

O'Fishel Kosher Caterers, Baltimore For All Your Food Service & Catering Needs

410-764-3476



As you may know, Shomrei Emunah and O'Fishel caterers have negotiated an in-house catering agreement. After months of deliberation and negotiation with all interested caterers, O'Fishel Caterers is proud to have been chosen as the preferred caterer of Shomrei Emunah.

To inform the Shomrei membership, as well as the community at large, of some of the particulars of this arrangement, we are pleased to present these Shomrei FAQS (Frequently Axed Questions). Feel free to call O'Fishel caterers or the Shomrei office for more information.

How does Shomrei benefit from this new arrangement?

As you may know, Shomrei recently underwent a magnificent renovation. Unfortunately, pledges did not cover the entire cost. This agreement will iy"H help close that gap, lower the mortgage and increase the stream of revenue over the next decade.

What amenities does Shomrei Emunah offer?

The fully-renovated building includes a beautifully remodeled Shul, comfortable cushioned seats, retractable Chuppah skylights in both the



Shul and social hall, social hall for 350-400 with multiconfigured dance floors, well appointed bridal and chosson rooms, additional rooms for changing, hair and makeup, and baby sitting, a sunlit gallery, recessed lighting and new sconces; all in a comfortably climate-controlled environs. There are virtually no additional costly rentals necessary, allowing the ba'alei simcha to save hundreds - if not thousands - of dollars on the beautiful white tulle Chuppah, staging for Kabbalas Panim, backdrop, Mechitzahs, and multi-sized tables and chairs, all in a convenient neighborhood location, attractively priced, with free parking.

Will there be competitive options for Brissim, **Kiddushim and Shabbos** meals, priced less than regular catering?

Absolutely. Presently there is a plan for Brissim for less than \$1,000 through the shul, alongside other econofriendly plans. Please call the Shul for details.

Will the very popular and community-supported Shomrei Bayis Neeman package still be available?

Yes! Further, by keeping it local, you support our local butchers, bakers, candle-stick makers and mosdos. And these businesses in turn help our community thrive (see Economics 101). And studies show that MapQuest can actually provide directions TO Baltimore FROM Lakewood and New York.

Will the menu choices be reduced? Will prices go up?

Just the opposite - the number of menu items has been increased and the price has been kept at \$10,500 since its inception in 2008. That price is guaranteed until January 1, 2011 (over 2 years). Further, the price or details of the Bayis Neeman package cannot be changed without the trifective authorization of Shomrei Emunah, the in-house caterer and Mr. Kleiner, the cofounders of the Bayis Neeman package.

If one caterer has a monopoly on the kitchen, won't prices automatically go up?

Au contraire! O'Fishel's is very aware that there are numerous options in town for catering services. In fact, since O'Fishel's and Shomrei signed this agreement, many packages around town have plummeted (see WWW ads this and last issue). One major expense for caterers is loading and unloading for parties, washing the dishes, etc for offsite events. Having sets of china and equipment at Shomrei will greatly reduce these costs, allowing O'Fishel to pass the savings along. As part of this agreement,

O'Fishel has a mandate to increase the stream of rental revenue for the synagogue, and therefore has a strong incentive to set pricing



attractively. If events go to other caterers at other locations, neither Shomrei nor O'Fishel gain.

Are there any ways other caterers can be used?

The contract allows Shomrei members in good standing to opt-out for a qualified caterer. There is a fee for this privilege. Arrangements have already been made for non-members to have parties there on specific dates with certain conditions.

Once again, feel free to call the Shomrei office or O'Fishel Caterers with any other auestions.

Why shlep your guests out of town, when they can stroll to Shomrei?