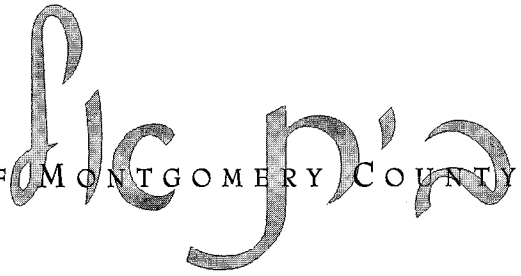


New Weekend Parking Available

The year-long cooperative meetings with our Glenwood neighbors and Montgomery County officials have borne fruit — or rather, parking spaces. NIH has generously agreed to allow Beth El congregants to use their parking facilities on weekends. Recently, NIH built an asphalt path between the parking lot noted on the map (page 8) and Glenwood Road where it meets Maple Ridge Road. It's a short, very pleasant walk through a park-like setting and just a little over a block walk on the street to reach Beth El. Explore a new parking alternative and help reduce traffic in the Edgewood-

Continued page 8...

CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY



Beth El Needs You!

The Nominating Committee will be convening soon and is looking for a few good people to lead our congregation into the 21st century. If you are interested in a position as an officer, trustee or committee chairperson, please advise the Nominating Committee in writing through the synagogue office prior to January 15, 1999. All input will be forwarded to the Nominating Committee for its consideration. If you are interested in joining a committee, please call the committee chairperson.

UNITED WAY CFC CAMPAIGN

Did you know that you can designate Congregation Beth El for your United Way contributions? Beth El is agency number 11605. If you are contributing to the Central Maryland United Way, Beth El's number is 4499. Todah Rabah to all who designate Beth El as your United Way donation beneficiary.

Congregational Trip to Israel, Summer 1999

Rabbi Rudolph and his wife Gail and son Marc will be leading a congregational trip to Israel in the early summer of 1999. Tentative dates are June 21-July 5. Itinerary and arrangements will be similar to those of the highly successful Summer 1998 tour led by Rabbi Jonathan and Julie Maltzman. If interested, please contact Rabbi Rudolph at (301) 652-2606, ext. 318 immediately.

Feasibility Study Summary

Pages 6-7



Shabbat Schedule

Friday, December 18

6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 19

7:30 and 9:15 a.m.

Miketz, Genesis: 41:1 - 44:17

Rachel Reynolds Bat

Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.

Jason Szol Bar Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.

Jr. Congregation at 10 a.m.

Gan Shabbat at 10:00

a.m. in the MR

Learners' Minyan at 10:00

a.m. in the APR

USY Shabbat at 12 p.m. in

the BR

Friday, December 25

6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 26

7:30 & 9:15 a.m.

Vayigash, Genesis: 44:18 - 47:27

Jr. Congregation at 10 a.m.

Nitzanim at 10:30 a.m. in

the APR

Friday, January 1

6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 2

7:30 & 9:15 a.m.

Vayechi, Genesis: 47:28 - 50:26

Jonathan Fluger Bar

Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.

Jr. Congregation at 10 a.m.

Worship and Study Minyan

at 10:00 a.m. in the APR

Healing Service

The next Healing Service, led by Rabbi William Rudolph, will be held at Beth El on Sunday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the All Purpose Room.

Beth El Worship and Study Minyan

The Worship and Study Minyan will meet on Saturday, January 2 in the All Purpose Room from 10 a.m. to noon. Evan Krame will lead the discussion on the weekly Torah portion. The service, conducted entirely by members of the congregation, combines evocative Torah study with ample singing and ruach. Children of all ages are welcome although the service is oriented towards adults. Contact Dan Hirsch, (301) 654-7289, Sid Getz, (301) 530-2215, or Mark Levitt, (301) 365-5365, for more information.

Membership Information

Mitchell and Rachelle Solkowitz have moved to 10005 Belhaven Road, Bethesda, MD 20817, (301) 897-8139.

LEARNERS' SERVICE

Our Learners' Service will meet on Saturday, December 19 in the All Purpose Room from 10 a.m. to noon. We then join the congregation for kiddush. The service, conducted on an interim basis by Rabbi Reuben Levine, is designed for the novice worshipper. It moves slowly. It is very hands-on in orientation, from how to put on the talit, to knowing when to bow, to practicing how to have an aliyah. There is also a focus each time on a different major portion of the service. Questions and discussions are very much encouraged. No registration or advance sign-up required. Contact Rabbi Rudolph, (301) 652-2606, ext. 318, for more information.

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!

Evening Minyan

The following people are asked to help us with our daily Evening Minyan for the next two weeks. On Sunday through Thursday, the Minyan begins at 8 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 20 - December 24

Ely and Barbara Hurwitz

Harold and Selma Hurwitz

Jonathan Isaacs and Elizabeth Krauss

Robert and Sheryl Isaacs

Amy Berman Jackson

David and Ilene Jacobowitz

Gary Jacobs and Harriet Kerwin

Milton and Colette Jacobs

Mark and Joanne Jacobson

Steven and Nancy Jacobson

Zelda Janus

Newton and Lois Jassie

Jeffrey Jay and Molly Peter

Mervyn and Marcia Jeffries

Robert and Karen Judson

Stanley and Gail Jutkowitz

Fred and Rita Kahn

Henry Kahn and Laura Primakoff

Walter and Barbara Kahn

Gail Kailo

December 27 - December 31

Robert and Marcia Kalman

Sarah Kalser

Robert and Carole Kaminsky

William and Andrea Kampine

David and Donna Kanin

Helen Kanovsky

Rose Kanovsky

Ethan and Sue Kanter

Steve and Aileen Kantor

Daniel Kaplan and Kay Richman

Donald Kaplan and Evelyn Karson

Leon and Laura Karadbil

Sylvan and Yocheved Karlin

Joseph and Susan Kattan

Nadav and Lynn Katz

Victor and Phyllis Katz

Marshall and Helene Katzin

Jay and Bernice Kaufman

Steven and Wendy Kaufman

Steven Kaufman and Lori Shapiro

All in the Family

Mazal Tov to **Jonathan and Judith Levin** on the birth of their grandson, Benjamin Aaron Levin, on November 8, 1998. Benjamin is the son of Daniel and Risa Levin.

The following letter was received from Manna Food Center:

Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for the food which you collected for Manna on Yom Kippur. At the beginning of September, stocks on Manna's shelves are always alarmingly low, but we have learned we can be confident that tons of food will be donated for the poor during the High Holy Days. Forty thousand pounds of food were given this year.

It is evident the needy of Montgomery County can count on Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County. May you be richly blessed for your generosity!

Sincerely,
M. Thomas Lawrey
Executive Director

Central America Disaster Relief

To contribute financial support to Central American relief efforts for Nicaragua and Honduras, make checks payable to B'nai B'rith Disaster Relief, 1640 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036, or to Emergency Relief Fund of JCC, 6125 Montrose Rd., Rockville, MD 20852. To make your donation in honor of someone else, send your check payable to Congregation Beth El to the Mitzvah Mall, attn.: Sarah Roark. You or the designated honoree will receive a gift card in the mail and the funds will be forwarded. If you would like to donate clothing, food and water, shelter equipment, or medical and health supplies, please contact Carol Ansell at Adas Israel Congregation, (202) 362-4433.

Baruch Dayan Emet

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to **Norma Golumbic** on the death of her sister, Anna Kerstein; to **Howard Copperman** on the death of his sister, Florence Treadwell; and to **George Amir** on the death of his mother, Bilha Amir Waldinger.

Congregation Beth El
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8215 Old Georgetown Rd.,
Bethesda, Maryland
20814-1451

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Associate Rabbi:
William D. Rudolph
Rabbi Emeritus:
Samuel Scolnic
Hazzan:
Abraham Lubin
Executive Director:
Steven J. Kravitz
Educational Director:
Louis A. Nagel
Family Education Director:
Sarah L. Roark
Nursery School Director:
Ellen M. Darr
Youth Director:
Rachel D. Sternberg
President:
Norman L. Eule
First Vice President:
Benson D. Adams
Second Vice President:
Arthur N. Popper
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AFFILIATED WITH
UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF
CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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Beth El's Own Torah and Haftarah Trope CD-ROM Now Available

A customized CD-ROM based on Hazzan Lubin's Manual for Torah and Haftarah Cantillations and Blessings publication and cassette is now available at a cost of \$69.95. To place an order, please call Hazzan Lubin or Selma Kriss at (301) 652-2606, ext. 302, or return the form below. For more information, call Hazzan Lubin.

Order Form

I would like to order _____ copy/copies of Beth El's CD-ROM.

A check, made payable to Congregation Beth El, for \$69.95 per copy is enclosed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Congregation Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions (As of November 16, 1998)

Bendit Adult Institute Fund

Marcella Brenner. In Honor Of: Inspiring B'nai Mitzvah Class by Helen Rib; Al Fox by Andrea and Alan Golden. In Memory Of: Susan Schwartzbart's father by Sharon Zissman.

Beth El Forest

In Honor Of: 80th Birthday of Gilbert Fisher by Bernice and Werner Blumenthal; Marge London's Bat Mitzvah by Simcha Chavurah; Rose Levin's Bat Mitzvah by Simcha Chavurah. In Memory Of: Selma Siegel by Howard Hoffman and Julia Mack; Alice Broder by Harold and Judith Zassenhaus; Harold Weiner by Judith and Harold Zassenhaus; Goldie Gross, mother of Seymour Gross by Marcia Possick; Sol Strauss, father, by Gertrude Oliner; Minnie Boston by Sandra D. Pressman.

Building Fund

In Memory Of: Esther Aisenberg by Irwin Aisenberg; Irving Muntner by Michael and Judie Muntner.

Cantor's Fund

In Honor Of: Margery London's Bat Mitzvah by Mitzi and Max Goldman; Rose Levin by Mitzi and Max Goldman. In Memory Of: Goldie Gross, mother of Seymour Gross, by Paul and Elaine Miller.

Chevre Kadisha Fund

In Memory Of: Selma Siegel by Peter and Debra Friedman; Beloved grandmother, Ida Stein, by Helen Rib; Rivkah Scharfstein by Tutti and Jose Sokol.

College Fund

In Memory Of: Harlee S. Popick by Douglas and Barbara Rosing and Family.

Disabled Access Fund

In Honor Of: Paula Horowitz's Bat Mitzvah by Josephine Horn; Mr. and Mrs. David Cohen's 60th Anniversary by Josephine Horn; Sarah Kalser's Bat

Mitzvah by Josephine Horn; Evelyn Magid's Bat Mitzvah by Josephine Horn.

Fine Arts Fund

In Honor Of: Bat Mitzvah of Betty Baer by The Sisterhood Players. In Memory Of: My beloved brother, Sigmund Gerber, by Gertrude Gerber; Selma Siegel by Joanne and Mark Weinberg; Beloved mother-in-law, Bertha Kohn, by Esther G. Kohn.

General Fund

In Honor Of: Thera Finbloom's Adult Bat Mitzvah by Gary and Rachelle Bernstecker; Lillian Kessler receiving Blue Yarmulke Award by Kathy Hooley; Dora Weinstein by Sanford and June Watzman; Rose Levin's Bat Mitzvah by Harriet and Charles Goldberg. In Memory Of: Dr. Leo B. Wigdor by William Gerber; Jennie Nichaman by Rhoda and Milton Nichaman; Nat Rifkind by C. Robert Hillman.

Groner Ramah Scholarship Fund

In Honor Of: Dr. Ricky Reff by Erwin and Leena Groner. In Memory Of: Harry Altman, beloved husband and father of Ada and Steve, by Erwin and Leena Groner; Selma Siegel, beloved mother and grandmother, by Erwin and Leena Groner; Roberta Safer's beloved mother, Frances Spector, by Erwin and Leena Groner; Benjamin Portman by Steven and Esther Kravitz and Family; Selma Siegel by Steven and Esther Kravitz and Family.

Israel Experience Teen Fund

In Honor Of: Gail Ross' birthday by Barbara Norton, Linda and Ace Lipson, Gladys Ross and Susan and Bert King; Luanne Stanley's Bat Mitzvah by Steven and Esther Kravitz. In Memory Of: Nathaniel Rifkind, brother of Dr. Basil Rifkind, by Judith and Jonathan Levin; Fred Mandler by Cary and Nancy Feldman; Selma Siegel by Doris and Albert Povich; Eva Gillman by Mr. and Mrs. S.R. Gillman.

Library Fund

In Honor Of: Gary Wind for a speedy recovery by Gary and Rachelle

Bernstecker. In Memory Of: Leah Sayles by Fran Edlitz.

Masorti

In Honor Of: Zachary Maltzman's Bar Mitzvah by Hattie Goodman and Norman Yastrov.

Mazon

In Honor Of: A Refuah Shelaimah for Gary Wind by Toby and Bernie Moss. In Memory Of: Susan King's father, Fred Mandler, by Mark and Joanne Weinberg; Maurice W. Cohn by Cyma and Jerome Heffter; Louis Krutiansky by Jack and Esther P. Kranton; Anna Dickler by Elliott and Phyllis Dickler; Leon Sawyer by Linda and Ace Lipson.

Mintz Landscaping Fund

In Honor Of: Beverly Goldsmith, Mazal Tov on your Bat Mitzvah, by Peter and Debra Friedman. In Memory Of: Herman Altschul, father, by Carolyn B. Feigenbaum.

Morning Minyan Fund

In Honor Of: Lillian Kessler receiving Blue Yarmulke Award by Frances H. Leibowitz. In Memory Of: Nathan Dubrow by Mary Dubrow; Claire S. Rosoff by Robert and Janice Samet; Henrietta Dewald by Michele D. Herman; Your Beloved "Arnie" Zoslow by Julian Levin; My brother, Harold Haber, by Murray A. Haber; Harry and Rose Minker by Jack Minker; My aunt, Marce Goldberg, by Marta Wassertzug and Family.

Music Fund

In Memory Of: Goldie Gross by Cary and Nancy Feldman; Tillie Goldman and Harry Wilder by Mitzi and Max Goldman.

Perspectives Fund

In Memory Of: Robert Scott Treinish by Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish.

Prayerbook Fund

In Memory Of: Irving Troffkin by Howard and Rhea Troffkin; Joseph Golickman by Mr. Harvey Gordon; Sophie Liss by Esther and George Liss; Evelyn Ginsberg by Vivian and Phillip Gordon.

Rabbi's Fund

In Honor Of: Rabbi Rudolph for the children of survivors meeting by Peter and Debra Friedman; Sarah Kalser by Louise Brockett; Sarah C. Kalser's Bat Mitzvah by Robert and Adelaide Emch; Thomas Gold by Harvey and Dale Gold; Sarah Kalser's Bat Mitzvah by Harold and Voilet Grodsky; Dora Weinstein, B'nai Mitzvah Class 5759, by Janet Rice, Shirley and Bernard Radack, and Ralph and Mindy Futterman; Sarah Kalser, a dear friend, by Mary Ann Johns; Judy Sherman's Bat Mitzvah by Kim and Mark Schifrin; Rabbi William D. Rudolph by Robert and Andrea Levine; Sarah Kalser by Estelle S. Stone; B'nai Mitzvah Group by Michele D. Herman; Rabbi William D. Rudolph by Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class. In Memory Of: Howard Hausman by Harold and Florence Miller; Rose Lipkind by Harry Lipkind; Beatrice Goldblatt by Howard Goldblatt.

Sisterhood Hospitality Fund

In Memory Of: Beulah Elkinson by Marvin and Audrey Griff.

Sisterhood Kathy Wilkins Memorial Braille Fund

In Memory Of: Beloved sister-in-law, Edith Sklaroff, by Claire Marwick.

Social Action Fund

In Memory Of: Lillian Y. Kalik, mother, by Dorothea Lear.

Torah Scroll Fund

In Memory Of: Selma Siegel by Gail Ross and Roy Niedermayer; Fred Mandler by Gail Ross and Roy Niedermayer.

Vatikim

In Memory Of: Samuel Leibowitz, M.D., beloved husband, by Frances H. Leibowitz.

World Jewry

In Memory Of: Beloved father, Samuel Sklaroff, by Claire Marwick.

Young Equality Fund

In Memory Of: Frances Spector by Cary and Nancy Feldman.

World Jewry Corner

Anyone going to Moscow who might be willing to take some medicine for Kostroma, please call Claire Marwick, (301) 657-2328.

Synagogue Near Auschwitz Rededicated

The Lomdei Mishnayot Synagogue in Oswiecim was rededicated earlier this month in a ceremony attended by Polish, Israeli and American officials. The only synagogue left in this town near the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, it will be restored by the Auschwitz Jewish Center Foundation of New York. The turn-of-the-century building functioned as a synagogue until 1939; in March, it became the first building returned to the Jewish

community under a new government restitution program. Before 1939, Oswiecim's 7,000 Jews worshipped in a dozen synagogues; today, only one Jewish resident remains. The Auschwitz Jewish Center Foundation plans a two-year restoration of the synagogue, with the construction of an adjoining museum.

Jewish Book Fair in Warsaw

The first Jewish book fair in Poland in half a century opened in the capital this month, under the sponsorship of the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation. Foundation official Jonah Bookstein hailed the four-day fair as "one of the signs of a normal Jewish community." Poland today is home to some 8,000 Jews, most of whom live in Warsaw.

Submitted by Mimi Godfrey

NURSERY NEWS

1999-2000 School Applications are available; please call (301)652-2606, ext. 344, provide the information requested and an information packet/application will be mailed to you.

Entertainment '99 Books available now in the school office, the synagogue office and the Judaica Shop.

Save Giant Receipts For B.E.N.S.!

Beth El Nursery School Raffle Winners

Thank you to everybody who bought raffle tickets for the Beth El Nursery School fundraising event. We appreciate your help in supporting the nursery school. We hope you try again next year if you didn't win this time. The following are this year's winners: One and Sons Jewelers-Diamond Earrings, Marcia Abrookin; David Plotnek-Signed Don Shula Lithograph, Heller\Banaszak; Paul's Liquor Store- Case of Wine, Katz\Rayner; Saks Fifth Avenue Hair Salon-Phyllis Dickler; Neil and Holly Kopit-Child's Earrings, Sheryl Isaacs; Katz's Kosher Market-Platter, Jay Miller; China Village Restaurant-Dinner for Two, Kim Schifrin; Greenspan Family-Redskins Game Tickets, Jill Posin; LS Designs-Design Consultation with Lauren Sachs, Lisa Rosen; Snider's Supermarket-\$25 Gift Certificate, Rita and Irwin Kopin; Lazarus Shoe Store-\$20 Gift Certificate, Dana Kromash; Bethesda Bagels-Four Dozen Bagels, Bernie Band; Bean Bag-\$25 Gift Certificate, Sally Romansky; Paabo Beauty Salon, Nila Vermiglio; Criswell Chevrolet-Men's Shirt, David Plotnek; Anglo Dutch Toy Store-Game, Pamela Crystal; Anglo Dutch Toy Store-Magnetic Art Picture Board, Stuart Berman; and Dental Services, Nicky Kaufman.

Save the Date!

The annual Beth El Retreat will be held the weekend of March 5 - 7 at the Tidewater Inn in Easton, MD.

MEN'S CLUB

Please mark your calendars! Beth El's Men's Club is proud to announce our 25th annual Perspectives in Dialogue series in January. This truly special series brings speakers of national status to talk on issues in the forefront of the news and of concern to us all. See the ad in this issue for more information. Everyone is welcome.

Mark your calendars also for the annual Magic Show and Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, February 7, 1999. The kids will love it! Look for reservation forms in the next issue of the Scroll.

If you are not a member, please consider joining the Men's Club. We need you! For membership information, please contact Bernie Rod, (301) 299-8632.

Sunday Breakfast Programs: Breakfasts are at 9:30 a.m.; speakers at 10:00 a.m. Check poster in Rotunda for updated details.

December 20: Harry Lipkind, "The Future of the Computer"
(Due to Rosh Hodesh, breakfast and program will be slightly later.)

December 27: Program to be announced.

Beth El Men's Club is Proud to Present the 25th Annual

Perspectives In Dialogue

A series of talks by nationally known speakers on topics of special importance to our community

Sunday, January 3, 1999

The Honorable Connie Morella
U.S. House of Representatives, 8th District, Maryland

January 10

William Safire
Author and Columnist, *The New York Times*
"The Years Ahead"

January 17

Dr. Steven Rosenberg
Chief of Surgery, National Cancer Institute
"Medical Progress in the 21st Century"

January 24

Shoshana Bryen
Director, Special Projects, Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA)
"U.S. Policy and the Security of Israel"

January 31

Ambassador Dennis Ross
Special Middle East Coordinator for the Clinton Administration
"The Future of the Middle East Peace Process"

All talks will begin at 10:00 a.m.
Danish and coffee at 9:30

Toiletries for Bethesda Cares

One of the wicker baskets outside the Board Room is for toiletries for Bethesda Cares, which serves the homeless and less fortunate persons in our community. We sincerely appreciate the items (soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, razors, etc.) you continue to donate, and we hope others will do so in the future. It's the perfect solution for what to do with those soaps and shampoos you bring back from trips!

Beth El Tikkun

We now have available copies of the Tikkun of Beth El's own new Torah which is regularly used in the Sanctuary. Torah readers may now acquire their own copy so that they can visualize exactly how it looks in the new Torah scroll. The Tikkun was prepared by Hazzan Lubin, complete with index and pagination. Copies are available in the synagogue office at \$20.00 each. There is also a reference copy available in our library.

From Norman L. Eule, President

The following is a summary of the Joel Friedman & Associates Feasibility Study which I discussed in my November 20th letter to the congregation. If you have any questions about the study, please feel free to contact either me or Steve Kravitz.

CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FEASIBILITY STUDY SUMMARY JOEL S. FRIEDMAN & ASSOCIATES November, 1998

PERCEPTIONS/EVALUATION

Themes with high emotional as well as practical significance were apparent in the interviews. Responses indicate that the synagogue is important to its members to fulfill communal needs, serve as an anchor and/or arena during times of need and celebration, and to serve as an instrument of personal support in achieving larger goals and personal growth.

If we are to take the responses of an initial 'ice breaker' question seriously, we can present a thumbnail sketch of the experience of the congregation. The question was, "How would you describe the role of Congregation Beth El in your family's life?"

The answers:	# Responses	% of Total
Fill communal needs	32	26%
Sharing joyful/sad experiences	39	32%
Support for values for personal growth	51	42%

We can further interpret responses to this question to inform us as to the relative importance of Congregation Beth El in the life of each of the participants. The responses are as follows:

Relative Importance of Beth El to Participants

Critical Priority:	28	Important:	58
Marginal:	35	Not Important:	1

CAPITAL AND ENDOWMENT NEEDS

A substantial majority of the participants in this survey agree that the facility is limiting the program needs and goals of the congregation. It was explained that an expansion/renovation of the synagogue facility would not be undertaken with the goal or expectation of significant growth but to address current and projected future program requirements of the congregation. In addition, a large number of comments related the need to upgrade the synagogue aesthetically. There is a deep acknowledgment and understanding of the culture of the synagogue and no one has suggested a 'marble and bronze edifice'.

Since this study took place early in the planning process, no model or design was presented to participants. A list of goals to be achieved was presented and respondents were asked to comment on the appropriateness of the proposal and whether the priorities articulated were their shared priorities.

Continued on page 7...

FORMS OF SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT

Despite the fact that this study took place early in the process and that there is not a final defined plan for the expansion/renovation, the participants in the study appear ready to involve themselves in a Capital/Endowment Campaign.

On the simplest of levels, there is strong advocacy base to 'go on the record' in support of the project after it is adopted. This is an important statement toward the consensus that would be necessary for a successful campaign.

The question was asked as to whether the participant(s) would be willing to open their home to a small group for an educational parlor meeting. Almost 60% of those surveyed were willing to do so.

Almost 44% of both men and women have indicated that they would be willing to serve in some way on a committee.

Finally, approximately 10% of those surveyed indicated a willingness to assist in the process of face-to-face solicitations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. PROGRAMS

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL:

- That faculty training programs be maximized.
- That efforts to integrate day school students into the fabric of the congregation be intensified.
- That the director and lay leaders seriously explore alternative means of satisfying a six hour program in a two day a week framework.
- That the congregation participate vigorously in community educational initiatives.
- That the synagogue create as many opportunities as possible for the rabbis to interact with students in the Religious School in both classroom and special event settings.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

- That the synagogue be sensitive to the increasing search for spiritual fulfillment by many congregants. That sermons, study sessions and innovative programs address 'meaning of life' questions and the spiritual dimension of the human spirit.

OUTREACH TO NEW MEMBERS:

- That the leadership institute and aggressively monitor a formal process to integrate new members into the congregation.

ADMINISTRATION:

- That the membership database capabilities be fully explored for broader capacity and that the staff receive

extensive training in the complete use of the data system and its relation to other software applications.

- That the professional staff meet regularly for planning, calendaring, conflict resolution and brainstorming purposes and that they dedicate one day each spring planning for the following academic year.
- That the building fund structure be reexamined to determine the feasibility of establishing a dollar amount and/or time duration that satisfies this obligation.

OLDER ADULTS:

- That intergenerational programming be explored and piloted.

LAY LEADERSHIP:

- That the leadership use the Scroll and congregation updates to keep the membership fully informed of short term and long range planning.

SAFETY:

- That the leadership immediately develop a strategy to address traffic management on its site with safety as its highest priority.

II. CAPITAL/ENDOWMENT

1. The Board should make available the following information and documents to the congregation (copies available through the office and library):

- Highlights of the feasibility survey.
- Resolutions adopted by the Board in response to the consultant's report.

2. The Board should inform the congregation that members will be invited to attend select meetings of the Board in the future.

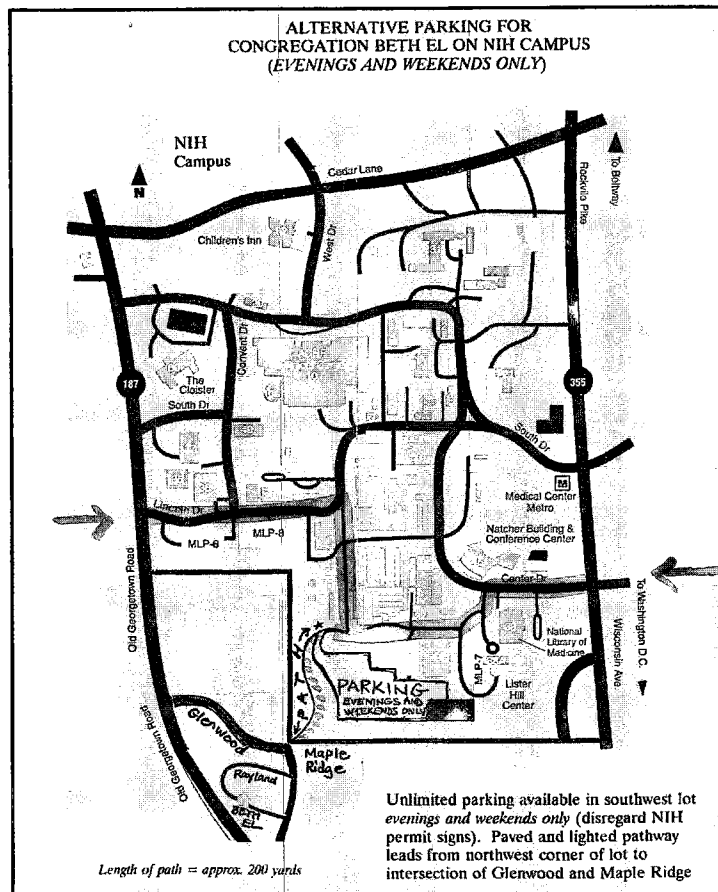
- To create a clearer understanding of the opportunities, challenges and priorities of the synagogue.
- To provide a democratic forum for all members to participate in the issues on Beth El's agenda.

3. The Board should inform the congregation of the development of a long term strategic plan.

- A plan to enhance and improve upon existing programs, resources and activities of the synagogue.
- A plan to create new responses to the future needs of our children, our seniors, our singles and the families of our congregation.
- A plan to enhance our synagogue and make it functional and attractive aesthetically.
- A plan that will encourage reasonable expectations relative to revenue and expenditures and provide a framework for continuing to operate with a balanced budget for the next five years.

Parking (cont. from p. 1)

Glenwood neighborhood! You can reach the lot via Old Georgetown Road (north of Beth El) by turning right (east) at Lincoln Street into NIH; there is also access from Rockville Pike (see the map). The NIH parking structure off Lincoln Street at Old Georgetown Road is also available for weekend parking. Additional larger maps of these parking lots are available in the synagogue.



Volunteers Needed for Beth El Weeks at Community Based Shelter

Congregation Beth El is scheduled to volunteer at the Community Based Shelter (CBS) twice this year, so check your calendars now and sign up to participate in this very rewarding event. Beth El volunteers can help out beginning with dinner on Sunday, December 20 and ending with breakfast and brown bag lunches on Sunday, December 27. This is an especially busy week for everyone due to winter break, but it can also be a meaningful time to volunteer. Our responsibilities include preparation of three precooked meals (breakfasts, bag lunches and a hot dinner) for each shelter day, and setting up, serving and cleaning up the evening meal. We also are responsible for providing paper goods. If you are interested in participating, please call Karolyn Wallace, (301) 656-3142. If you like to plan ahead, our second week is scheduled for Sunday, May 16, 1999.

CBS also has a wish list which includes: laundry soap, dishwasher soap, toilet paper, hygiene items (deodorant, razors, shaving cream, toothbrushes and toothpaste), canned goods, towels and washcloths, and linens. If you can donate any of these items, call Patricia Fox-Morrill, CBS Director, at (301) 770-2413.

Do an Easy Mitzvah!

For those of us with easy transportation, getting to Beth El is not a problem. For some members, however, getting to Shabbat or holiday services, meetings, minyans or other scheduled activities is difficult. If you can offer a ride on an occasional or regular basis to another member, please let us know by calling the new Ride Line at the synagogue office, (301) 652-2606, ext. 351. Once we receive messages from enough drivers, we will begin accepting requests on the same extension. If you have any questions, please call Brent Berger, (301) 770-1356.

Please Join Us for the
Seaboard Region - Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs
Annual Blue Yarmulke Awards Cocktails
and Dinner Evening

This Year,
Congregation Beth El's Men's Club
"Person of the Year" is:

Lillian Kessler
(the Region's first Woman Honoree!)

January 10, 1999;
Adas Israel Congregation
2850 Quebec Street, N.W.

Cocktails - 6:30 P.M.
Dinner and Presentations - 7:30 P.M.
\$42. per person

Please reserve _____ seats for the Blue Yarmulke Evening.

Please place a Congratulatory ad for our honoree in the Program in the following size (write copy of ad on the back of this sheet or attach):

_____ Full page (\$100.) _____ Half-page (\$60.)
_____ Quarter page (\$35.) _____ Name listing (\$5.)

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ (\$42. per person plus cost of ad if desired).

Congratulatory ads for the program must be received by Dec. 11th.
Reservations for the evening must be received by Jan. 1st.
Please make all checks payable to the Seaboard Region - FJMC. Mail to Treasurer, Beth El Men's Club,
8215 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814-1451.

*From the Desk of Rachel D. Sternberg,
Youth Director*

Bonim (Kindergarten - 2nd Graders)

Advisor: Carrie Apfel
Hotline: (301) 652-2606, ext. 342
Come see your Bonim buddies at Gan Shabbat on Saturday, December 21 at 10 a.m. in the Meeting Room. No RSVP necessary!!!

Machar (3rd-5th Graders)

Advisors: Darrin Gerson and Andrea Goldstein
Hotline: (301) 652-2606, ext. 341

Kadima (6th-8th Graders)

Advisor: Jane-Rachel Sanow
Hotline: (301) 652-2606, ext. 340

USY (9th-12th Graders)

Advisor: Rachel Sternberg
Hotline: (301) 652-2606, ext. 308

USY Shabbat - December 19 - 11 a.m. in the Board Room.

Join USY for a Musaf Service and Kiddush.

USY Bagel Sale - December 20 - 10:30-11:45 a.m.

If you want to help out, call the USY Hotline.

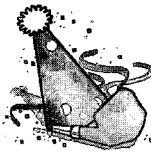
Manor Care Hanukkah Party - December 20 - 2-3:30 p.m.

Celebrate Hanukkah with the Jewish residents of Springhouse Manor Care. We will eat latkes and sufganiyot and visit with the residents. Community service hours can be earned through this event. Please RSVP to the Hotline to attend.

Fresh bagels will be sold by USY in the Rotunda on Sunday, December 20 from 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

USY Bagel Sales
\$.50 Coupon
Get \$.50 off
your next dozen bagels.

Congregation Beth El Family Fun Day!!!
Friday, December 25, 1998
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Advanced Reservation is \$25 per family of 4 or less.
\$4 for each additional person.
Admission at the door will be \$30 per family of 4 or less.
\$6 for each additional person.

For more information please call Rachel Sternberg, Youth Director at (301) 652-2606 ext. 308.

Join the Fun!!!
Surprise Entertainer
11:00a.m.-12:00p.m.

**Moon Bounce, Ball
Crawl, Olympic
Obstacle Course and
much more!!!
Latkes, Sufganiyot
and a light lunch.
activities for kids-
both big and small.**

Family Fun Day Reservation Form

Return with check (made payable to Congregation Beth El) no later than Tuesday, December 22, 1998. Please return to:

Congregation Beth El
Attn: Family Fun Day
8215 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD 2081

****Cost of admission in advance: \$25 per family of 4 or less. \$4 for each additional person.
***Please note that admission at the door will be \$30 per family of 4 or less. \$6 each additional person.**

Name: _____
Telephone# _____
Number in Party _____
Amount of check enclosed: _____

Keruv

Join Keruv on Sunday, December 20 at the home of Susan Levine and Bob Janney in Bethesda for the annual Keruv Hanukkah party. Please RSVP to Joan Claxton at (301) 320-9283.

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 and conversion 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 (JSClaxton@aol.com).

Volunteer Needed

If anyone can donate two to four hours per week to stay with a homebound congregant so her husband can do errands and food shopping, please call Rhonda Kleiner Lowell at (301) 294-8858.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

Early Exits

It has been brought to my attention that a few more children than usual have been leaving class early for other activities. In the past this was mostly a little league baseball phenomenon, but it is spreading wider and is a trend that must be reversed. At a practical level, it is a serious problem when children leave class early for any reason. These children tend to lose their focus, paying more attention to the clock in anticipation of leaving class early than the subject at hand. It also devalues the learning process. When a child leaves early, it also negatively influences the rest of the class time for those remaining. I encourage all parents to put these competing schedules in perspective. The children are

Sisterhood News

Tallit Workshop 1998 - 99

Make a tallit for yourself or someone you love. Special instruction and assistance for non-sewers. Separate track for experienced sewers. Basic tallit bag instruction. On December 6 there will be a field trip to G Street Fabrics, and the other workshop dates are December 8, 22, January 5, 12 and February 2 (tying of the tzitzit) at 7 p.m. RSVP to Judith Spector, (301) 309-2529 or e-mail globusinc@msn.com. All are encouraged to participate. You need not be a Sisterhood member. We are happy to work with teens and family groups, too.

Are You Interested in Health and Fitness?

The Sisterhood Women's Health Fair will be held on Sunday, April 25 from noon until 4 p.m. We are looking for people (men and women) to help plan a program that will build upon our successful event last year. Please call Pat Danoff, (301) 365-1180, Michele Herman, (301) 718-8710, or Mimi Tygier, (301) 652-8211, if you are interested in doing any of the following: serve on planning committee, find speakers and clinicians, do publicity, prepare healthy lunch, obtain or donate health-related literature, lead an exercise or hands-on session, set-up and take-down, perform basic health screening tests, or serve in any other capacity, large or small.

We are hoping to hear from the many health professionals in the congregation, but we also need volunteers from all backgrounds who want to make this event worthwhile. The date may seem far away, but the planning needs to start now! Please call if you can help in any way with this informative and fun afternoon.

going to be Jewish for the rest of their lives. We are trying to prepare them for something more important than these other pursuits. We act in the spirit of the biblical verse (that appears at the top of our Consecration certificates) which instructs, "Educate children in the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6) Please do everything you can to keep your child in class, to the end of class.

Snow Cancellation Plan

In all circumstances, when the decision to cancel school is made, the information is posted on the Religious School Announcement Line, (301) 652-2606, ext.346. We also broadcast announcements on radio stations WMAL, 63 AM, and WTOP, 1500 AM.

Mid-Week Classes - If Montgomery County Public Schools cancel school or dismiss early, then there will be no Religious School. Should Montgomery County Public Schools delay opening, then we will operate on our regular schedule.

Weekend Classes - On Saturdays and Sundays, our school will be responsible for checking the road conditions in the area and deciding if the situation warrants closing. When in doubt, the quickest way to get an answer is to call the Religious School Announcement Line.

Now we can give you...



The Sun



The Moon



The Stars

The Women's Rosh Hodesh Group
of Beth El Sisterhood

invites you to its Tuesday evening discussion series

Topic: The Status of Jewish Women from the
Biblical Period to the Present: What the
Texts Say About Responsibility, Rape,
Marriage, Divorce and Abortion

Leader: Rabbi Toby Manewith
Hillel Director, The American University

Dates: January 19, February 16 and March 16

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Beth El Board Room

Questions: Call Marcia Merlin, (301) 365-3747, or
Mimi Tygier, (301) 652-8211

You are welcome to join us for any or all of the series.
No reservation is needed.