

MILESTONES

Mazel Tov!

Births

- Cheryl & Ken Breitbart on the birth of a grandson (parents Aliza & Danny Gottesman)
- Dorothy & Yudy Brody on the birth of a daughter
- Dina & Yosef Cotton on the birth of a granddaughter (parents Rochel & Shmuel Cotton)
- Fran & Leib Davids on the birth of a daughter
- Judy & Aryeh Gross on the birth of a grandson (parents Shlomit & Shmuel Field, and great-grandmother Lola Singer)
- Harvey Honick on the birth of his first great grandson in Yerushalayim (parents Devorah Miriam & Yehuda Finkel, grandparents Bunny & Jeff Honick, uncles/aunts + the Moshman & Honick families)
- Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid Katz on the birth of a granddaughter (parents Ayala & Reuven Shnitzer and great-grandmother and great-grandmother Mrs. Dorothy Hettleman)
- Sarah S. Katz on the birth of a great grandson (parents Bryna & Yaakov Handler; grandparents Debby & Jake Schuchman; great-uncle/aunt Brenda & Mayer Katz; uncles/aunts Ariella & Eitan Schuchman and Michal & Moshe Schuchman)
- Mrs Sarah S. Katz and Mrs. Dorothy Hettleman on the birth of a great-granddaughter (parents Michal & Moshe Schuchman, grandparents Debby & Jake Schuchman; great-uncles/aunts Rabbi & Mrs Dovid Katz and Brenda & Mayer Katz, uncles/aunts Ariella & Eitan Schuchman and Bryna & Yaakov Handler)
- Sandy & Mitch Knisbacher on the birth of a granddaughter in Israel

Bar/Bas Mitzvahs

- Michele & Seth Moshman & family on the bat mitzvah of Rachel Adina
- Susan & Rocky White & family on the bat mitzvah of Yonah.
- Naomi & Menashe Shabtai & family on the Bar Mitzvah of Gavriel Yair

Engagements

- Lola Singer on the engagement of granddaughter Charlotte Krug to Avi Fields
- Hannah & Moshe Wolfish on the engagement of their son Avraham Tzvi to Yehudis Wormser, daughter of Channah & Daniyel Wormser of Zurich
- Kathy & Chaim Harris on the engagement of their daughter Chaya Weissberg to Yitzchok Sachs of Monsey
- Sandy & Ronnie Rosenbluth on the engagement of their daughter Tova to Yoni Sonnenblik

Weddings

- Gary Kaspar on his marriage to Leora Weltman (parents Beverly & Harvey Kaspar and Grace & Larry Weltman)

Condolences

to Morris Cohen on the loss of his brother

- To send a mitzvahcard, call Judy Goldman (410-358-1507).
- To sponsor a kiddush or shalosh seudos, call Ralph Frier (358-1544).
- To rent the social hall, call Tzipora Frager (358-1699).
- To place a leaf on the Tree of Life, contact Barbara Lasson (358-4649).
- To join the Sisterhood, call Ariella Schuchman (542-8223).

Weekly Classes

Shabbos (men & ladies / Rabbi Katz)
{90 minutes before Mincha}
Sunday (Rabbi Menken)
{following Shacharis}
Monday (men / Rabbi Katz) / 8-9 pm
Tuesday (ladies / Rabbi Katz) / 9:30 am
Motzai Shabbos (adult/child)
{7-8 pm, followed by pizza}
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Message from the Rabbi

I am looking at the Chanukah candles as I write these lines. The flames flicker upwards, reminding us of the Torah and *Tefilah* they symbolize. As we contemplate the upcoming second half of the winter, I think about how *Motza'ei Shabbos* is becoming another important part of the week at Hertzberg's. Our recent lecture series has packed the shul on Saturday nights and hopefully will continue to do so, making Beth Abraham on *Motza'ei Shabbos* "the place to be" for increasing numbers of Baltimore Jews. In addition, our longstanding Parent-Child Learning (with pizza) continues to do what we hoped it would do: make our children want to come and learn Torah of their own volition on Saturday nights (the pizza has nothing to do with it!). Finally, and perhaps most importantly, I am looking forward to starting a series of classes on *Tefilah* on Saturday nights as soon as the current lecture series is concluded. The projected *Tefilah* shiur is the result of popular demand by many who have expressed their feelings that our current shul-davening is flawed and who are sincerely looking for a better prayer experience at Beth Abraham. This is not a matter of griping or *burtching*. It emerges from the best sensibilities of our members and worshipers, who know that a shul is designed to be a place of spirituality, and that *Tefilah* is supposed to be a moving and even transformative experience. As a rabbi I am happy that such an indication of dissatisfaction with our religious status quo has emerged "from below." I hope that out of our projected *shiurim* and focused discussions a more meaningful sense of davening will emerge in our shul, and that Beth Abraham, like the Chanukah candles, will ever strive to rise higher and higher. Like businesses, shuls "grow or go," and nowhere is this more true than in our spirituality as a *tzibur*. As we struggle with the happy problem of finding enough seating and space for attendees at our *shiurim* and lectures, let us resolve, as always, to match our renowned *heimishkeit* and charitableness with an equally renowned and spiritually moving *Tefilah*.

+ Rabbi Dovid Katz