

Congregation Beth Evergreen

B'nei Mitzvah Program

P.O. Box 415
Evergreen, CO 80437-0415
educationdirector@bethevergreen.org
Tel. (303) 670-4294, ex.
www.BethEvergreen.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| <u>Topic</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|---|----------------|
| B'nei Mitzvah Faculty and Staff | 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| Purpose and Goals..... | 6 |
| CBE B'nei Mitzvah Requirements/Logistics..... | 7, 8 |
| FAQs..... | 10, 11, 12 |
| Order of Shabbat Morning Service..... | 13 |
| Shofar Announcement Form | 14 |
| Simcha Resource List | 15, 16, 17, 18 |
| Bar/Bat Mitzvah Bibliography | 19 |
| Internet Support & Dvar Torah Resources..... | 20 |
| Glossary..... | 21 |

CBE B'NEI MITZVAH PROGRAM

STAFF:

Rabbi Jamie Arnold
303-670-4294 ext. 7
Email: RabbiArnold@bethevergreen.org
CBE DIRECTOR

Neshama Mousseau
303-670-4294 ext. 1
Email: Shalom@bethevergreen.org
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jill Wildenberg
303-670-4294 ex. 8.
Email: educationdirector@bethevergreen.org
EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Randi Murray, volunteer coordinator
303-670-7942
Murray_sp@msn.com
EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR, B'NEI MITZVAH TASK FORCE CHAIR

B'NEI MITZVAH TUTORS: (Tutor information follows)

Nancy Friedman
303-679-4905
scp-nef-eazy.net

Elliott Magalnick
303-946-8253
get1well@aol.com

Cheri Rubin
303-526-9674
gypsy50@q.com

Tara Saltzman
303-679-8713
tara@tarian.us



Nancy Friedman teaches Hebrew reading to students beginning their Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation. The ability to read Hebrew is a skill that will be used throughout their lives during prayer and Jewish life cycle events, and will enable your child to be a part of the Jewish community anywhere in the world. Reading Hebrew fluidly is the first step of Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation, providing a sound basis for studying the trope melodies and the prayers of the morning service, and working with Rabbi Jamie.

Nancy is a fluent Hebrew reader. She has visited and studied in Israel, attended Camp Ramah (the Hebrew-speaking camp of the Jewish Theological Seminary) for seven summers, and spent many years as a Hebrew tutor in New York. Nancy regularly leins (chants) Torah at CBE during the High Holidays and was in Dina Bartov's advanced Hebrew conversational group.

Nancy tutors either in the student's home (local) or at Evergreen Library. She works privately with the student, or, in the Jewish tradition, semi-privately.

Elliott Magalnick

I start my tutoring with a workbook on Hebrew reading that I ask the parents to order. I spend time at the initial lessons stressing the proficiency of Hebrew reading and pronunciation. From there I get into the Shma and V'ahavta which I teach as Torah trope. I color code the V'ahavta with the colors of the trope that I use when I actually teach the student their torah portions.

I teach the basic brachot and then I get into Torah portions. I teach from the Chumash (torah book) which has vowels and trope. When the child gets fluent in that I switch to a copy of the Torah portion without vowels, which I copy from my Tikun so that when they actually look at the Torah it is familiar. I like to have 8 months to do it so that we can get 6 month's worth of lessons spread over 8 months to account for my concerts and kid's vacations and sickness and other schedule conflicts. If we have less than 6 months then it leads to twice/week and lots of pressure.

I usually go to the student's home to teach. My lessons are one hour and I get an additional \$10/mo for gas expense. I usually get paid at the end of the month.

Cheri Rubin offers a different approach to B'nei Mitzvah tutoring - one that will provide the student with lifelong Torah-chanting skills.



Through private or semi-private tutoring at her Chief Hosa home, and with the aid of Trope Trainer™ software, Cheri teaches the trope melodies for both Torah and Haftarah. At the conclusion of tutoring, the student is not only able to chant his or her Bar or Bat Mitzvah portion, but also has the skills to chant Torah and Haftarah at future Shabbat services, e.g., at the Bar or Bat Mitzvah of a relative.

Learning the “secret” language of trope can be more interesting and satisfying than simply memorizing one’s portion.

Proficiency in Hebrew reading is a prerequisite for learning trope, so if the student doesn’t yet know the Hebrew letters and vowels, that will be the first focus of tutoring. Teaching the student the prayers he or she will lead is also part of the tutoring. Cheri focuses on the basic prayers to be lead, adding the leading of “optional” prayers to be lead only after the basics are solid.

Cheri has taught many of CBE’s congregants to chant Torah and Haftarah, including most of the congregants who lein at High Holidays year after year. She taught the seven women in the B’not Mitzvah class of 2005, an adult trope class in 2007, private adult students and two 12 year old B’nei Mitzvah students in 2008/09.

Cheri has worked with children as CBE’s youth choir director since 1997 and is CBE’s religious school music teacher.

As a teacher’s need to learn is equally important as her desire to teach, Cheri continues to study with her vocal coach, Cantor Regina Heit, of Congregation Emanuel.

Tara Saltzman: I have been tutoring B'nei Mitzvah students with CBE for approximately 7 years and prior to that in various synagogues in Miami, Florida for more than 10 years. Using a variety of sources including the popular software Trope Trainer, I will provide all printouts of material needed as well as mp3 or other recordings of all chants to be learned.

During tutoring sessions, we'll explore the service outline together, practice every aspect of the student's participation, address Torah and Haftarah portions, Mitzvah projects as well as personal goals and needs to design the kind of service they wish to experience and create. I also work with families to better understand the overall dynamic of the service format as needed and to structure opportunities for family and friends to participate. I recommend an assessment meeting one year prior to the B'nei Mitzvah date to determine an appropriate schedule to begin tutoring sessions. In general, we meet at my home for a maximum of one hour. Some flexibility is possible on occasion in this area on an individual basis. Hebrew remediation is available.

I encourage students to consider their motivations and seek their own sense of value in the process. The services I most enjoy attending are those my students are leading!

PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THE B'NEI MITZVAH PROGRAM

The purpose of the Congregation Beth Evergreen B'nei Mitzvah Program is to provide the Bar/Bat Mitzvah and his or her family with the knowledge and support that will enable them to develop a meaningful understanding of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah service, its symbols and rituals.

In addition, the program strives to put this major life cycle event in perspective relative to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah's new role in the congregation, local community, and Jewish community at large.

The emphasis of the program is on the Bar/Bat Mitzvah as a congregational event representing a rite of passage from childhood to adulthood in the eyes of the Jewish community.

We at CBE view the Bar/Bat Mitzvah as a process for the entire family. We encourage you to remember that this process is a joyful one, for all of you.

CBE BNEI MITZVAH REQUIREMENTS

Congregation Beth Evergreen considers the **Bat/Bar** Mitzvah to be one of the most important milestones in the life of a Jewish child, as well as in the history of the Jewish family. Rather than being a ceremony in which the child is passively transformed into an adult, the **Bat/Bar** Mitzvah represents the child's acceptance of the responsibilities of Jewish adulthood and the acknowledgment of this new role by the community. In order for this ceremony to have meaning and integrity, it is critical that both child and family have a good understanding of the responsibilities that the child is agreeing to accept.

Therefore, Congregation Beth Evergreen believes that an experiential foundation in Jewish practice, belief, history and language is required for children preparing to become *B'nei Mitzvah* in our community. This requires a commitment from children and families to make training to become *B'nei Mitzvah* a priority commensurate with its importance for at least a year prior to the proposed date. Toward this end, we have established the following requirements:

- 1) B'nei Mitzvah families must be members of Congregation Beth Evergreen.
- 2) Children entering the B'nei Mitzvah program (12-18 months prior to the proposed date) will have had a minimum of three years of Jewish religious school at CBE or elsewhere. Alternative experience will be considered on a case by case basis as determined by the Education Director.
- 3) Children will participate fully in the B'nei Mitzvah program as outlined. While extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Education Director, full participation for this relatively short period of time is considered crucial to the experience, and significant alterations will be discouraged. The B'nei Mitzvah program consists of multiple parts:
 - Weekly attendance at Religious school, 7th grade.
 - Individual work with a tutor on Hebrew competency and preparation of Torah and Haftarah portions
 - A minimum of 4 meetings, plus a 'dress rehearsal' with the rabbi in order to prepare *divrei Torah* [brief commentaries or speeches on the content of the readings being chanted in Hebrew], the Mitzvah Project, and plan and coordinate the family's participation in the service. *A parental presence is required at all meetings with the Rabbi Arnold.*
 - Attendance at Shabbat services for both family and child. Since we believe that a successful **Bar/Bat** Mitzvah requires familiarity with the service there will one Sabbath service each month designated as an instructive service for B'nei Mitzvah students. The students will be prepared ahead of time to participate in the service and are urged to attend regularly. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the regular

- service (held in the sanctuary) concurrent with the Junior Congregation service.
- The fulfillment of a personalized Mitzvah Project and plan, project to be determined by October of the 7th grade year, and approved by the 7th grade teacher.

By attending to each of these aspects of the B'nei Mitzvah Program, you will take full advantage of our wonderful program and this momentous rite of passage for you and your child. To further ensure the success of this venture, Rabbi Arnold will monitor each student's progress, and may (after consulting with the respective family, the tutor, and a representative of the B'nei mitzvah Task Force and the Ritual Committee) recommend modifications to the preparatory procedures and/or goals, including, if necessary, a postponement of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony itself. Any such recommendations will occur ***no less than two months prior*** to the scheduled date of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah service.

These requirements attempt to insure a significant level of commitment and Jewish literacy on the part of children and families planning a Bar/Bat Mitzvah at CBE. They are not intended to establish similarity of outcome. Creative approaches to the ceremony that take into account each child's strengths and interests will be encouraged and supported by the faculty and the congregation.

PARTICIPATION IN TORAH SERVICE

The B'nei Mitzvah students will be offered the following two choices regarding participation in the Torah service. Accommodations will be made only in exceptional cases.

- *Chant the Maftir portion of the Torah (the final three or four verses of each week's parasha) and the whole Haftarah in Hebrew (an established CBE practice based in tradition)

Or

- *Read a more substantial selection from the week's Torah portion (about 10 to 20 verses) and a smaller portion of the Haftarah in Hebrew (three to five verses). In this case the student would likely read an English translation of the remainder of the Haftarah.

In addition to the Torah reading/chanting done by the student, we encourage family members who are able to read from the Torah to do so during the Bat/Bar Mitzvah's service. Tutors, teachers and friends can also be honored by being asked to read Torah. The assignment of verses to be read is done in consultation with the rabbi.

We also strongly encourage the student (and family members) to lead as many prayers as possible during the Shabbat service.

SCHEDULING

Scheduling is done 2 years prior to your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah year. If you are new to CBE and need to schedule a date, please contact Jill Wildenberg, Director of Education, at 303-670-4294, ex, or educationdirector@bethevergreen.org.

TUTORING

Sixth graders and parents are advised to meet with a tutor at least *one year before* the Bat/Bat Mitzvah for an assessment of the student's skills. The tutor, student and parents also will discuss the options for the student's participation in the Torah service. The student does not necessarily have to begin weekly tutoring at that time.

VENUE

The B'nei Mitzvah ceremony is more than a family affair. It is a congregational event deliberately integrated into a regular Saturday morning Shabbat service. As such, we expect that the service and some kind of Kiddush reception take place at Beth Evergreen and that all members of the congregation will be welcome and included in the service and *oneg* reception immediately following.

COMMUNITY SERVICE – THE MITZVAH PROJECT

B'nei Mitzvah students customarily participate in one or more Mitzvah Project in the Jewish or general community prior to the B'nei Mitzvah. The purposes of the project include: 1) learning to identify and sympathize with communal needs; 2) experiencing the joys, challenges, and importance of community service as a part of Jewish spiritual life; and 3) performing the actions expected of a socially responsible adult in the Jewish community.

Service could be to such agencies as the Evergreen LifeCare Center nursing home, Mountain Resource Center, Mt. Evans Hospice, Seniors' Resource Center, Evergreen Animal Protective League, Jewish Family Service Kosher Pantry, Beth Evergreen, or other charitable organizations of the student's choosing. Students develop their own mitzvah projects by identifying a community need and finding ways to meet that need.

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of Bar/Bat Mitzvah?

"Bar / Bat Mitzvah" literally means "son / daughter of the commandment" and represents the ceremonial recognition that a young person has reached the age when he or she is responsible for the performance of the *mitzvot* (commandments) in the Torah.

2. How old is the Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremony?

The association between the age of thirteen and obligatory religious observance began during the Second Temple period over two thousand years ago. There was a brief ceremony held at the Temple in Jerusalem in which the *Kohen* [Jewish priest] blessed the boy. At that point the boy was eligible to be counted as a member of the *minyan* [quorum of 10 adults], could buy and sell property and make binding vows. It was only in the Middle Ages that a fully developed Bar Mitzvah ritual developed similar to what we have today. The first Bat Mitzvah ceremony was held in 1923 in the first Reconstructionist congregation. Its observance has become widespread in the last forty years.

3. When is Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrated?

A Bar or Bat Mitzvah is customarily celebrated after a child's thirteenth birthday. The ceremony is held during a Shabbat morning service to which the entire congregation is invited.

4. Is it necessary for my child to have a Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony?

In terms of halakha [Jewish law]: No. The ceremony is completely optional. Bar/Bat Mitzvah is not a sacramental rite. It is not a requirement to be Jewish. Every Jew automatically becomes responsible for their words and actions (the commandments) at the age of thirteen. One can celebrate his/her becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah anytime after the age of thirteen, as many adults do today. The great majority celebrate the Bar/Bat Mitzvah at the age of thirteen by receiving the privilege of reading from the Torah, a difficult skill that demonstrates commitment to Jewish literacy, learning, and practice.

5. What does the Bar/Bat Mitzvah do in the service?

Our B'nei mitzvah will be prepared to conduct parts of the service: chant the *b'rachot* before and after the Torah reading (an *aliyah*) and Haftarah readings, read or chant from the Torah and a selection from the books of the prophets (haftarah) for that week, as well as lead parts of the service. They will then share their thoughts on these readings, what the ritual means to them, and some 'thank you's as appropriate.

6. What is the format for the D'var Torah?

The Bar/Bat Mitzvah should prepare to speak from written notes that demonstrate the student's ability to:

- A. Summarize your Torah and Haftarah portions in your own words.
- B. Explain the significance of your reading for your ancestors and yourself.
- C. Discuss your mitzvah project and its value to the community
- D. Describe the significance of becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah and your appreciation for those who supported you along the way.

7. May my family participate in the service?

While the emphasis in the service should clearly be upon the *bar/bat mitzvah*, this celebration marks a milestone in the life of the entire family. Family

members are encouraged to participate through readings, *aliyot*, or other appropriate honors. In the service we will strive to balance between a desire to be inclusive, encouraging broad participation, and the importance of preserving the *kedusha* [sanctity or dignity] of the service. While we love to honor family and friends on such an occasion, we also recognize that an excessive number of participants leading from the *bimah* can disrupt the quality of the worship experience for all. Families will work with the rabbi to achieve this balance.

8. May non-Jewish family members participate?

Yes indeed! At CBE we are eager to honor the frequent and often substantial contributions of non-Jewish family members to the moral and spiritual development of our B'nei Mitzvah. Only a few aspects of the ceremony must be performed by Jewish individuals (e.g. handling the Torah itself, leading the congregation in certain Hebrew prayers.)

9. What happens right after a Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony?

It is customary for the family to host a reception for the congregation following the service in honor of your child's becoming *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*. It is neither necessary nor desirable to expend significant monies for this reception. Your guide should be "the simpler the better." As a noted sage once said, "the emphasis should be on the *mitzvah*, not on the bar." Some families provide their own food for the reception and others hire caterers or solicit friends to help.

Families are also responsible for the clean-up of the sanctuary and social hall after their events. If you are hiring a caterer and/or a cleaning person, please contact the CBE Executive Director, who will coordinate set-up, arrange to hire a cleaning crew (at your cost) and other logistical concerns.

Our congregation encourages each family to donate a percentage of the cost of their *simcha* to a *tzedakah* such as *Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger* or the Jewish Family Service Kosher Pantry in Denver. At every happy occasion it is incumbent upon us to remember those who do not have enough to eat. (Mazon, 1990 S. Bundy Drive, Suite 260, Los Angeles 90025-5232. (310) 442-0020, mazon@aol.com.)

10. A Bar/Bat Mitzvah is part of a lifelong process of Jewish education.

It is one of many events that mark a milestone in one's ongoing learning as a citizen of the Jewish people. In fact, it is the beginning of Jewish learning (as an adult). At CBE, we encourage our B'nei Mitzvah students to continue their Jewish studies at Hebrew High, to join our active Youth Group, and to consider working as an aide (*madrach*) in our Religious School.

11. Are there photography/videography restrictions?




















YES. In keeping with the sanctity of the service, there are to be no photographs during the service. Photos may be taken before or after the service. A video

camera may be used if there are no floodlights and the camera remains stationary at the back in an unobtrusive place.

12.How about Music?

The more the better! Each family is invited to supplement the music of the service (provided by Rabbi Jamie) with either instrumental or vocal talents from family or friends. You may also hire a cantor or cantorial soloist, and the bnei mitzvah coordinator can provide references and contact information.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

| | <i>Kol HaNeshama siddur page no.</i> | <i>Accompanied or cantilated</i> |
|---|--|---|
| Opening song | |  |
| Ma Tovv or other song | Mah Tovv p. 141 |  |
| Tallit ceremony | p. 143 | |
| Morning Blessings | p. 153... | |
| Verses of Praise | p. 177 or others | |
| Haleluya | p. 231 |  |
| Chatzi Kaddish | p. 245 |  |
| Bar'chu and yotzer | p. 247... |  |
| Veha'eir eineinu | p. 275 | |
| Shema/V'ahavta | p. 277 |  |
| Mi Chamocha | p. 288-290 |  |
| Adonai sefata tiftach | p. 295 |  |
| Amidah, Avot, Gevurot, Kiddusha, Silent Medit. | p. 295-323 | |
| Song (Sim Shalom, Oseh Shalom or other) Mi Sheiberach (prayer for healing) | Sim Shalom p. 321 |  |
| Torah Service – Eyn Kamocha | p. 383 |  |
| Opening of the Ark | | |
| Ki mitzion | p. 385 |  |
| Generation to generation: Passing of the Torah | | |
| Shema & Echad ... | p. 393 |  |
| Torah Procession: (Lecha adonai, Al Shloscha Devarim, etc.) | |  |
| Aliyot & Torah Reading /Maffir | p. 399 |  |
| Rabbi's Blessing | | |
| Hagbah (Lifter of the Torah) | | |
| Gliilah (Dress-er of the Torah) | | |
| Ve zot ha Torah /Yis'mechu | p. 407 |  |
| B'nei's Dvar Torah | | |
| Haftarah (Blessings p. 409) | | |
| Shehechianu (prayer for U.S., Israel) | |  |
| Eitz Chaim Hi, Return Torah to Ark | p. 441 |  |
| President's Presentation | | |
| Parental comments | | |
| Alyenu/Vene-emar, Bayom Hahu | p. 445, 449 |  |
| Mourner's Kaddish | p. 451 | |
| Closing Hymn | |  |
| Kiddush and Motzi | | |

SHOFAR ANNOUNCEMENT

B'nei Mitzvah students will be featured in the Shofar in or near the month of their events. The Shofar deadline is the first week of the month before publication.

Questions? Call Neshama, 303-670-4294 and press 1.

Please fill out the form and return it with a photo of the student to

CBE - Shofar

Box 415

Evergreen CO 80437

Or email the information and send a digital photo to Shalom@bethevergreen.org

NAME OF STUDENT (including Hebrew name)

PARENTS

SIBLINGS

GRANDPARENTS (and where they live, if outside the Evergreen area)

STUDENT'S SCHOOL AND GRADE (If you're having a summer Bnai Mitzvah, put the grade & school you have just completed.)

BAT/BAR MITZVAH DATE

HOBBIES, SPORTS, HONORS, SPECIAL INTERESTS, OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

CBE SIMCHA RESOURCE LIST

This list of hand-picked resources was compiled to assist CBE members with their *Simchas* (happy occasions), ranging from Bar and Bat Mitzvahs to a wedding, bris or baby naming. The list will be updated annually, so please let us know if you have resources and hints to add, or if any of the listings are outdated or incorrect. Feel free to contact us if you have questions – or updates for the list.

- Randi Murray 303-670-7942
- Jill Wildenberg 303-670-4294 ex. 8

CHECKLIST FOR A B'NEI MITZVAH SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

1. Tallit for student becoming Bnei Mitzvah
2. Yarmulkas (CBE provides these; bring more only if you have special ones or expect a large crowd)
3. B'nei Mitzvah booklets, if using your own
4. Cameras - video/still. **[Only fixed video during service.]** Please inform your guests of this practice; flash photos distract the service leaders (including the B'nei Mitzvah).
5. Film
6. Flowers for the bima (optional)
7. Water - glass/bottle for student
8. Arrangements to enter building early for family pictures (optional)
9. Wine and grape juice for oneg (white wine or grape juice only, please)
10. Cups and all other paper goods
11. Challah (2)
12. Tablecloths
13. Luncheon items if having lunch at the site of the service; arrangements for cleanup

Families are responsible for oneg setup and cleanup. Please contact the CBE Executive Director 303-670-4294 ext. 1 well ahead of the event to confirm arrangements.

RENTALS

Evergreen Rentals (tables & chairs, dishes, silverware, glassware, dance floor) –
Tim 303-674-7924 Bryant Dr.

CATERING

- SUSAN STAHL, Evergreen: 303-670-9898
- MOUNT VERNON COUNTRY CLUB, Lookout Mountain: 303-526-0616
- EAST SIDE KOSHER DELI, Denver. 303-322-9862
- LE BRIAN'S, Genesee 303-526-7939
- THE BAGELRY, Bergen Park. 303-674-1413, suitable for Oneg.
- KING SOOPERS, Bergen Park, 303-674-8249, suitable for Oneg.
- Suzie Kaitz (catering) - (303) 215-0333, chefsuzi@msn.com

CENTERPIECES & DECORATIONS

- JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE 303-759-4890. JFS "Centerpieces for Tzedakah" are custom made by volunteers. Proceeds support the Kosher Pantry.
- BEST FRIENDS BASKETS
Karen Wiseman
303-986-1705

CHALLAH

- ALPINE BAKERY, 4602 Plettner Lane (behind Baskin Robbins in Evergreen) 303-674-2120
- UDI'S BREADS 303-657-1600.

CAKES

- ALPINE BAKERY, 4602 Plettner Lane (behind Baskin Robbins in Evergreen) 303-674-2120.
- CHILD'S PASTRY SHOP, 311 East County Line Rd, Littleton 303-347-0246, Star of David, Torah-shaped cakes
- DAS MEYER, 13251 W. 64th Ave., Arvada 303-425-5616 Torah cakes, wedding cakes, desserts.

FLOWERS

- STEMS, 303/674-4995

HOTELS (At large hotels, ask for Group Sales Office and compare prices)

- QUALITY SUITES, Evergreen 303-526-2000 (Call for group rates)
- MARRIOTT DENVER WEST, Golden 303-279-9100
- TABLE MOUNTAIN INN, Golden 303-277-9898
- GOLDEN HOTEL, Golden 303-279-0100

INVITATIONS

- RISING GRAPHICS, Evergreen: 303-674-7604
- EXPRESS YOURSELF Evergreen: 303-674-4210
- E Print Solutions (invitations & program printing) - Ari Miller (303) 422-6533 ext. 109 ariana@go2eprint.com

PARTY ENTERTAINMENT

- DJ: Pink Noise Productions (Phil Soderborg) 303-290-6067
- KLEZMER V'OD, Jewish music for Jewish occasions. Ted Brandt, 303-393-0840
- LOS LANZMUN, Eastern European/Middle Eastern band; Israeli dance instruction. Hal Aqua, 303-744-0263
- MAGICIAN: Danny Archer 303-321-6267 or DannyArcher.com - for ALL ages!
- Princess DeJaynes (M.C./disc jockey) - (303) 523-8202

PARTY LOCATIONS

- HIWAN GOLF CLUB, Evergreen, 303-674-3366
- BOETTCHER MANSION, Lookout Mtn. 303-526-0855
- EVERGREEN CONFERENCE CENTER 303-674-3525
- EVERGREEN LAKE HOUSE 303-512-9300
- MOUNT VERNON COUNTRY CLUB 303-526-0616
- PINES AT GENESEE 303-526-7939
- EVERGREEN RENTALS, 30466 Bryant Dr. 303-674-7924 (tables, chairs etc.)

PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KAREN 303-674-1530. Run by CBE member Karen Bennett

TALLITOT & OTHER RITUAL ITEMS & GIFTS

- BOUTIQUE JUDAICA, 5052 E. Hampden Ave., Denver. 303-757-1317
BMH-BJ CONGREGATION GIFT SHOP, 560 S. Monaco Pkwy, Denver
303-388-4203 ext. 3117.
- TEMPLE EMANUEL GIFT SHOP, 51 Grape St., Denver. 303-388-4013
x340

A BAR/BAT MITZVAH BIBLIOGRAPHY

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*Highly recommended reading for Bnei Mitzvah families!

INTERNET SUPPORT AND D'VAR TORAH RESOURCES

www.jrf.org, Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
www.mazeltov.org - Jewish and Family Life Magazine)
<http://uahc.org/index.html> Reform Judaism - excellent links
<http://www.torah.org/learning> - Orthodox commentaries
<http://bible.ort.org>, - Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutor with basic information on parshot
<http://www.biu.ac.il/JH/Eparasha/> - Academic commentaries from the Bar-Ilan University
Department of Judaic Studies
<http://dolphin.upenn.edu/-dbh/> - highly accessible divrei Torah from the student members
of Hillel at the University of Pennsylvania
<http://shamash.org/tanach/dvar.shtml> - listing of a variety of Jewish resources and
archives of divrei Torah
<http://learn.jtsa.edu/topics/parashah/archive.shtml> - conservative divrei Torah
<http://www.ou.org/torah/ti/archives/> - divrei Torah archives from Orthodox Union
<http://www.jrf.org/recondt>- divrei Torah archives from the Jewish Reconstructionist
Federation
<http://uahc.org/torah/index..shtml> - divrei Torah archives from the Union of
American Hebrew Congregations (Reform)

GLOSSARY

Aliyah, aliyot - Blessing before and after the Torah reading

Bar/bat mitzvah, Bnei Mitzvah - Son and daughter of the Commandments

Berachah, Berachot - Blessing(s)

D'var Torah - A commentary on the Torah reading

Haftorah - A section from the Prophetic books read on Shabbat and holidays, following the Torah reading

Kedushah - "Holiness". The Hebrew word also has the connotation of separation, setting aside.

Kiddush - "Sanctification". Prayers said, usually over wine, to mark the holiness of Shabbat or the festivals. Also a general term for a festive table after a morning service on such days

Kohen - A member of the hereditary priesthood, descended, according to tradition, from Aaron, the first High Priest

Minchah - The afternoon service

Minyan - Quorum of ten needed for public prayers

Mitzvah, mitzvot – Commandment(s) or good deed(s)

Parashah - Weekly Torah reading

Seudat mitzvah - "Meal of Mitzvah." A feast of celebration on joyous religious occasions

Simcha - Joy, happiness, a joyful occasion

Sedrah - Weekly Torah reading

Tzedakah - "Righteousness". A charity gift given as an act of justice and moral behavior