



CONGREGATION  
BETH EL OF  
MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY

## All in the Family

Mazal Tov to Ed and Bea Golfer on the birth of their granddaughter, Jessica Miriam Yellowitz, on November 3, 1997. Jessica is the daughter of Alan and Debbie Yellowitz.

Mazal Tov to Julia Heller and Michael Banaszak on the birth of their son, Jack Robert Heller Banaszak, on November 6, 1997.

Mazal Tov to Marilyn Wind on her election as National Vice President of United Synagogue and Chairman of the Council of Regional Presidents.

Mazal Tov to Leonard Bebchick on his election to the Board of Directors of United Synagogue.

Mazal Tov to Paula Horowitz on her election to the Advisory Council of United Synagogue.

Mazal Tov to Dr. Lewis R. Weiner who was recently honored as "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" by the interns and residents of Rhode Island Hospital, the teaching hospital of Brown University's School of Medicine. Dr. Weiner, who practices internal medicine in Providence and is clinical instructor at the hospital, is the son of Mervyn and Shirley Weiner.

Mazal Tov to Michael E. Leibowitz, M.D., who has been serving as President-Elect of the Medical Staff of Washington Adventist Hospital, Takoma Park, MD. Starting in January, 1998, he will be designated as President of the Medical Staff. Michael is the son of Frances H. Leibowitz.

Congregation Beth El wishes a speedy recovery to Dennis Feldman, Edna Krents, Maurice Papilsky and Milton Thaler.

## Membership Information

Steven and Susan Goldstein have moved to 10037 Colebrook Avenue, Potomac, MD 20854, (301) 424-4872. Steven and Ellen Bezner have moved to 5704 Brewer House Circle, N. Bethesda, MD 20852, (301) 770-1913. Karen Boyd has moved to 8619 Timber Hill Lane, Potomac, MD 20854, (301) 765-2076. Arthur and Mimi Blitz have moved to 8804 Earl Court, Bethesda, MD 20817, (301) 469-4811.

## Gan Shabbat

Gan Shabbat, a service designed for 7 - 10 year old children, meets the third Saturday of each month starting in September in the Meeting Room at 10:00 a.m. We are looking for new members for this simplified service led by Les Ziskind. Bible stories and snacks are also a part of each service. Come join us!

## Save the Date - Saturday, March 28, 1998

As we reach the end of the year, we look back with pride on the many exciting events which took place at Beth El this year. We had a wonderful Cantors' concert and a highly successful Torah Project, in addition to exciting programs and speakers.

In the coming year we look forward to celebrating Rabbi Maltzman's ten year anniversary at Beth El and to honoring him for his dedication to our congregation. A tribute event is being planned for Saturday, March 28, 1998 in the evening. You will be hearing more about the event in the coming weeks, but please save the date for this important occasion.

If you are interested in participating on the committee planning the event, please contact Dolly Band at (301) 365-0515 or Carla Schraub at (301) 469-0156.

## Shabbat Schedule

Friday, December 12th, at 6:30  
P.M.P.M. Vayishlach: Genesis:  
32:4 - 36:43

Saturday, December 13th, at 7:30 a.m.  
Saturday, December 13th, at  
9:15 a.m.

Emily Danoff Bat Mitzvah  
Laura Mirengoff Bat Mitzvah  
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.  
Nitzanim at 10:30 a.m. in the APR  
Saturday, December 13th, at 4:00 p.m.  
Sarah Segal Bat Mitzvah

Friday, December 19th, at 6:30 p.m.

Vayeshev: Genesis: 37:1 - 40:23  
Saturday, December 20th, at 7:30  
and 9:15 a.m.

Eliot Lesser Bar Mitzvah at  
9:15 a.m.  
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.  
Learners' Minyan at 10:00 a.m. in  
the APR  
Gan Shabbat at 10:00 a.m. in the MR  
Keruv at 12:00 p.m. in the Chapel  
USY Shabbat at 12:00 p.m. in the BR

Friday, December 26th, at 6:30 p.m.

Miketz: Genesis: 41:1 - 44:17  
Saturday, December 27th, at 7:30  
and 9:15 a.m.

Elana Kleiner Lowell Bat  
Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.  
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.

## BETH EL SCROLL

Congregation Beth El  
of Montgomery County

8215 Old Georgetown Road  
Bethesda, MD 20814-1451

### Rabbi

Jonathan Z. Maltzman  
JMALTZ5287@aol.com

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rabbiwdr@erols.com

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Samuel Scolnic

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Executive Director  
Steven J. Kravitz

Education Director  
Louis A. Nagel

Family Education Director  
Sarah L. Roark

Nursery School Director  
Ellen M. Darr

Youth Director  
Rachel B. Handloff

President  
Norman L. Eule

First Vice President  
Benson D. Adams

Second Vice President  
Arthur N. Popper

Second Vice President  
Gail H. Ross

Treasurer  
Susan Brinn Siegel

Financial Secretary  
Robert L. Koenig

Secretary  
Linda R. Lipson

Phone Number  
301-652-2606

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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. Periodical 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.

## Embracing the Torah Update

While the immediate excitement of Embracing the Torah is behind us, dedications in the new Sefer Torah can be made at any time as a symbolic fulfillment of the 613th mitzvah. Dedications will continue to be recognized in the Beth El Scroll, and those making a dedication will receive a certificate. To make a dedication, call the Torah line, (301) 652-2606, ext. 347.

The monetary success of Embracing the Torah was aided by the dedication committee chaired by Benson Adams and Mark Jacobson and including: Leonard Bebchick, Brent Berger, Cary Feldman, Eugene Fidell, Beryl Frank, Howard Goldblatt, Alan Golden, Mindy Hecker, Steve Jacobson, Andy Koblenz, David Murray, Steven Ross, Judy Sherman, Leslie Silver, Bertram Spector and Mark Weinberg.

The Torah Fair drew an unprecedented number of families to Beth El to see an entire Torah unrolled and to learn about Torah writing. The Fair was arranged by chairperson Julie Maltzman and committee members: Ruth Assal, Merry Eisenstadt, Mona Gabry, Susan Levine, Ellen Elow-Mintz, Barbara Pupkin, Julie Rabinowitz, Toby Rodman, Alan Spiegel, Sharon Spiegel and Evelyne Schettewi Steward.

Our thanks also go to Helen Popper and Gary Rosenfeld, members of Art Popper's computer committee, and to the publicity and publications committee of Erika Dickstein, Judith Cantor Goldman and Tara Sonenshine.

Recent dedications to the new Sefer Torah were made by Jeff, Ferne, Max and Calvin Cooper; and Jack and Johanna Minker.



## Book of Dedications

The Book of Dedications, which will record all dedications in the new Sefer Torah according to the weekly Parsha in which the dedicated portion appears, is being planned. Congregants who would like to help create the book are invited to call the Torah line at (301) 652-2606, ext. 347. When completed, the Book of Dedications will be displayed outside the Sanctuary, and its pages will be turned weekly. Until the book is ready, we will publish in the Beth El Scroll the names of congregants whose dedications occur in the weekly portions covered by that particular issue of the newsletter. We encourage congregants to make a special effort to attend the Shabbat morning service when the Parsha of their dedication is read. The names that follow are for the Sabbaths of December 13th, December 20th and December 27th. Although the lists below have only the names of people who make dedications, the book will also list specific dedications and names of honorees. Sheets with the details of dedications will be distributed every Shabbat morning.

Vayishlach, December 13th: Miriam Crowell; Patricia and Jerome Danoff and Family; Richard and Elizabeth Drachman; Ronald and Rosalyn Fleisher; Peter and Debra Friedmann; Josephine Gimble; Yael Greenberg; Lee Hoffman and Leslie Whipkey; Deborah Golub Leibowitz; Ron and Nancy Rubin; Shira Rubin; and Norman and Ruth Stein.

Vayeshev, December 20th: Benjamin, Suzanne, Rebecca and Jeremy Bronheim; Julia and Howard Copperman; Beth Eisenberg; Norton and Sandy Elson; Jeffrey Jay and Molly Peter; Rita and Irwin J. Kopin; Mark and Annette Lieber; Robert and Fran Rubin; and Rhonda and Robert Zahler.

Miketz, December 27th: The Benjamin Family; Ada and Louis Kramer; and John and Marion Wolff.

## Evening Minyan

The following people are asked to help us with our daily Evening Minyan for the next two weeks. Please note that there is also a Minyan at 8:00 p.m. on Sundays. On Sunday 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.

### December 14 - December 18

Ed and Bea Golfer	Darryl and Susan Grant
Jerome and Arlene Golub	Melvin and Harriet Gravitz
Calvin and Norma Golumbic	Peter Gray and Nancy Greenfield
Ann Goodman	Jeffrey and Cindy Green.
Eugene and Amy Goott	Jerrold and Karen Greenberg
Phillip and Vivian Gorden	Leonard and Linda Greenberg
Meyer and Dorothy Gordon	Robert and Jean Greenberg
Nathan and Helen Gordon	Yael Greenberg
Jonathan and Deborah Gottlieb	Eli and Marcia Greenblum
Nancy Graber	

### December 21 - December 25

Harold and Evelyn Greene	Murray Haber
Maurice and Barbara Greenman	Don and Michelle Hainbach
Naomi Greenwood	Robert Halperin and Candace Kaller
Joseph and Aline Greif	Mervyn and Eileen Hamburg
Marvin and Audrey Griff	Joseph and Mildred Hamer
Sid and Beth Groeneman	Murray and Marilyn Hammerman
Erwin and Leena Groner	Miriam Hamou
Alan and Barri Gross	Michael Handelman and Mary Malhiot
Seymour and Shirley Gross	Bruce and Susan Hanley
Kenneth and Ruthanne Grundfast	
Donald Gutman and Ivy Fields	

## Notes from the Board of Directors

Recent actions by the Board have primarily focused on activities of the early fall and High Holidays, refinement of governing and administrative procedures, ongoing financial support of the synagogue, the annual report of the synagogue's financial condition, and neighborhood concerns.

- A resolution recognizing the success of the Embracing the Torah Project and expressing gratitude to all those responsible for its success, particularly Marsha Rehns and Susan Brinn Siegel, was adopted by acclamation by the Board at the September meeting.

- In response to a petition from a number of congregants to reexamine solicitations for Israeli bonds at the High Holy Day services in light of the current political and religious climate in Israel, the Board approved a motion to continue the Israel Bonds Appeal this year with the addition of an appeal for bonds issued to Masorti.

- The Constitutional Review Committee, chaired by Cary Feldman, presented its preliminary report on Beth El's committee structure and criteria for designation of standing committees, as well as proposals for refinement of governing and administrative procedures. The Board approved a motion to present to the congregation the committee's recommendation to change the constitutional amendment process as delineated in Article XVII. The amendment would create a streamlined, more efficient amendment process. The proposed change will make it possible to vote on an amendment at the meeting in which it is presented. This proposed amendment will be presented at the November congregational meeting.

- The High Holidays were very successful this year, both spiritually and financially. A total of 3,150 tickets were distributed for the three services, about 30 more than in previous years. Gross income from the sale of tickets also exceeded past years and was close to \$74,000.

- The Ner Tamid Appeal has also been very successful, with about \$79,000 in pledges, which is \$4,000 more than was budgeted and about \$12,000 more than last year.

- The Beth El Long Distance Savings Program had 38 home lines and 4 business accounts as of September, well on the way to the 77 home subscribers projected for the first year of the program.

- The theme of the 1996-97 financial annual report is: "what goes up may come down." While all of the bottom line numbers remain positive, concern is mounting about the need to find additional sources of revenue and address the problem of membership. Revenue funds were generally up slightly; however, there has been a flattening of all funds except for special projects like Embracing the Torah, which resulted in revenue of \$116,000 for future educational programs. The cash surpluses of the past are unlikely to be repeated; this year for the first time, we did not break even on a cash basis.

- The Board approved a motion endorsing the activities of the Task Force on Senior Members, which will continue as part of the In-Reach Committee. The In-Reach Committee has begun implementing a number of activities including greeters at Shabbat services, a mentor program for new members and initiation of welcome gifts for new members.

- Neighborhood/Community Concerns. Efforts are continuing to establish a dialogue with our adjoining neighborhood and to help make Beth El more neighborhood friendly and respectful of the community. We currently have a strained relationship with our neighbors because of incidents related to social events held at Beth El by outside groups. The Executive Committee has ceased rental of our facility to outside social groups. Illegal parking and traffic issues have also exacerbated our relations with our neighbors. In addition to Norman's

address on Yom Kippur to the congregation on these issues, Beth El representatives are meeting with neighborhood as well as Montgomery County representatives to try and find solutions to these problems.

- The Board reiterated its previously adopted (May 21, 1996) policy restricting private receptions for B'nai Mitzvah, and made a motion to amend slightly the timing of such receptions, when allowed. The details regarding implementation of this new policy will be finalized at the December meeting and published in January 1998.

- A new ad-hoc committee and sub-committee have been formed: Brent Berger will chair the committee reexamining the dues structure and Ben Bronheim will head a group evaluating our worship service and the possible inclusion of a healing service.

### Join the Beth El Long Distance Savings Program

Over 60 Beth El families and businesses have already joined. They are saving on their long distance phone bills and Beth El gets a sizeable commission on every call. You can sign up with AT&T, Sprint, MCI or WorldCom and save between 10 and 45% over your current long distance plan! There are no access numbers - you make calls just like you do now. You can get calling cards and 800 numbers at reduced rates too. And there is absolutely no difference in quality or reliability. It's easy! Just fill out the form below and send it to the synagogue. If you have questions or need more details, call us at Beth El: (301) 652-2606, extension 348.

**YES!**

**I want to save on my long distance calls and help Beth El too!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Phone numbers I want to switch to Beth El's Program (indicate if any are cellular phones):

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Are these phones currently billed separately or together?  
 Separately  Together (which ones)

3. The carrier I prefer (all billed at 6 second increments):

AT&T (12.4¢/minute + \$5/month fee)

Sprint (11.9¢/minute, no fee)

MCI (12¢/minute, no fee)

WorldCom (11¢/minute, no fee)

4. Do you want:

a. Calling Cards? \_\_\_\_\_ How many? \_\_\_\_\_

b. An 800 number? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you want to switch your business phone lines?

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Business Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Beth El Long Distance Savings Program,  
 Congregation Beth El, 8215 Old Georgetown  
 Road, Bethesda, MD 20814**

## Thank You to Mitzvah Day Volunteers!

The Social Action Committee is pleased to report that Beth El's first Mitzvah Day, held on November 9th, was a resounding success! With the participation of over 200 families and numerous Religious School classes, and in spite of drizzly weather, Beth El's wonderful volunteers were able to do the following:

- clean up and help landscape Glen Echo Park and perform needed cleaning of the carousel animals;
- trim trees and bushes and clean up the grounds around Beth El;
- prepare and serve dinner to patients and their families at NIH's Children's Inn;
- put together and deliver welcome bags and greeting cards to new NIH Children's Inn patients;
- collect, sort and deliver over 150 large bags of clothing, household goods and toys for the Interfaith Clothing Closet;
- cook dinner for over 165 homeless Montgomery County individuals;
- serve dinner at two shelters;
- donate over 300 pounds of food and sort several tons more at the Capital Area Food Bank;
- give two parties at local shelters featuring Polaroid picture keepsakes;
- take Jewish Foundation for Group Homes' residents bowling;



*Deborah Rosenbloom and her second graders stuffing welcome bags for NIH patients.*



*Leslie Dellon and Diana Huffman sort clothes on Mitzvah Day.*

- assist Beth El Vatikim members with at-home projects;
- present a variety show, featuring seventeen talented Beth El children, at the Hebrew Home;
- canvass the Beth El neighborhood on behalf of the Montgomery County Hunger Drive;
- canvass our own congregation by phone for potential Red Cross blood donors;
- raise money through USY's help-the-homeless walk-a-thon;
- make bag lunches for local shelters; and
- entertain residents of two retirement homes.

The efforts of many, many individuals made this day possible. We would especially like to thank our individual project leaders for their time spent planning, phoning and organizing to ensure a smooth-running day: Sam Swersky, Jeff Annis, Andrea Golden, Deborah Rosenbloom, Diana Huffman, Leslie Dellon, Julie Maltzman, Marion Zatz, Jonathan Simon, Beverly Goldsmith, Sarah Roark, Lori Ross, Barbara Phillips, Rabbi Bill Rudolph, Judy Matz, Janice Liebowitz, Donna Kanin and Steve Frank. Thanks also to Joan Simon and Sisterhood, and Louis Nagel and his dedicated teaching staff. We regret that individual volunteers are too numerous to list by name, but we thank you all for contributing to a most rewarding, meaningful and memorable day.

Abbie Eckland & Debbie Ross  
Mitzvah Day Co-Chairs

## Keruv

### Keruv Calendar

**Discussion:** Keruv will host a discussion in the Chapel after Shabbat morning services on December 20th. We'll talk about issues that intermarriage brings to families, friends and the Jewish community. We welcome everyone with an opinion to share or a question to ask.

**Hanukkah:** Put Keruv's annual pot-luck Hanukkah party on your calendar! We'll celebrate Saturday evening, December 27th at the Levine-Janney home, 5835 Conway Road, Bethesda. Please RSVP to Joan Claxton at (301) 320-9283 or Susan Levine at (301) 530-2919. We always have lots of latkes and dreidels and gelt for the kids. All are welcome.

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 privately. Address: "Dear Keruv," in care of the synagogue office.

Keruv ("outreach") addresses the issues of intermarriage at Beth El. We hold drop-in Shabbat discussions, talk to Havurot, and have family-based holiday parties. For more information about Keruv and its activities, call Joan Claxton at (301) 320-9283.

## Caregivers Support Group

Are you a caregiver for a family member, friend, child or adult, at home or long distance, who is ill or disabled? You know well the spiritual and emotional satisfaction as well as the constraints. Please do not isolate yourself. Share in network, discussion and problem solving. For more information, call Ann Birk at (301) 365-4447.

## Genealogy Club

Beth El's Genealogy Club will be meeting on Sunday, December 14th at 11:15 a.m. in the Board Room. Newcomers are welcome! We're in search of any Yiddish/Russian/Polish/German speakers in the congregation who could occasionally help us out with translations. Contact Nancy Lewis, (301) 654-0121 if you're interested in helping us decipher mameloshin.

## Social Action News

Volunteer opportunities are available in our community on an ongoing basis. A flyer, located in the lucite holder outside the synagogue office, lists organizations to which Beth El belongs. Pick one up to see how you can become involved!

### Baruch Dayan Emet

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to Ellen Bezner on the death of her father, Herman Abromowitz; to Jacob Pankowski on the death of his mother, Sara Pankowski; to Mary Dubrow on the death of her brother, Samuel Kossman; to Harriet Brooks on the death of her sister, Ruth Kahn; to Vivien Redman on the death of her husband, Lipman Redman; and to Michael Klein on the death of his mother, Sadelle Klein.

## Sisterhood News

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 14th at 9:30 a.m. This is our next General Membership Meeting. Claire Marwick and Judy Newman will speak about their trip to Kostroma. Kostroma is the synagogue Beth El has adopted. Sisterhood contributed mezzuzot which Claire and Judy brought with them. Both women spoke to the Men's Club and were enthusiastically received. Please come and show them our support. A light breakfast will be served.

### Sisterhood Events for December

- December 14: General Membership Mtg.  
9:30 a.m.
- December 16: Tallit Workshop  
7:45 p.m.

## High Holiday Thank You

Herb Levinson would like to thank his entire High Holiday ushering staff at Beth El for a job well done. The staff included: Gary Wind, Alan Hecht, Max Krents, Seth Beckhardt, Diana Pankowski, Bert King, Faith Schwartz, Michael Mandel, Steve Mandel, Ed Leviton, Marvin Yudkovitz, Mervyn Hamburg, Howard Troffkin, Brent Berger, Jerry Herman, Jerry Broder, Michele Herman, Steve Frank, Robert Luskin, Ben Bronheim, Dennis Askwith, Ivan Askwith, Art Popper, Howard Feibus, Ed Golfer, Ron Klein, Barry Bukatman, Ed Shapiro, Sam Frishman, Debby Leibowitz, Diane Carroad, Ira Hoffman, Cary Feldman, Jeff Annis and Mark Weinberg.

## Nitzanim

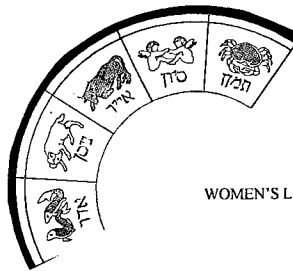
Nitzanim Shabbat Services are held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the All Purpose Room. A special service for children ages six and under and their parents, Nitzanim Shabbat Services feature a Torah parade, stories, lots of songs and a snack. We hope you will join us!

Nitzanim will hold a Hanukkah Celebration on Sunday, December 21st from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the All Purpose Room. We will do arts and crafts, sing songs and have goodies. If you would like to attend, please RSVP using the form below.

### Return to the Beth El Synagogue Office Attn.: Nitzanim

Yes, we would be interested in attending the Nitzanim Hanukkah Celebration on Sunday, December 21st. The cost is \$5 per family. Please RSVP by December 15th.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

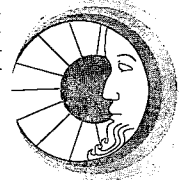


SEABOARD BRANCH  
WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM  
EDUCATION DAY  
JANUARY 11, 1998

Adat Chaim Congregation  
115 Cockey's Mill Road, Reisterstown, MD 21136 (410)833-SHUL  
(7485)

AGENDA	
Registration	11:00 a.m.
Branch Board Meeting	11:30 a.m.
Lunch	12:00 p.m.
Education Seminar	1:00 p.m.

Dr. Shaul Magid  
Assistant Professor of Jewish Philosophy  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America  
"Mysticism and Non-Mystical Judaism"



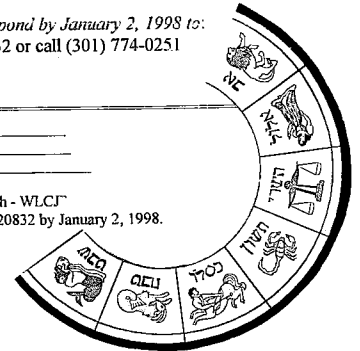
### DIRECTIONS:

Take 695 (Baltimore Beltway) to 795 (Exit 19). Take 795 to Franklin Boulevard (Exit 7A). Make a left onto Reisterstown Road. In approximately 1.5 miles make a left onto Cockey's Mill Road (between Ski Shoppe and Franklin Middle School). Approximately 1/3 miles, synagogue is on the left (just past Franklin Elementary School). Please note that Reisterstown Road becomes Main Street between Franklin Boulevard and Cockey's Mill Road.

Convert for the day is \$12.00. Kindly respond by January 2, 1998 to:  
Linda Levine, 4215 Route 108, Olney, MD 20832 or call (301) 774-0251

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sisterhood: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "Seaboard Branch - W.L.C.J." and mail to Linda Levine, 4215 Route 108, Olney, MD 20832 by January 2, 1998.



## Men's Club News

Interested in joining the Men's Club? The Men's Club offers an opportunity for fellowship, education and fulfillment through participation in our breakfast programs, fund-raising and other sponsored activities. Please contact David Schultz, (301) 530-1620.

The Men's Club presents a variety of exceptional speakers and topics at its weekly Sunday morning breakfast programs. All congregants are invited to attend, with the talk at 10:00 a.m. following the 9:30 breakfast. The schedule of speakers and topics follows:

- December 14: Joe Weisz, "In Commemoration of the 200th Birthday of Heinrich Heine"
- December 21: Deborah Golub, "Gifted Children"
- January 4: Perspectives in Dialogue, Prof. Ken Holum, Dept. of Antiquities, U. of MD, "Recent Archeological Excavations in Caesarea"
- January 11: Perspectives in Dialogue, President Brit Kirwan, U. of MD, "Current Issues in Higher Education"

Although we will try to adhere to the above schedule, please check the Shabbat Announcements, later editions of the Beth El Scroll and the posters in the Rotunda for any additions or changes to these programs.

The Men's Club is pleased to announce that this year's honoree for the Blue Yarmulke award is David Schultz. The award dinner will be held on January 18, 1998 at Chizuk Amuno Congregation in Baltimore. To purchase tickets or for further information, contact David Levine, (301) 299-9507. Flyers are available in the lucite holder outside the synagogue office.

## Congregation Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions (as of November 10, 1997)

***Bendit Adult Institute Fund***

In Memory Of: Howard Joseph Green by Mollyann March.

***Beth El Forest***

In Honor Of: A speedy recovery to Phil Margolius by Linda and Jerry Herman. In Memory Of: Jacob Koenig by Edward Koenig; Samuel Herman by The Hermans.

***Cantor's Fund***

In Memory Of: Marce Goldberg by Lia Imas and Family.

***Chevre Kadisha Fund***

In Memory Of: Isidor Ende by Mr. Asher Ende; Solomon Streit by Toby Moss; My father, Max Wolper, by Lillian Kessler; Louis Becker by Elaine and Roy Becker; Mary Rosner by Blanche R. Lozner.

***College Fund***

In Memory Of: Regina Freiberg by Karl Freiberg; Selma Kaufman by Howie and Susan Feibus.

***Conservative Judaism in Israel***

In Honor Of: Hans G. Hirsch for his shofar blowing by Daniel Hirsch.

***Fine Arts Fund***

In Memory Of: Beloved brother, Sigmund Gerber, by Gertrude Gerber.

***General Fund***

Philip and Ann Bennet. In Memory Of: Herman Elson by Norton and Sandra Elson; Rose and Harry Wallerstein by Lori B. Derkay; Dr. Leo B. Wigdor by William Gerber; Isidor Leventhal by Carl M. Leventhal; Ellen Darr's brother-in-law by BENS Parent Board; Bertha Jampel Spergel by Barry and Karen Spergel.

***Groner Ramah Scholarship Fund***

In Honor Of: Refuah Shlema to Al by Erwin and Leena Groner.

***Henry Hopp Library Endowment Fund.***

In Memory Of: Henry Hopp by Elmira Hopp.

***Israel Experience Teen Fund***

In Honor Of: Benjamin Margulies becoming a Bar Mitzvah by Claire Marwick.

***Kimball Nursery School Fund***

In Honor Of: Ellen Darr by Marcy Babitz.

***Library Fund***

In Memory Of: Betty Brooks by Alan and Corinne Swoff; Ellen Sweetwood by Natalie Golos.

***Mazon***

In Honor Of: Best Wishes to Esther Rubin on her retirement by Claire Marwick; Adam Danoff's preparing Danny for his Bar Mitzvah by The Simon Family; Michael Kay and Family by Sidney and Janet Getz; Kay Klass and Mark Levitt on their moving experience by Daniel Hirsch. In Memory Of: Nathan Zagoria by Etta Kline; Edward Solotar and Ida Boxer by Anne Solotar Siegel.

***Mintz Landscaping Fund***

In Memory Of: Nathan Dubrow by Mary Dubrow.

***Morning Minyan Fund***

In Honor Of: Danny Kweller's birthday by Ethel and Jack Werner. In Memory Of: Rose Minker by Jack Minker; Harold Haber by Murray Haber; Henry Hopp by Elmira Hopp.

***Music Fund***

In Memory Of: Carol Brody's father by Robert and Sheila Cohen; Frances Tribe, daughter of Charlotte Simos, by Hans George Hirsch.

***Perspectives Fund***

In Memory Of: Robert Treinish by Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish; Isadore Edgar Fassberg by Harold E. Fassberg.

***Prayerbook Fund***

In Honor Of: Daniel Kweller's special birthday by Bernard and Anita Ash. In Memory Of: Isaac Golding, Brocha Golding, Louis Golding and Freda Light by Jean G. Golding; Minnie Segal by Robert and Beatrice Newell; Evelyn and William Ginsberg by Vivian and Phillip Gorden.

***Rabbi's Fund***

In Memory Of: Pamela Merwin and Allegra Saady by Rose and Sam Saady; David Tievsky by Marvin and Arleen Tievsky; Harvey Weiss by H. S. Weiss.

***School Enrichment Fund***

In Honor Of: Rabbi Maltzman's Rosh Hashanah sermon by Daniel Hirsch; Anita Lieb's selfless commitment to Beth El's Youth by Joan and Joel Simon. In Memory Of: Emily Drachman by Richard and Elizabeth Drachman.

***Sisterhood Hospitality Fund***

In Honor Of: Ruth Sickel's devotion to Sisterhood by Joan Simon.

***Social Action Fund***

In Honor Of: The marriage of Alan and Sarah Powell by Deborah E. Reiser and Bart Widom; The marriage of Ira and Deborah Powell by Debby Reiser and Bart Widom.

***Suls Youth Activities Fund***

In Memory Of: Samuel Mininberg by Susan and Harvey Mininberg; Marty Wind by Marilyn and Gary Wind; Kate and David Schwartz by Stanley and Carole Schwartz; Maxine Rosenthal by Marilyn and Gary Wind.

***Torah Scroll Fund***

In Memory Of: Renika and Eliezer Bercu by Simone Bercu.

***Vatikkim***

In Memory Of: Bernard Blum by John and Marion Wolff; Max Feibus by Howie and Susan Feibus.

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

In Honor Of: Philip Margolius' recovery from a recent heart attack by Seymour D. Wolf.

***World Jewry***

In Honor Of: Kostroma by Dr. and Mrs. Sigmund Fritz; Claire Marwick by Marsha Rehns and Walter Amheim; Judith Newman by Marsha Rehns and Walter Amheim. In Memory Of: Beatrice Breger by Claire Marwick; Edith Sklaroff, beloved sister-in-law, by Claire Marwick.

### Vatikkim Luncheon

We invite you to a special Vatikkim luncheon program on Thursday, December 18th. Our speaker will be Edith Cord. When she addressed a Saul Bendit Institute class in April, 1994, she was warmly received and urged to return to Beth El. We are happy to welcome her again. A "hidden child" of the Holocaust, she managed to survive in France. In later years she developed a philosophy of life in which hate has no place. You will find her message, "Why I Decided Not to Hate," a moving and inspiring testimony.

Lunch is at noon and the program is at 1:00 p.m. Cost for members is \$5.00 and for non-members, \$6.00. Please fill out the reservation form below and mail it to Bea Goldman, 3214 Henderson Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20902, (301) 942-9434, or Lillian Kessler, 5450 Whitley Park Terrace, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 530-5650. **Please note that we will not accept reservations later than two days before the scheduled event to assure proper planning.**

**Reservation Form  
Vatikkim Luncheon  
Thursday, December 18, 1997**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me at the Vatikkim luncheon.

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

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

**Please have your response reach us by December 16, 1997  
No reservations will be accepted after this date.**

**From the Desk of the Youth Director...**

Beginning in January, the Youth Department will be mailing youth group info to youth group members only. If there are any questions regarding your child's membership please call me in the synagogue office.

The Youth Department would love to hear your ideas for new and exciting programs that you would like to see done at Beth El. Drop by the office or give me a call at (301) 652-2606 ext. 308.

**Religious School News**

**Reminder on Snow Emergencies**

Winter weather is heading our way, meaning school delays and closings. We know how disconcerting it can be to wait for decisions to be made on holding or canceling classes. Sometimes the decision is easy, clear-cut and you will know well enough in advance. A couple of years ago, an amazing number of storms began at or around the start of school. It is always our goal to exercise caution. We do not want to compel anyone to risk their lives on hazardous roads, but we also don't want to panic at the first snowflake. Please be patient and trust your own judgment. The school's policy and method of getting information out is as follows:

On Saturdays and Sundays, our school will be responsible for checking the road conditions in the area and deciding if the situation warrants closing. The school announcement line is the best place to turn to check for emergency school closings. The phone number is (301) 652-2606, ext. 346. Announcements will also be broadcast on radio stations WMAL 630 AM and WTOP 1500 AM.

There will be no mid-week (Monday - Thursday) classes on days when Montgomery County Public Schools cancel school or dismiss early due to inclement weather. When we cancel mid-week classes, we will put a message on the school announcement line, (301) 652-2606, ext. 346. We will also broadcast cancellation announcements on radio stations WMAL 630 AM and WTOP 1500 AM. Should Montgomery County Public Schools delay opening, then we will operate on our regular schedule.

**Upper School Back-To-School Night**

More than eighty of Beth El's finest 8th, 9th, and 10th graders, an exceptional corps of teachers, enough parents to establish several minyanim and the Klezmer band Shir Delite were on hand for the November 4th Upper School Back-To-School Night. Led by our Religious School's songleader, Sally Heckelman, Shir Delite provided an enlightening and entertaining hour of this Eastern European Jewish music which has undergone a resurgence of popularity over the past few decades. A highlight of the evening was more than half of the students dancing the hora, bringing to a close the musical program. Parents then had the opportunity to meet with their children's elective and core course teachers. At present we have a Confirmation Class (10th grade) of 23 students, the largest group in about 20 years; 21 9th graders; and an 8th grade class of 38 students, representing 85% of last year's B'nai Mitzvah. In addition, there are 17 students in the 11th/12th grade Senior Seminar - the healthiest enrollment for that class ever. Kol HaKavod to the parents, students and teachers who have helped make our Upper School program the exceptional experience it has become.

**Youth Group Calendar**

**Bonim Advisor: Heather Handloff**  
 (Kindergarten - 2nd Graders) (301) 652-2606, ext. 342  
 Saturday, December 20 Bonim Hanukkah Shabbat  
 Join Heather and Bonim for this special Hanukkah Shabbat at 10:00 a.m. RSVP: Call Heather at the Bonim Hotline, (301) 652-2606, ext. 342, to reserve your spot.

**Machar Advisor: Shana Flatt**  
 (3rd - 5th Graders) (301) 652-2606, ext. 341  
 Saturday, December 20 Machar Hanukkah Shabbat  
 Join Shana and Machar for this special Hanukkah Shabbat at 10:00 a.m. at Beth El. RSVP: Call Shana at the Machar Hotline, (301) 652-2606, ext. 341, to reserve your spot.

**Kadima Advisor: Adam Gluck**  
 (6th- 8th Graders) (301) 652-2606, ext. 340  
 December 12 - 14 Kadima Kallah in Virginia  
 Spend a weekend with 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from all over Seaboard Region celebrating Shabbat and making new friends. Call the Kadima hotline, (301) 652-2606, ext. 340, for more information.

**USY Advisors: Rachel Handloff and Lisa Itkin**  
 (9th - 12th Graders) (301) 652-2606, ext. 308  
 Saturday, December 20 USY Shabbat Shmooze and College Recognition Shabbat

USYers are invited to Shabbat services, as well as college students who are home on vacation, and USY alumni. Everyone is invited to a special Kiddush luncheon in the Board Room at 12:00 p.m. We would like to hear from our college students about their experiences. For more information, call Rachel Handloff in the synagogue office.

**FAMILY FUN DAY**  
**Thursday, December 25, 1997**  
**11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

\* See Magic Michael's Hanukkah Show  
 Latkes, Balloons, Sufganiyot, Games and More

\* Reserve early by returning the reservation form. \$20 per family of four or fewer, \$3 for each additional person.

\* Magic Michael will begin his show promptly at 11:00 a.m.

\* Tickets will be \$25 per family of four or fewer at the door on the day of the program, plus \$5 for each additional person.

**RESERVATION FORM**

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

Children Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Adults Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\$20 per family of four or fewer, \$3 for each additional person; children under 2 are free.

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

# December 1997

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
						4:26pm Candles 6:30pm Friday Evening Service 7:00pm Mirengoff Shabbat Dinner - APR	7:30am & 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Services 9:15am Emily Danoff B/M 9:15am Laura Mirengoff B/M 10:00am Jr. Congregation 10:30am Nitzanim - APR 4:00pm Sarah Segal B/M 6:00pm Segal B/M Party - SH, Gallery
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	
Tentative Confirmation Class Trip to NY 9:00am Minyan - Chapel 9:00am-1:15pm Family Ed. Program - SH 9:30am Men's Club - BR 9:30am Sisterhood Bd. Mtg. - Chapel 11:15am Genealogy Club - BR 1:30-5:00pm Youth Dept. Activities - APR	Tentative Confirmation Class Trip to NY 7:00pm Cub Scouts - APR	6:30pm Aerobics - SH 7:30pm Board Mtg. - BR 7:45pm Sisterhood Tallit Workshop - SH	12:00-2:00pm Rabbinical Assembly Luncheon - BR 4:15-6:15pm R.S. Hanukkah Activities - SH 6:45pm Hebrew Class - Room 201 7:00pm Boy Scouts - MR 7:15pm Boy Scouts Parents Mtg. - BR	12:00pm Vatikim Luncheon - SH 3:30-5:30pm Lesser B/M Rehearsal and Pictures - Sanctuary 4:15-6:15pm R.S. Hanukkah Activities - SH 6:30pm Aerobics - SH 7:30pm Family Ed. Adv. Bd. - BR	9:00am-12:00pm BENS Hanukkah Party - SH 4:29pm Candles 6:30pm Friday Evening Service 7:00pm Lesser Family Shabbat Dinner - APR	7:30am & 9:15 a.m. Shabbat Services 9:15am Elliot Lesser B/M 10:00am Jr. Congregation 10:00am Learners Minyan - APR 10:00am Gan Shabbat - MR 12:00pm USY Shabbat - BR 12:00pm Keruv - Chapel 7:30pm Lesser B/M Party - SH	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>			
9:00am Minyan - Chapel 9:00am-1:15pm R.S. Hanukkah Activities - SH 9:30am Men's Club - BR 10:00am Adult B/M Class - Chapel 1:30-5:00pm Youth Dept. Activities - APR 4:00-6:00pm Nitzanim Hanukkah Party - APR	10:30am Sabra Hadassah - SH 5:45-6:15pm Rel. Sch. Mincha/Maariv Service - Sanctuary 7:00pm Cub Scouts - APR	5:45-6:15pm Rel. Sch. Mincha/Maariv Service - Sanctuary 6:30pm Aerobics - SH	BENS and Religious School Closed for Winter Break Hanukkah - 1st Day 6:45pm Hebrew Class - Room 201	Nitzanim to Klutznick Museum Hanukkah - 2nd Day Offices and Schools Closed 9:00am Morning Minyan			

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