

HaKol

The Voice of Congregation B'nai Tikvah
Our Mission

To foster a vibrant egalitarian Jewish community founded in the religious customs and traditions of Conservative Judaism; offering excellent Jewish education and community activities for all ages with commitment to Israel and Jewish communities throughout the world.

Volume 23 Issue 4

December 2001/ Kislev - Tevet 5762

Inside this issue:

Adult Education 5

Religious School Report 6

Nursery School News 10

Another Viewpoint 11

Contributions 12

Hannukah 18

Retail Scrip Program 19

Make Your Voice Heard in Israel 21

From The Rabbi's Desk 22

50+, Help Wanted, Israeli Bond 23

Sisterhood, B'nai Mitzvah 24

Dreidels, Menorahs & Latkes, Oy Vey 25

Social Services Available, A Poem, Do You Havurah 27

USY 28

USY Turns 50 30

This Hanukkah, join Jews around North America in 8 simple actions to conserve energy, slow global climate change, and save money!

Day 1:

Let there be sustainable light. Change one regular bulb in your home to a CFL (Compact Fluorescent Light). It is estimated that about three light bulbs burn five

or more hours a day in the average US home. If those three bulbs were replaced with compact fluorescents in every home, it would eliminate about 23 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions a year! Don't be fooled by the seemingly higher prices of CFLs. They last ten times as long as standard incandescent bulbs and use only a quarter of the energy to produce the same amount of light- a modern Hanukkah miracle! (To find CFLs near you, contact your local

hardware store or visit www.greenpages.org.)

Day 2:

Turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (120° °F). Water heaters are the second largest energy users in the home, averaging 20% of all household energy use. With heaters set at the maximum 140°F, most of us need to dilute our hot water by turning on the cold

(Continued on page 2)

COME MY BELOVED

By Hazzan Bruce Rockman

this particular week. Although I don't know all 2000, or anywhere near that number, there are quite a few that we use at B'nai Tikvah. For example, during our high holiday season we sing a special melody, and we do the same at other festive events. The challenge is to help the congregation become excited about Shabbat. If I sing a lovely melody that you have never heard it can be very disappointing, and a big letdown to the congrega-

tion. My goal is to help you participate not become spectators. There are those times that we enjoy listening, but this is one of those times we look to become involved in our prayers.

Come, my beloved, L'kha Dodi, was composed by Solomon Halevi Alkabetz in Safed, Israel, late in the 16th century. The entire concept of a Kabbalat Shabbat began in Safed, where the Kabbalists

(Continued on page 5)

Each week as I prepare for Shabbat services, I contemplate which of the over 2000 melodies I should use

8 Days (cont)

(Continued from page 1)

tap anyway. By changing the setting to 120°F you'll not only save energy, but also avoid scalding your hands!

Day 3:

Lower your thermostat 3°F.

Did you know that for each degree that you lower your thermostat in the winter, you could cut your energy use by about 3%? By lowering your thermostat just 3°F, you can reduce your energy consumption by nearly 10%. The same applies to raising your thermostat 3°F in the summertime; doing both can prevent on average the emission of nearly 1,100 pounds of carbon dioxide annually. You probably won't even notice the difference!

Day 4:

Skip a car trip.

Transportation, specifically in automobiles, is responsible for about a third of American greenhouse gas emissions. What's worse, while the trend is to buy large SUVs or 8-passenger vans, we spend the majority of our time driving alone. Carpooling helps, and buying locally cuts down on unnecessary driving as well. Today, walk, run, skate, bike, or take public transportation instead of a car ride.

Day 5:

Start a scrap paper pile.

More than 40% of all waste in US landfills is paper products. Many towns and cities now have community recycling which has helped to save trees and produce biofuels from old paper fibers that can be used to generate cleaner energy. However, we are still too quick to toss sheets with only a few lines on them. Add another important step to the recycling process right in your home by starting a scrap pile with used pieces of paper (that only are

printed on one side, for example). You can use the backs for printing drafts of documents, writing notes, making shopping lists, etc. And the paper gets double the life! Go one step further by buying recycled paper products and you've completed the recycling loop!

Day 6:

Give your home a Hanukkah gift from Energy Star.

Energy Star is a US program jointly run by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and the US Department of Energy to label and promote energy efficient appliances and products. Because Energy Star is purely voluntary, companies can only obtain the right to use the Energy Star logo if their product is significantly more efficient than required by government standards. In addition to refrigerators, cooling & heating units, dishwasher, washing machines, etc. energy-efficient TVs, VCRs, and DVD players are available. If the average American were to equip their home with only products that have the Energy Star label, they'd reduce lower energy bills—and greenhouse gas emissions—by nearly a third! (For more info about Energy Start visit their website at <http://www.energystar.gov>)

Day 7:

Write a letter to the President or Congress.

As you've experienced the past six days, we can all do a lot to lower energy consumption in our own homes. We also need to change our nation's energy policy to effectively reduce our nation's energy consumption. Write to the President, your representatives in Congress and local authorities to let them know what you've done at home and ask them to make changes in energy policy to pro-

mote conservation and the development of clean energy sources. See COEJL's Web site at www.coejl.org for sample letters.

Day 8:

Have a candlelight dinner.

Roughly a quarter of the total electricity generated in the U.S. — \$37 billion worth — is used for lighting. This is more electricity than the continents of South America and Africa, combined, use for all purposes! Shut off all of your lights for an hour and enjoy your last evening of latkes with the full Hanukkah glowing. (Light a few extra candles; it is traditional that we do not use the Hanukkah as a functional lamp.) It can be a romantic dinner or special holiday memory for your kids! Statistics from Earth Day's Guide to Planet Repair, Dennis Hayes, Copyright 2000

For further energy conservation tips & to calculate your home or business's consumption, visit www.safeclimate.net/calculator.

"Green Gifts"

Help cut down on waste and try some of these environmentally friendly gift ideas:

1. Save paper and send an e-card. You can design it yourself! There are dozens of on-line sites to do this. You could also make your own card with recycled paper if you're feeling artistic! To create an e-card, visit one of the following Web sites:

- ❖ <http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/chanukah/ecard.html>
- ❖ <http://www.e-cards.com/catalog/cat-selection.pl?>

(Continued on page 3)

8 Days

(Continued from page 2)

cat=Hanukkah

- ❖ <http://www.newdream.org/greeting/servlet/cardCreation>

2. Make your own gifts! Especially from children, homemade gifts are often more special than anything you can buy. Take a photo and design a frame for it, knit a scarf for the winter, or make a set of beeswax candles for someone to burn in their Hanukkah. In your crafts, you can use empty paper towel or toilet paper rolls, plastic bottles, etc. There are many great books about homemade gifts in your library; check one out today!

3. Give Hanukkah *gelt* in the form of Tzedakah to a Jewish or environmental organization of your choice in honor of a friend or relative. "Adopt" an animal, plant a tree or buy an acre of rain forest in someone's honor.

4. Food! Edible gifts are always great for holidays. Bake someone a batch of cookies in Hanukkah shapes, cook *soofganiot* (jelly doughnuts- a traditional Hanukkah treat), or be more creative.

5. Get something that's both useful and reusable: a travel mug, cloth bag, linen napkins, reusable lunchbox, etc.

6. Make your own gift certificate or coupon. You could give someone "a night at the movies," "one week of walking the dog," etc. This is a great way to give somebody exactly what they want!

7. Buy someone an environmental book, subscription to an environmental magazine or a membership to a museum or zoo- a gift they can enjoy all year.

8. Instead of regular gift-wrap, use recycled or reusable packaging or a piece of cloth tied with ribbon.

Tikkun Olam Bonus: A different kind of Hanukkah gift

Go through your closets and find old items you can donate to those less fortunate as an act of reducing, reusing, and recycling.

GLOBAL WARMING: A Jewish Response

See to it that you do not destroy my world, for there is no one to repair it after you.

Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13

In response to the scientific consensus that human-caused warming of Earth's atmosphere threatens to cause extreme hardship to millions of people around the world and widespread ecological disruption and species extinction:

- ❖ COEJL calls upon Congress and the Administration to move toward the creation of a clean and sustainable energy system for the US that will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and diminish US reliance on imported oil.
- ❖ COEJL calls upon Jewish institutions and leaders to raise public awareness of the moral and social justice implications of climate change.
- ❖ COEJL calls upon members of the Jewish community, and all other Americans, to institute energy efficiency technologies and practices into private homes and communal facilities and to consider the environment and public health effects of economic decisions, including the purchase of vehicles and appliances and the choice of energy companies.
- ❖ COEJL calls upon the business

community to provide leadership in efforts to address global warming.

To learn more about COEJL and the Jewish response to environmental issues go to: www.coejl.org

Congregants Respond to Community, Israel

By Ann Gold

You proved, again, that we at B'nai Tikvah practice Tzedakah.

During the High Holy Days, several fund raising appeals are made. You learn about each of the charities; you decide which one(s) move you to make a contribution. This year, you responded wonderfully to our campaign for Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County:

- ❖ 85 of us made a pledge (about 20 percent of the congregation)
- ❖ 45 of us are first-time donors -- a very impressive number; new givers are the lifeblood of a human services organization
- ❖ Of the other 40 (already a quarter of we who are annual donors), eight (20 percent) increased our pledge over last year's.

Our individual Tzedakah not only helps Jews locally and around the world, it also benefits B'nai Tikvah. As a result of our contributions to Federation, it is giving us public commendation as a community leader. That can only be a plus as unaffiliated people look for a Conservative synagogue to join.

A heartfelt "thank you" to each of you 85 and to you who will donate in 2002.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

START SAVING IMMEDIATELY



- Buy-one-get-one-free and 50%-off discounts on dining, shopping and services

NEW Frequent Values® program provides ongoing 20% discounts with select merchants

NEW Extra savings at entertainment.com

- Printable coupons for special offers
 - Discounts for online e-tailers
 - New and exciting updates and information
- Travel savings on airfare, hotels and car rentals

Cut and mail to the Synagogue office or call the synagogue (297-0696) or Barry Safeer (422-8543) to order. **We deliver!** Consignment orders for your office accepted. We can order any book in the US. Orders can also be placed at www.bnaitikvah.org. If mailing, please enclose a check made payable to B'nai Tikvah.

Name: _____

_____ Central NJ/Middlesex (\$30 each)

Telephone: _____

_____ Central NJ/Monmouth (\$30 each)

Address: _____

_____ Other (call for pricing and choices)

Education Programs

Lunch & Learn Adult Education

These programs are FREE; however registration is required. No prior knowledge necessary. Everyone is welcome to attend. Call the synagogue office, 732-297-0696, to make your reservations.

Lunch & Learn

February 2: **Donna Glazer, Solomon Schechter of Raritan Valley**
Family Dynamics in the Torah

April 6: **Cantor Bruce Rockman, Lunch & Sing**

June 1: **Rabbi David M. Eligberg, To Be Announced**

Lunch & Learn follows the Kiddush on Shabbat mornings. Sponsorships available — Co-sponsor, Under \$100; Sponsor, \$100-499; Patron, \$500.

Beloved

(Continued from page 1)

(Jewish mystics) would actually go out into the field to greet the Sabbath.

The poet describes the Sabbath as a royal queen who is welcomed with song at sunset. According to Solomon Schechter, one of the founders of the conservative movement, Lecha Dodi "...is perhaps one of the finest pieces of religious poetry in existence....".

***Awake and arise to greet a new light
For in your radiance the world will be bright.
Sing out, for the darkness is hidden from sight.***

The lord through you His glory displays.

***Come, my beloved, with chorus of praise:
Welcome Shabbat the Bride,
Queen of our days.***

***Come in peace, soul mate, sweet gift of the Lord,
Greeted with joy in song so adored
Amidst God's people, in faith and accord.
Come Bride Shabbat; come crown of the days.***

***Come, my beloved, with chorus of praise:
Welcome Shabbat the Bride,***

Queen of our days.

These beautiful verses are often sung at our weddings. When we sing this poem on Shabbat, we invoke the loveliest images, such as of the beauty of a bride. We re-experience the warmth and love of newlyweds in our passion for the Sabbath Bride. We transcended to a very special place in our lives.

***Worship the Lord in gladness,
come before God with joyous song.***

***B'simcha,
Cantor Bruce Rockman,***

CLASSICAL CATERERS
PRESENTS
2nd Annual NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA!

HURRY LIMITED SEATING



Our evening begins at 9:00 PM sharp on December 31, when Classical Caterers throws open the doors for the sumptuous cocktail hour with non-stop music. Then join us for an elegant dinner until 2:00 AM, January 1, 2002. Get your appetite revved up and your dancing shoes polished and join us for a party to end all parties.

- SPACE IS LIMITED!
- 10 - 12 people to your own table
- **SPECIAL DISCOUNT FOR SYNAGOGUE MEMBERS \$100 per person (\$110 non-synagogue members)**
- List the people you want to sit with

Reservations - call 297-6444

Your Evening Includes:

- Extensive Cocktail Hour
 - 3 Course Sit Down Dinner
 - Choice of Entrees
 - Complimentary Open Bar all night, including champagne
 - Elaborate Dessert
 - Full Service
- 5 hours of good food, good drink, good music and fun!!!**

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORTS

By Ann Kanarek

CHANUKAH BEGINS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

The first candle of Chanukah, our joyous Festival of Lights, is lit on Sunday evening, December 9. Each night we light another candle to celebrate the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrian-Greek army of the tyrant Antiochus.

Chanukah is, of course, more than a holiday commemorating a military victory. Though technically a minor holiday, (Chanukah is not mentioned anywhere in the Bible) today it is a major family celebration. As we exchange gifts, join in playing *dreidle*, lighting candles, and eating *latkes*, we remember that the Maccabees' struggle of long ago is still our struggle today: How to remain loyal to the traditions and dreams of our people while participating in the best that the secular world has to offer. There was also a battle for religious freedom, a battle that we continue to fight today as well.

We have planned many exciting programs for the month of December to help us celebrate Chanukah as a congregational family and we hope that you will join us.

Sunday, December 2 and Sunday,
December 9
CHANUKAH GIFT SHOPPING

Sunday, December 9
**SCHOOL WIDE CHANUKAH
EXTRAVAGANZA WITH
KENNY GREEN**

Monday, December 10
**CHANUKAH CHAI-LIGHT
PARTY**

Friday, December 14
**FAMILY SHABBAT AND PRE-
ALEF CHANUKAH SING-A-
LONG**

CHANUKAH MITZVOT

It's a mitzvah:

- for each home to have its own Chanukah menorah.
- to kindle the Chanukah lights each evening of the eight days of the festival.
- for parents to relate the story of Chanukah to their children.
- for the whole family to participate in, and bear witness to, the lighting of the Chanukah menorah.
- to share the lighting of the menorah and the meaning of Chanukah with our friends and neighbors.
- to give tzedakah during the eight days of Chanukah.

SHEDDING NEW LIGHT ON CHANUKAH

The light of the Chanukah menorah is more than a reminder of ancient miracles — it is intended to inspire and illuminate our lives today. The prayers that we say every day and on Chanukah is an important way for us to thank God for the special blessings in our lives. That is why,

in the second Chanukah blessing we say: "*Praised are You, Lord our God, King of the universe who accomplished miracles for our ancestors in ancient days, and in our time.*" In the *Al Ha Nissim* prayer which is read as part of the Amidah on Chanukah we say "For all the miracles, and for the salvation, and for the mighty deeds, and for the victories, and for the battles that You performed for our ancestors in those days, at this time...." We are again thanking God for the miracles performed long ago during the present season and for the numerous miracles performed every day. By looking at the significance of the Chanukah miracles, we can see the miraculous dimension of events in our own lives today.

Chanukah is a time for recognizing miracles and expressing thanks.

(Continued on page 8)

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REMINDERS:

Sunday, December 9, 10:00AM-11:00AM: School Wide Chanukah concert (K-6) with Kenny Green

Friday, December 14, 7PM-8PM: Family Shabbat and Chanukah Sing-A-Long (K-2)

Sunday, December 23- Tuesday, January 1: NO SCHOOL, Winter break

(School resumes Wednesday, January 2)

RELIGIOUS

(Continued from page 7)

Take some time to figure out creative and meaningful ways to say “thank you” to important people who make you who you are -- such as your parents, siblings, grandparents, friends and teachers. It is a special way to count the blessings in your life and appreciate the good things that other people do for you. Your *thank you* can become a Chanukah gift in itself.

In fact, the word for **GAVE** in Hebrew is *Natan* (spelled nun, tav, final nun) is a palindrome -- a word spelled the same way backward or forward. It is interesting to consider that when someone gives you something or shares something with you -- either a gift or a special thank you -- both people, in a sense, enjoy the feeling of giving and receiving at the same time.

On Chanukah, let's be thankful for our personal blessings and realize that it is a priceless gift.

Wishing you and yours a *Chag Sameach!!*

The following exciting programs for the month of December will help us celebrate Chanukah as a congregational family and we hope you will join us.

School Wide Chanukah Program

On Sunday, December 9, 10:00am-11:00am, the Religious School will sponsor a Chanukah extravaganza. This event will be a musical concert by a popular performer, Kenny Green.

All students (K-7) will have regular class. Both early and late sessions

will gather in the Sanctuary for the concert at 10:00am-11:00am. Early session students in the Kindergarten, Alef , Bet and Gimel (K, 3rd , 4th and 5th grade classes) will have regular class at 9:00am and will be dismissed at 11:00am from the Sanctuary. Late session Bet and Gimel students should arrive no later than 9:45am and meet their teacher and class in the Sanctuary. After the concert, early session students will be dismissed and the late session students will go back to the classroom until regular dismissal at 12:05pm. First and Second grade children are invited to join us for this special performance. Front row seats will be saved for you. Dalet students (grade 6) will have regular morning class as well as have an opportunity to participate in the concert. Parents are very welcome to join us for this special event.

Other School events for Chanukah

Friday, December 14, 7:00pm-8:00pm: Chanukah Pre-Alef Family Shabbat Service. The service will include Phyllis Edley's Kindergarten and Second grade classes and Becky Leventhal and Sherry Lander's first grade classes. With the help of our music specialist, Gina Giuffre, our children will lead the Congregation in many of our familiar tunes and Chanukah classics. Please join us for a great evening.

SUPPORT OUR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Put your name on a flame, put your

handle on a candle. Look for the Wall of Flame, our Religious School Menorah with your name in lights. For only a dollar each, you can buy paper flames for every member of your family. Or, for 18 big ones, you can buy a whole paper candle for your group. Anyway you choose, you are warming up to a great cause--your Religious School. For more information, check the flyer in this bulletin or in your child's bag. On behalf of the Religious School staff and children we thank you for your support.

MEET KENNY GREEN

We are delighted to welcome to our congregation, for our Chanukah extravaganza, **Kenny Green**. He is a talented musician, composer and performer. Kenny is an artist with a broad range of musical talents who is extensively involved in both Jewish and secular children's music. Using a thoughtful mix of classic and original family songs, folk tunes, and stories--a recipe he serves up with a rock 'n' roll attitude, he enthralls, engages, and cajoles children into joining in the fun.

On Sunday, December 9, Kenny will perform for our religious school children. He delivers a rollicking, bouncy, lively, concert that will entice the audience to sing, dance or just keep the beat...this is not just for kids--it's family entertainment.

(Continued on page 9)

RELIGIOUS

A special thanks to the families who donate to the religious school education fund on an ongoing basis and to all of you who will support our Chanukah flames project that will help to sponsor this program.

CHAI SCHOOL "CHAI" LIGHTS

Bend, squat, and pull on a Sunday morning. Is it an exercise class? Yes, but not only of the physical nature; for the Hebrew High School, November 4th was an exercise in doing mitzvot for those in need of food. Teenagers in "Chai" School, along with their teachers, Greg Gerlovin, Stephanie Guberman, Josh Seigle and Kfir Weinraub, and an energetic Bobbi Binder, devoted their time and efforts at Giamarrese Farms in East Brunswick to accumulate four bins of collard greens, mustard greens and turnips, which amazingly weighed in at six thousand pounds! The New Jersey Farmers Against Hunger truck was there to whisk the 3 tons of food to soup kitchens to feed the hungry. Students got down and dirty in the process, but equipped with gardening gloves and determination, the task was an exercise of satisfaction in knowing that those less fortunate than them would 'reap' the benefits of their reaping!





Nursery School News

by Fran Pearlson



As we approach the end of 2001, I reflect on all the wonderful activities the children in our nursery school have been involved in. We've had a terrific fall! Rabbi Eligberg and Cantor Rockman's holiday programs for our children left them with smiling faces and much knowledge. A wonderful sight to behold was when the entire school marched around our sanctuary waving their flags for Simchat Torah.

Our reptile show was a big hit. Pets, Pets, & Pets brought us an amazing array of snakes, iguanas, lizards, and a huge boa constrictor. Our fearless children even managed to touch and hold several of these reptiles!

Our Thanksgiving feasts were a sight to behold. Our children dressed as Pilgrims and Indians and looked adorable. They all enjoyed sitting down at their festive Thanksgiving tables to eat their "classmade" feasts. A special highlight was watching the video this is America, Charlie Brown – "The Mayflower Voyagers". We would like to thank our nursery school parents for their generous donations to our Thanksgiving Thankful Tzedakah Project. We hope everyone has had the opportunity to read our children's thankful responses displayed in the nursery school wing's wall. We would also like to thank our parents for coming to school and reading their child's favorite story to their child's class.

December will prove to be a memorable month too. Our children will have the opportunity to buy little gifts for their families at our "Kids Only Gift Shoppe". This event will surely bring pleasant surprises and smiling faces to our nursery school parents. Next, our school will enjoy the celebration of Chanukah, the Festival of Lights. The children in their classrooms will be busy participating in making their own menorahs to take home. Each class will make theirs in a different way. All the children will sing songs and play the dreidel game. They will make beautiful gifts to give to their parents too. The story of Judah Macabbee and the miracle of the oil will be told in all classes.

Chanukah is a very special time. Our Pre-K and three-year-old families are invited to attend a special show with master magician, Bruce Bray. The highlight will be when our children perform at their holiday party. Our children will be transformed into Maccabee soldiers, latkes, and candles. – they will sing special songs and wear little costumes that they have participated in making. It will be a special and magical moment to be enjoyed by all! Our two's and Toddler Fun Club children will have their own special Chanukah party too! They will sing and dance with Gina Giuffre. Afterwards, all classes will enjoy a treat of latkes, applesauce and munchkins. Dreidels filled with chocolate gelt will be given to all our children as treats. It's been a wonderful and productive time at our nursery school! On behalf of the nursery school staff I would like to wish everyone a joyous Chanukah!

Snacktivities

Please step into the kitchen with your children and have fun making Spinning Dreidels.

Spinning Dreidels

Ingredients:

1 bag of chocolate candy kisses
 1 bag large marshmallows
 Peanut Butter
 1 bag thin pretzel sticks

Steps:

1. Unwrap the chocolate kisses
2. Spread about a teaspoon of peanut butter on the flat bottom of the candy kiss
3. Press the flat bottom of a marshmallow on the peanut butter side of the kiss.
4. Poke a pretzel stick through the end of the marshmallow opposite the candy kiss, pressing until the pretzel stick just touches the candy kiss.
5. Hold the end of the pretzel stick to twist and spin this yummy dessert that looks like a dreidel.
6. Eat in celebration of Chanukah!



Another Viewpoint

We are nameless. That is, our chavurah has no name. We just call it the chavurah. About eight or ten years ago, forming chavurahs (or is it chavurim?) suddenly became the in thing to do in our congregation. And someone began collecting names and trying to match them up by age or interest or whatever worked. With the dynamic growth of the congregation, it seemed like a good way to foster personal contacts between the members and families.

Our chavurah, the nameless one, has been meeting more or less regularly on a monthly basis, rotating about from one member's home to another, usually on a Sunday. Sometimes in the morning followed by brunch, or in the evening, depending on the wants of the host

member. Over the years, we have lost a few and gained a few. A few left in the early years seeking more compatibility in age or other interests, but most have hung in by reason of having developed friendships or maybe just habit.

Mostly, I believe that we continue to meet to discuss the endless subjects and facets of the religious and ethnic aspects of life as Jews and Jewishness. Our diverse history, both personal and communal, provide an endless source of stories, and each story opens up further avenues for the exploration of who we are and who we were. "We," being the reflections of our family history and how we arrived at this moment.

Our average age is in the grandparent stage of the life cycle, so we

have plenty of stories (some boring) going back not only to the last century, but when we talk about our grandparents, we reach all the way back into the nineteenth. So we stumble along, wondering what the topic of discussion will be next month, but we always come up with something.

At these ages, sadly, we lose one now and then, but we still meet and continue to pick over wide ranging subjects of interest. I can still tell you stories about life in Poland as related to me by my Bubba. And I still like to look at a pretty face.

Nu, so what if I can't remember why?

Happy Chanukah
 Aaron Rosloff

Contributions To Our Funds (October 15 — November 15)

Yartzeit:

Elain and Alvin Brackup, in memory of Isidore Rubin
 Nancy and Barry Kivor and family, in memory of Sam Kivor
 Sidney and Gladys Kalman, in memory of Morris Mandel
 Dolores Turchin, in memory of Israel Turchin
 Allen and Judith Cohen, in memory of Abraham Schenkman
 Milton and Rose Kabakoff, in memory of Marsha Epstein
 Joseph and Barbara Plotnick, in memory of Carl Plotnick
 Milton and Rose Kabakoff, in memory of David Kabakoff
 Helene and Gary Tinkel, in memory of Harold Reimer
 Elaine and Alvin Brackup, in memory of Anna Rubin

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:
 Jessica Greenberg, in honor of Debra Spigner making the Kippot for her wedding party

Allen and Ilene Karp

Bill and Eleanor Greenberg, in honor of their daughter Jessica's marriage to Thomas Zink on November 11, 2001

honor of Elyse Ross' reading

Torah

Walter and Suse Rosenstock
 Ellen and David Moskowitz, in memory of Phil Diatlo

Expansion Fund:

Marvin and Betty Stark, in memory of Norman Politziner's father Steve, Bette and Jordana Koffler, in memory of Regina Kindman and Norman Rossinow

General Donation Fund

Allen and Eileen Karp

Prayer Book Fund:

Fern, Allan, Ilana and Marc Katronetsky, in memory of Abraham Kaner (Beverly Lebowitz's father)

Fern, Allan, Ilana and Marc Katronetsky, in honor of the 25th wedding anniversary of Beverly and Wade Lebowitz
 Adrienne and Andy Ross, in

Religious School Fund:

Arthur and Janice Baer, in memory of Norman Rossinow (Marc Dillman's Nephew)

Library Fund:

Deborah and Martin Spigner, in memory of Raymond Kane

Tzedakah Fund:

Leonard and Joyce Mandelblatt, in memory of Isadore Mandelblatt

Social Action Fund

Nitsat Hadas Elami, in memory of Norman Rossinow (Marc Dillman's Nephew)

Contributions:

If you are interested in making a contribution to B'nai Tikvah, please fill out the form below and mail it to us at: Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 1001 Finnegan's Lane, North Brunswick, NJ 08902

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

On the occasion of: _____

This donation is being made by:

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Please send an acknowledgment to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

tionary

City, State, Zip: _____

Other _____

Amount of Donation:

[] \$18 [] \$36 [] \$54 [] \$72 [] \$118 [] Other \$_____

Please Allocate Donation to:

- [] Building / Capital Improvements Fund [] Yartzeit
- [] Cantor's Special Fund [] Passport to Israel Fund
- [] General Fund [] Library Fund [] Youth Fund
- [] Religious School [] Torah Restoration Fund
- [] Makelah Fund [] Tzedakah Fund [] Rabbi Discre-
- [] Prayer book Fund [] Social Action Fund []

Mark your calendar!

May 2, 2002

**Sisterhood
Fashion Show**

GET THE LOOK
With the latest
Spring & Summer
Fashions!



PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

JOSEPH D. GRODMAN



CAROLIER SHOPPING CENTER
778 ROUTE 1 (NORTH)
NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08902 (732) 828-EYES (3937)

EYE EXAMS BY APPOINTMENT

Keith A. Zimmerman Investment & Insurance Products

Specializing in Strategies for
Wealth Creation & Asset Protection

Group Medical - Long Term Care Insurance

600 Alexander Road Tel: 609-452-8088
Princeton, NJ 08540 Fax: 732-398-1421



By Appointment

DR. STEVEN B. DICKERT

CHIROPRACTOR

58 Wetherhill Way
(Corner Georges Road)
Dayton, N.J. 08810
(732) 329-2255

176 Hart Boulevard
(Corner Forest Avenue)
Staten Island, N.Y. 10301
(718) 981-4900

Orthopaedic Institute of Sports Medicine

Fredric A. Kleinbart, M.D. Board Certified Orthopaedic Surgeon

Specializing in Arthroscopic Surgery
Sports Medicine
Knee & Shoulder Reconstruction
Pediatric Orthopaedics

303 George Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
732-247-3667

One Woodbridge Ctr. Drive
Woodbridge, NJ 07095
732-726-3311



Adria Sherman
25 Hereford Drive
Princeton Jct., NJ 08550
609-799-8807

SPECIALIZING IN WATER HEATERS
KITCHEN & BATH REMODELING
APPLIANCE HOOKUPS

PARK ACRES PLUMBING & HEATING INSTALLATIONS AND REPAIR

HAROLD SMALL
LIC. NO. 5648

15 Paul Avenue
Kendall Park, NJ 08824
(732) 297-7538

JCC OF NORTH & SOUTH BRUNSWICK NURSERY SCHOOL

REGISTER NOW!!!

Registration begins December 3, 2001 for our:

MOMMY & ME PROGRAMS

Mom & Tots Wednesdays (12-18 months) 9:30-10:30AM

Mom & Tykes Mondays (18-24 months) 10:15-11:15AM

Mom & Tykes Wednesdays (18-24 months) 10:45-11:45AM

Join our Mommy & Me Programs and enjoy participating in crafts, music and movement, storytime, and playtime with your child.

TODDLER FUN CLUB

Toddler Fun Club Tuesday/Thursdays 9:30-11:00AM

Toddler Fun Club Friday's only 9:30-11:00AM

A special place for your toddler who is between 24-30 months old. This class is a mini-version of our nursery school program. For many toddlers it will represent their first time away from mom or a caregiver. Join our club and have lots of learning fun!

Please contact the nursery school office at 297-0295 for further information or please come in and pick up our registration and application form. The winter session begins in January of 2002.

Leave the cooking to someone else...

Preorder your Shabbat dinner so that when you come home from work you can start Shabbat off on the right foot. Dinners are provided by The Kosher Experience in Shop-Rite of East Windsor. Pick your Shabbat dinner up at the synagogue from 7pm - 8pm. (**Come to minyan and then get your dinner**) Your dinner will be in the refrigerator with your name on it. Basic dinner includes (serves 4):

- 1 Chicken
- 1 lb. salad
- 1 lb. kugel
- 1 challah



For an addition \$5.00 we will deliver your dinner to your door (or to a friend's house as a **special Shabbat gift**). North/South Brunswick only (exceptions can be made, please call).

Orders must be received by December 16, 2001. Pick up is December 20, 2001

Basic Dinners

Choices: (choose one from each category for each dinner ordered) _____ X \$25.00 = _____

Salad: Potato Cucumber

Coleslaw Health

Kugel: Potato Noodle Apple

Challah: Traditional Raisin Whole Wheat

Additional Items (available after at least one basic dinner has been ordered)

Salad: Potato Cucumber _____ X \$2.75 = _____

Coleslaw Health

Kugel: Potato Noodle Apple _____ X \$3.75 = _____

Challah: Traditional Raisin Whole Wheat _____ X \$2.75 = _____

Extra Chicken _____ X \$7.00 = _____

Gelfilte Fish (4 Slices) _____ X \$3.00 = _____

Home Delivery _____ \$5.00 = _____

Total Enclosed _____

Your Name _____

Make check payable to:

Address _____

Sisterhood, B'nai Tikvah

Phone _____

Mail to: Bobbi Binder

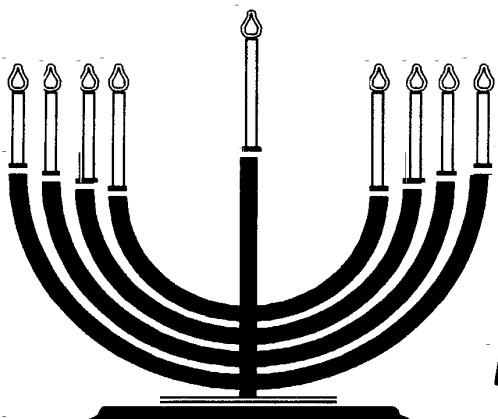
94 Hazel Court

Dayton, NJ 08810

Use separate sheet for gift instructions

Any questions call Bobbi at: 274-2797

LIGHT UP THE B'NAI TIKVAH RELIGIOUS SCHOOL WALL OF FLAME



**BUY A CANDLE!
BUY SOME FLAMES!
FIRE UP THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
MENORAH WITH
CHANUKAH CHAPPINESS!
PUT YOUR NAME ON A FLAME!
PUT YOUR HANDLE ON A CANDLE!**

See your name in lights this Chanukah. For only a dollar each, you can buy paper flames for every member of your family (including grandparents, aunts, uncles, pets, you name it!)

Or for 18 dollars, you can buy a whole paper candle for your group. Anyway you choose, you are warming up to a great cause- your Religious School! Please order your flames and/or candles by December 9th. Then visit our school during Chanukah to see your name in lights on our magnificent Religious School Menorah!

Religious School Menorah

We would like _____ flames at \$1 each with the following names: (limit one name per flame): _____

We would like _____ candles at \$18 each with the following name(s) on them:

Please complete, detach and send to the religious school office.

Your name: _____ Phone # _____

Total amount enclosed: _____



HANNUKAH

Save this article and explain it to your children on one of the nights during Hanukah. We should all light a menorah (call the Synagogue office or stop by the Sisterhood gift shop if you need one) so all can see our celebration of religious freedom.

Beginning on the twenty-fifth day of Kislev (December 9th this year), Hanukah celebrates the victory of Judah the Maccabee over the Syrian-Greeks in 165 B.C.E. The Syrian-Greeks, under Antiochus IV, king of Syria, had forbidden Jews from performing their basic religious functions. They sought to impose on the Jews the paganism of the Hellenistic world.

Although Hanukah is celebrated in commemoration of one of the great victories in Jewish history, surprisingly little fuss was made over it until recent times. It is not considered a religious holiday in that work may be performed and children may attend school. Aside from some additions to the liturgy and the lighting of the Hanukah menorah each night for the eight days of the holiday, very few changes are made in the normal routine.

In recent years, to counteract the strong influence of the Christmas season and its festivities on the lives of Jewish children, who might otherwise feel "left out," Jewish parents have begun to celebrate Hanukah in a more elaborate way. Gift-giving on each of the nights of Hanukah has become commonplace. (taken from pages 259-260 of *The Jewish Book of Why* by Alfred J. Kolatch)

Let's not lose sight of the fact that gift giving only started as a result of living in Christian society. I'm not saying we shouldn't give gifts. By the time of this reading, most all of us have already done our shopping. But, instead, let's bring home the lesson of religious freedom this year. Light your Hanukah menorah, give your gifts, but also explain to your children what the lighting of the candles represents. This year, especially, I have the feeling children will understand what we're talking about.

Marc D. Binder, Ritual Chair

B'NAI TIKVAH'S RETAIL SCRIP PROGRAM

Attention shoppers-frequent your favorite vendors & earn money for our synagogue!

Over 50 well-known nationwide retailers participate in this program.

Hanukah is coming! Be ready for it!

On the reverse side of this flier you will find an order form which lists participating vendors and the percentage discount (profit) that b'nai tikvah receives from each. These gift certificates or cards look like the same ones issued by the stores! Use yourself or give as gifts!

Some excellent uses for scrip for this time (or any time) of the year:

- You've been invited to a bar/bat mitzvah. Buy some retail scrip at Old Navy or Gap (teenagers love it!)
- A friend or relative just had a baby. Buy some retail scrip at Toys R Us or at KB Toys.
- A friend or relative is getting married. Buy some retail scrip at Pottery Barn.
- You want to reward or motivate your excellent employees for a job well done this year? Buy some retail scrip at Barnes and Noble or Borders.
- You want to give a holiday present for your children's teachers? Buy some retail scrip at Bed, Bath & Beyond or at Macy's.

As you can see, everyone needs to buy a gift for someone, regardless of the time of the year. Why not show some originality in your gift giving, and help the synagogue at the same time! The discount rate is the profit that the synagogue makes on every purchase.

This is the easiest, most painless way to help our synagogue thrive. By participating, you play an important role in maintaining the facilities, programs, activities and schools - not to mention keeping dues down!

We have the following retail scrip currently in stock:

1. **Gap/Gapkids/Babygap-\$25 denominations**
2. **Old Navy-\$25**
3. **Barnes and Noble-\$10**
4. **Bath and Body Works-\$10**
5. **Home Depot-\$25**
6. **Macy's-\$25**
7. **JC Penney/Eckerd Drugs-\$10/\$25**
8. **Toys-r-us/kids-r-Us/babies-r-us-\$20 (new in stock!)**

Don't delay - place your order today!

Complete form on the reverse side (darkened spaces indicate unavailable denominations, white spaces indicate available denominations).

FILL OUT SUMMARY AS FOLLOWS:

YOUR NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ORDERED _____

WRITE A CHECK FOR THE FULL AMOUNT DUE PAYABLE TO "B'NAI TIKVAH"

MAIL FORM & CHECK TO:

**RETAIL SCRIP, CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH, 1001 FINNEGANS LANE, NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08902
(ATTN: ANDY ROSS)**

If you have any questions or are looking to volunteer to help, please call Andy at 732/422-0637 or e-mail him at: adr-cpa@aol.com

RETAIL SCRIP ORDER FORM
UPDATED 9/23/01

RETAILER	Discount	AVAILABLE			OTHER AMTS
AMERICAN AIRLINES	18%				\$50
AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS	8%				
AT&T 60 MIN. PREPAID CARD	20%				
AUGUST MAX WOMAN	19%				
B. DALTON BOOKSTORES	9%				
BANANA REPUBLIC	9%				
BARNES & NOBLE	9%				
BATH & BODY WORKS	13%				
BED BATH & BEYOND	6%				
BEST BUY	2%				\$50
BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO	7%				
BORDERS/WALDENBOOKS	8%				
CASUAL CORNER	19%				
CIRCUIT CITY	3%				\$50
CVS PHARMACY	2%				
DICK'S SPORTING GOODS	8%				
EDDIE BAUER	9%				
EXPRESS	13%				
FOOTLOCKER	9%				
GAP/GAPKIDS/BABYGAP	9%				
HOLD EVERYTHING	13%				\$20
HOLLYWOOD VIDEO	15%				\$1
HOME DEPOT	3%				
HYATT HOTELS	9%				
JC PENNEY/ECKERD	5%				
JO-ANN FABRICS	6%				
K MART	3%				\$50
KB TOYS	9%				
LILLIAN VERNON	17%				\$20
LIMITED	9%				
LOEWS CINEPLEX	13%				\$5
LOWE'S	3%				
MACY'S	9%				
MARRIOTT HOTELS	12%				
MARSHALL'S/TJ MAXX	8%				
OFFICE MAX	4%				
OLD NAVY	9%				
PAYLESS SHOES	13%				\$20
PETITE SOPHISTICATE	19%				
PIER ONE IMPORTS	9%				
POTTERY BARN/WILLIAMS-SONOMA	13%				\$20
SAM GOODY	9%				
SEARS	2%				\$250
SHARPER IMAGE	12%				\$50
SPIEGEL	9%				
STAPLES	4%				
STRUCTURE	13%				
SUNCOAST VIDEO	9%				
TOYS-R-US	3%				\$20
VALUE CITY	9%				
BP GAS	3.5%				
CITGO GAS	3%				
EXXON	3%				
SHELL OIL	2%				

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IN ISRAEL

**This will be the most important vote you cast this year...
{...and it will count!}**

MERCAZ USA, the Voice of American conservative Jews for Israel, needs your vote for delegates to the 2002 World Zionist Congress.

Why is this so important? Beyond the symbolic importance in having as large a Conservative delegation as possible, this election determines 50% of the control of the Jewish Agency which disperses over \$350 million in funds in Isarel and around the world to many organizations including USY, Ramah and Masorti.

The 2002 Zionist Congress Election Campaign Has Begun

The American Zionist Movement, the local representative of the World Zionist Organization (WZO), voted unanimously to organize national elections in order to select the 145 U.S. delegates to the 2002 World Zionist Congress. All American Jews, 18 years and older, are eligible to register to vote. There is a \$4.00 fee which goes to offsetting the cost of the elections. Registration ends on December 15, 2001 followed by balloting in June 2002. You can register online at mercazusa.org.

* For the Conservative Movement, MERCAZ representation in the WZO since 1987 has generated almost \$15 million in direct "stream funding" allocations for Conservative/Masorti institutions (Schechter Institute, TALI Schools, Masorti Movement, Kibbutz Hannaton, Fuchsberg Cen-

ter, NATIV) as well as a similar amount in indirect grants and subsidies for shlichim, teacher training, curricular development, leadership missions to Israel, etc.

*In the absence of any significant funding from the Israeli government, these allocations represent the largest part of the Masorti Movement's budget.

SO WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE?! WHY SHOULD I CARE??!!

- If we are concerned about **Israel**;
- If we are concerned about the **Masorti Movement** in Israel;
- If we are concerned about the **Jewish character** of the Jewish State;
- If we are concerned with continuing the Jewish Agency allocations for **USY Pilgrimage** and **Ramah Seminar**;
- If we are concerned about the positive image of the **Conservative Movement**;

Then American Conservative Jews should vote in this election and support MERCAZ!

The Mission of MERCAZ USA

MERCAZ USA is the Zionist Organization of the Conservative Movement, representing Conservative Judaism within the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish Agency for Israel, the American Zionist Move-

ment and the Jewish National Fund.

As the voice of the American Conservative Movement, MERCAZ works to increase the impact and influence of Conservative/Masorti Judaism on Israeli society and acts as a force for supporting religious pluralism and securing religious stream funding for the Masorti Movement programs in Israel and throughout the world. To this end, MERCAZ USA is affiliated with MERCAZ Olami, the worldwide association of Conservative Zionists and works along with other MERCAZ branches from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, England, France, Hungary, Israel and Mexico.

A grassroots organization promoting Zionist and Hebrew education, Israel travel and the development of a Zionist young leadership within the United States through various scholarship and subsidy programs, MERCAZ USA is supported by individual and family memberships in its annual membership campaign.

MERCAZ USA works in cooperation with all the other arms of Conservative Movement including the Jewish Theological Seminary, the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the Rabbinical Assembly, Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, the Foundation for Masorti Judaism in Israel and the World Council of Conservative/Masorti Synagogues.

MERCAZ is affiliated with The American Zionist Movement. Your affiliation with MERCAZ implies

(Continued on page 22)

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

By Rabbi David Eligberg

Our Rabbis taught: It is incumbent to place the Hannukah lamp by the door of one's house on the outside. If one dwells in an upper chamber, one places it at the window closest to the public domain. However, in time of danger, one places it on the table in the privacy of one's home and that is adequate.

Babylonian Talmud, Shabbat 21b

In celebrating Hannukah, Jews demonstrate loyalty to their tradition and affirm publicly the miracle associated with Hannukah. Without fear or hesitation we proclaim our identity, asserting that from within this home a Jewish flame burns. This dimension of the Hannukah ritual, known in Hebrew as "pirsum hanes", begs the question of to whom is this message directed?

To answer this we must be clear on what the miracle we are rejoicing in actually is. For the rabbis,

Hannukah was not just a celebration of military victory or a remembrance of the miracle of the oil, as essential as these are to Hannukah. Hannukah became a holiday about survival, about the spirit overpowering the sword, about good overcoming evil, about the few, if their cause is just, defeating the many. This is what finds expression in the passage we add to the Amidah throughout the holiday and in the second blessing we recite when lighting the Hannukah candles.

In both passages we recite the phrase "ba-ya-meem ha-haim ba-z'man ha-zeh", "in those days [and] in the present". The miracle, then and now, is the miracle of Jewish survival. That we have endured from then until now and beyond. We have survived against all odds. The flame, while it may flicker is never extinguished.

Even the way we light the candles, following in the footsteps of our great teacher Hillel, increasing

from night to night by adding an additional light, are a reassurance that our community and people, that our traditions and culture will continue to increase. The light of our heritage that we kindle in our homes assures that continuity and growth.

In making the Hannukah lights a part of the public domain and visible to all passers it reminds us the holiday is not only about us but about peoples and nations. It is a reminder to the world of the possibility of survival, especially for those who have given up hope. Judaism speaks authentically and uniquely to all human beings wherever they may languish.

May we all hear the message directed to us by the Hannukah lights, may they challenge us to act to insure our continued survival, and may our actions bring hope to those in need.

MERCAZ

(Continued from page 21)
acceptance of the Jerusalem Program.

The Jerusalem Program

The aims of Zionism are:

- The unity of the Jewish People and the centrality of Israel in Jewish Life
- The ingathering of the Jewish People in its historic homeland, Eretz Israel, through Ali-

- yah from all countries
- The strengthening of the State of Israel which is based on the prophetic vision of justice and peace
- The preservation of the identity of the Jewish People through the fostering of Jewish and Hebrew education and of Jewish spiritual and cultural values
- The protection of Jewish rights everywhere.

**Are you
Registered?**

Your vote is critical.

MERCAZ USA

For more information, please visit
www.mercazusa.org or call toll free 866-236-3722.

COMING IN FEBRUARY

Rich Recht is presently the top touring Jewish act in the playing over 100 dates a year.

Rick will be playing at the USY International Convention in December and will be coming **to B'anai Tikvah on Sunday evening, February 10th.**

Save this date for an energy charged Night of music by The Rick Recht Band.

There will be more details to follow.

SECRETARY WANTED

Vi, our secretary just announced her resignation (found another job). We are looking for a full time secretary to replace her. Must have computer skills in Word and Excel, and a good sense of humor.

Aaron's Back (Are you leaving?)

Phyllis Rosen



PRUDENTIAL

FOX & ROACH REALTORS

Aaron Rosloff

NRS

NATIONAL REFERRAL SERVICE

We've now teamed up to provide you with over 50 years of our combined experience in residential home sales.

1500 Finnegans Lane
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Bus 732-297-5000 Res 732-297-5555
PhyllisRosen1@aol.com



ISRAEL BONDS

Israel Bonds Current Investment Rates

Call 800-752-5652

Zero Coupon Bond is 6.65%

Variable Rate Bond is 6.85%

Floating Rate Bond is 7.00%

Chai Bond is \$136

Call State of Israel Bonds at 732-828-0200 or
Larry Cohen at 732-821-4376

Choral Director Needed

The Makelah of Congregation B'nai Tikvah is looking for a choral director. Our chorus is a volunteer choral group with enthusiastic members who have great voices and varying formal musical skills.

We are seeking a choral director with the following qualifications: The candidate must have a prior knowledge of Jewish music and Jewish liturgical music. The director must be able to read music, be able to conduct our volunteer choral group and have accompaniment skills. The director must be available for Shabbat services and weekly rehearsals. A candidate with the ability to arrange music would be considered a plus.

Please contact Cheryl Asnis, Makelah contact person, at 732-297-5379 if you are interested in this position.

Fifty Plus Group

Thursday December 18, 2001 at 1:00 PM in the Social Hall of the synagogue. Our program will be a variety show and Chanukah Party. For further information, please call Madeline at 732-297-4240.

SISTERHOOD SHENANIGANS

GOING TO THE CLEANERS?

You already go to the cleaners. Why not go to one that pays off for the Sisterhood? Use Gallery Cleaners (in Hempstead Plaza, 2015 Route 27. Across from Hidden Lake) Gallery cleaners donates over 10% of the total receipts! Send Gallery Cleaners receipts to Shelly Talmud (5 Patriot Court, East Brunswick 08816). Get your clothes cleaned and help your Sisterhood stay solvent!

NEED TO SEND A CARD?

Why go out to Hallmark when you can call Sandra and she can send a torah fund card. Please give her a call at 940-8744 and for \$3.50, a

card can be sent for any occasion or just to let someone know that you are thinking of him or her.

GIFT SHOP

Lots of wonderful new items available -- come in and browse. Open most Sundays from 9 – Noon, or contact Deborah Spigner (545-8457) and Teresa Samtur (821-8163) for all your Judaica needs

LEAGRAM DISCOUNTS

Leagrams are cards sent in honor of, in memory of, in celebration of etc. Leagrams are 15\$ for 6 if paid for in advance, or \$3 if paid for separately. Just contact Terri Woller at 732-422-1770 with all the information, its easy.

FAMILY SHABBAT

The monthly children's service is held the third Friday night of each month at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in sponsoring the Oneg Shabbat following this service can call Lisa Seidman at 297-6950. Interested in helping lead the service? It's fun and sets a great example for your kids. Contact Jackie Master at 545-8021.

PLANNING A WEDDING OR B'NAI MITZVAH?

Order the B'nai Mitzvah computer program to help you keep everything organized and at your fingertips. See the order form in this issue of HaKol or visit the Sisterhood Gift Shop.

Dates to Remember

Sunday January 27, 2002 at 10:00 AM

Start the year off with Sisterhood. Bring a friend!!

Join Don Thieberger of the Platypus Pottery School as he helps us create our own family heirlooms in clay.
(A small fee is necessary to cover all materials and firing costs.)

Sunday February 21, 2002 at 10:00 AM

Shake off winter with a morning introduction to Tai Chi led by certified instructor Patricia Whelan. This class is as much spiritual as it is physical so everyone can participate!

MAZEL TOV!

December B'nai Mitzvah



Daniel Katcher—December 15
Jullian Shay—December 22
Allison Shultz—December 29



DREIDEELS, MENORAHS AND LATKES, OY VEY...OH BOY!!!

The first Chanukah candle is lit the evening of Sunday, December 9. It is earlier this year than in past years. Because the holiday begins on a weekend, we will have 1½ weekends to celebrate with families and friends. Now, that it is a lot of dreidel spinning, latke frying and eating. Are you and your family prepared for the holiday or are you preparing to get prepared? Well, when you prepare your shopping list for the edible Chanukah goodies, will you attach your list to your supermarket scrip? You should, but if you do not have any scrip, it is easy to get some.

What is supermarket scrip? One more time: it is a gift certificate from your favorite food store (i.e., A&P, Acme, Foodtown, McCaffreys, Pathmark, Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, Wild Oats). These companies donate 5% of the scrip sales to Congregation B'nai Tikvah. It's too easy; shop, eat and contribute to your synagogue all at once! Scrip is available in \$5, \$10 and \$20 denominations; \$25 and \$50 amounts are available from a few of these stores, too. To purchase scrip:

- ❖ visit the scrip table in the synagogue lobby on Sundays during religious school;
- ❖ call the synagogue office during business hours;
- ❖ call one of your scrip committee friends (list below);
- ❖ e-mail your order to www.bnaitikvah.org

Monthly tip: Now that we know that you need goodies for Chanukah, let the latkes fry! To help you with that shopping list, here are a few extra items that may be included.

<i>Potatoes</i>	<i>oil</i>
<i>Onions</i>	<i>matches (you figure it out)</i>
<i>Sour cream</i>	<i>flour</i>
<i>Apple sauce</i>	<i>potato peeler</i>
<i>Eggs</i>	<i>Paper towels (lots - you figure this, too)</i>

SCRIP COMMITTEE

RACHEL SHANESON, Chairperson – 329-2189

Rachel, Bette Koffler – 329-6518, Linda Feinstein – 329-3185
Dayton, Monmouth Jct., Princeton, Kingston, Trenton

Sylvia Lewis 609-409-0299
Cranbury, Monroe, Plainsboro, The Windsors

Jay Scheuer 940-8473
Franklin Park, Somerset, Belle Mead

Joyce Gerbman 937-5114 &
Ann Rosenzweig 249-9141
North & New Brunswick

Phyllis Rosen 297-5555
Kendall Park & Rocky Hill

Bonnie Stevens 967-9560
East Brunswick & Milltown

Joyce Fishelberg 297-6290
Brunswick Acres

Congregation B' nai Tikvah welcomes

Yoel Lavi, Mayor Ramla, Israel

In April 2001, the B'nai Tikvah community welcomed 15 teenagers from Ramla, Israel for two weeks of cross-cultural exchange, sightseeing, and lots of fun! We are now pleased to welcome to B'nai Tikvah Yoel Lavi, mayor of Ramla, and Ilan Frankel of the Ramla Foundation for Education, Culture, and Development.

Schedule of Events

Congregation B'nai Tivkah

1001 Finnegan's Lane
North Brunswick, NJ

Member
United Synagogue
of Conservative
Judaism

Phone: 732-297-0696
Fax: 732-297-2673
Email:
administrator@BnaiTikvah.org
Website: www.BnaiTikvah.org

Friday, December 14: Kabbalat Shabbat Services, 8pm

Saturday, December 15: Shabbat Services, 9:30am

"Israeli" Luncheon in honor of Mayor Yoel Lavi

Topic: the Situation in Israel, Terrorism, & the
Israeli Perception of US Foreign Policy

For questions and to RSVP, call the synagogue office by
December 7 at 732-297-0696 or www.BnaiTikvah.org.

SOCIAL SERVICES AVAILABLE IN SOUTH BRUNSWICK

For those of you who don't know me, I am the Welfare and Social Services Director for South Brunswick Township. We have many services available to senior citizens as well as those families or individuals in need. If anyone has any questions after I have described them, please feel free to call me at any time at (732) 329-4000 x 677 or at home (732) 821-1395.

Senior Programs:

The SB Senior Center is open daily from 8:30am - 4:30pm. **Transportation** is provided for those wishing to take the bus. You need to call 329-4000 x670 or x676 for transportation. Twice a week they also go shopping from the center.

A county lunch program is held daily. This is a complete meal,

usually hot, and costs \$2.

The **Senior Assurance Program**: someone calls daily to make sure a senior is okay. This is coordinated through the senior supervisor and the Police Department.

The **Mail Carrier Program**: if mail isn't picked up after several days, the mail carrier contacts the senior supervisor who in turn contacts the emergency number to make sure all is well.

There are a variety of clubs available to join, as well as bridge, pool, piano lessons and exercise classes.

The Senior Center Supervisor is Christine Wildemouth. She can be reached at (732) 329-4000 x682.

We run a **food pantry** out of the Senior Center as well. Emergency

food is provided year round. The Pantry is open Tuesdays from 1pm - 3pm and Thursdays from 9:30am - 11:30am. Both are by appointment only.

We also run a **Holiday Program** for both Thanksgiving, Chanukah and Christmas. People in need sign up in advance and they receive both food and gifts. **ANYONE** interested in either volunteering or donating, please let me know. We can always use extra help. We help approximately 100 families and individuals during Thanksgiving and 125 during Chanukah and Christmas. Individuals interested in adopting a family, feel free to contact me. What a wonderful mitzvah!! Used computers would be a wonderful gift for a child in need.

A Poem

By Bob Krovetz

*Blessed be God for the rays of the sun.
40 days and 40 nights of rain - oy vey!
Here comes the sun.
Just like rain, the ash kept coming down,
and the buildings kept smoking.
When would it stop?
After 40 days, we longed for transition.
40 is a magic number
The time on Mt. Sinai
The wandering in the desert
The creation of a soul
and the time in the ark
Where is the transition now?
I think it is the transition in which we begin
to heal.*

Do You Havurah?

Okay - maybe that's not the best use of the word grammatically but it's a headline, what do you expect? A Havurah is simply a group of friends who get together for social and/or religious purposes. It's a great way to meet new people in our community with similar interests or strengthen ties with old friends. Each Havurah is unique as is defined by its members.

With that in mind, a group of families is forming new Havurah and would like you to join. They are looking for young couples (ages 25 - 45) with children. The goal for the new Havurah is to meet once a month with content of meetings determined by the members. If you're interested, contact Lori Pettit (732) 274-9606. You can also receive additional information from Hadas at the synagogue office (732) 297-0696.

The New Face of B'nai Tikvah USY

Dear Families,

I apologize for not introducing myself to you sooner. My name is Steven Springer, and I serve as the new USY Advisor here at B'nai Tikvah. I thank you for making me a part of your Temple family, as well as entrusting your high schoolers to my care. My goal this year and in years to come is to instill in them the sense of pride that I myself had as a USYer, and promote an expanding knowledge of what it means to be Jewish today coupled by an atmosphere in which USYers will have the opportunity to socialize and meet other Jewish teenagers their own age.

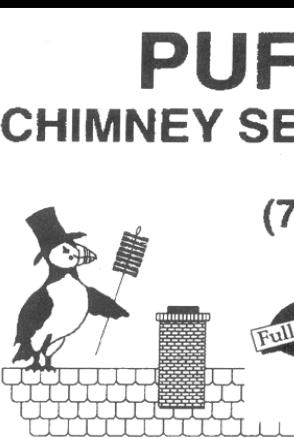
We are off to a great start this year, and all indications show that we will get even better as the year goes on. In order to fulfill our goals of membership and involvement this year, we can use your help. For those of you who have teenage children who are not members, encourage them to get involved, or at least to give USY a try. It may *not* be for everyone, but they might find out that it is for *them*. In addition, there will be numerous events that we wish to run during the course of the year that we will need Temple support. For some of these events we may ask you for donations of supplies, like our upcoming painting of the youth lounge and the spring Purim Carnival. Look for our bulletins in the monthly issues of HaKol and help where you can.

With your help, our USY here at B'nai Tikvah is guaranteed to become one of the best in the region. I thank you for your time, and look forward to your introducing yourself to me. In addition, should you wish to discuss USY, your children, or how to get involved, do not hesitate to call me at 732-729-0750.

Sincerely, Steve Springer

USY in December

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| December 2nd 5 - 8 PM: | Rock climbing in Hamilton |
| Dec 14th | USY Shabbat |
| Dec 19th 7:15 - 9 PM: | Chanukah Olympics |
| Call Steve 729-0750 with questions | |



PUFFIN
CHIMNEY SERVICE, INC.

(732) 249-6886

CHIMNEY SWEEPING & REPAIR

Full Service




Dryer Vent Cleaning Too!

Convention 2002: Five Pillars of Conservative Judaism

February 10-14, 2002
Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, D.C.

For the first time, five major organizations* of the Movement will meet together in one assembly to worship, dialogue, and deepen commitment to Torah and mitzvot.

- ① Confront the challenges facing North American Jewry
- ② Strategize ways to revitalize synagogues, schools and community
- ③ Participate in seminars & workshops on Torah, liturgy, synagogue management, and skill development
- ④ Study with outstanding Jewish teachers
- ⑤ Return home invigorated and ready to share new ideas with your congregation



For additional information, contact the United Synagogue Convention Office, 212-533-7800, ext. 2611, or visit the United Synagogue Website, www.uscj.org.

*Participating organizations include The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, The Rabbinical Assembly, Jewish Educators Assembly, The North American Association of Synagogue Executives, and the Cantors Assembly.

FROM THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE BOOK SERVICE

❖ **Tavei Masoret.** This songbook, containing over 150 Hebrew songs, is divided into thematic sections dealing with values, holidays and prayer. It covers topics such as school, work, the Bible and nature and includes three audio cassettes. (Book: \$34.00; tapes: \$19.00; book and tape: \$50.00).



❖ **The Tapestry of Jewish Time: A Spiritual Guide to Holidays and Life Cycle Events,** by Rabbi Nina Beth Cardin. Presenting detailed explanations of rituals and including historical, cultural and scriptural notes, this exciting work provides examples of ethical wills, folk tales, and a 20-year calendar of Jewish holidays. (\$24.95 + \$5 shpg).

Contact Book Service at 212-533-7800, ext. 2003.
 For orders only, call 1-800-594-5617.

E-mail: bookserv@uscj.org
 or order on the Web:
www.uscj.org/bookserv



FROM THE FUCHSBERG CENTER...

The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism Shirley and Jacob Fuchsberg Center in Jerusalem offers a full range of educational and cultural activities geared to the North American visitor as well as help with travel information and planning.



Contact Rabbi Paul Freedman, Outreach Director,
 972-2-625-6386; fax 972-2-623-4127;
 or e-mail israel@uscj.org

Students heading for Israel to study for the year/semester are invited to contact the Center on Campus Program of the Fuchsberg Center. A variety of extracurricular programs and support is available for the overseas student.

Contact Rabbi Ed Romm, Director:
romm@uscj.org



Chanukah "Chai-Light"

Please join us for some
Chanukah Food and Fun
Monday, December 10, 2001

6:00 p.m.-7:45 p.m.

If you cannot join us for dinner, you are still welcome to
join us for candle lighting at 7:00)

Festivities to include:

- Dairy Dinner
- Games for all ages
- Candle lighting with Rabbi Eligberg
(Please bring your menorah from home to
light)
- Sing-a-long with Cantor Rockman



R.S.V.P. to the Synagogue office by Dec. 3
(732)297-0696

Post: A new unwrapped gift to be donated to
local children's hospital (i.e. games, books
music, Nintendo 64 cartridges)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Committees, Groups & Staff

President	Mitchell Frumkin	297-5069	Rabbi	David Eligberg	297-0696
VP, Administration	Arie Behar	422-1495	Hazzan	Bruce Rockman	297-0696
VP, School & Youth	Harold Schneider	940-8880	Synagogue Administrator	Nitsat Hadas Elami	297-0696
VP, Ways & Means	Jodi Marcou	422-6628	Administrative Assistant	Vi Steele	297-0696
VP, Activities	Elliot Danto	297-6175	Synagogue Fax		297-2673
Financial Secretary	Gary Tinkel	545-1135	Religious School Principal	Ann Kanarek	297-0295
Recording Secretary	Danny Greenberg	297-3780	Nursery School Director	Fran Pearson	297-0295
Treasurer	Marc Dillman	821-7392	Summer Camp	TBA	
Asst. Treasurer	Naomi Jackenthal	821-2664	Special Financial Arrangements/Dues	Gary Tinkel	545-1135
Past President	Mark Kasdin	274-2897	Junior Congregation	Barry Safeer	422-8543
Trustees ---			HaKol Editor	Kim Riemann	940-4066
Janice Baer		940-0268	HaKol Advertising	Tammy Zimmerman	398-1420
Gary Bergman		246-7285	Publicity	Bette Koffler	329-6518
Larry Cohen		821-4376	Kiddushes & Onegs	Nitsat Hadas Elami	297-0696
Harvey Finklestein		609-860-9338	Men's Club President	Gerry Edley	821-6237
Cindy Gittleman		274-2253	Sisterhood President	Ruth Ann Koenick	
Ann Gold		609-409-0668	Kadima Advisor	Leora Trub	729-0665
Jerry Kaminsky		297-3766	U.S.Y. Advisor	Stephen Springer	729-0750
Lisa Tannenbaum		422-1340	Couples Club	Nadine Weg	329-1359
LouAnne Wolf		821-1395	Fifty Plus Group	Madeline Gaynor	297-4240
Keith Zimmerman		398-1420	Makelah Choral Group	Cheryl Asnis	297-5379
Voting Representatives			New Beginnings	Jeanette Bergelson	246-1393
50 Plus Group	Madeline Gaynor	297-4240	Yahrzeit Plaques Cemetery	Nitsat Hadas Elami	297-0696
Men's Club	Gerry Edley	821-6237	Israel Bonds	Millie Kutliroff	329-6661
Sisterhood	Cheryl Asnis	297-5379	Membership	Larry Cohen	821-4376
			College Committee	Alan Kane	418-1913
			Ritual Committee	TBA	
			Adult Education	Marcy Finkelstein	
			Youth Committee	Marc Binder	274-2797
			Religious School Chairs	TBA	
			Passport to Israel	Marcia Schwartz	297-6365
			Feedback Committee	Bobbi Binder	274-2797
			Scrip Committee	Lisa Seidman	297-6950
			Interiors	TBA	
			Programs	Marty Abschutz	329-0018
			Webmaster	Rachel Shaneson	329-2189
				Jennifer Shapiro	940-9229
				Ann Gold	609-409-0668
				Linda Kohn	297-7025
				Gary Bergman	246-7285

HAKOL DEADLINE

The next HaKol deadline is **December 14**. I look forward to hearing from you. It will be distributed by **January 3**. You can leave articles in the HaKol mailbox in the synagogue office or e-mail them to Hakol@aol.com.

Favor-It Shop, LLC

732 390-4688

- BAR/BAT MITZVAH & WEDDING INVITATIONS
- BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ENGAGEMENT PARTY
- BRIDAL SHOWER
- SWEET 16

If you have the occasion, we have the invitation DESIGNS FROM SIMPLE TO OUTRAGEOUS!

- THEME PARTY GIFTS
- FAVERS • CORPORATE GIFTS
- PROMOTIONAL ITEMS
- BRIDAL ACCESSORIES • CALLIGRAPHY
- and so much more...

Discounts up to \$25 OFF
35% Off Any Purchase of \$500
Retail Prices **\$5 OFF** Any Purchase of \$100
Not to be combined with any other offers.

HaKol the Voice of
CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH
1001 FINNEGAN'S LANE
NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08902