

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 12, 2016**

Active Shooter Workshop  
Park Heights JCC  
6:00 P.M.

**December 13, 2016**

Campus Chaos  
6:00 P.M.  
Location with R.S.V.P.

**December 25, 2016**

Mitzvah Day  
BJC Interfaith VolunTEAM  
Park Heights JCC

**January 16, 2017**

MLK Day VolunTEAM  
More Information TBA

**February 07, 2017**

Advocacy Day in Annapolis

**RSVP to Noah Mitchel at  
nmitchel@baltjc.org.**

## BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY

Last month the Baltimore Jewish Council co-sponsored an event with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and the Baltimore Israel Coalition on Ben-Gurion's leadership and legacy and the obstacles he overcame during his career. This month, the groups will co-host a program on the growing presence of BDS efforts on college campuses, helping build awareness and preparedness among Baltimore parents and students. Both events are part of an ongoing effort by BJC to provide educational programming on Israeli history, news, holidays and culture.

# Council Matters

DECEMBER 2016

## Rosh Hashanah & The School Calendar

After more than two decades of closing schools for teachers and students on the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur holidays, the Baltimore County School Board considered reversing that practice for the 2017-18 school year. The Baltimore Jewish Council successfully persuaded the board to keep the schools closed, arguing that the absence of thousands of teachers and students would cause a significant disruption to teaching and learning.

## Lessons of the Shoah

The fourth annual Lessons of the Shoah (LOTS) program was held on November 10th at The John Carroll School in Bel Air. LOTS is a one-day program of study and dialogue, using the Holocaust and its lessons as a starting point. Over 500 Maryland students and teachers participated, the largest number ever, thanks to free bus transportation provided for public schools by BJC, the Jewish Museum of Maryland and the Baltimore County Public Schools.



## Maryland Interfaith Legislative Committee

On November 10th the Maryland Interfaith Legislative Committee (MILC), chaired by the BJC's Sarah Mersky, held its pre-session meeting in Columbia, MD. Partners in the committee include Catholic Charities, United Church of Christ Central Atlantic Conference, The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland and several other faith-based advocacy groups. The participants discussed key issues for this legislative session, including prescription drug reform, earned income tax credit, human trafficking, and mental health. Guest speakers included Vinny DeMarco from Health Care For All.

## LAUNCH: Annapolis Update

BJC is launching a brand new e-newsletter, the Annapolis Update, to fill you in on all of the events and happenings in Annapolis during the legislative session. This weekly update will be sent out every Monday from January 11 - April 10 listing important bills, testimony and coalition efforts that the BJC team is participating in. Contact Madeline Suggs to subscribe at [msuggs@baltjc.org](mailto:msuggs@baltjc.org).