



# Beth Ami

Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism



Volume 2; Issue 12  
December 2011

## A message from Marti Hirsch

Beth Ami Jewish Cultural School Teacher

It is time to register for the Greek Jewish event at the JCC. Michael and I are going. My uncle (who is 100% Jewish Greek) is coming out from Tennessee to go. My cousin from Broomfield is going. I hope some of you Beth Ami folks can come as well.

Jews have lived in Greece for over 2000 years. Their culture is unique; different from either the Sephardic or the Ashkenazi. My father's father came to the US in 1911, my father's mother and family came a few years earlier. Almost all of the people who stayed in their small ancestral town of Ioannina were wiped out by the Nazi's. There has been a recent interest in preserving the ancient customs as they are in danger of disappearing.

Please join me in celebrating the culture of my ancestors.

<https://boulderjcc.wufoo.com/forms/menorah-opa-celebrating-the-jews-of-greece/>

See page 4 for event information

*Beth Ami is a welcoming community where we connect to Jewish past, celebrate Jewish present and link to Jewish future through a humanistic philosophy*

### Beth Ami means: *House of my people*

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## Beth Ami Chanukah Party

Saturday, Dec.  
17th  
11:00am -1:30 pm  
(follows 10am—  
11am JCS &Adult  
Ed, same location)  
Jefferson

Unitarian Church  
14350 West 32nd Street  
Golden, CO 80401

**RSVP Kathy 303-751-0936**  
**Please bring**

- Chanukah menorah, candles and matches
- Canned goods to donate to Weinberg Pantry
- Children's present to donate to Jewish Family Service



- Featuring live music with Eve Orenstein and Ely Karasik
- Delicious potluck including latkes, donuts, and salad
- Dreidels and crafts



2021

# Beth Ami Family New Year's Eve Party

7pm

Potluck dinner

Hirsch's home

Please RSVP to Marti Hirsch 303-442-3789



**Chanu Concert**  
a COMMUNITY CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

Sunday, December 11, 2 - 4 pm  
At Congregation Har HaShem South Building  
3950 Baseline Road  
\$5 per person at the door or register online at [www.boulderjcc.org](http://www.boulderjcc.org)

Join us for a festive afternoon of music, food and fun for all ages

**JEFF KAGAN**  
The Latke Man kicks off with a concert for kids at 2 pm

**OR ZIMRAH**  
Jewish rock for all ages with Har HaShem's house band at 3 pm

Special surprise performance by **THE RABBLE ROUSING RABBIS!**

Latkes and Donuts available for purchase!

**THE LATKE MAN**

Beth Ami is a co-sponsor of this event

Sponsored by Menorah, Shalom Family and Shalom Baby  
Co-sponsored by Congregation Har HaShem, Congregation Bonai Shalom and Congregation Beth Ami

For more information, contact [Kathryn@boulderjcc.org](mailto:Kathryn@boulderjcc.org), 303-998-1021

## Save the date—

### Beth Ami Adult Ed is going to the theatre (with discussion to follow)

Join Beth Ami Adult Education to see:

*Two Things You Don't Talk About at Dinner.*



Beth Ami will be attending the performance at 3:30 on **Feb. 12th** at The Denver Center for the Performing Arts. Our group rate is \$37.50 per ticket. Send \$7.50 to Laura Moin to reserve your seat. The balance will be due in January. Email Laura at [laura.m.1520@gmail.com](mailto:laura.m.1520@gmail.com) for her mailing address and for more information.

# December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Th	Fr	Sat
				1	2	3
4 JCS & Adult Ed	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Exec Mtg	12	13	14	15	16	17 JCS & Adult Ed Then Chanukah celebration. See sidebar to the right & page 1
18	19	20 Chanukah, 1st day at sunset	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve party

See below for December dates

Note on December 17th:

We will have JCS & Adult Education at 10am at Jefferson Unitarian Church, 14350 West 32nd Street Golden, CO 80401. We will view a documentary called *Not in Our Town*. This 27 minute video is the inspiring original story of how the citizens of Billings, Montana joined together to fight intolerance. (website [www.niot.org](http://www.niot.org)).

The Beth Ami Chanukah party will follow at 11am See page 1 for more details

## December

## Chanukah 12/20

Sunday 4th	10am JCS Session 7 and Adult Ed, Countryside
Sunday 11th	10am Executive Committee Meeting at the Karasik's
Sunday 11th	2pm Har Hashem Boulder, Chanuconcert Beth Ami is a co-sponsor <i>See page 2 for more info</i>
Saturday 17th	10am—11am JCS & Adult Ed at Jefferson Unitarian Church followed by 11am - 1:30pm Beth Ami Chanukah Celebration <i>See page 1 for more info</i>
Saturday 31st	7pm New Years Eve party, Hirsch home— <i>See page 2 for more info</i>

## Adult Education 2011—2012 The Year of Lifelong Learning

### Your children do NOT have to be in JCS for you to attend

Join Sheila Malcolm, Beth Ami Madrikha and other adults to:

- Learn more about Secular Humanistic Judaism's roots and practices, including philosophy, celebrating holidays and cultural aspects SHJ
- Socialize and interact with other adults and guest presenters
- Model adult learning for our children during the Sunday school sessions
- Use materials and activities from "Facing History and Ourselves" and other sources to explore issues of identity, memory, history and legacy

Upcoming topics:

**Dec. 4** Dealing with December – A Support Session? The perennial dilemmas of what and how to celebrate, what it means for you and your family, and how humor may save the day.

**Dec. 17** At Jefferson Unitarian Church 10am we will watch *Not in Our Town*, an inspiring documentary about fighting intolerance. The Beth Ami Chanukah celebration will directly follow from 11am—1:30pm

## OPA! Celebrating the Jews of Greece

Documentary on Romaniote Jews with Discussion led by Carlos Zarur.

### Live Concert! Greek Dancing! Greek Feast!

The Jewish presence in Greece goes back at least to the times of Alexander the Great. Although the origins of a Jewish community in Greece are unknown, there may well have been Jews, if not Jewish communities living in Greek cities as far back as the Babylonian Exile. Come experience the rich culture and history of Jews in Greece.



**Saturday, December 3**

6:00 pm

At the Boulder JCC

\$25 in advance

\$30 at the door

See the Article by Marti Hirsch on page 1

## Gathering Sparks: Sephardic Concert and Art Sale

*Gathering Sparks* is new annual program of the Mizel Museum that will celebrate the light of the Winter season. This year's event will feature a live concert by the Sephardic-style rock band **Pharaoh's Daughter**, and an art exhibition and sale with the area's best artists.

Sunday, December 4th at District 475, a gorgeous new contemporary art space near Dry Creek Rd. and I-25.

For more information email Georgina Kolber at [gkolber@mizelmuseum.org](mailto:gkolber@mizelmuseum.org)

And check out

[www.mizelmuseum.org/gatheringsparks](http://www.mizelmuseum.org/gatheringsparks)



**2-FOR-1 TICKET DEAL ON SALE NOW!**

**A DAY OF MUSIC AND ART**  
(just in time for the holidays!)



Jewish organizations throughout Boulder and Denver are collaborating on the 2011-2012 series

## Movers: Art and Conscience

A year-long series of programs exploring Jewish visual culture and the intersection of art and responsibility.

**Movers Presents: Art and Conscience**, a year-long series of programs exploring Jewish visual culture and the intersection of art and moral responsibility.

Lectures, performances, art exhibits, con-

certs and films examining visual art as an expression of Jewish identity and values. Beth Ami is a participating organization! Events are held in Boulder, usually at the BJCC. [www.jewishmovers.org](http://www.jewishmovers.org)

## Limmud Colorado: Explore, Discover, Grow, Connect, Share, Laugh, Learn.

Join us for a dynamic event which connects Jews and their loved ones of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Limmud Colorado is all about community, learning, and choice. Choose from many concurrent sessions—art, culture, worship, film, performance, texts, and more.

Inverness Hotel & Conference Center,  
Denver Tech Center

Contact Beth at: 303-908-2785  
[www.limmudcolorado.org](http://www.limmudcolorado.org)



This year: New Time, New Venue, and New Prices! Closer and more accessible than ever.  
January 21-22, 2012

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### November 20th was Trans Day of Remembrance by Michelle Davis, Beth Ami Madrikha

In early November, Beth Ami CCHJ was contacted by Keshet, an organization dedicated to "working for the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Jews in Jewish life." They hoped to spread awareness of Trans Day of Remembrance, which occurs every November 20th. It is a day set aside to remember those killed due to anti-transgender prejudice or hatred. While it was too short of notice to organize an event for our group, I thought it was a day worth learning more about. As a welcoming, open community, the Beth Ami CCHJ community is ideally situated to welcome Jews of all gender identities and backgrounds into our celebrations. While many of the readings and passages refer to a deity, we can easily take the message of tolerance and understanding and apply them to our own Humanistic Jewish lives. Here is a selection from the material that Keshet sent us that I especially liked -

#### **Twilight People**

As the sun sinks and the colors of the day turn, we offer a blessing for the twilight, for twilight is neither day nor night, but in-between. We are all twilight people. We can never be fully labeled or defined. We are many identities and loves, many genders and none. We are in between roles, at the intersection of histories, or between place and place. We are crisscrossed paths of memory and destination, streaks of light swirled together. We are neither day nor night. We are both, neither, and all. .. (partial)

-Rabbi Reuben Zellman, TransTorah.org

As Humanistic Jews, I think it is important that we are aware of the challenges that people in our community could be facing. If you have a few minutes to explore Keshet's website, <http://www.keshetonline.org/>, I would recommend you do so to learn more about this hardworking organization.

Beth Ami Colorado Congregation for  
Humanistic Judaism



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## The Funny bone—by Steve Langer

Three short funnies for the  
women we are and the women we  
love.

- Three Jewish women get together for lunch. As they are being seated in the restaurant, one takes a deep breath and gives a long, slow "oy." The second takes a deep breath as well and lets out a long, slow "oy" The third takes a deep breath and says impatiently, "Girls, I thought we agreed that we weren't going to talk about our children."
- A waiter comes over to a table full of Jewish women and asks, "Is anything all right?"
- My mother is a typical Jewish mother. Once she was on jury duty. They sent her home. She insisted SHE was guilty.

## December Birthdays & Celebrations



**Happy birthday to:**

Ashlynn Anderson	1
Michelle Davis	4
Evan Wilson	6
Herb Josepher	12
Michael Hirsch	13
Laura Moin	20
Bill Baum	21
Suzanne Neufeld	24
Vic Goldberg	25

**Happy anniversary to:**

Gordon & Grace Gamm	8
Sheila & John Malcolm	27
Wendy DuBow & Tom Margolis	31



Remember to buy your King  
Sooper's Cards!

**Do you shop at King Soopers?**

Maida Deborah is now selling \$100 King Soopers cards. If you shop at King Soopers, please see her to purchase your cards. Just bring a check made out to Beth Ami. It makes shopping easy, and every \$ you spend at King Soopers benefits Beth Ami. No extra cost to you!