Arnheim.

**Torah Scroll Fund**

In Honor Of: Speedy recovery for Jack Goldberg by Toby and Bernie Moss.

**Vatikim**

In Memory Of: Ethel Pittle, beloved sister of Isadore Rod, by Marcia Possick.

**Wolf "Israel Quest" Fund**

In Memory Of: Abraham Sherman by Lola and Gerald Sherman; Beloved sister, Audrey Goldberg, by Sabina Shalom; Beloved father, Joseph Kopit, by Leo Kopit.

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## All in the Family

Mazal Tov to David A. and Harriet K. Brooks on the birth of their granddaughter, Neshama Tamar Rovinsky, on October 24, 1995. Neshama is the daughter of Renana Brooks and Robert Rovinsky.

Mazal Tov to Norman and Sarah Rosenberg on the birth of their granddaughter, Ariella Rader, on November 16, 1995.

Mazal Tov to Abraham S. and Gertrude S. Bass in honor of their new granddaughter, Alison Bass Staffin. Alison is the daughter of Janet Bass and Elliot Staffin.

Mazal Tov to Rabbi and Judy Scolnic on the birth of their new grandson, Andrew Joseph Scolnic. Andrew is the son of Ellen and David Scolnic of Wynnwood, PA.

Mazal Tov to Eli and Gayle Blumenthal on the birth of their son, Stephen Michael Blumenthal, on December 3, 1995. Stephen is the grandson of Werner and Bernice Blumenthal.

Mazal Tov to Sam and Rita Gillman on the birth of their granddaughter, Emily Rachel Gillman, on October 29, 1995. Emily is the daughter of Mindy and Michael Gillman.

Congregation Beth El wishes a speedy recovery to Jerry Wernick.

## Sisterhood News

### Join Us for the Annual Sisterhood Shabbat on January 6th

Sisterhood is pleased to announce that once again members will conduct Shabbat services on January 6th, starting at 9:15 a.m.

We will have many talented members with Hebrew knowledge lead the congregation as cantor, Torah and Haftarah readers, as well as chanting psalms and prayers in Hebrew and English. It is wonderful to see how accomplished our members are! Our guest speaker, provided by the Resnik Memorial Fund, will give the sermon. Part of the program is the presentation of the Golda Meir Award to this year's recipient, Toby Moss. The congregation is cordially invited to a kiddush luncheon following the service.

### Reserve January 22nd for the Rosh Hodesh Group's Tu B'Shevat Seder

Whether this will be your first Tu B'Shevat seder or you are an "old hand" at celebrating this holiday, you will surely enjoy being at this one, as well as learning many facets of its celebration. All Sisterhood members and women in the congregation are invited to participate on Monday evening, January 22nd, at the home of Gail Ross. For further details, call Gail at (301) 229-7005, or Marcia Merlin at (301) 365-3747.

### Update on Rainbow Shelter

Many thanks to the donors of food and clothing which have been presented to Rainbow Shelter. The need is ongoing. Contact Julia Copperman, (301) 530-3624, if you wish to make a contribution.

### Household Amendment

(continued from page 1)

months last year to discuss what response the congregation could make to create a truly accepting and welcoming environment. Beth El has never excluded gay or lesbian individuals and all Jews are welcome to join us and worship with us. The Committee came to understand, through their study of the issue, that the inability of homosexual couples who considered themselves families (and may well have children, either adopted or from previous heterosexual marriages) to join as a couple was a major impediment to these Jews feeling truly accepted at Beth El and other synagogues. As they studied the issue, they also found that the family has many configurations today--homosexual couples, heterosexual couples who may be unable to marry due to legal or financial restrictions, older siblings who live together--and that they might also feel excluded if their status was not recognized. The result of the Committee's deliberations was the proposal of the household membership category. Last year you received the Committee's full report and were invited to several discussion sections to learn more about the proposal. On the 28th, it came for final vote to the congregation and was not approved by a vote of 106 for and 96 against it. While this proposal did not pass, we all still need to work towards making the synagogue an open and welcoming place to all Jews. We know that synagogue affiliation is a major factor in fighting assimilation--we cannot afford to lose any Jews by making affiliation difficult for them.

### From the Desk of the Youth Director

Please note, as of December 1st, only children registered as Beth El youth group members will receive youth group mailings. If your child would like to join a youth group, please call the synagogue office at (301) 652-2606 ext. 308, and ask for Rachel Handloff.

### The Youth Group Calendar

**BONIM (Grades K, 1, 2)** **Advisor: Heather Handloff**  
The January Bonim activity will be held on Sunday, January 28th. Watch the next Beth El Scroll for more details on this event.

**MACHAR (Grades 3, 4, 5)** **Advisor: Ariel Glassman**  
Sunday, January 21st **SuperStar Studios**  
Join Ariel and Machar at SuperStar Studios in Bethesda for an afternoon of music videos and milk shakes. RSVP's are required. Please call Ariel if you have any questions at (301) 652-2606, ext. 341.

**KADIMA (Grades 6, 7, 8)** **Advisor: Adam Gluck**  
Sunday, January 7th **Kadima Ice Skating**  
Join Adam at the Cabin John Ice Arena for an afternoon of skating. Meet there at 2:45 p.m. Pick up is at 4:45 p.m. The cost is \$10 (cash only); bring it with you to the rink. RSVP's are required. Call Adam at (301) 652-2606, ext. 340.

Sunday, January 21st **Kadima Metro**  
**Mystery Scavenger Hunt**  
Meet Adam at the Bethesda Metro for an afternoon of mystery and fun. More details to follow in the next issue of the Beth El Scroll.

**U.S.Y. (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)** **Advisor: Rachel B. Handloff**  
Saturday, January 6th **USY Formal**  
USYers are cordially invited to attend the Eighth Annual USY Formal at Congregation Olam Tikvah in Fairfax, Virginia. The dance will begin at 8:30 p.m. and end at 11:30 p.m. Tickets are \$13 per person in advance and \$14 at the door. For more information call Rachel at (301) 652-2606, ext. 308.

Sunday, January 7th **USY Shmooze**  
Hang out with USY and learn all about the upcoming USY Interchapter. We will also have an arts and crafts project and snacks. The cost is \$5.00. Please meet at Beth El at 1:30 p.m. If you have any questions, call Tammy Wilner, USY President, at (301) 320-2478.



*Celebrate Jewish Life!*

**UJA FEDERATION'S  
SUPER SUNDAY '96**

*Volunteer for Jewish Life!*

**January 21**  
 at the JCC/GW in Rockville, MD.  
 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

*Call for Jewish Life!*

**CALL (301) 230-7235  
or (301) 230-7264**

**Nursery News**

**1996-97 B.E.N.S. Applications**

1996-97 B.E.N.S. applications are now available by calling (301) 652-2606 Ext. 311. Children must be 2 years old by September 1, 1996 to attend B.E.N.S. for the 1996-97 school year. Applications are not available for pick up in the school office; so when you call, be sure to leave your name, phone number(s), address, child's name and birth date on the voice mail. An information/application packet will be mailed to you by our parent volunteer. Congregation Beth El families have preference in our enrollment procedure.

**Think Pink - Save Giant Register Receipts**

The Nursery School is trying to get a new computer for the school office, and in addition, we may be able to get some audio-visual equipment. Please put your pink Giant Register Receipts in the envelopes on the downstairs or upstairs bulletin boards.

Remember we are only saving Giant Receipts; the program runs from September 17, 1995 through March 2, 1996.

**Entertainment '96 Books**

These are available in the School Office, Synagogue Office and the Judaica Shop. They are \$35.00 each. Make your checks payable to Beth El Nursery School. If you would like to look at one to see what it has to offer, see the sample copy in the Synagogue Office. They also make wonderful gifts. MD/Washington, D.C. books are in stock; we can get books for Northern VA and/or Baltimore.

**The Capital Kids Book**

BENS is also selling The Capital Kids Book as a fundraiser. The cost is \$15.00, and the book contains a child-related resource guide and coupons for goods and services for children. Books are available in the same locations listed above.

**Beth El Nursery School's 2nd Annual Jewish Year Calendar - 1996-1997**

In August, 1996, all Beth El congregants will once again be receiving a courtesy copy of Beth El Nursery School's Jewish Year Calendar. We hope you are enjoying the inaugural calendar already sent to you. We now invite you to participate in the 1996-1997 calendar by placing a business/patron ad or by announcing birthdays, anniversaries, B'nai Mitzvah and yahrzeits. On a personal note, this is a great way to ensure that your special family dates are shared with the congregation. On a professional level, this is a smart, economical way to reach out to your Beth El community (approximately 1,050 strong!!!) and enhance your business/professional exposure.

The 1996-1997 calendar will feature a new advertising format.

A single personal announcement is just \$5.00, and \$3.00 if you purchase five or more. Business/patron ads are priced as follows: Business card size ad - \$36; double business card size ad - \$50; 1/4 page ad - \$75; 3/4 page ad - \$150; full page ad - \$200. All ads must be placed by March 1, 1996.

For personal announcements: send your announcement to Julie Murray, 7743 Heatherton Lane, Potomac, MD 20854, along with a check made out to B.E.N.S.

For business/patron ads: call Judy Sherman at (301) 564-0174.

**BETH EL NURSERY SCHOOL'S  
2ND ANNUAL JEWISH YEAR CALENDAR  
PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR 1996-1997 (5757) CALENDAR**

|                          | Name | Month | Day | Amount |
|--------------------------|------|-------|-----|--------|
| <b>Birthday Listings</b> | 1.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 2.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 3.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 4.   |       |     |        |
| <b>Anniversaries</b>     | 1.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 2.   |       |     |        |
| <b>Bar/Bat Mitzvah</b>   | 1.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 2.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 3.   |       |     |        |
| <b>Yahrzeits</b>         | 1.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 2.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 3.   |       |     |        |
|                          | 4.   |       |     |        |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal announcements are \$5.00 each, or \$3.00 each if five or more are placed. Place order form and check payable to B.E.N.S. in the envelope located on the B.E.N.S. Bulletin Board on the lower level, or mail to Julie Murray at 7743 Heatherton Lane, Potomac, MD 20854.

## Mercaz

Please become a member of this American Zionist Organization of the Conservative Movement. Annual dues are \$15.00 for individuals and \$25.00 for a family and are tax-deductible. MERCAZ helps to promote Conservative Judaism in Israel and represents the interests of the Conservative Movement in the World Zionist Organization.

## Nitzanim

Nitzanim Shabbat Services are held on 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 hope you will join us!

## Camp Ramah in New England

If you are looking for a summer camp that will provide your children with the best summers of their lives and give them an opportunity to learn to cherish their Jewish tradition, then listen to what our parents say about Camp Ramah:

"The most wonderful camping experience a child could ever have."

"A truly marvelous place for Jewish children to spend their summer."

"One of the best Jewish experiences a child can have."

"Ramah has taken a little spirit and rekindled it. My daughter comes alive when she comes here."

Camp Ramah offers fantastic sports, waterfront, arts and adventure programs that rival even the most expensive private camps -- PLUS the opportunity for your child to experience Jewish culture, religion and Israel in a warm, nurturing atmosphere that is fun and exciting.

The Ramah experience is unique because it combines the thrill of summer camp with meaningful Jewish content. If you would like more information about our summer programs for children entering grades 4 - 11 (or our one week program for younger campers entering grades 3 - 6), please fill out and send us the form below, or call us; we will be glad to send you our new video along with details on the coming season.

Let us show you how our campers have the most wonderful and fulfilling experience of their lives. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Yes, send me a free videotape of Camp Ramah and information about the coming summer. Mail to Camp Ramah, 161 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02194 or call (617) 449-7090.**

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

## Beth El to Enter Cyberspace!

Congregation Beth El is about to enter the computer age by developing both a computer list to communicate with members (a LISTSERV) and a World Wide Web (WWW) page. We are hoping that this will enhance our ability to communicate with our many members who use electronic mail (EMAIL) and also enable us to develop new means of Jewish education and information for members. At some point in the future, we are hoping to enable members who do not have computer skills to take advantage of computers at Beth El or other sites to access the many Jewish sources of information that can be found on the WEB.

We have set up a small committee to develop the Beth El Web Page and are looking for additional members who might have expertise in setting up home pages, or who have ideas about what they would like to see on a home page. If you are interested in participating, please call Art Popper, (301) 460-5599, or Jeff Annis, (301) 654-2500.

Most importantly, if you use EMAIL, please send your EMAIL address to POPPER@ZOO.L.UMD.EDU. Children of members should send in their EMAIL addresses also. We will let you know when our LISTSERV and WEB pages are activated.

## HDI, CESJDS and Primary Day School Shabbat Service and Dinner

Make your reservations now for the Day School Shabbat Dinner on Friday, January 19, 1996, following Shabbat services. The service, at 6:30 p.m., will be conducted by the children from the three schools. If you are interested in a part in the service, please call Thera Finbloom at (301) 951-0159.

Reservations are needed by Friday, January 12, 1996. 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 19, 1996

Members:  
 Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.50 each Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children (6-12) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8 each Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children (under 6) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$4 each Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-members:  
 Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 each Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sit with \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations will not be accepted after  
 Friday, January 12, 1996  
 NO PHONE RESERVATIONS OR REFUNDS!!  
 (All rates include a 3% Mazon donation)**

## December 29, 1995 - January 11, 1996

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>Hanukkah 7th Day</b></p> <p>8:45am Minyan - Chapel<br/>                     9:30am Men's Club - APR<br/>                     9:30am Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh - BR<br/>                     1:30-5:00pm Youth Group Activities - APR</p>   | <p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>Offices and Schools Closed</b></p> <p>Winter Break - No School</p> <p><b>Hanukkah 8th Day</b></p> <p>9:00am Minyan</p> | <p><b>26</b></p> <p>6:30pm Aerobics</p>  | <p><b>27</b></p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts - APR</p>   | <p><b>28</b></p> <p>12:00pm Vatikim - SH<br/>                     6:30pm Aerobics</p>   | <p><b>29</b></p> <p>4:34pm Candles<br/>                     6:30pm Friday Evening Service</p> | <p><b>30</b></p> <p>7:30am &amp; 9:15 am Shabbat Services<br/>                     10:00am Jr. Congregation</p>  |
| <p><b>31</b></p> <p>9:00am Minyan - Chpl<br/>                     9:30am Men's Club - SH</p>   | <p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Offices and Schools Closed</b></p> <p>9:00am Minyan</p>   | <p><b>2</b></p> <p>School Resumes</p> <p><b>Fast of the 10th of Tevet</b></p> <p>6:00pm Take 30 - BR<br/>                     6:30pm Aerobics - SH<br/>                     7:00pm Take 30 - APR</p> | <p><b>3</b></p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts - APR<br/>                     7:30pm Hebrew Class - Room 208</p>  | <p><b>4</b></p> <p>12:00pm Vatikim - SH<br/>                     6:30pm Aerobics - SH<br/>                     7:45pm Youth Committee Mtg. - BR</p>   | <p><b>5</b></p> <p>4:42pm Candles<br/>                     6:30pm Friday Evening Service</p>  | <p><b>6</b></p> <p>7:30am &amp; 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Services<br/>                     9:15am Sisterhood Shabbat<br/>                     10:00am Jr. Congregation<br/>                     10:00am Worship and Study Minyan - APR<br/>                     7:00pm Blue Yarmilke Awards Dinner - SH</p> |
| <p><b>7</b></p> <p>9:00am Minyan - Chapel<br/>                     9:30am Men's Club - SH<br/>                     10:00am Perspectives in Dialogue - Sanctuary<br/>                     10:30am Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Coffee - BR<br/>                     11:00am Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class - Chapel<br/>                     6:30pm Ner Tamid Dinner - SH</p> | <p><b>8</b></p> <p>7:00pm Cub Scouts - APR</p>  | <p><b>9</b></p> <p>6:30pm Aerobics - SH<br/>                     7:30pm Executive Comm. Mtg. - BR<br/>                     7:45pm BENS Board Mtg. - APR</p>  | <p><b>10</b></p> <p>7:00pm Boy Scouts - APR<br/>                     7:30pm Hebrew Class - Room 208</p> | <p><b>11</b></p> <p>12:00pm Vatikim - SH</p> <p>6:30pm Aerobics - SH<br/>                     7:30pm Family Educator Advisory Comm. Mtg. - BR<br/>                     7:30pm AMI Meeting - APR</p> |   |  |

Minyanim: 7:30 a.m. & 8:00 p.m.

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

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