

VOICE

The Voice of Beth El Congregation • December 2010 • Kislev 5771 • Volume 57 • Number 10

WINNER OF THE 2009 USCJ INTERNATIONAL GOLD AWARD FOR BULLETINS & PUBLICATIONS

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SHABBAT SMORGASBORD & VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SHABBAT

Saturday, December 11

Please join us as Beth El Congregation celebrates the volunteers that help make our congregation such a special community. We invite everyone who has volunteered at Beth El or on behalf of Beth El to join us and permit us to appropriately express our thanks.

Our schedule on this *Shabbat* is as follows:

Torah Study: 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Shabbat Hadash Service:
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Healing Service: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Learner's Service: 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Volunteer Appreciation Blessing and Recognition: 11:30 a.m.

Special Volunteer Appreciation *Kiddush* in the Offit Auditorium

VOLUNTEER!

THOSE WHO CAN, DO.
THOSE WHO CAN DO MORE,
VOLUNTEER.
— AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Not a day goes by at Beth El when volunteers are not assisting, leading and helping around the building. Beth El relies on volunteers for a variety of tasks, and is always welcoming new volunteers to lend a hand where they can. Committees, religious services and office staff always have jobs that need to be done and very often volunteers are the ones who get the job done.

Highlighted below are just some of the volunteer opportunities available.

✓ On **January 30, 2011** the Environmental Committee is sponsoring a **Green Expo** at Beth El. This expo will feature “green” retail businesses, non-profits, children’s activities and lectures. Volunteers are needed to help organize

and recruit vendors as well as assist the day of the event.

✓ The **Social Action Committee** has formed a Beth El **Bikkur Cholim** committee. This newly formed committee needs volunteers to visit the sick and homebound, drive congregants to Beth El services or events and visit *Shiva* houses.

✓ Each year on Christmas Day Beth El joins together with **Moveable Feast** to deliver meals to the homebound. This year the deliveries will take place the day before Christmas on **Friday, December 24**. We need people able to drive as well as those who can ride along as passengers and help carry the packages.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Green Expo, Bikkur Cholim or Moveable Feast, please contact **Debbie Caplan**, Assistant Administrator at Debbie@bethelbalto.com.

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INTERNATIONAL JEWISH POP STAR TO GIVE HANUKKAH CONCERT AT BETH EL!

Sam Glaser, International Jewish Pop Star, is giving a Hanukkah benefit concert for all ages on Sunday, December 5 at 12:30 p.m. The benefit is to raise money for school programs and scholarships for families within Beth El Schools: Infant/Toddler, Preschool and Religious School.

Sam Glaser’s soulful music has become part of the fabric of Jewish life in communities worldwide. Named one of the top ten Jewish performers in the *US by Moment* magazine, Glaser has performed all over the USA as well as the world. He performs for the widest array of audiences of any Jewish artist; his devoted fans range from those in the Reform and Conservative movements to the Modern Orthodox and *Chassidim*.

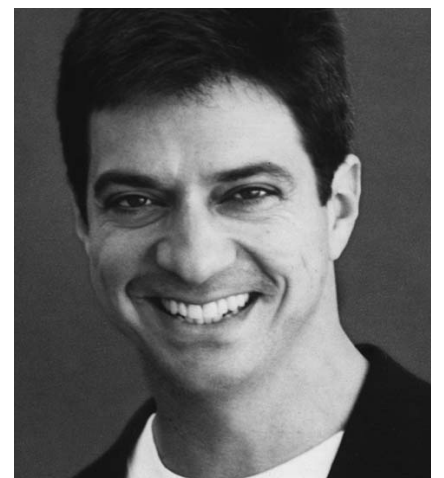
While performing at Beth El, our Preschool, Sunday and Religious School students will join Glaser during his concert to sing fun Hanukkah songs and beautiful songs based on Jewish prayer.

Let’s celebrate *Hanukkah* together and help raise money for scholarships to our worthy schools. If you buy your tickets in advance you will receive a price break AND a free *Hanukkah* lunch. Lunch consists of latkes, beverages, fun toppings, salad and the opportunity to decorate your own *sufganiot* “donut”. There will also be dreidel games and arts and crafts.

Children 3 & under	Free
4 – 12 year olds	\$8.00
13 – adult	\$18.00

Tickets bought the day of the concert are \$10 for children 4 -12 years old and \$20 for 13 years old and up.

To sample Sam Glaser’s music visit his website: <http://www.samglaser.com/freemp3.php>. **Visit any of the Beth El Offices to buy tickets to the concert.**



Sam Glaser

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

The family of the late Harold Framm;
 The family of the late Dr. Marvin L. Getz.
 Mrs. Esther Harris on the loss of her beloved mother, Bernice A. Cohen.
 Mr. Gary Huddles on the loss of his beloved brother, William M. Huddles.
 Mrs. Merle Intner and Mrs. Ruth Hollander on the loss of their beloved mother and sister, Selma F. Pollack;
 Mr. Brian Meritt and Mr. Paul Meritt on the loss of their beloved stepmother, Emily Wallenstein Meritt.
 Mrs. Eileen Peremel on the loss of her beloved mother, Ethel Kotzin.
 Mrs. Jill Rosenstein on the loss of her beloved mother, Susan Blumenfeld.
 Dr. Adam Scherr on the loss of his beloved father, Jules Ian Scherr.
 Mrs. Joy Shillman on the loss of her beloved mother, Hope Kane.

A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

Rhona Sober

OUR HEARTIEST MAZEL TOV TO:

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Blum on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Brett Ethan; grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. David Yumkas.
 Mr. and Mrs. S. Jerry Cohn on the marriage of their son, Andrew to Rachel Schechter.
 Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Engelman and Mr. and Mrs. Randy Moss on the marriage of their children, David Engelman and Emily Moss; grandmother is Mrs. Sarah Harris.
 Mr. and Mrs. Hal Levitt on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Daniel.
 Mr. and Mrs. Joel Pinsky on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their daughter, Julia Leigh.
 Mrs. Leah Rosin on the birth of her great grandson, Nadev Aryeh.
 Mr. and Mrs. Jay Schapiro, Mr. Steven Weinstein and Ms. Jayme Weinstein on the marriage of their children, Rachel Schapiro and Jordan Weinstein; grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Weinstein and Dr. and Mrs. Arnold Sapperstein; great grandmother is Mrs. Hilda Rudo.
 Dr. and Mrs. Arnold Sigler on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their granddaughter, Sophia Kloosterboer.
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Slatkin on the birth of their grandson, Boruch Mordechi.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Adler on their 30th
 Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Austerlitz on their 65th
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven Bass on their 25th
 Dr. and Mrs. Scott Berkowitz on their 5th
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dackman on their 10th
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Deckelbaum on their 35th
 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Denick on their 60th
 Dr. and Mrs. Steven Glubo on their 40th
 Mr. and Mrs. Burton Halpert on their 30th
 Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hoffberger on their 10th
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jacobs on their 5th
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Katz on their 30th
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian Kowitz on their 15th
 Mr. and Mrs. Ira Levinson on their 35th
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Roth on their 5th
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Simons on their 45th
 Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Snyder on their 30th

Beth El Baby



Drew Lewis Holzman

Birth date:
February 25, 2010

Parents:
Joanna and Nathaniel Holzman

Grandparents:
Sharon and Ralph Holzman

The Voice welcomes photos of Beth El babies wearing their "I'm a Baltimore Beth El Baby" T-shirts. Please e-mail jpeg images – along with the name of the infant and family members and the infant's birth date – to sandi@bethelbalto.com.

SPONSOR A
SHABBAT KIDDUSH

Sponsoring a Beth El *Shabbat Kiddush* is the perfect way to celebrate a birthday, an upcoming wedding or any other *simcha*. Sponsors names are mentioned from the *bimah* when the rabbi does the weekly announcements.
 Contact **Diane Cole**, Event Coordinator, at **410-484-0411** or diane@bethelbalto.com and she will help you plan your special *Kiddush*.

SCHEDULE OF DAILY SERVICES

Morning		Evening	
Monday –		Monday –	
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Thursday	7:30 p.m.
<i>Rosh Chodesh</i>	7:45 a.m.	Friday	6:00 p.m.
<i>Shabbat</i>	10:00 a.m.	Saturday	sundown*
Sunday &		Sunday	5:30 p.m.
Legal Holidays	9:15 a.m.		

*Check website or call 410-580-2727



Beth El Congregation is on Facebook! Become a fan today to get the latest news and see the latest photos from Beth El events.

ATTENTION 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 well as the projected dates you will be away, because **the post office will NOT automatically forward *The Voice* and other Beth El mailings**. Please contact **Sandi Block** at **410-484-0411** or sandi@bethelbalto.com with this information **before you leave Baltimore** and bring back some warmth and sunshine when you return!



IN MEMORIAM

HAROLD FRAMM
 SELMA F. POLLACK

We mourn the passing of our members and extend sincere condolences to their families.

Beth El is compiling a list of our members who would like to receive email notifications of congregational obituaries. If you wish to be added to this list, please contact **Sandi Block** at sandi@bethelbalto.com.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2 – HANUKKAH – DAY 1

MORNING SERVICE	7:45 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3 – HANUKKAH – DAY 2

MORNING SERVICE	7:45 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	6:00 p.m.
CANDLE LIGHTING	4:23 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 – HANUKKAH – DAY 3

Parsha of the Week – MIKETZ

MORNING SERVICE	10:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 – HANUKKAH – DAY 4

MORNING SERVICE	9:15 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 – HANUKKAH – DAY 5

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 – HANUKKAH – DAY 6

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 – HANUKKAH – DAY 7

MORNING SERVICE	7:45 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9 – HANUKKAH – DAY 8

MORNING SERVICE	7:45 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

MORNING SERVICE	8:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	6:00 p.m.
CANDLE LIGHTING	4:23 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Parsha of the Week – VAYIGASH

MORNING SERVICE	10:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	4:45 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17 – FAST OF THE TENTH OF TEVET

MORNING SERVICE	8:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	6:00 p.m.
CANDLE LIGHTING	4:25 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

Parsha of the Week – VEYECHI

MORNING SERVICE	10:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

MORNING SERVICE	8:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	6:00 p.m.
CANDLE LIGHTING	4:28 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

Parsha of the Week - SHEMOT

MORNING SERVICE	10:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

MORNING SERVICE	8:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE	6:00 p.m.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Beth El's Safety and Security Committee was established two years ago to develop policies and procedures for ensuring the safety of all who come to our building. Procedures are now in place for weather-related emergencies and any other event demanding an evacuation or lockdown. Drills are conducted several times a year to assure that all staff and students are fully aware of what to do in any type of emergency. We are continually reviewing and revising our procedures to make the school and congregation a safe place. Should the need ever arise to implement a plan, Beth El will be prepared.

Over the past two years, through grants provided by Homeland Security, Beth El has made many security upgrades to our camera system. A new electric Card Access System has also been installed for added security.

In addition, our Committee and Beth El Administration on behalf of the Board of Trustees has signed a mutual aid agreement this past summer with the Office of Emergency Management at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, along with five other sister synagogues located in proximity to Beth El, to be activated during a major disaster.

BAR & BAT MITZVAH



BAR MITZVAH

Brett Ethan Blum, son of Maren and Bruce Blum will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* December 18, 2010.

VOLUNTEER! — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

✓ Beth El is truly a “full service” synagogue with services held every day, twice a day. Torah and/or *Haftarah* selections are recited five times a week. In addition, we always make sure that someone from Beth El (clergy or volunteer) will conduct services in *Shiva* homes. While there is a dedicated corps of volunteers to do the reading and leading, there is a need for more! To lead services a reading knowledge of Hebrew is necessary, and Sandy Winters is available to prepare, help and encourage those who wish to participate. Practice sessions are held with individuals or small groups throughout the year. Contact **Sandy Winters** at sandy@bethelbalto.com for specific information.

✓ Every *Shabbat* morning there are ushers/greeters in the Rubin Sanctuary to welcome people to services. Additional volunteers are also always needed. For information on ushering *Shabbat* morning please contact **Morris Saks** at 410-484-8482.

✓ The **Sisterhood Gift Shop** is run by volunteers. Each day it is in need of people to help. Shifts are as short as 2-4 hours. There are always at least 2 people volunteering at a time so workers are never alone and Gift Shop volunteers receive a generous discount on the shop's merchandise. To find out more about volunteering in the Gift Shop please contact **Barbara Green** at barbsg@aol.com.

Beth El relies on volunteers. If you have the time to make a difference at Beth El there is a volunteer position that would be perfect for you. **Thanks to everyone who has volunteered at Beth El. We could not accomplish everything we do without you.**



Beth El welcomed Zainab Al-Suwaij, Executive Director of the American Islamic Congress for the “Why Muslim-Jewish Dialogue Matters: Hearing the Voice of Moderate Islam” lecture. The program, which was attended by over 200 people, was an engaging lecture and talk by a unique voice in the Muslim community. Right, Rabbi David Greenspoon and Ms. Al Suwaij.



ADULT EDUCATION CONGREGATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Hanukkah is just around the corner, and I have the perfect gift idea for you that you will never outgrow, that will never wear out, and that will never need to be returned. That is the gift of increased Jewish knowledge. Beth El's Adult Education offerings have something for nearly everyone on the slate. Now that December is here, classes are up and running at full throttle. Look at what is going on just this month:

LUNCH & LEARN in DECEMBER

Beth El Lunch and Learn on **Wednesday, December 1** will feature **Mr. Marc B. Terrill**, President of the Associated. He will address the topic **Jewish Needs at Home and Abroad** from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in the Beth El Board Room. Please note our new venue!

Downtown Lunch and Learn on **Wednesday, December 8** will be the final session of **Rabbi Schwartz's review of some favorite recent books**. In this session he looks at The Bible, and explores the question: What can be learned from reading the Bible as a unified work of literature? Join us from 12:00-1:00 p.m. at the offices of Fedder and Garten, 36 S. Charles St.

Towson Lunch and Learn on **Wednesday, December 15** continues **Rabbi Greenspoon's treatment of Jewish Demons and Angels**. This session explores the fascinating figure of Lilith throughout rabbinic sources and beyond. We meet from 12:00-1:30 p.m. at the Institute for Christian & Jewish Studies, 95 Dulaney Valley Road.

Each session of our Lunch and Learn program is a self-contained unit. You should feel free to join in for any class you can make, even if you cannot make them all.

SPECIAL CLASSES AND EVENTS

Shabbat Smorgasbord/Volunteer Recognition Shabbat **Saturday, December 11**

Last year we initiated our first-ever *Shabbat Smorgasbord* program, and featured different alternatives to the traditional Beth El *Shabbat* service. There was a lot of positive response to the morning and the request that we do it again. So, we're doing it again, but with some changes that reflect your feedback. Come and enjoy a special *Shabbat* filled with options for alternative services at Beth El. The schedule is as follows:

Torah Study 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the Rabbi Jacob B. Agus Library
Our morning will start with our traditional *Shabbat* Torah Study class in the Agus Library from 9:00-9:45 a.m. Everyone is welcome and invited to attend.

Shabbat Hadash Service 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Gorn Chapel
Rabbi Schwartz and Cantor King will lead a *Shabbat Hadash* service in the Gorn Chapel following our Torah study. This uplifting and contemporary service features a full band, alternative melodies to our traditional services, an abbreviated Torah service, and a meditative *Musaf* service.

Healing Service 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the Kreitzer Memorial Room
Rabbi Dana Saroken will again lead a Healing Service. Last year during the *Shabbat Smorgasbord* this service was well attended, deeply moving, and described as "highly meaningful" by those in attendance.

Learner's Service 10:00-11:00 in the Kolker Room
(please note new venue!)
Rabbi David Greenspoon will lead a Learner's Service as the newest offering in our *Shabbat Smorgasbord*. The focus of this service is to help you feel more comfortable and confident with the prayers of our traditional *Shabbat* morning service. This service will feature an interactive "teach-and-do" approach so that participants can learn the what, why, and how of the main parts of the morning service, the *Shema* and the *Amidah* prayers.

Volunteer Recognition 11:30 a.m. in the Gorn Chapel
Please join us as Beth El Congregation celebrates the volunteers who help make our congregation such a special community.

Still looking for an experiential adult education class but with a more practical focus? Then consider...

The Lighter Side of French Cooking Demonstration with Bracha Shor **Thursday, December 16 · 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Offit Kitchen**

Bracha Shor, owner of Sweet & Good Catering, opens our cooking series with a demonstration of French cooking that is designed to leave your arteries open while still pleasing your palate. Join us in the Offit Kitchen for a demonstration that will open new possibilities for French cuisine in your life. Of course, at the end of the evening we will be able to sample the delicious fare!

This year we are offering child care for ages 2 and up that will include a light pizza dinner. The childcare fee is an additional \$7.50/per child, and preregistration is required. We must have a minimum of 5 children in order to offer this service.

This demonstration will be limited to 25 participants. The fee is \$30 for members of Beth El, and \$35 for friends. **The deadline for registering for this demonstration and/or child care is December 9, 2010.**

We still have our full slate of **ONGOING CLASSES**. Don't forget about our weekly *Shabbat* morning **Torah Study**, the **Agus Academy** classes on Monday nights with the Beth El rabbis, **Jewish Headline News** at breakfast after *minyan* on Wednesdays with me, our newest offering **Navigating Your Jewish Journey** with the Beth El clergy on Wednesday evenings. Also continuing are Sandy Winters' **Tales of Midrash** and Imagination and her morning **Siddur reading class**, and Wendy Farley's Monday evening **Siddur class**. It's not too early to remind everyone that Gail Lipsitz's **Jewish Short Stories** class resumes January 3 and that there will be new sessions of **Hebrew classes** for adults from beginner to conversational Hebrew and Biblical Hebrew that commence in January.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that Beth El Schools have a fabulous musician and performer, **Sam Glaser**, in performance on December 5. Sam is world-renowned and is a lot of fun for the entire family. Bring the kids, bring the grandkids, bring the grandparents for that matter, have a great time, and help support the ability of Beth El Schools to offer tuition scholarships at a critically important time. You'll be thrilled that you did! I wish your entire family a wondrous Hanukkah, and remember: you will never outgrow the gift of a great Jewish education, no matter when you get it. I look forward to seeing you around Beth El for some great classes and programs soon.

B'virkat shalom (in the blessing of peace),
Rabbi David Greenspoon



Plenty of men came out to grill on October, 17. A class lead by Monroe Zeffert of Zeffert and Gold Catering taught the group of attendees recipes for sauces, marinades and more. A second grilling class, lead by Larry Franks of Accents Distinctive Events is scheduled for the spring.



On October 31, a program dedicated to the memory of Allan Lipsitz, Beth El's past program director, drew members of the congregation and friends of Allan to Beth El. The program, "Journeying with Joseph: An Afternoon of Learning" was lead by Rabbi David Fohrman from Johns Hopkins University. Pictured above are the leaders of the break-out sessions. Left to Right: Joseph Napora, Joan Grayson Cohen, Susan Vick, Rabbi Fohrman and Gail Lipsitz.



A PILGRIMAGE TRIP TO ISRAEL

JUNE 16-27, 2011

The recent response to the June 2011 trip to Israel with Dr. Eyal Bor and Rabbi Steven Schwartz has been overwhelming. The trip organizers are trying to accommodate everyone who is interested in participating by supplying two buses for the tour.

For information or questions about the trip, please contact Rabbi Schwartz at steven@bethelbalto.com or 410-484-0411, or Dr. Bor at eyal@bethelbalto.com or 410-484-4543.

SENIORS

Beth El Seniors invites its members and guests to their next dinner meeting on **Sunday, January 9, 2011** at 6:30 p.m. in the Offit Auditorium. **Musical entertainment will be provided by singer Ken Skrzysz and accompanist Doug Yetter.** Both musicians have performed for Beth El's Seniors previously and have always been well received. We are happy to welcome them back to Beth El. The cost of this affair is \$18 for members and \$21 for guests. **Reservations and payments are due by Friday December 31, 2010.** Please mail your checks, seating preference and choice of dessert to Beth El Seniors, 8101 Park Heights Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21208.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

All persons over 50 are welcome to our group and dues are only \$15 per person. For more information, contact **Ed Berkowitz at 410-296-8424, Betty Zlotowitz at 410-484-9840, Jerry Fineblum at 410-653-2631, Shirley Lipman at 410-415-5588 or Pauline Auslander at 410-764-8011.**

TORAH MAINTENANCE FUND

A project of the Beth El Seniors is to support the maintenance and repair of our synagogue's Torahs and *Megillot*. Contributing to a process that pays for caring for these sacred scrolls and preserving them for future generations is a *mitzvah*.

Torah Maintenance Fund cards are available at the Beth El Office or call **Dorothy Fineblum at 410-653-2631.** Our all-purpose cards are still six for \$10 or \$2 each.



Beth El Torah Maintenance Fund

The card features a drawing by world famous artist Ira Moskowitz. Born in 1912 as the son and grandson of rabbis, he has infused his work with the customs and traditions of our religion.

IT IS RAELY TRUE

- The **Israel Museum in Jerusalem** is the largest cultural institution in the State of Israel, housing nearly 500,000 objects.
- The Museum's campus covers 20 acres on which is located the Shrine of the Book which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls, a model of Jerusalem in the Second Temple Period and the Billy Rose Art Garden, counted among the finest outdoor sculpture settings in the world.
- Off the main campus, the Museum operates the Rockefeller Archaeological Museum for the display of archaeology from ancient Israel and Ticho House, which offers exhibitions by younger Israeli artists.



Going To Israel? Connect with our sister city!

Kehillat Netzach Israel, in Baltimore's sister city, Ashkelon, would like to reach out to our members/families while they are in Israel. The Congregation may send care packages and/or extend invitations for *Shabbat* or holidays. Email **Debbie Caplan** at Debbie@bethelbalto.com for details on this exciting program.



Shalom from Kehillat Netzach Israel.

RABBI LOEB PROGRAM AT OHEB SHALOM

A program was held on Friday, October 22 for the students of Shoshana Cardin School at Oheb Shalom. This hour long educational presentation by the Baltimore Opera Theatre Co. of Madam Butterfly and other selections was in memory of Rabbi Loeb, a founding rabbi of the Cardin School. Rabbi Steven Schwartz introduced the program, explaining to the attendants the importance of cultural experiences such as opera. The Cardin School was grateful to the Beth El Sisterhood for their generous contribution.

NEW MEMBER MEET AND GREET

On October 4 the Beth El Sisterhood sponsored their annual meet and greet to new members of Sisterhood. While munching on appetizers, new members were able to mingle and speak with Rabbi Saroken, Cantor King and membership co-chairs, Sharon Dorenfeld and Michelle Azwalinsky.

Following the new member orientation, the ladies were invited to join Sisterhood for the Paid up Dessert Reception in the Offit Auditorium. The evening began with a *D'var Torah* led by Rabbi Saroken. The evening included a presentation by guest speaker, Dr. Stacy Fisher, on healthy heart issues. Following a question and answer session, a dessert reception was held.

BIBLIO

Did you borrow books from the Public Library #14 on Garrison Boulevard? Robert Greenfield was the head librarian. Now he is lecturing as well as leading an exercise class at Notre Dame College. His choice is by prolific author Stuart Woods. Bob will review *CHIEF* and several other suspense novels.

Biblio welcomes all avid readers to join them on January 12, 2011. The meeting begins at 12:00 p.m. in the Kolker Room. Bring your own kosher brown bag dairy lunch. Millie Keller will provide beverages and dessert. Everyone is invited.

The schedule for the remainder of 2011 is:
 February 9, 2011 *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson
 March 9, 2011 Members Choices
 April 6, 2011 TBA
 May 11, 2011 *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel
 June 15, 2011 *The Glass Room* by Simon Mawer

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY TORAH FUND

We now have 24 benefactors who have donated \$180.00 to the Jewish Theological Seminary. This is the largest number of benefactors we have had in many years.

Thanks to all of you for your donations, which have helped us reach our goals. Remember that the Jewish Theological Seminary is where our fabulous Clergy were educated. We have beautiful cards to mark all occasions. With a donation of \$18.00 or more you will receive 6 cards.

For more information contact **Jane Krosin 410-484-1150** or **Hilda Dopkin 410-486-4453**.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

On **Monday, January 3**, Sisterhood's general meeting will feature Mrs. Ahuva Albrecht wife of Beth Tfiloh's Cantor Avi Albrecht as its guest speaker. Her topic will be **MIRACLES, NOT ONLY AT HANUKKAH**. The meeting begins at 11:30 a.m. in the Offit Auditorium.

BOOK REVIEWS BY OUR RABBIS

There will be two petite luncheon book reviews this year. The first review will be held on **Wednesday, January 26, 2011** at 12:00 p.m. in the Meyers Auditorium. Rabbi Saroken will review the book, *The Glass Room* by Simon Mawer.

On **Wednesday, March 23, 2011**, Rabbi Schwartz, will review the book, *Wherever You Go* by Joan Leegant. The cost of each petite luncheon is \$10.00.

SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP

Consider joining Sisterhood. For more information, please call **Sharon Dorenfeld 410-486-0880** or **Michele Azwalinsky 410-318-6106**. We love having new members.

THE FEDERATION OF JEWISH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS OF MARYLAND

The Mid-Winter Conference of the Federation is scheduled for **Thursday, January 6, 2011** (snow date Thursday, January 13, 2011), 9:45 a.m. to 12 noon. The location has not been determined.

The speaker will be Neil Rubin, Editor of the *Baltimore Jewish Times*.

For more information call **Harriet Weiner, 410-653-3171**.



Happy Hanukkah from the Judaica Shop. It is not too late to buy those last minute gifts. We still have a great selection of menorahs, dreidels, candies and gift items. Our beautiful selection of sustainable, bamboo serving pieces is on sale this month 30 % off. Stop in to see the fabulous pieces – for yourself or for a holiday gift.

STORE HOURS

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Friday, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Or by appointment, call **Barbara Green 410-486-4080**

MONDAY, January 3, 2011 SISTERHOOD MEETING/ Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. in the Offit Auditorium

Name _____
 E-mail _____
 Home Phone _____
 Cell Phone _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Send check for \$15.00 to Beth El Sisterhood. Walk-ins are \$17.00.
 c/o Linda Mondell or Judy Schwartz
 8101 Park Heights Ave.
 Baltimore, MD 21208

You must make a reservation and send check for \$15.00 by December 22 or pay the at the door price of \$17.00

BOOK REVIEW – Wednesday January 26, at 12:00 p.m.

Checks must be in by January 12, 2011

Name(s) _____

Telephone No.(s) _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please send in coupon to Marlene Siegel or Judy Pachino
 c/o Beth El Sisterhood
 8101 Park Heights Avenue
 Baltimore, Maryland 21208

DECEMBER SCHOOL CALENDAR

Friday, December 3	M&M <i>Shabbat</i> , 5:15 p.m.
Saturday, December 4	Tot <i>Shabbat</i> Service, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday, December 5	<i>Hanukkah</i> Benefit Concert with Sam Glaser Tickets on Sale in the main offices
Monday, December 6	Confirmation and Post-Confirmation at 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 7	School <i>Hanukkah</i> Party, 5:00 p.m. <i>Hanukkyiah</i> Lighting Outside, 5:45 p.m.
Wednesday, December 8	School <i>Hanukkah</i> Party, 5:00 p.m. <i>Hanukkyiah</i> Lighting Outside, 5:45 p.m.
Thursday, December 9	Federal Hill <i>Hanukkah</i> Party and Open House, 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 11	Congregation Smorgasbord and Volunteer <i>Shabbat</i> , 10:00 a.m. Tot <i>Shabbat</i> Service, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday, December 12	<i>Bet</i> Family Program I, 9:30 a.m. Faculty Meeting and Professional Development, 11:45 a.m.
Saturday, December 18	Tot <i>Shabbat</i> Service, 11:15 a.m.
Wednesday, December 21 to Sunday, January 2	Winter Break
Friday, December 24	Community <i>Mitzvah</i> Day

INFANT & TODDLER CARE AT BETH EL IS GROWING!

☼ Programs for infants and toddlers from 3 to 24 months

☼ Offering full time care Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Contact **Ellen Marks**, Program Director, at **410-580-2723** or **ellenm@bethelbalto.com** for more information and to arrange a tour of our infant and toddler area.



BETH EL PAULINE MASH PRESCHOOL & BERMAN LIPAVSKY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ARE TEAMING UP FOR THE BEST PAJAMA PARTY IN TOWN!

It's time for our annual "Pajama Havdalah"
Saturday, January 8, 6:30pm-7:45 p.m.

For families with children in Pre-School, Kindergarten, *Gan*, *Mechina* and *Aleph* (2 years old-2nd grade)

- Participate in a Havdalah service led by Morah Becky, Rabbi Saroken, Morah Talia and Morah Jill
- Create your own unique spice garden
- Make your own sundae
- Please bring canned fruits and vegetables which will be donated to the Reisterstown Crisis Center

Free fun for the whole family!
RSVP to Talia Berkowitz talia@bethelbalto.com 410-602-2245 or Jill Eisen jill@bethelbalto.com 410-484-4543

Sponsored by Dr. Beatrice Miller Project Mishpacha

ENROLL NOW! PRESCHOOL, MOMMY & ME, & PRE-K

- ☼ Flexible Schedule Options for Children 2 - 5
- ☼ Part-time, full-time and extended day options available
- ☼ The children enjoy our new music program and physical education "Active Kids" gym classes, Hebrew language classes, Torah Stories, pre-*Shabbat* celebrations, arts and crafts, science, cooking, beginning reading and number skills, outside play on our two playgrounds, Kosher snacks, children's active games, library, field trips, and much more.
- ☼ Fall and spring MOMMY AND ME classes for 18-24 month olds and parent, grandparent, caregiver.

Please call **Debbie Rabin**, Preschool Director, at **410-602-2245** or **deborah@bethelbalto.com**.

Mitzvah OF THE MONTH

Baking and cooking for others can be a perfect cold day activity, birthday party or play date idea. Put together lasagnas, desserts or other freezable 'good eats' to be used by a soup kitchen or local shelter. For more information on soup kitchens and a wonderful No Bake Lasagna recipe go to: <http://jvcbaltimore.org/jvc-programs/families/mitzvah-makers-on-the-move/chesed-kindness/>

Beth El Congregation Social Action Committee has taken under its wing Hope Lodge and Moveable Feast. They are accepting baked goods for Moveable Feast up until December 20th. You can drop the food items at the main office labeled "Attention Sonya Goodman." On Christmas Day our volunteers provide food for Hope Lodge. We are looking for items that make up a traditional Christmas dinner. These items should be brought to Sonya Goodman's home the morning of Christmas Day. For more information email **Sonya Goodman** at **sgood18@verizon.net**.

American Cancer Society's Baltimore Hope Lodge offers lodging at no cost for cancer patients being treated throughout the Baltimore area. Beth El helps to put together a scrumptious Christmas Dinner.

Moveable Feast was founded in 1989 by a group of dedicated volunteers as a tax exempt nonprofit and is the only meal delivery program for homebound People Living with AIDS in the Greater Baltimore area. Moveable Feast even provides meals to dependent children and others residing with homebound People Living with AIDS. Last year they expanded their meal program to include women undergoing treatment for breast cancer and their families.

GO GREEN!

This Winter **if you use a de-icer** on your sidewalk or driveway, look for products made from magnesium chloride instead of sodium chloride (salt) or calcium chloride. Magnesium chloride melts ice at temperatures as low as minus 17 degrees (salt stops working at 15 degrees above zero) and does less damage to concrete, your car and surrounding plants.

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT BETH EL

By Lisa Rothstein

I am so happy to report that we had 55 teens and their parents at Beth El for a wonderful comedy night with Joel Chasnoff. Joel is a hilarious comedian and I absolutely loved watching people leave that night with tears from laughing so hard! I have seen Joel perform three times and each time, I am further impressed by his wit and delivery. Because the program took place on *Shabbat*, there are no pictures to share.

We also had a small (albeit energetic) group go to a private tour of Camden Yards. This was a fun experience and even for someone like me who is not even much of a baseball fan, it was awesome!

Finally, I want to share with you some important news for the future of the youth department. For the past year and a half, I have been honored to get to know the families at Beth El and have had a lot of fun coordinating and running our youth programs. However, I have made the difficult decision to step down as Youth Coordinator mid-December. I will be moving to Louisville, Kentucky, to join my husband who has been living there since May. He is the director of the Jewish Community Relations Council there and I am very proud of him. Leaving Baltimore and all of the wonderful people I have gotten to know here will not be easy, but I am fully confident that a new youth coordinator will be able to pick up where I left off. After all, I am not the youth department—YOU, the families are! I thank you sincerely for all of your support and I wish you all the best.

Jason Creeger will stay as USY and Kadima advisor, so the transition to my successor should be smooth. At the time I write this, a new youth coordinator has yet to be named. Dr. Bor is currently identifying potential candidates and will keep you posted.



The Machar/Kadima youth group had Camden Yards to themselves during a recent trip. Pictured above on field level are L to R: Micah Greenspoon, Rachel Silhavy, Jolie Freiman, Lexi Bernstein, and Nicole Psynack.



Citizens of Billings, Mt. pose for this photo showing their concern for their Jewish neighbors. The photo was published in the 1995 Billings Gazette and was reprinted with permission from Howard Greenberg Gallery.

HOW ONE TOWN SAID NO TO HATE

By Rabbi Dana Saroken

Every year, when the Jewish holidays come around, I search for good stories to share with my children. I am reminded of that old saying that our holidays can be summed up in three phrases: “they tried to kill us, we won, let’s eat.” Whether we’re talking about *Hanukkah*, *Purim* or *Passover*, there is something truthful to the message as they all truly do share this storyline although the foods we eat in celebration of our victory vary.

One of my favorite *Hanukkah* stories was a true story that I learned about when I was just out of college and working for an organization called Up With People in Billings, Montana — a place that had gained infamy as a part of a consortium of states with growing numbers of neo-nazis, klan members and other white supremacist groups. But the people in Billings were not all hate-filled people and they were fed up with those that were, so one *Hanukkah*, in 1993, the community came together to “say no to hate.” They shared their story with me with deserved pride. To this day, their actions remind me of the power of a single person or an entire community to bring light and hope back into a world that can feel so filled with challenges.

On *Hanukkah* we have the opportunity to recall the miracles of both the victorious and strategic small band of Maccabees and that small vial of oil that burned for eight days rather than one, yet rarely do we consider who it was who had the foresight to hide that little vial of oil in the first place. That person’s identity is unknown to us, and perhaps it doesn’t even really matter. What does matter is that when we look at the light of the flickering candles in the windows surrounding us during *Hanukkah* we are reminded that each and every one of us has the power to increase the light in the world and when we work together, we can be the agents for miracles! And so the story goes:

In Billings, Montana (population 83,000), there were a number of hate crimes: the desecration of a Jewish cemetery, threatening phone calls to Jewish citizens, and swastikas painted on the home of an interracial couple. But it was something else that activated the people of faith and goodwill throughout the entire community.

On December 2, 1993, a brick was thrown through 5-year-old Isaac Schnitzer’s bedroom window. The brick and shards of glass were strewn all over the child’s bed. The reason? A *menorah* and other symbols of Jewish faith were stenciled on the glass as part of the family’s *Hanukkah* celebration. The account of the incident in the *Billings Gazette* the next day reported that Isaac’s mother, Tammie Schnitzer, was troubled by the advice she got from the investigating officer. He suggested that she remove the symbols. How would she explain this to her son?

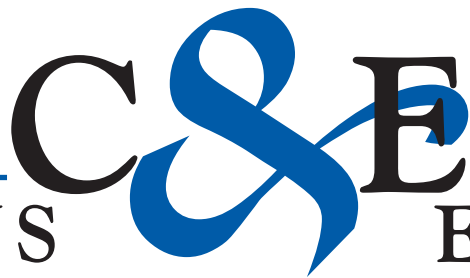
Another mother in Billings was deeply touched by that question. She tried to imagine explaining to her children that they couldn’t have a Christmas tree in the window or a wreath on the door because it wasn’t safe. She remembered what happened when Hitler ordered the king of Denmark to force Danish Jews to wear the Star of David. The order was never carried out because the king himself and many other Danes chose to wear the yellow stars. The Nazis lost the ability to find their “enemies.”

There were several dozen Jewish families in Billings. This kind of tactic could effectively deter violence if enough people got involved. So Margaret McDonald phoned her pastor, the Rev. Keith Torney at First Congregational United Church of Christ, and asked what he thought of having Sunday school children make paper cut-out *menorahs* for their own windows. He got on the phone with his clergy colleagues around town, and the following week *menorahs* appeared in the windows of hundreds of Christian homes. Asked about the danger of this action, police chief Wayne Inman told callers, “There’s greater risk in not doing it.”

Five days after the brick was thrown at the Schnitzer home, the *Gazette* published a full-page drawing of a *menorah*, along with a general invitation for people to put it up. By the end of the week at least six thousand homes (some accounts estimate up to ten thousand) were decorated with *menorahs* and a sporting goods store got involved by displaying “Not in Our Town! No hate. No violence. Peace on Earth” on its large billboard. People continued in their efforts to support one another against hate crimes and eventually these incidents waned. In the years that followed, new friendships were formed and from that

day onward, the incident and the actions of the people in Billings, Montana remind us that sometimes, showing up, caring, and simple, kind and loving gestures can bring about miracles and move us all from darkness to light!

The details of the story were printed in the 1995 edition of *Fellowship*, published by the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) in Nyack, New York.



CONTRIBUTIONS

ENDOWMENTS

Donations through November 1, 2010.

THE ADLER LEV SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:
David and Fay Krosin by Ms. Bobbie Krosin Selnick

THE ADULT CHOIR FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Ruth Brager by The Beth El Adult Choir, Judy and Bob Cohen and Family, Ms. Hedy From and Mr. Michael Rubenstein, Nancy and Dr. Marc Gertner, Betsy and Lou Narrow and Family, Mary and Dr. Stanley Order, Eva and Robert Slatkin.

Daniel Friedlander on his 100th birthday by his daughter, Ms. Marcia A. Friedlander.

THE BETH EL ART FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Beverly Rothschild by Mrs. Ranny Smullian.

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:
Willard Smullian by Mrs. Ranny Smullian.

THE REBECCA C. BAER ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:
Bessie Bachman by Ms. Linda Baer, Mr. John Rudesill and Mr. Alexander Baer.

Alice Cohen by Ms. Linda Baer, Mr. John Rudesill and Mr. Alexander Baer.

THE LOUIS & ESTHER DOPKIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Lillian Miller by Mr. Michael Dopkin.

IN HONOR OF:
The marriage of Allen Katz to Samantha Unger by Marcia and David Yumkas.

THE SYLVAN DORENFELD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Ethel Kotzin by Susan and John Abosch.

THE DR. MICHAEL I. FEINGLASS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Isaac Kiersenblatt by Debbie and Dr. Richard Edlow, Ms. Nancy Gordon, Ms. Sandy Luray, and Sherrie and Carl Polsky and Family.
Jack Pasarew by Ms. Sybil Coblenzer.

THE JACOBO AND SARA FRAIMAN FUND FOR ADULT JEWISH EDUCATION

IN MEMORY OF:
Irv Raffel by Mr. Bob Jolson.
Irvin Snyder by Frida and Dr. Moises Fraiman.

IN HONOR OF:
The *Bat Mitzvah* of Andrea Jade, granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. Moises Fraiman, by Sara and Dr. Leonard Berger.

THE LEONARD & FRONA FRIEDMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Elvin Bernstein by Allyson and Benjy Tanner

THE FRUMAN FAMILY GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Sidney Caplan by Arlene Kaplan.
Robert H. Frank by Joyce and Arnold Fruman, Kevin, Tracee, Jacob and Leo Fruman.
Ethel Kotzin by Lorraine and Dr. Howard Bronstein.
Frank Mazer by Jane and Dennis Herman and Family.
Gertrude Ricklin by Kevin, Tracee, Jacob and Leo Fruman.

THE SONYA AND JEROME GOODMAN ADULT HEBREW READING FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Ruth Brager by Sonya and Jerry Goodman.

IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Mrs. Sonya Goodman by Mrs. Judy Pachino.

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Mrs. Carol Kleiner by Sonya and Jerry Goodman.

THE GREEN FAMILY RELIGIOUS SERVICES FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Irvin Snyder by Barbara and Benjy Green.

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Mrs. Rhona Sober by Mrs. Barbara Green.

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:
Stanley Schwartzman by Barbara and Benjy Green.

THE CANTOR SAUL AND AILEEN HAMMERMAN MUSIC FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:
Barbara Beth Weisman by Erica and Yaron Orbach and Family.

THE DR. JEROME KOEPPPEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Ellen Zamoiski by Mrs. Marlene Koepfel.

IN HONOR OF:
The birth of a great granddaughter Amber Lee to Susan and Elliot Weinstein by Mrs. Marlene Koepfel.

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Beryl Schneider by Mrs. Marlene Koepfel.

THE MINNIE & MAX KRIEGER SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN HONOR OF:
The 55th wedding anniversary of Bobbie and Roman Ryterman by Mrs. Irene Snyder.

THE ADAM KRONTHAL SPECIAL NEEDS FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Ethel and Morris Kelman by Mrs. Randi Kronthal Sacco and Family.
Adam Kronthal by Dr. Alan and Jennie Kronthal, Mrs. Randi Kronthal Sacco and Family.

Ida Mazy by Mrs. Randi Kronthal Sacco and Family.

IN HONOR OF:
Al and Roz Kronthal on the occasion of *Rosh Hashanah* by Ms. Sherri Kronthal.
Joyce and Dr. Herb Kronthal on the occasion of *Rosh Hashanah* by Ms. Sherri Kronthal.

THE M. HENRY AND ELIZABETH KUNTZ MEMORIAL FUND

IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Mr. Ben Kuntz by Sandy Green and Selma and Gerald Lean.

THE DR. HARRY & ZELDA LEVIN FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FUND

IN HONOR OF:
The 60th wedding anniversary of Carol and Dr. Jordan Bloom by Mrs. Alice Levin.
The engagement of Amy Silberman by Mrs. Alice Levin.

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Mr. Albert Shapiro by Mrs. Alice Levin.

THE HARRY LICHTER CHESED FUND

IN HONOR OF:
Rabbi Dana Saroken on her appointment as Associate Rabbi of Beth El by Sheryl, Stuart, Austin and Jara Title.
The *Bar Mitzvah* of Adam Benjamin Lubliner, grandson of Susan and John Abosch by Mrs. Hulane Zolet.
The *Bat Mitzvah* of Toby Madison, daughter of Marlene and Dr. Dan Kessler by Mrs. Hulane Zolet.
The *Bat Mitzvah* of Andrea Jade, granddaughter of Frida and Dr. Moises Fraiman by Mrs. Hulane Zolet

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:
Jennie Browne, David Rosen, Jacob Rosen, Sadie Rosen, Sarah Zlotowitz, and Hy Zolet by Mrs. Hulane Zolet.

THE JOSEPH LIPAVSKY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Joy Cohen by Frida and Dr. Moises Fraiman.

THE H. ALLAN LIPSITZ ENDOWED ADULT EDUCATION FUND

IN HONOR OF:
The marriage of Lisa Einhorn to Jeremy Thibodeaux by Mrs. Gail Lipsitz.
The marriage of Bernard Silverman and John Harten by Ms. Reanne Aronoff, Ms. Sheila Rosenfeld.

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Mrs. Fern Weiner by Sonia and Ed Obstler.

IN APPRECIATION FOR:
The High Holiday honor given to David Lipsitz by Mrs. Gail Lipsitz.

THE RABBI MARK G. LOEB MEMORIAL FUND

IN HONOR OF:
The 40th wedding anniversary of Gail and Dr. Leon Katz by Ellen and Rich Hollander.

THE MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Emily Meritt by Eva and Robert Slatkin.

IN HONOR OF:
The 55th wedding anniversary of Clara and Bernie Linkoff by Selma and Gerry Lean.
The 40th wedding anniversary of Gail and Dr. Lee Katz by Ilene Goldbloom.
The birth of a grandson Kinsey to Ms. Hedy From and Mr. Michael Rubenstein by Sheila and Howard Sandbank.

THE ISAAC AND FANNIE PEVER HEBREW EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Benjamin S. Joffe by Gloria and Dick Gordon.

THE PRAYER BOOK FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Beverly Rothschild by Mrs. Emelie Schwab.

IN HONOR OF:
The 80th birthday of Mrs. Beverly Lowitz by Mrs. Fran Richman.
Rabbi Dana Saroken on becoming Associate Rabbi of Beth El by Arnold and Joyce Rottman.

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:
Hannah Cierler by Ms. Millicent Cierler.
William Cierler by Ms. Millicent Cierler.
Lewis L. Fink by Mr. William Cogan.
Jose Rosenfeld by Mrs. Phyllis Gold.

THE RABBI STEVEN SCHWARTZ TRIBUTE FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Helen Lifson by Emily, Howard, Jason and Brian Goren.
Ruth Winnick by Froma and Jules Willen.

IN HONOR OF:
The 64th wedding anniversary of Shirley and Izzy Goldscher by Mrs. Fran Richman.

THE RICKY SIEGEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Dr. Melvin Kopilnick by Mrs. Marilyn Siegel.

THE SISTERHOOD PAST PRESIDENTS' MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN HONOR OF:
The birth of a grandson Chase Matthew Roth to Margie and Ron Rubin by Mrs. Judy Pachino.

THE MELVIN & ANITA STEINBERG COLLEGE OUTREACH PROGRAM FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Ruth Brager by Rhona and Julian Sober.
Harold Framm by Anita and Mickey Steinberg.
Ethel Kotzin by Anita and Mickey Steinberg.
Jack Pasarew by Anita and Mickey Steinberg.

THE STEINHARDT-BALACHOW FAMILY YOUTH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Ruth Brager by Dale and Ray Kahn.

IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Mrs. Dale Kahn by Karen and Alan Berkowitz.



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS LOOKING TO JOIN A SYNAGOGUE?

Whether he/she is new to town or a native Baltimorean, and whether they are a family, a couple or single, Beth El has something to offer each and every one. Please invite them to events they might find of interest, and please contact **Debbie Caplan** in the Outreach Office at **410-484-0411** or **debbie@bethelbalto.com** so she can call and invite them to Beth El.

Continued on page 10

Contributions & Endowments —
Continued from page 9

**THE JEAN AND JOSEPH
SUSSMAN SCHOLARSHIP**

IN HONOR OF:

Elizabeth, granddaughter of Mr. Charles Heyman, on becoming a Bat Mitzvah by Selma and Jules Shaivitz.

THE YAHRZEIT FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:

Beloved relatives by Phyllis and Paul Lichtenstein.
Harry Bloom by Mrs. Alice Bloom and Family.
Hannah Bartlone Cierler by Ms. Millicent Cierler
William Cierler by Ms. Millicent Cierler.
Walter Cohen by Mr. Rudolph Cohen.
William Cohen by Mr. Rudolph Cohen.
Sara From by Ms. Hedy From and Mr. Michael Rubenstein.
Stanley Hackerman, David Levin, Raymond Levin and Mollie Levin by Mrs. Lillian Hackerman.
Leo Hirsch by Dianna and Peter Hirsch.
Frank E. Kaufman by Mrs. Ruth K. Lipsetts.
Theresa Gordon Kelley by Ms. Patricia Kelley-Danley.
Carol Sue Kramer by Dr. Morton D. Kramer.
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Ruth Lichtenauer by Faye and Marc Sherman.
Walter Lichtenauer by Faye and Marc Sherman.
Simon Minkove by Mrs. Royce Minkove.
Mr. Herman Oring by Mrs. Myra Oring.
Ida Renbaum by Dianna and Peter Hirsch.
Leon Rosenthal by Estelle and Louis Rosenthal.
Marilyn "Cookie" Rosenthal by Estelle and Louis Rosenthal.
Henry H. Spire by Bunny and Mike Roseman.
Fred Stein by Mrs. Arlene Stein.
Eli Talles by Mrs. Lenora Talles.
Arnold Stewart Wilder by Mrs. Josephine Wilder.
Stefan Zweig by Jane and Robert Zweig.

THE YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Elvin Bernstein by Abby and Steve Lazinsky.
Mara Nicole Blank by Cindy & Jon Hazman.
Ruth Brager by Herta and Dr. Arthur Baith, Cindy and Jon Hazman.
Benjamin Joffe by Karen and Richard Feldman.
Hope Kane by Barbara and Dr. Jerry Fine.

IN HONOR OF:

The special wedding anniversary of Evelyn and Sol Oidick by Lee and Alfred Whiteman and Family.
The *Bar Mitzvah* of the grandson of Terry and Jerry Zimlin, Brendan Yospa, by Annette and Bruce Ingerman.
The *Bat Mitzvah* of the daughter of Marlene and Dr. Dan Kessler, Toby Madison, by Abby and Steve Lazinsky.
The birth of a grandson Harrison Galliyen Mindel to Robin and Karl Mindel by Fay and Marc Sherman.
Liam Sperr's High Holiday Torah *Parshas* helped by Mrs. Sandy Winters by Audrey, Greg and Liam Sperr.

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

Debbie Stern by Sheila and Howard Sandbank.

**THE AL ZLOTOWITZ CHAPEL
MAINTENANCE FUND**

IN MEMORY OF:

Beloved mother and grandmother of Ms. Gili Gueter and Mr. Sephy Bounan by Mrs. Betty Zlotowitz.

IN HONOR OF:

The birth of a grandson, Baruch Mordechai Slatkin to Eva and Robert Slatkin by Mrs. Betty Zlotowitz.

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

IN MEMORY OF:

Myles Bass by Linda Robbins and Dr. Stephen Levin to The Robbins Family Foundation.
Ruth Brager by Mr. Michael Dopkin to The Louis & Esther Dopkin Memorial Scholarship Fund.
Ruth Brager by Denise and Keith Franz to The Youth Education Fund.
Ruth Brager by Sonia and Ed Obstler to The Beth El Adult Choir Fund.
Ruth Brager by Barbara and Michael Steinhardt to The Steinhardt-Balachow Family Youth Fund.
Charles Caplan by Sandy and Don Lebowitz to The Irving and Rose Lebowitz Memorial *Sefer Torah* Fund.
Bernice Cohen by Susan and Richard Herskovitz and Family, Honey and Jerry Yellen to The Prayer Book Fund.
Ben Joffe by The Burstein Family, The Cooper Family and The Stein Family to The Youth Education Fund.
Jay Kallman by Susan and Perry Snyder to The Rabbi Mark G. Loeb Judaic Studies College Scholarship Fund.
Ethel Kotzin by Natalie and Dr. Bill Fineblum to The Cantor Saul and Aileen Hammerman Music Fund.
Helen Lifson by Mrs. Shoshana Cardin, Risa and Dr. Ira Gottlieb to The Prayer Book Fund.
Emily Wallenstein Meritt by Denise, Keith, Seth and Kara Franz to The Youth Education Fund.
Bernice Miller by Ruth and Dr. Barry Hurwitz to The Prayer Book Fund.
Beverly Rothschild by Mr. Benjy Krosin and Mrs. Jane Krosin to The Torah Reading for Weekdays Books Dedication.
Beverly Rothschild by Mrs. Donna Pritzker Eisenstadt, Ms. Jennifer Pritzker Sender and Mr. David Pritzker to The Youth Education Fund.
Beverly Rothschild by Ellen, Myron, Michael and Jennifer Asher to The Al Zlotowitz Chapel Maintenance Fund.

BETH EL
Memorial Park

The Beth El Memorial Park has served the needs of the Beth El Congregation and the entire Baltimore Jewish Community for more than two generations. A "Makom Kodesh" (a "holy place"), it is a beautifully maintained cemetery of more than 15 acres, located at 9700 Liberty Road, Randallstown, MD.

Established in accordance with the spirit and letter of Jewish tradition, all graves are of equal size, maintaining the ideals of dignity and equality before God and mankind.

Our Memorial Park has nine landscaped gardens; one garden is set aside for inter-married families. The beautiful outdoor Tony Weil Mandel Memorial Chapel is located on the grounds for the convenience of visitors. We are open during day-time hours except for the Sabbath and Jewish holy days.

Many families choose to purchase lots well in advance of their time of need. This relieves families of an added burden during an emotionally stressful time. Individual or family plots may be purchased with convenient payment plans. Please contact Debbie Caplan at 410-484-0411 or debbie@bethelbalto.com for more information.

Harvey Siegel by Mrs. Irene Kolodny and Family to The Ricky Siegel Memorial Scholarship Fund.
Irvin Snyder by "The Mah Jongg Friends": Joan, Rae and Manny, Ruth and Ted and Bunny and Mike to The Prayer Book Fund.
Charles Sussman by Mrs. Belle Sussman to The Rabbi Mark Loeb Judaic Studies College Scholarship Fund.
Charles Sussman by Ruth and Dr. Barry Hurwitz to The Prayer Book Fund.
David Weinstein by Rita and Richard Lehr to The Adult Choir Fund.

IN HONOR OF:

The 50th wedding anniversary of Jo and Hal Cohen by Deborah and Jay Levy to The *Mitzvah* Fund.
The baby naming of Lily Paige, granddaughter of Sara Fran and Jerry Richman to The *Mitzvah* Fund.
Beth El Congregation by Drs. Sharon and Michael Pusin to The Pusin Pre-School Scholarship Fund.
The *Bar Mitzvah* of Adam Benjamin Lubliner, grandson of John and Susan Aboch by Ellen and Robb Rosen and Family to The Youth Education Fund.
The birth of Ariel Kuryk, granddaughter of Alice and David Kuryk to The *Mitzvah* Fund.

The birth of Lilian Bliss Mazer-Schwartz by Dr. Mayer and Alice Schwartz to The Eddy Schuster Memorial Library Fund.
The 80th birthday of Mr. Ben Kuntz by Beverly and Arnold Feldman, Susie and Steve Weintraub to The Prayer Book Fund.
The special birthday of Mrs. Ellen Spak by Sharon and Larry Rose to The *Mitzvah* Fund.
The birthday of Mr. Elliot Weinstein by Phyllis and Stuart Cutler, Eunice and Robert Kaplan, Joyce and Steve Solomon to The Prayer Book Fund.

The birthday of Mr. Elliot Weinstein by Rochelle and Andy Iserson and Family, Ms. Edna Riesel to The Elliot & Susan Weinstein Scholarship Fund.
The *Chanukah* Concert by Dr. Robert Fisher to The *Mitzvah* Fund.
Mrs. Gail Lipsitz and Mr. David Lipsitz by Barbara and Roland Einhorn to The H. Allan Lipsitz Endowed Adult Education Fund.
The marriage of Mr. Bernard Silverman and Mr. John Hartin by Mrs. Barbara Mendelsohn to The Max Mendelsohn Scholarship Fund.
The marriage of their daughter Lisa, by Barbara and Roland Einhorn, to The H. Allan Lipsitz Endowed Adult Education Fund.

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

The sister of Dr. Marc Gertner by Marilyn and Jim Dickman to The Rabbi Steven Schwartz Tribute Fund.
Mrs. Carol Kleiner by Denise and Keith Franz to The Youth Education Fund.
Mrs. Rhona Sober by Ruth and Dr. Barry Hurwitz to The Youth Education Fund.
Mrs. Patyricia Statter by Ruth and Dr. Barry Hurwitz to The Youth Education Fund.
Mrs. Marilyn Weisman by Mr. Harold Rottman to The *Mitzvah* Fund.

IN OBSERVANCE OF YAHRZEIT OF:

Loved Ones by Shirley and Stanley Rutko to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Lillie and Louis Bromfeld by Rhoda and Morris Katz to The Nathan and Pauline Mash Pre-School Fund.
Daniel W. Caplan by Liz and Rich Caplan to The Daniel W. Caplan Pre-School Media Resource Fund.
Freda Caplan by Erma and Bernard Caplan to The Daniel W. Caplan Pre-School Media Resource Fund.

Aaron M. Cohen by Gilbert Cohen to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Brianna Rose Cohen by Mr. Marc Cohen and Miss Britt Cohen to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Mary Cooper by Joseph A. Cooper to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Bertha Datkyn by Mrs. Estelle Hyman to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Norma Goldberg by Tova Shobin and Family to The Prayer Book Fund.
Max Greenwald by Jill and Dr. Ronald Greenwald to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Jacob Himelfarb by Eileen and Donald Himelfarb to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Paul Huddles by Linda and Gary Huddles to The Paul Huddles Memorial Scholarship Fund.
Esther Huddles by Linda and Gary Huddles to The Paul Huddles Memorial Scholarship Fund.
Beatrice King by Renee and Burton King to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Jay Lessans by Mrs. Gilda Lessans to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.

H. John Lobe by Mrs. Lynn Lobe to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Rabbi Mark G. Loeb by Mrs. Carol A. Francis and Mrs. Judith L. Kaplan to The Rabbi Mark G. Loeb Memorial Fund.
Mary Veronica Dyer McIntosh by Dr. Roger McIntosh to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Esther Merwitz by Harriette and Ed Merwitz to The Rabbi Jacob & Miriam Agus Scholarship Fund.
Bertha Michaelson by Rita and Lou Michaelson to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Hyman Needelman and Anna Needelman by Ms. Lillian Miller to The Minnie & Max Krieger School Scholarship Fund.
Dr. Stanley M. Oring by Mrs. Myra Oring to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Shirley Rogers by Lauri and Michael Weinman to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Jerome Salkin by Mr. Jay Salkin to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Norton Schwartz by Alice and Dr. Mayer Schwartz to The Rabbi Steven Schwartz Tribute Fund.
Isaac Singer by Mrs. Ruth Merin to The Prayer Book Fund.
Sarah B. Spire by Bunny and Mike Roseman to The *Yahrzeit* Fund.
Rose Weinstein, Abraham Blum and Anna Sugar by Stuart and Phyllis Cutler to The Prayer Book Fund.

IN APPRECIATION FOR:

The *Aliyah* received on *Shemini Atzeret* by Sondra and Marvin Glass to The Rabbi Steven Schwartz Tribute Fund.
The *Aliyah* received on *Yom Kippur* by Ellen and Robert Samet to The Rabbi Steven Schwartz Tribute Fund.
The *Aliyahs* received throughout the year by Shirley and Stanley Rutko to The Morning Minyan Fund.
A terrific sister, Sandi Block, by Janice and Maury Fradkin, to The Joseph Family Scholarship Fund for Special Needs.
Judy and Harry Cierler's safe arrival in Baltimore by Mrs. Helen Cierler to The *Mitzvah* Fund.
Dr. Faith Esterson for her "great kindness" by Mrs. Myra Zerwitz to The *Mitzvah* Fund.
Cantor Thom King for all of his help during the *Shiva* period for Gloria Weiss by Erma and Bernard Caplan to The Beth El Adult Choir Fund.
The thoughtfulness and attention of Gil Kleiner in taking the time to send The Rabbi Mark G. Loeb *Yahrzeit* Tribute DVD by Roz and Albert Katz to The Louis & Esther Dopkin Memorial Scholarship Fund.
Mr. Alvin Book for his devotion in saying Kaddish throughout the year for Morty Nettler by Mrs. Mae Nettler to The Morning *Minyan* Fund.
The help of Rabbi Saroken during *Shiva* for Gloria Weiss by Erma and Bernard Caplan to The Youth Education Fund.

HONORS AND MEMORIALS

IN HONOR OF:

Their 55th wedding anniversary, August 7, 2010, a sculpture "I Am For My Beloved and My Beloved is Mine," by Shirley and Albert Saval.
The *Bar Mitzvah* of their son Nathaniel Aaron, November 6, 2010, by Faith Esterson and Jeffrey Wallace and Wanda and Jeffrey Fink, a Leaf on The Tree of Life.
The birth of their granddaughter Hallie Danielle Huenke, September 20, 2010 by Arlene and Chet Kleinman, a Leaf on The Tree of Life.
The 65th birthday of Mrs. Gail Brooks, by the Nelson Family, a Leaf on The Tree of Life.

Reminder:

Marilyn Lefkowitz is now taking and entering all contributions to Beth El funds. Please contact Marilyn to make a contribution at marilyn@bethelbalto.com, or 410-484-0411. Members can now also make contributions online at the Beth El website, www.bethelbalto.com.



**AGUS
LIBRARY
HOURS**

Mondays:
9:15 to 10:30 a.m.
7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
(Only when classes are in session)

Tuesdays:
9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays:
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
(Only when classes are in session)

Thursdays:
2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Fridays:
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

If times listed are not convenient for you, call Marlene Siegel at 410-484-1844.

If you wish to donate books to the Agus Library, please contact Marlene Siegel at 410-484-1844 or Sandy Winters at 410-484-0411.

Because of the limited space, please do not bring books to Beth El until you have spoken to one of them.



**THE BETH EL LEGACY SOCIETY WELCOMES
ITS NEWEST MEMBERS:**

Richard G. & Bodine* Davis
Cantor Thom and Shazy King
**indicates deceased*

JOIN THE BETH EL LEGACY SOCIETY NOW.

Contact **Ailene** at **410-580-5159** or **ailene@bethelbalto.com** to request a Letter of Intent. All we need to know is that you have made provision for Beth El in your Estate Planning. Not only will you be ensuring the future of our congregation, but you will be helping to ensure Judaism for generations to come.

ANNUAL APPEAL DONORS 2010-2011

**Donations from Oct. 15 to 25,
2010**

Craig & Michele Berman
Mark & Margaret Friedman
Kenneth Goldberg &
Robin Silver-Goldberg
Ronald & Cyrile Goldman
Ned & Gail Hiller
Ronald & Melanie Levin
Dr. Wayne & Marjorie Levin

Michael & Marissa Myers
Sylvan & Eileen Offit
Howard & Nancy Pollinger
Robert & Ellen Rosen
Alan & Carolyn Roth
Asher & Allison Rubin
Jodean Rubin
Andrew & Nancy Schnydmann
Edwin & Annette Snyder
Herbert & Linda Weiner

SPRING CULTURAL TRIPS

Join us this spring for the Cultural Trips to Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. These trips are sponsored by Sisterhood and are open to members of Beth El and Beth El Sisterhood. If there are openings after the initial registration period, members of the community are welcome.

PHILADELPHIA TRIP: TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011



This trip will give you the opportunity to tour the newly opened National Museum of American Jewish History and to have a docent led tour of Congregation Mikveh Israel, the oldest synagogue in Philadelphia. Since we will be in the historic section of the city, there are numerous eating establishments in the area. Therefore, lunch will be on your own. A list of possible eating locations will be provided.

WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP: TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011

On this trip, your morning will be spent at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, which has added new exhibits since our last visit. Leaving downtown Washington, our group will travel to Chevy Chase, MD for a delicious lunch at Maggiano's. Following lunch, we will visit the lovely Dennis and Phillip Ratner Museum.

Registration will be held on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 in the Agus Library. Members who wish both trips will register at 10:00 a.m. If there are openings, registration for one of the trips will begin at 11:00 a.m. **Please note the date change of registration and the new registration procedure.**

If you need more information or you have questions contact **Marlene Siegel (410-484-1844)** or **Janet Penn (410-484-5702).**

14 Good Reasons to Update Your Will

- Marriage
- Birth of a child, grandchild or great grandchild
- Child reaching adulthood
- Divorce
- Death of a spouse
- Acquisition of new assets
- Increase in the value of your current assets
- Death of a beneficiary named in your will
- Change in the needs of your beneficiaries
- You move to a different state
- Purchase or sale of real estate
- You decide to make a bequest to Beth El in your Estate Plan and thereby help to ensure the future of our congregation.

Review your will annually to ensure that it reflects your current needs. If a small change is made you may only need a "codicil", that is a simple amendment. Major changes will require a new will.

For further information you may wish to contact **Ailene Sher**, Director of Development at **401-580-5159** or **ailene@bethelbalto.com**.

THINK ABOUT BETH EL WHILE DOING YOUR YEAR-END TAXES

With 2011 just around the corner, it's the time of year when everyone starts thinking about year-end tax planning. Please consider Beth El Congregation in those plans and utilize the most advantageous income tax charitable deductions to benefit you. An appropriately planned 2010 year-end gift or account payment can significantly reduce your taxable income while at the same time providing meaningful financial support for the congregation and its programs and services.

There are four types of charitable gifts for you to consider as 2010 comes to a close. First, there is no easier way to earn a 2010 year-end charitable deduction than by giving a gift of cash. If you itemize the donation, you can lower your 2010 income taxes simply by writing a check before December 31. In addition, gifts of cash are fully deductible, up to a maximum of 50 percent of your adjusted gross income.

If you own stock, it is always better to contribute it over cash because a gift of appreciated stock will generally offer you tax savings in two ways. First, you avoid paying any capital gains tax on the increase in value of the stock and second, you receive an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair-market value of the stock at the time of the gift.

Many people are unaware that you can also make a gift of real estate; when an owned residence has appreciated in value so much that its sale would mean a sizeable capital gains tax, a year-end gift of the property to the congregation would avoid that tax as well as earn you a charitable deduction for the full fair-market value of the property.

Finally, if you are considering a major gift, a life-income gift is the most generous way to make such a donation. This is done by transferring cash or stock to the congregation by establishing a charitable remainder unitrust or charitable remainder annuity unitrust which would provide you with an annual return of five percent or greater. The income would be paid to you for life, after which the assets would be distributed to Beth El. Such a donation not only increases your income, but also makes a meaningful and tax-deductible donation to the congregation at the same time.

By considering a year-end gift to Beth El – whether it is in support of the Annual Appeal, a contribution in honor of a special event, or a memorial dedicated to a loved one or – your charitable, and tax-deductible gift will make an immediate impact on the financial well-being of the congregation and would be appreciated by all those who take advantage of our scholarships, programs and other areas of synagogue life that your contributions help make possible.

For more information or to make a contribution, please contact Director of Development **Ailene Sher** at **410-580-5159** or **ailene@bethelbalto.com**.

BETH EL HOTLINE NUMBERS

Service Schedules: **410-580-2727**

Weather Hotline: **410-580-2720**

Congregation Closings & Program Changes: **410-580-5080**

Early Childhood Education Closings & Program Changes:
410-580-5081

Religious School Closings & Program Changes: **410-580-5082**

BETH EL CONGREGATION
 קהילת בית אל דהאלימור
 8101 Park Heights Avenue
 Baltimore, Maryland 21208



Dated Material
 Please Deliver by December 1

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Baltimore, MD
 Permit No. 1262
 RETURN SERVICE
 REQUESTED

School and Congregational Candle Lighting

Join the Beth El community to
 light Beth El's *Menorah* on the
 front lawn of the building on
Tuesday, December 7
at 5:45 p.m. and
Wednesday, December 8
at 5:45 p.m.



On Sunday, October 24
 members of the
 American Legion and
 Riders of The American
 Legion Post 116 in
 Reisterstown delivered
 afghans, hats, scarves
 and walker bags to Loch
 Raven VA Medical
 Center for the second
 time for Project
 W.A.V.E., which is a
 joint effort between the
 American Legion and

Beth El. Another visit to the Perry Point VA Medical Center is planned for January, but help is needed knitting new blankets, and providing supplies. As of this visit 114 items have been delivered to Veterans. Contact Dora Smith, wave116@comcast.net, for additional information on Project W.A.V.E.

MOVEABLE FEAST

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DELIVER
 CHRISTMAS FOOD AND GIFTS



Moveable Feast brings hope and caring to people living with HIV/AIDS and breast cancer by planning, preparing and delivering nutritious, high quality meals and groceries to people who are unable to provide or prepare meals for themselves.

Once again Beth El is committed to help deliver food and gifts at Christmas time.

This year we will be delivering on Friday, December 24th, starting between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Each car/van will be asked to complete 5 or 6 delivery stops.

To volunteer as a driver or passenger, or for more information, call **Debbie Caplan**, Assistant Administrator at **410-484-0411** or **Debbie@bethelbalto.com**.



The trip to Bucks County in October featured tours of astonishing mansions and enjoyment of a progressive lunch. Members of the Sisterhood enjoy the beautiful weather and scenery.

BETH EL CONGREGATION
 8101 Park Heights Avenue
 Baltimore, Maryland 21208
 Phone: 410-484-0411
 School Phone: 410-484-4543

www.bethelbalto.com

Senior Rabbi	Steven P. Schwartz
Associate Rabbi	Dana Saroken
Assistant Rabbi	David Greenspoon
Cantor	Thom D. King
Executive Director	Gilbert Kleiner, F.S.A.
Director of Education	Eyal Bor, Ph.D.
Director of Development	Ailene Sher
Pre-School Director	Debbie Rabin
Assistant Administrator	Debbie Caplan
Event Coordinator	Diane Cole
Editor	Mike Leavey
Designer	Amy Wells

President	Raphael Kahn
Sisterhood President	Susan Hackerman
Brotherhood President	Barry Budish
Beth El Seniors President	Ed Berkowitz

Rabbi Jacob B. Agus (1911-1986) Founding Rabbi
 Rabbi Mark G. Loeb (1944-2009) Emeritus
 Cantor Saul Z. Hammerman (1926-2008) Emeritus

Beth El is a progressive congregation affiliated with the United Synagogue that fulfills the spiritual, educational and social needs of its members by nurturing religious practices and traditions, Jewish values and Tikkun Olam.



Please recycle