

BETH ISRAEL
CONGREGATION

GUIDE

SUPPORT THE DAILY MINYAN!

Daily Minyan Schedule

Weekday Mornings	7:00 a.m.
Sunday Mornings & Selected National Holidays	9:00 a.m.
Sunday & Weekday Evenings	5:40 p.m.
Sunday, December 25	9:00 a.m.

December 2011
Kislev - Tevet 5772

כסלו - טבת תשע"ב

SCHEDULE

of Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat

Fri., Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30 6:00 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 2 TGIF..... 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Mornings

Shacharit..... 9:30 a.m.

(December 24 9:15 a.m.)

Jr. Congregation 10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat 11:00 a.m.

Saturday Evenings

December 3.....4:40 p.m.

December 10.....4:35 p.m.

December 17.....4:40 p.m.

December 24.....4:40 p.m.

December 31.....4:45 p.m.

January 74:50 p.m.

B'nai Mitzvah

בני מצוה

November

26 Isaac Daniel Foote,
son of Mira and Gary Foote

December

17 Boris Michael Zilberstein, son
of Dr. Mikhael and Melissa Zilberstein

17 Tatiana Marguerite Zilberstein, daughter
of Dr. Mikhael and Melissa Zilberstein

THE GREAT BETH ISRAEL
LATKE FRY-OFF...
SEE BACK COVER!

**THE AMAZING
TECHNICOLOR
TORAH AND
SHABBAT**

**AT SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES:
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31st**

SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

Adult Learning 5772

The World of Mussar

Explore the world of Mussar, a 1,000 year old school of Jewish thought that will have you examining your character traits, patterns and life choices. Through this journey led by Beth Israel's Randi Buergenthal, you will develop insight into your life and learn how to find balance, spiritual awareness and peace within yourself. RSVP to the office.

Sundays, December 4, 2011,
January 8, 2012
and February 5, 2012.
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Exploring Jewish Text through Art

Art is an intellectual, spiritual, physical, and emotional experience for the creator and the viewer. Come learn how art can be utilized to examine and expand your response to a Jewish text. You will have the opportunity to create your own piece of beautiful artwork. (Material cost \$36) RSVP to the office.

Course taught by Elaine Brandes, Beth Israel Religious School Art teacher.

Tuesday -
December 6 and 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Three Special Shabbatot in January

We have an unusual opportunity in January 2011 to celebrate and honor the Brotherhood, Sisterhood *and* Hazak for their contributions to the Congregation. Due to a confluence of circumstances, Brotherhood Shabbat, Sisterhood Shabbat and Hazak Shabbat will be celebrated at Shabbat morning service on three consecutive weeks.

The Schedule is:

Saturday, January 7 – Hazak Shabbat

Saturday, January 14 – Sisterhood Shabbat

Saturday, January 21 – Brotherhood Shabbat

Each service will be followed by a festive Kiddush. Co-sponsors are welcome. Contact Eudice Lowenthal (Hazak) 410-484-3260, Edie Meyers (Sisterhood) 410-998-9553 or Larry Waskow (Brotherhood) 410-654-9066.



Purim Spiel Acting Parts Available Actors & Actresses of ALL Ages

**Auditions: December 11 at
11:30 a.m. to Noon & 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Interested in showing off your Broadway best? Parts available for men, women, teens and children. Bring your own song to sing (piano music if you wish) and a poem or part from a play to read. Spiel on March 7, 2012 at 7:45 p.m.

RSVP to biomyouth@comcast.net by December 4 with the following:

1. Name
2. Acting ability (song, dance, etc.)
3. Audition Time

Rehearsals will be held:

January 8	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
January 22	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
January 29	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
February 5	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
February 12	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
February 26	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
March 4	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
March 6	Tuesday Tentative 6:00 p.m. Pizza Rehearsal from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
March 7	Performance: 7:45 p.m.

Beth Israel's Chesed Committee is Here for You

- ☛ Call if someone is in the hospital
- ☛ Call if someone is ill
- ☛ Call if you or someone needs help

Call Henry Foxman, 410-833-5585

Presenting....



Shabbat morning services on Saturday, December 31st (New Years Eve Day) will be interesting, fun, and a little different. The Torah portion is Vayigash (which includes the story of Joseph's coat of many colors).



- Everyone is encouraged to dress in colorful, casual clothing.
- Rabbi Goldstein will model the "Tallit of Many Colors" made from all the material which was donated by members and sewn together by Rachael Schwartz. Come and see Rabbi Goldstein's beautiful new tallit!
- During the service, there will be a special Kiddush break, with tequila sunrises (for adults).
- The Vocal Ensemble will perform.
- Story telling by Jennifer Zunikoff
- There may be some other interesting surprises.

Join us for a fun morning; services start at 9:30 a.m.

חזק
Hazak

The Beth Israel
Senior Scene

Gloria Friedman & Eudice Lowenthal
Co-Presidents

On Sunday, December 1, Hazak will present "Sunday at the Movies" at 3:00 p.m. The movie is a humorous and poignant story of a family who strives to keep up with their friends as they plan their son's Bar Mitzvah. Come and join us for a fun afternoon. To RSVP or for more information call Gloria Friedman at 410-318-8009 or Eudice Lowenthal at 410-484-3260.

Has Someone You Know Recently Married ???



In accordance with a decision made by our Board of Trustees, any couple who has recently wed is entitled to a **FREE** one year newly-wed membership at Beth Israel Congregation, if this is the first-time married for each.

This gift is available regardless of which clergy performed the ceremony, and where the ceremony was held.

If you would like to recommend someone to receive this gift, contact David Rothenberg at Beth Israel, 410-654-0800.

Save the Date

Help in soup kitchens and homeless shelters | Visit the elderly

2011 Community Mitzvah Day

December 25, 2011

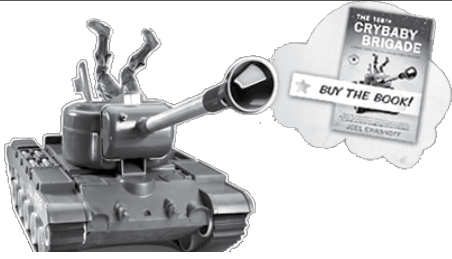
Assemble winter care packages | Deliver Meals

www.jvcbaltimore.org



*Individually we do so much.
Imagine what we can accomplish together.*

— Louise Supnick, Chair and Alan Elkin, Co-Chair



JOIN US FOR SHABBAT DINNER

With Comedian and
Author-in-Residence

Joel Chasnoff

7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 9

Following dinner
Joel Chasnoff
will discuss his book:
The 188th Crybaby Brigade
(approximately 8:00 p.m.)

Shabbat dinner with author
\$25 per adult

\$10 per child (ages 3-12)

Children under 3 are free

RSVP with your payment to the office
by December 6, 2011.

Year-End Tax Planning Can Help You and Beth Israel!

As the secular calendar year comes to a close, we would like to bring to your attention opportunities to lower your income taxes, while providing meaningful support for Beth Israel.

Your charitable gifts make an important difference in what we are able to accomplish. No matter what your income level, if you itemize, you can usually lower your income taxes through charitable giving, making use of the income tax charitable deduction. The amount of savings will depend on your tax bracket.

BEFORE DOING ANYTHING, CHECK WITH YOUR ACCOUNTANT OR TAX ADVISOR TO SEE WHAT IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOU.

Cash:

Make more charitable gifts in those years when you have the most income. You may wish to accelerate future charitable gifts into 2011. Many congregants will choose to pay their 2012 dues in 2011.

In fact, you can lower your taxes by making a voluntary contribution of any amount. Simply write a check to the Congregation by December 30th. Some employers have matching programs. Send the form to us along with your gift. Cash gifts are fully deductible, up to 50% of your adjusted gross income. Any excess can usually be carried forward.

Stock:

If you own appreciated stock, it is usually best to donate the stock rather than the cash. By donating the appreciated stock you avoid the capital gains tax on the increase in value of the stock. Also, you receive a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the stock at the time of the gift. Make sure you have owned the stock for at least one year. Beth Israel has a congregant who is a broker who will handle the transaction for you. Call the office for more information.

Gifts of stock are fully deductible, up to 30% of your adjusted gross income. Any excess can usually be carried forward.

Real Estate:

A residence, vacation home, farm, acreage, or vacant lot may have appreciated in value over the years such that its sale would incur a substantial capital gains tax. By making a year-end gift of the property instead, you would avoid the tax and also receive a charitable donation for the full market value of the property.

Life Income Gifts:

You could transfer dividend paying stocks to us and establish a "charitable remainder trust" that would continue to provide you or a loved one an income for life, after which the assets would be distributed outright to Beth Israel. Through this type of arrangement, you would be increasing your income and making a tax-deductible contribution to the synagogue at the same time.

We are always grateful for your interest and support - at any time of the year. Before considering any transaction, consult with your tax advisor to determine how the transaction will impact your tax planning.

BETH ISRAEL PRESENTS:
THE STAND UP COMEDY OF

JOEL CHASNOFF

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10
DOORS OPEN: 7:30 P.M., SHOW: 8 P.M.

\$15 PER PERSON
IN ADVANCE BY
DECEMBER 8

\$18 PER PERSON
AT THE DOOR

BOOK SIGNING
FOLLOWING THE SHOW

CASH BAR AND
LIGHT FARE

AT BETH ISRAEL
CONGREGATION

Joel Chasnoff's one-man comedy act exploring the intricacies and details of being Jewish is a hilarious performance you won't want to miss.

- » Opening act for Jon Stewart of *The Daily Show*
- » Onstage in seven countries at some of the world's biggest comedy venues
- » Author of *The 188th Crybaby Brigade*, now optioned for Hollywood
- » Top performer at hundreds of clubs, colleges and conferences in North America, Israel and Europe

Purchase tickets at www.bethisrael-om.org
and click on the link or call 410-654-0800.

Beth Israel Congregation / www.bethisrael-om.org
410-654-0800 / 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Beth Israel Congregation in Owings Mills, MD

Sponsored by Stephen Gandel in memory of Bobbie Gandel and Gertrude & William Gandel,
and by Howard & Sandy Bernheim in memory of Max & Bertha Bernheim.



BETH ISRAEL
CONGREGATION



SHLEIMUT

health * healing * wholeness * hope



**Beth Israel 410-654-0800
extension 263**

**Beth Israel Hours:
Tuesday afternoons,
Wednesday mornings,
Alternate Sundays**

Sarah Shapiro

For many, the secular New Year is a time to make resolutions. Promises are made such as “in the coming year, I will exercise more...yell less...do my job better...visit my grandmother more frequently.” In the ensuing months, when we are successful in meeting these goals, we are eager to accept responsibility and the kudos. If we fall short of our expectations, however, all too often we look elsewhere for someone or something to blame.

Some people grew up in homes where physical, sexual or emotional abuse occurred. Others were destitute and forced to fend for themselves. Some had plenty of money, but too little attention. A little arguing among parents and/or siblings is normal, but in some homes, conflict is constant and destructive.

No doubt the impact of growing up in these types of circumstances is devastating. Yet, with patience, self-awareness and sometimes professional help, these challenges can be overcome. Many people, however, choose not to address this history, and instead leave it stored inside allowing it to become emotional baggage. When faced with an obstacle, they claim they cannot move beyond it because of their past.

It is beneficial to recognize the role of your upbringing and experiences in influencing who you are. It is not helpful, however, to allow this history to pre-determine your destiny. How often do we hear someone say I can't adequately love my wife because I wasn't loved? Or I couldn't help stealing that iPad because I had no father to teach me right from wrong? Or I can't keep a job because I have undiagnosed ADHD and no one helped me with study skills or perseverance?

The holiday season is a time of frequent sales. If you are someone who tends to blame your inadequacies on your past, perhaps now is the time to take advantage of the price breaks to buy yourself a new set of luggage. Why not shed your emotional baggage and resolve to take personal responsibility for both the positive and the negative in your life. It's a great way to begin the New Year!

Beth Israel Guide

Beth Israel Cares Corner

Help make casseroles as part of community Mitzvah Day right at Beth Israel on December 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Sign up through Mitzvah Day or email Barbara Deitch at deitchfamily@msn.com.

We are collecting hats and gloves for the homeless, as well as toys to be distributed for Chanukah through the JCS toy closet. Please place your items in the buckets in the lobby.

Thank you for your donations to BI Cares which go towards helping those in need at home and abroad. Please continue to keep us in mind throughout the year.



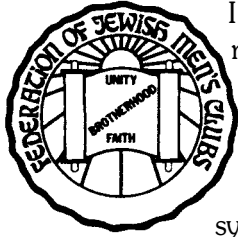
Chai Weatherization Day on Sunday, Nov.6. Six hundred volunteers participated in this outreach to senior citizens who are unable to get their homes ready for winter. The Beth Israel team raked and bagged leaves for a homeowner suffering from Alzheimers.

Shown above L to R are Rebecca Tucker, Debbie Kramer, and Lois Wolf. Not pictured, Seth Glassman.



The Glaser and Friedman families volunteer at the Humane Society by cleaning the dog beach, tubs and signs in preparation for Dogfest.

Shown above L: Becky & Justin, cleaning signs and R: Ryan and Ben cleaning the doggie beach.



I wish to thank everyone who has renewed his membership this fall. Dues are a very important part of our budget. More important, you are part of an organization that provides support and service to our synagogue and community.

We had a very busy fall and are now gearing up for our winter activities/programs. Starting off, we are having as our Sunday morning December 4 breakfast speaker, County Executive Kevin Kamenetz. We are expecting a large turnout. Guests are welcome to our breakfast for a minimal charge of \$5. Please RSVP to Marvin Mervis at mpmervis@hotmail.com.

Also, on Wednesday, December 14 we are having a very special joint evening program with the Sisterhood. We will find out which Brotherhood or Sisterhood member makes the best latke in our first "Latke Fry-Off." It's an evening you won't want to miss.

On January 21, 2012 we will be having our Annual Sheldon Schwartz Memorial Brotherhood Shabbat. Members of the Brotherhood will conduct the Shabbat Service. If you are interested in participating, please contact Barry Goldschmidt at barrygoldschmidt@aol.com or me lawask@aol.com.

On Superbowl Sunday morning, February 5, we will be having our Annual Worldwide Wrap, followed by breakfast. WBAL's Veteran Lead Investigative Reporter, Jayne Miller, will be our guest speaker. Hear her own life-threatening story.

On Sunday evening February 19, we will be going to Northern Virginia for the Seaboard Region Blue Yamulke Man of the Year Award Dinner. More information will follow.

If you haven't renewed your membership or would like to become a member, please contact David Knauth, membership chairman at knauth_dc2@hotmail.com or me.

Visit the NEW Beth Israel Website!

News of the Week – The Guide – BI Staff –
Shleimut Resources –
Programs ... AND MORE!!

www.bethisrael-om.org



Brotherhood Breakfast

December 4

9:30 a.m.

Guest Speaker
Kevin Kamenetz
Baltimore County
Executive



Members – FREE

Guests - \$5.00/per person

RSVP to Marvin Mervis at 410-521-4499

Or via e-mail: mpmervis@hotmail.com

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It's hard to believe that it's already December!

Please join Sisterhood on December 14, when we team up with Brotherhood and the Program Department to present "The Great Beth Israel Latke Fry-Off." A number of latke mavens have signed up to offer us their finest creations! There

will be winners in several categories, and all will win as we gobble up the yummy potato treats. Other fun activities are planned for this joyous pre-Chanukah event, geared to adults and teens 16+. See you there!

Open your 2012 calendar and mark January 11, 2012 as the first Sisterhood General Meeting of 2012 and January 14, 2012, for Sisterhood Shabbat. On January 11, Valerie Thaler of the Baltimore Hebrew Institute at Towson University will be our guest speaker. On January 14, Sisterhood Shabbat, Pamela S. Nadell of American University will speak about Jewish Women during the Civil War. Contact Cindy Bradley if you are interested in participating in the service and Edie Meyers to help sponsor the Sisterhood Shabbat Kiddush.

Are you interested in making a tallit for yourself or a loved one? Sisterhood is arranging for our next tallit making class. Please give me a call at 410-402-4850, and let me know if you would like to join this class.

Be sure to visit our Judaica Shop for Chanukah gifts and for all your life cycle events. We always have new merchandise coming in. Contact Ann Friedman at 410-654-0800 ext. 210 for an appointment to visit the shop.

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions, please call me at 410-402-4850.

As the secular year draws to a close, I will celebrate my birthday on December 31. Please give me the best possible birthday present by being safe and well the next day, on January 1, 2012.

Happy Chanukah to all.

MITZVAH CHAVURAH

A congenial and informative group of senior singles and couples of Beth Israel Congregation that have been together for more than 12 years in "in search of" new members.

For more information about this group or to join, please contact one of the following:

Sondra Steinberg
410-486-5650

Gloria Friedman
410-318-8009

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

Roslyn Foxman

It's time to order Mah Jongg cards for the 2012 year. This year the cost of the cards will be the same as last year – \$7.00 for a standard card and \$8.00 for the large print. Please include all names and phone numbers for each person ordering along with a check made payable to Beth Israel Sisterhood and mail to: Roslyn Foxman, 117 Rockrimmon Road, Reisterstown, MD 21136.



All orders with payment MUST be received no later than January 15, 2012. Cards will be available the beginning of April.

If you wish to order cards for non-members, please enclose their name, address, city/state/zip, and phone number along with a check.

Remember, this is a fundraiser for Sisterhood. So ask your neighbors, family members, and those you play with.

This will be your only notice about the Mah Jongg cards - there will NOT be a separate mailing for this in order to save postage costs. Thank you very much for your support.

Book Club



Do you like to read? Do you like joining in a lively discussion? If the answer is yes, join us on Wednesday, December 7, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a remarkable book, *The Girl from Foreign* by Sadia Shepard. Sadia Shepard discovers in her grandmother's dresser drawer a paper with the name Rachel Jacobs. Who is Rachel Jacobs?

Raha, her grandmother, had grown up in India in an Indian Jewish community. Her Pakistanian grandmother lived as a Muslim in a community of "Muslim Jews." This is a memoir describing Sadia's journey to India and finding the Bene Israel community.

**JEWISH FILM
FESTIVAL**
at **BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION**

SAVE THE DATES

January 7, 2012
January 14, 2012
January 21, 2012

7:30 p.m.

More information coming soon



Thank You תודה

To Allen Cohen and Charlie Surasky for their hard work in landscaping the house on Norwich Court.

To Mark Schlossberg for giving his time and resources as an Agronomist at Pro Lawn Plus, Inc. to help maintain and beautify the exterior appearance of Beth Israel Congregation.


To Beth and Ari Zelman for their fabrication and donation of portable Chuppah Poles for use outside.

To Barry Margulies for purchasing a new ladder for the synagogue.

BLOOD DRIVE

The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held Sunday, December 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please call Helene Silfen at 410-922-4234 to schedule your life saving blood donation.



Mark Your Calendars




Professor Fred Lazin, Abensohn Professor, Department of Sociology of the Center for Israel Studies at American University Washington, DC will be speaking about Israel on Sunday afternoon, February 26, 2012.


Professor Lazin will present an in-depth analysis of the current political situation in Israel and the Middle East. Topics to be discussed include – the Obama administration and Netanyahu governments; the upheaval in Egypt, Syria and Libya; the tent city protests in Israel; and how the increasing Iranian influence has affected Israel and prospects for an Israeli settlement with the Palestinians.

Watch your email and The Guide for a start time and for more information.

**Happy
Chanukah**

On behalf of
THE ASSOCIATED
and its agencies.




THE ASSOCIATED

SAVE THE DATE

3RD Annual Battle of the Bands
February 25, 2012

Watch for more information in the next Guide, via e-mail and regular mail.

Your Friends at Beth Israel
 Invite you to help celebrate Jewish
 Teens at:

The Claire Soddan Memorial Weekend

Friday, February 10, 2012 (4:30 p.m.) to
 Saturday, February 11, 2012 (7:30 p.m.)

SPECIAL INVITATION TO:
 8th - 12th Grade BIOM YOUTH

- Beth Israel 8th Grade Only
- INVITE YOUR: 9th-12th Grade Jewish Friends

Saturday Late Night Program on February 11:

- 9-12th grade
- Middle School Special Saturday outing
 Delicious Catered Food & Fantastic Programs
 Entertainment to be announced
 More information in your mailbox soon.
 Early-bird discount by January 10, 2012.
 Please volunteer to host our out-of-town
 guests & set up/serve meals.

Delightful Times in December:



November was incredible as we welcomed back 10 BIOM Kadimaniks from their trip to Kadima Kallah. The great reviews poured in and comments include: "The talent show was a favorite activity." One participant "really liked being able to meet new people and the activities were interesting." Another favorite activity was "the nationwide concert tour," which was described sort of like an educational treasure hunt." Another Kadimanik had "fun playing the games" and said "the talent show was awesome." Our staff from BIOM, Lily & Jason, "made the whole experience fun & friendly." Don't miss out on the Kallah in March 2012.

Let us know if you have comments, suggestions or questions by contacting our youth department at biomyouth@comcast.net.

December will be non-stop fun with the following programs. Here are some "save the dates" for the next months.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| December TBA | Kadima |
| December 4 | Bonim Pump It Up |
| December 18 | Machar Bowls |
| January 7 | Kadima Saturday Night Live (Regional) |
| January 21 | Machar Saturday Night |
| January 21 | USY Beth El Bethesda Ski Trip |
| January 28 | USY Formal Dance |
| February 10-12 | Claire Soddan Memorial Weekend 8-12th Grades |
| February 11 | Kadima Late Night Program |
| February 19-20 | Great Wolf Lodge Overnight |

Save the Dates:

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| March 2-4 | Spring Kadima Kallah |
| April 29 - | USY & Kadima Kings Dominion Day |

**Sunday,
 December 18**

☆☆☆☆☆

2011 ALUMNI REUNION

featuring

WINE TASTING A CAPPELLA MUSIC
 NEW FUN & OLD FRIENDS

All proceeds will benefit
 the Seaboard USY Scholarship Fund.

4:00 - 6:30pm ~ Adas Israel Congregation
 2850 Quebec Street, NW ~ Washington, DC

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO RSVP:
 HTTP://WWW.SEABOARDUSY.ORG/ALUMNIREUNION**

Getting Ready for Chanukah

Our preschoolers will be participating in a fabulous day of gift shopping. What a wonderful sight... our little friends will be pushing shopping carts, making gift choices for parents, grandparents, siblings, pets, and friends.



All gifts will go home wrapped and labeled.

This event gives the children an opportunity to see this holiday season as a time to give not just receive. A special thank you to our PTO for organizing this favorite yearly tradition. Special thanks to Cathy Pathi for her leadership and her army of volunteer parents for their assistance in wrapping and shopping.

Grandparents and Special Friends' Day

PLEASE MARK THIS DATE CHANGE! We will be welcoming special guests on Monday, December 19th, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, for some Chanukah fun. I am not sure who loves this special time together more the grandparents/special friends or the children?

SPRING CLEANING IN DECEMBER!



This is a great time to clean out your children's toys to make room for the new things we all know will be coming into our homes at the end of this month. Bring unwanted toys and books to the preschool anytime this

month. We will be holding onto these treasures for our "2nd MAKE ME AN OFFER TOY AND BOOK SALE" to be held in May.

Our 2012-2013 Applications

The applications for 2012-2013 school year will be available in our school office this month. Please call if you would like one mailed to your home. Register during the month of December and get a 5% discount off your total tuition.

WIN-WIN FOR ALL!!

Is your child enrolled in our Preschool??? If you refer a new family to Beth Israel Preschool, and they register their child YOU will receive a tuition credit of one week. This is a Win - Win for all. Call the school office at 410-654-0803 for details.

Mommy & Me

Our Mommy & Me program is for children aged 15-23 months at the time the program begins. It will be held on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Classes began in September and end in May. Parents can register any time and receive a prorated price. Parent/caretaker and child participate in activities geared to the special needs of the young child and include art, manipulative games and toys, music, literature and large muscle activities. Parent/caretaker participates in providing healthy snacks. The class is taught by Marcy Snow. We have openings left in our program. Please call ASAP if you are interested.

Shabbat and Chag for Tots

Our sessions will take place in the Library at 11:00 a.m. Look at the weekly Shabbat sheet for any changes in location. Parents must accompany their child throughout the session.



Dates to Remember

DECEMBER

- 2 (F)** TGIF 7:30 p.m. - preschool sing-a-long at 7:15 p.m.
- 4 (S)** Positive Parenting 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
- 8 (Th)** Positive Parenting 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
- 13 (T)** Chanukah Shop
- 14 (W)** Chanukah Shop
- 19 (M)** Grandparent/Special Friend Day 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 20 (T)** Families with Young Children Chanukah Program
1st Chanukah Candle lit at sundown
- 23 (F)** SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 4:30 p.m. for Winter Break

JANUARY

- 3 (T)** SCHOOL REOPENS



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Happy Chanukah!

Chanukah Happenings

Friday, December 2nd –TGIF

at 7:30 p.m. Choir performance “Chanukah is Coming”. Original Chanukiyot on display. Games for all children during the Oneg Shabbat.

Theme for the month – “Winter Lights”. December Mitzvah – Toys (new) for needy children.

Week of December 18th – School Chanukah Programs and parties.

Tuesday, December 20th – Erev Chanukah, First candle. The Dalet class will help us usher in Chanukah by leading the Hallel for the school. Parents are invited. Parent Association Chanukah Dinner and Bingo immediately following class – 6:00 p.m. Registration required.

Chanukiyah Contest – Make sure to work on your original Chanukah menorahs! We can’t wait to see all of the creative entries this year. All entries are due by Tuesday, December 13th.



Inclement Weather Procedures

When Baltimore County Public Schools announce their closing or early dismissal due to inclement weather, all Center for Jewish Education affiliated schools in Baltimore City and Baltimore County will be closed.



On Sunday, CJE and school principals will make a decision by 8:00 a.m. All affiliated CJE schools will be notified and an announcement will be made on the radio. Should it be necessary to close our school while the public schools are in session, or on Sundays, we shall use every available means to announce the closing as soon as possible on the radio, WBAL 1090, in addition to your receiving an automated One Call message and to emailing you through Constant Contact.

Daily Minyan Can Enhance your Carpool Time!

Beth Israel’s evening minyan time is 5:40-6:00 p.m. Parents can plan to join the minyan while waiting for your children’s dismissal from Hebrew School. The minyan benefits from presence and you benefit by spending your waiting time effectively!



Carpool Update

Now that it is dark at pick-up time it is even more critical to reinforce good and safe behavior

at the carpool line. We want to thank all the parents who are exercising patience so that the carpool line at dismissal can move safely and efficiently. Following an orderly system continues to be our top priority for the sake of the safety of our children. Please note that the children will not be allowed to exit from the front of the building if they are unaccompanied by an adult. We cannot be responsible for children who are in unsupervised areas.

Our Dedicated Teens:

We have a wonderful group of teens who are working in the Religious School this year in a variety of ways – teacher assistants, tutors and library and office helpers. We are happy that these young people want to be a part of the Jewish education process here at Beth Israel. This year’s teen staff includes Michael Baumohl, Emma Danoff, Josh Danoff, Allison Eller, Alyssa Eller, Nathaniel Foote, Justin Friedman, Rebecca Gross, Harris Himelfarb, Jamie Hyman, Jaryd Kromsky, Alexandra Mitchell, Sierra Mitchell, Zachary Molin, Joshua Rosenbaum, Sophia Rosman, Chanan Rothenberg, Natalie Saroff, Matthew Schwartz, Deena Siltan, Miriam Siltan, Robert Soucy, Erin Sullivan, Lauren Steininger, Aliyah Taule, Jeremy Train, Dean Udell, Melanie Weiskopf and Lexi Zimmerman.

Alef Consecration- Sunday morning, December 11

Once again we look forward to our annual Alef children’s Consecration Ceremony. Eighteen boys and girls will sing songs on the theme of “Prayer is Reaching”. We welcome our Alef families into our formal Hebrew School program.

Todah Rabbah

Many thanks to the following people:

- Howard & Eileen Jacobs for their generous donation to the Religious School.
- Barry & Becki Friedman for chairing this year’s annual Jewish Book Fair.
- Beverly Katz, Ann Friedman & Randi Buergenthal for volunteering to sew at our recent Vav Class/2012 B’nai Mitzvah Tallit workshop.
- The Parents Association for providing the funds for the Hay Class Tanakhim (Bibles).
- Dalia Bromberg for coordinating the Alef Class yearbook.

Religious School December 2011 Calendar

- 2 (F)** TGIF Family Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m. with our Youth Choir - Celebrating December Birthdays.
- 3 (Sh)** Junior Congregation – 10:30 a.m.
- 4 (S)** Professional Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
- 10 (Sh)** Junior Congregation – 10:30 a.m.
Prozdor/Mechina Shabbat Experience
Gimel/Dalet Shabbat Experience
- 11 (S)** Alef Consecration – 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- 16 (F)** Friday Night Live Musical Shabbat Service – 6:00 p.m.
- 17 (Sh)** Junior Congregation – 10:30 a.m.
Alef & Bet Shabbat Experience
- 18 (S)** Prozdor/Mechina Parent Program during regular class time.
- 20 (T)** Dalet Hallel Program at School Chanukah Assembly.
First night of Chanukah
Chanukah Dinner & Bingo – Registration required.
- 22 (Th)** JEM fall term ends. JEM Chanukah Party. Parents and guests are invited.
- 25-Jan 2 (S-M)**
SCHOOL CLOSED. Winter vacation.

Mazal Tov

מזל טוב

To Rabbi Goldstein who received his Doctor of Divinity, *Honoris Causa*, from the Jewish Theological Seminary on November 1, 2011.

To Asya Lasen Kova and Robert Kreymer on their October 29th wedding.

To Beth Gansky and Ari Zymelman on their October 30th wedding.

To Dr. Stacey Berner (hand surgery), Dr. Neri Cohen (thoracic surgery), Dr. Jonathan Epstein (pathology), Dr. Howard Jacobs (pulmonology), Dr. Jeffrey Magaziner (internal medicine), Dr. Mitchell L. Schwartz (pulmonary critical care), and Dr. Jack Wapner (addiction), for being voted best in their field by their peers. All seven were featured in *Baltimore Magazine's* 2011 "Top Doc's List."

Programming for Families with Young Children

Families with Young Children come in many shapes and sizes. We place no boundaries or exact age on families who are welcome to these events. Browse our calendar and get ready to be a part of these wonderful activities.

Please let us know if you'd like to help plan some details or be hands-on.

Suggestions, comments, and questions? Email biom-programs@comcast.net

December 20

January 28

February 17

March 7

March 11

April 22

April 29

June 1

Chanukah Bingo and Dinner

PJ Havdalah

Friday Night Live

Megillah Reading for Families

Purim Carnival

Preschool Mitzvah Day

Community Nature Walk

Got Shabbat Dinner

Note:

TGIF 1st Friday – 7:30 p.m. each month

Friday Night Live - 3rd Friday – 6:00 p.m. each month

Tot Shabbat – 11:00 a.m. Shabbat mornings & Holidays

More information: rschwartz@bethisrael-om.org

ATTENTION TEEN MUSICIANS!

KLEZMERIZED! THE BALTIMORE TEEN KLEZMER BAND, began its eighth year this September. The band plays klezmer and Israeli music. We arrange, harmonize, and improvise our own renditions of the music, and we perform at community events, synagogues, and private celebrations.

Beth Israel is our generous host. However, the band is open to all teen musicians in the community who play an instrument. We rehearse on Sundays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Beth Israel.

We welcome new members! Call or email Judy Stamberg, the band director, at 410-484-0121 or stambergj@yahoo.com for more information, or just show up for rehearsal!

Beth Israel Celebrates

We want to take the opportunity to wish Mazel Tov to congregants celebrating "special" life milestones (birthdays over age 50 and anniversaries over 10 years). While every birthday or anniversary is a reason to celebrate, if you are having one ending with a five or a zero, we are proud to wish you a special Mazel Tov. If you do not want your name/milestone listed, please call us at least two months in advance.

Special Birthdays December

Ellen Agronin	Howard Katz
Deborah Bass	Joanne Levin
Jerry Benesch	Jeffrey Meddin
Seth Cohen	Charlene Poley
Thomas Dudley	Paul Saval
Bruce Feinerman	Janet Shindell
Richard Frankle	Goldie Teitelbaum
Stuart Hirsch	Marie Weiss
Beth Horton	Darren Wolberg
Beverly Katz	

Special Anniversaries December

Sara & Brian Block
Ellen & Ronald Bridge
Judith & Bernard Cataldo
Francine & I. William Chase
Irene & Morton Greenberg
Helen & Gerald Stein

Sincere best wishes to our members who have special birthdays or anniversaries in December and all other members of our Beth Israel family who are celebrating joyous occasions, milestones, and honors. MAZEL TOV!

ברוך אתה ה' א-להינו מלך העולם,
שהחינו וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

Praised are you, Adonai, our God who rules the universe, granting us life, sustaining us, and enabling us to reach this day.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

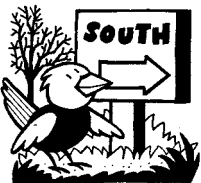
The books are now available for purchase. Buy now to start saving! Still the same great price - \$30.

Brotherhood and Sisterhood will be selling the entertainment books for the 2011 – 2012 season. All proceeds will go towards supplementing the youth program and Religious School. Books can be purchased through the Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Religious School and synagogue office.

For further information contact Ann or Howard Cornblatt at 410-318-5002.

"Snow Birds" – Make Sure We Have Your Winter Address!

As the weather gets colder, many of our Congregants head south for the winter. It is important that our office receives your winter address as soon as possible, as well as the projected dates you will be away. Postal regulations are such that the US Post Office will **NOT** automatically forward the GUIDE and other Beth Israel mailings. A phone call or a note to the office will help us help you stay in touch with your Beth Israel family while you are away.



INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

Religious Services & Congregational Programs

Decisions about cancelling or postponing a service or a Congregational program are made independent of decisions about the Religious School or Pre-School. When there is inclement weather, listen to WBAL – AM (1090) or WCBM – AM (680) radio, or call the synagogue office for a specific announcement, which will be left on the voice message system at least one hour before the scheduled event. We will also try to email our plans (make sure we have your email address!). Please be advised that radio stations will only allow announcements of cancellations. We cannot announce that we are going ahead with a service or program. We will do our best to keep you informed of that type of information using our voicemail system.

**Thank You for Your Contribution
INFORMATION:**

Donations to the

Prayer Book and Bible Fund
K'vod L'Torah Fund
Claire and Ken Sodden Memorial Youth Fund
Camp Scholarship Fund
Ted. H. Schweitzer Memorial Fund
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Cantor's Discretionary Fund

may be made by calling the
Synagogue office at 410-654-0800,
during business hours.

Donations to the

Goldie Gorn Education Fund
Marla Joy Lerner Audio/Video Lending Library

may be made by calling the
School Office, at 410-654-0803,
Monday-Thursdays, between
10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Sisterhood Mitzvah Cards
may be purchased by calling
Diane Seidel at 443-394-8663

PTA Mitzvah Cards
may be purchased by calling the
School Office.

Minimum donations to the various
funds are as follows:

Prayer Book Fund - \$18.00
Prayer Book w/Plate - \$36.00
Bible Fund - \$30.00
Bible w/Plate - \$60.00

Claire and Ken Sodden Memorial Youth Fund,
Camp Scholarship Fund, Ted. H. Schweitzer
Memorial Fund, and Goldie Gorn Education Fund
\$10.00

K'vod L'Torah Fund, Mitzvah Fund \$15.00

Please refrain from calling the
above numbers on Shabbat or
Jewish Holidays.

Todah Rabbah!

Sincere thanks and appreciation to those who remember to honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions.

CLAIRE AND KEN SODDEN MEMORIAL YOUTH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Philip Berman by Diane & Eddie Steinberg; Sondra Levy
Connie Mazer by Dr. Steve Gandel; Ruth Borris & Family
Myra Millison by Peggy & Gil Goodman & Family
Marian Waldman by Charlene Poley

IN HONOR OF:

The new home of Mr. & Mrs. Chaim Kornblit by Elaine & Harold
Rothman & Family
The special birthday of Lynn Turgel by Elaine & Harold Rothman & Family
The 80th birthday of Dick Butler by Sandy & Marty Zaben
The 40th wedding anniversary of Bella & Hy Luft by Rita & Ira Meier
The birth of a great granddaughter to Harriet & Al Sandler by
Ruth Borris & Family
Rabbi Jay Goldstein receiving the Doctor of Divinity from the
Seminary by Sue & Phil Rabin
The grandson of Trudy & Wulf Berman becoming a Bar Mitzvah
by Goldie Teitelbaum
Amy Rothman's engagement by Eileen & Al Bard
The birth of a grandson, Logan Hunter, to Helen & David Braitman
by Eileen & Al Bard

SPEEDY RECOVERY:

Ellie Cohen by Rita & Ira Meier; Helen & David Braitman; Betsy &
Stacey Berner & Family
Lou Friedman by Rita & Ira Meier; Helen & David Braitman
Bebe Hirsch by Freida & Moot Mazer
Marilyn Miller by Elaine & Harold Rothman & Family; Gail Potashnick
Sue Steinman by Gail Potashnick

CAMP FUND

IN HONOR OF:

The birth of Jackson Benjamin Gratz by Steve Gandel
The birth of a granddaughter, Jordana to Dr. Stephen Goldman
by Steve Gandel

SPEEDY RECOVERY:

Millie Hurwitz by Ellen & Max Naftaniel
Sue Steinman by Ellen & Max Naftaniel

K'VOD L'TORAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Lillian Bovelski by Steve Gandel
Connie Mazer by Jeane Sweren
Karl Seif by Dr. Robert Burt
Dr. Harold N. Taylor by Dr. Robert Burt

IN HONOR OF:

Bernie Cataldo conducting evening services by Rosaile &
Anthony Read

GOLDIE GORN EDUCATION FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Edythe Deckelbaum by Fran & Richard Shure

IN HONOR OF:

The birth of a grandson, Logan Hunter, to Helen & David Braitman
by Sue & Phil Rabin; Anne & Zel Gresser; Sharon & Barry Snyder
Alyson Axman becoming Bat Mitzvah by Alma & Milton Klein
Bruce Seidel's marriage to Stephanie by Phyllis & Ralph Hersh
Meital Abraham becoming a Bat Mitzvah by Randi & John Buergethal
Barret Rus becoming Bar Mitzvah by Roz & Len Rus
Aliyah's Received at Beth Israel Congregation by Miriam & Robert Stern
Receiving an Aliyah during the High Holidays by Russ & Mona Kaufman

SPEEDY RECOVERY:

Dr. Arthur Baitch by Pauline & Barry Dahne
Ellie Cohen by Lois & Larry Wolf; Sue & Phil Rabin; Marilyn Schloss
Bebe Hirsch by Phyllis & Ralph Hersh
Rita Meier by Sharon & Barry Snyder

PRAYER BOOK & HUMASH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Larry Ganslaw by Rachele & Stephen Heller
Connie Mazer by Arlene & Lester Caplan; Friends and Neighbors
at Greengate Condos

IN APPRECIATION OF:

David Rothenberg by Helen & David Braitman
Beth Israel Congregation by Miriam & Robert Stern

SPEEDY RECOVERY:

Bebe Hirsch by Charlene Poley

YAHREIT CONTRIBUTIONS

Marlyn & Lawrence Abrams	Eileen Miller
Lilly & Howard Abramson	Mitchell Mosbacher
Martha & Jerry Benesch	Michelle & Donald Nusinov
Beverly & Malcolm Bernstein	Anne & Bernard Patashnik
Jan & Stewart Braunstein	Bernice & Bernard Raynor
Lester Brill	Nancy & Michael Rogers
Diane & Howard Burkorn	Elaine & Harold Rothman
Marilynn & Mark Cohen	Lynda Rotter
Gabriella Eichler	Stuart Rotter
Linda & Herbert Eichler	Beverly & Sheldon Rubenstein
Arlene & Marc Ellison	Marion & Leonard Rubin
Charlotte & Leonard Epstein	Phyllis & Melvin Rubin
Genine & Josh Fidler	Bobbie & Arthur Ryterman
Elayne Flomenbaum	Ray Sachs
Sherri & Stuart Fox	Fritzie Schweitzer
Debbie & Chuck Frazer	Selma & Leonard Sherman
Gloria Friedman	Janet & Scott Shindell
Margaret & Bruce Galanter	Marvin Shuman
Lauren Ganslaw	Sherryl & David Silberman
Sharon D. & Louis Gilden	Sidra & Peter Silton
Rachel & Richard Glaser	Abby & Emanuel Silverstein
Elinor & Stanley Gumnit	Beth & Ian Slepian
Iris & Gary Ingber	Rona Sodden
Ellen Jachman	Miriam & Robert Stern
Sharon M. & Edward Klawansky	Janice & Charles Surasky
Cheryl & Michael Kovens	Arlene & William Tabak
Beatrice Lazarus	Barbara & Jeffrey Tapper
Cherie & Barry Levitt	Shirley Teitler
Sandra Liberman	Randi & Larry Waskow
Marla Sue & Jeffrey Linker	Marian Wasser
Judy & Larry Lippman	Estelle & Martin Weinberg
Penny & Jeffrey Lippman	Helene Weinstein
Bella & Hy Luft	Diana & Philip Weiss
Jerald Lurie	Stacy & Alan Weiss
Selma & Jerome Mandelberg	Joyce & Steve Wiener
Marsha & Douglas Marcus	Diane & Herbert Wolfson
Diane & Donald Miller	Diane & Mayer Zimmerman

December 2011 Calendar

1 THURSDAY

12:00 p.m. Lunch & Learn with Rachel Glaser
6:30 p.m. Intro to Judaism

2 FRIDAY

4:26 p.m. Candlelighting
7:30 p.m. TGIF

3 SATURDAY

9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
4:40 p.m. Mincha/Maariv/Havdallah

4 SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. Zumba Class
9:30 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast with speaker Kevin Kamenetz
10:00 a.m. Adult Education – The World of Mussar
10:00 a.m. Pre-school Parenting Workshop

6 TUESDAY

7:30 p.m. Exploring Jewish Text through Art

7 WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Israeli Dancing
7:30 p.m. Book Club

8 THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. Intro to Judaism
7:00 p.m. Pre-school Parenting Workshop

9 FRIDAY

Author-in-Residence Weekend with Joel Chasnoff
4:25 p.m. Candlelighting
6:00 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat
7:00 p.m. Shabbat Dinner with Joel Chasnoff
8:00 p.m. Book Talk by Joel Chasnoff “The 188th Crybaby Brigade”

10 SATURDAY

Comedian-in-Residence Weekend with Joel Chasnoff
9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
12:30 pm. Kiddush Conversation with Rabbi Goldstein
4:35 p.m. Mincha/Maariv/Havdallah
7:30 p.m. Doors Open
8:00 p.m. Joel Chasnoff Performance

11 SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Blood Drive
9:30 a.m. Zumba Class

14 WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Israeli Dancing
7:30 p.m. Great Latke Fry-Off

15 THURSDAY

12:00 p.m. Lunch & Learn with Rachel Glaser

16 FRIDAY

4:26 p.m. Candlelighting
6:00 p.m. Friday Night Live

17 SATURDAY

9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
B'nai Mitzvah – Boris Michael Zilberstein and Tatiana Marguerite Zilberstein
4:40 p.m. Mincha/Maariv/Havdallah

18 SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. Zumba Class
10:00 a.m. Sisterhood Board Meeting
3:00 p.m. Hazak Movie

20 TUESDAY

Chanukah – Candle 1 in the Evening
4:00 p.m. Religious School Program
6:30 p.m. Chanukah Bingo and Dinner

21 WEDNESDAY

Chanukah – Candle 2 in the Evening
7:00 p.m. Israeli Dancing

22 THURSDAY

Chanukah – Candle 3 in the Evening

23 FRIDAY

Chanukah – Candle 4 in the Evening
4:30 p.m. Candlelighting
6:00 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat

24 SATURDAY

Chanukah – Candle 5 in the Evening
9:15 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
12:30 p.m. Kiddush Conversation with Rabbi Goldstein
4:40 p.m. Mincha/Maariv/Havdallah

25 SUNDAY

Office & Schools Closed Chanukah – Candle 6 in the Evening

26 MONDAY

Office & Schools Closed Chanukah – Candle 7 in the Evening

27 TUESDAY

Chanukah – Candle 8 in the Evening

28 WEDNESDAY

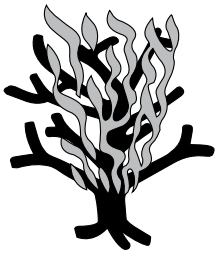
7:00 p.m. Israeli Dancing

30 FRIDAY

4:34 p.m. Candlelighting
6:00 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat

31 SATURDAY

9:15 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
Amazing Technicolor Tequila and Torah Shabbat
4:45 p.m. Mincha/Maariv/Havdallah



BETH ISRAEL
CONGREGATION

3706 Crondall Lane
Owings Mills, MD 21117
Phone: 410-654-0800
Fax: 410-581-0113
www.bethisrael-om.org

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Randi Buergenthal..... 2nd Vice President
Marc Hertzberg 3rd Vice President
Ellie Cohen Treasurer
Ellen Feinerman Financial Secretary
Toni Greenberg..... Recording Secretary
Heidi Hoffman..... Corresponding Secretary

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Roger B. Eisenberg Cantor
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Rachel V. Glaser Education Director
Rachael Schwartz..... Pre-School Director
Sheri Knauth Youth Director/
Special Events Coordinator
Mayer Zimmerman..... Ritual Director
Marcy Snow Bonim & Machar Advisor
Rebecca Rosenfelt..... USY Advisor

SHLEIMUT TEAM

Sarah Shapiro & Anita Meddin

GABBAIM

Abraham Teitler *zt"l*, Gabbai Emeritus
Jerome Frankle *zt"l*, Gabbai Emeritus

Affiliated with
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

**BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD, BROTHERHOOD &
PROGRAM DEPARTMENT**

Present

**“THE GREAT BETH ISRAEL
LATKE FRY-OFF”**

For Adults and Teens 16+

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011

7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

*Get in the mood for Chanukah with this
joyous pre-holiday event, featuring a real
contest with judges and prizes,
tasty Chanukah foods, and fun activities!*

- **Ten contestants** will offer their family-favorite latkes, using their own recipes (fried in advance in Beth Israel's kitchen)! YOU get to taste the latkes and vote for your favorite!
- **Three judges** will decide who gets the "best-tasting," "best-looking," "most unique" latke awards among others.
- Bring a new, wrapped gift worth \$10 or so, and get to participate with fellow Beth Israelites in the **Chanukah Gift Exchange**.
- Symbolic **lighting of the Chanukah menorah**.
- **Surprise Guest Appearance** at 8:30 p.m.!
- Desserts and soft drinks, too!
- Admission: **Free With!** That means there's no charge **AND** bring a new, wrapped **holiday gift** for the disadvantaged boys, girls, men and women who live at Hannah More House in Reisterstown. Be sure to specify on the outside for whom your gift is appropriate!
- *Be sure to RSVP to the office, at 410-654-0800 you're coming, so we will know how many latkes to make!*



More info: Contact Phyllis Hersh,
at 410-602-1717, or via email
ralphyllis@verizon.net; or Marvin
Mervis, at 410-521-4499, or via
email mpmervis@hotmail.com.